



Purpose

The purpose of RPAC Work Groups is to support Alliance success by collaborating with NEEA staff to achieve specific objectives identified by the Regional Portfolio Advisory Committee (RPAC), Coordinating Committees (CCs) and/or NEEA staff, consistent with the goals and objectives of NEEA’s then-current Business Plan and annual Operations Plan. Work Groups shall be formed on an as-needed basis and staffed with as-needed expertise, for a limited term and specific purpose that is distinct from that of RPAC and the CCs.

An RPAC member, CC member and/or NEEA staff may propose to RPAC the formation of a RPAC Work Group, including guidance on desired stakeholder representation and expertise (i.e. right people, right topic, right time). RPAC is responsible for sponsoring the formation of all Work Groups, and shall conduct an annual review of each active Work Group to ensure its purpose remains both relevant and distinct from that of RPAC, the CCs, and any other active Work Group.

Responsibilities

1. Collaborate with NEEA staff to support the objective(s) identified by RPAC (see *Objectives* below), sharing knowledge, expertise and resources to achieve the identified objective(s).
2. Determine with NEEA staff the appropriate meeting cadence and required duration for the Work Group, and commit the resources required to achieve the identified objective(s) on schedule.
3. Ensure information and outcomes from Work Group collaboration are (a) shared within Work Group-member organizations, and (b) reported to RPAC, and if applicable, to the relevant CC.
4. Sunset the Work Group (a) on schedule or upon extension¹ from RPAC, and (b) upon achieving the objective(s) set by RPAC.

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FEDERAL FUNDING REGIONAL COORDINATION WORK GROUP

Statement of Purpose and Connection to NEEA Business and/or Operations plans

Co-chaired by NEEA and BPA, the Federal Funding Regional Coordination Work Group will share information regarding upcoming federal opportunities flowing from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The Work Group will coordinate activities where possible to enhance energy efficiency outcomes for Northwest consumers and market transformation efforts. Given the number of new and expanded federal programs and the complex patchwork of existing local and regional programs, including NEEA’s market transformation programs, purposeful coordination is necessary to ensure these new opportunities braid effectively with existing programs and to mitigate unintended program impacts where they may undermine existing regional efforts.

Objective(s)

1. Share information about federal funding opportunities with regional utilities and other stakeholders.
2. Engage with regional stakeholders, including state energy offices, regarding priorities for federal funding and how to best work with the region’s utilities.
3. Identify and discuss topics and opportunities of particular interest (i.e. workforce development, reaching underserved communities, existing program models, manufacturer and distributor engagement).
4. Engage with US Department of Energy (DOE) staff regarding rules, guidelines, and other useful information and to share regional feedback.
5. Identify any ongoing needs for continued engagement regarding federal opportunities.

Outcomes Reported To: RPAC only RPAC and CC (*Specify CC*)

¹ In the event a Work Group requires additional time to achieve its objective(s), beyond the duration identified in Responsibility #2, a justification shall be provided to RPAC for approval.

Estimated Duration and Meeting Cadence

- Start date: May 4, 2023
- Meeting frequency: Quarterly with option for interim workshops as warranted.
- Completion/sunset date: December 31, 2023

Specific Expertise Needed

- Understanding of the Northwest utility landscape and existing energy efficiency programs
- Knowledge of IJA and IRA opportunities related to energy efficiency
- Knowledge of state and local priorities related to energy efficiency
- Additional expertise as identified by workgroup members

Stakeholder Representation Needed:

- NEEA funders and regional utilities
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council
- State Energy Offices
- US DOE Staff (as needed)
- Additional stakeholders as identified by workgroup members