Session 1: Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 12:00 pm
Session 2: Friday, October 23, 2026 | 07:30 am

Equity Advisory Group

Equity Lens Session

October 2026 | www.myavista.com/eag

Agenda

Topic	Presenter
Welcome, introductions, agenda, and shared expectations	Amber Lenhart, Facilitator
Connections/Partner Shares	EAG Members
EAG Comment & Action Review – Large Load Customers	Kelly Dengel
Named Community Investment Fund Project Prioritization	Amber Lenhart & Marissa York
Questions & Discussion	Amber Lenhart
Wrap-up and Adjourn	

Shared Expectations

- ❑ **Stay present** mentally and physically when possible.
- ❑ **Listen** with an open mind and be open to new ideas.
- ❑ **Participate** in discussion, share concerns and ideas, and give others space to do so.
- ❑ **Ask questions** at any time. Use Zoom's "raise hand" feature or chat during presentations.
- ❑ **Work together** to consider different perspectives and support the meeting goal(s).
- ❑ **Respect** the role of the facilitator to guide the group process.

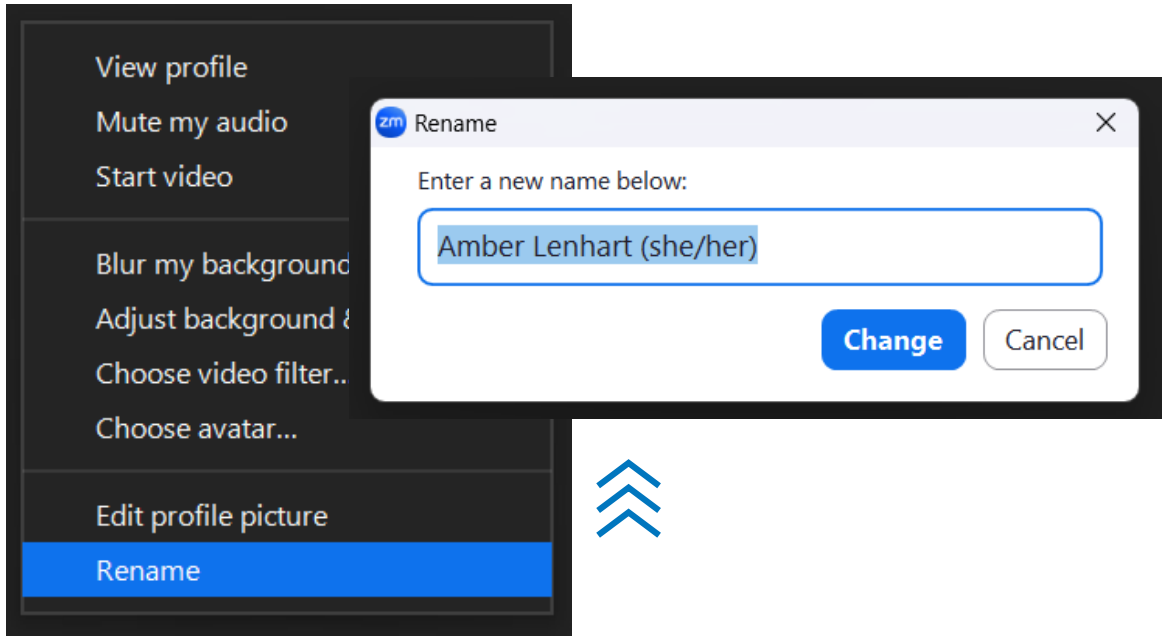


Introductions

We're so glad you're here!

Please share in the chat:

- ❑ Your name
- ❑ Organization or community



Optional: Consider including your pronouns in your Zoom name

Connect

What is your go-to comfort food or drink when the weather turns chilly in the fall?



Partner Shares



- Do you have a "win" to celebrate?
- What upcoming events or opportunities do you want to share with other EAG members and their communities?
- What pressing issues or needs are you hearing about in your communities or organizations that we should consider or work together to address?

Spectrum of Public Participation

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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Today's Equity Lens Session Goals



Equity Lens Session Meeting Goals:

1. **Inform:** Provide a high-level look at large-scale customers in response to previous EAG member questions.

2. **Involve/Collaborate:** Share an update on Named Communities Investment Fund priorities and find consensus on the updated priorities.

Questions & Discussions

- ❑ What clarifying questions or curiosities do you have about the presentations?
- ❑ What disparities, root factors, or inequities (historic and current) are related to these topics?
- ❑ How could Avista improve engagement strategies related to these topics, if at all?
- ❑ What new ways could help measure and track benefits and reduced burdens related to these topics?
- ❑ What steps, practices, or policies could help reduce future inequities related to these topics?
- ❑ How does this affect your community? What steps will you take after learning about these topics?

EAG Comment & Action Review

Large Load Customers & Data Centers

Kelly Dengel | Clean Energy Policy & Implementation Manager

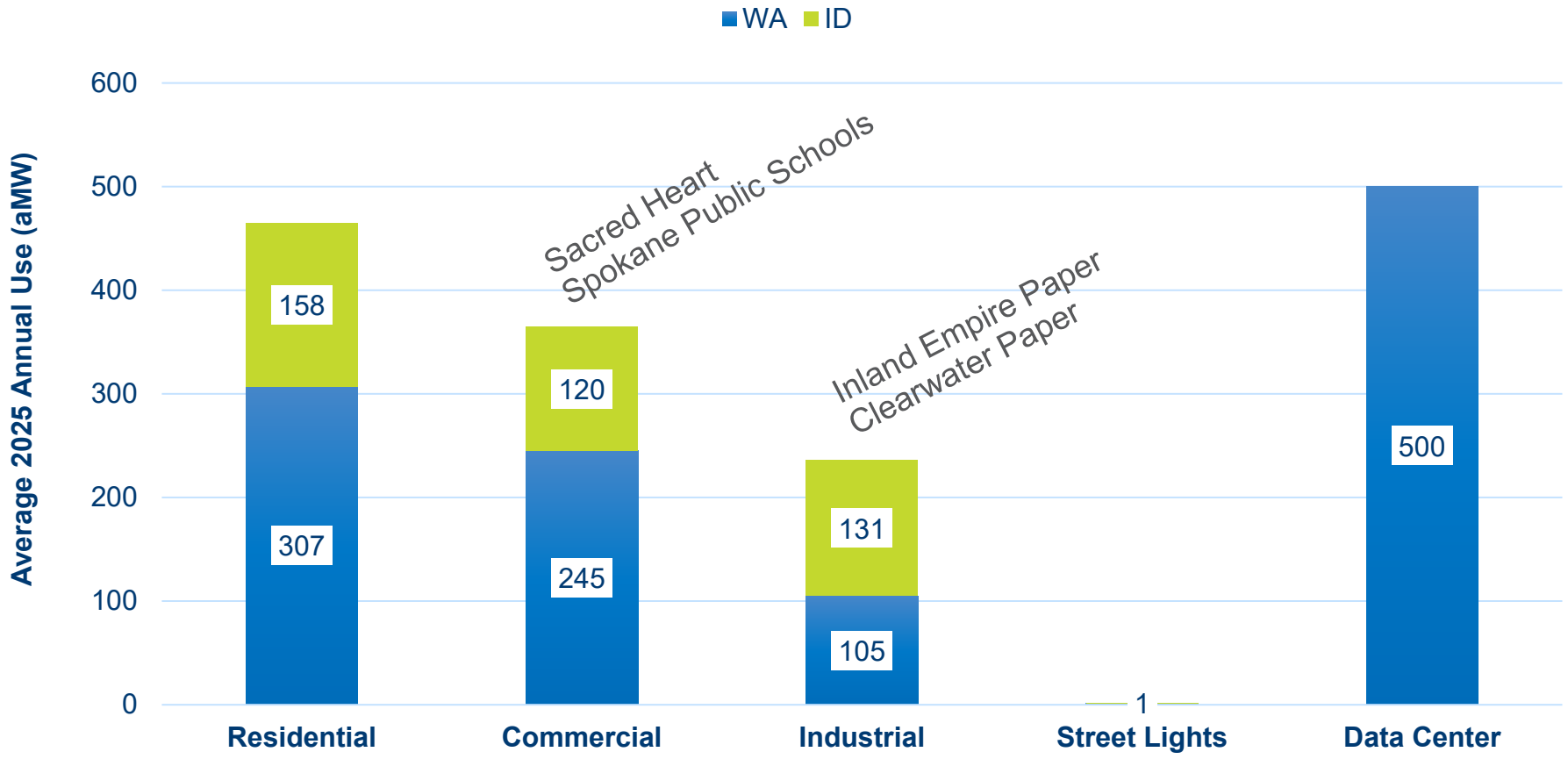
Understanding Large Load Customers & Data Centers

- Types of large load customers
- Electric usage across customer segments
- Avista's role in providing power
- Avista’s commitment

Not All Large Load Customers Are Data Centers

Attribute	Large Load Customer	Data Center Customer
What it is	**Any** commercial or industrial customer requesting significant electric capacity	**A specific type** of customer that builds facilities that store, process, and transmit digital information
Typical size	1.6 MW & greater	Often 50 MW to 500+ MW
Examples	Manufacturing Fleet charging Food processing Industrial operations Commercial development	Cloud computing AI processing Digital storage

Electric Usage by Customer Type



Avista is Just One Part of the Development Process

No single entity decides if a project will proceed

Avista Evaluates

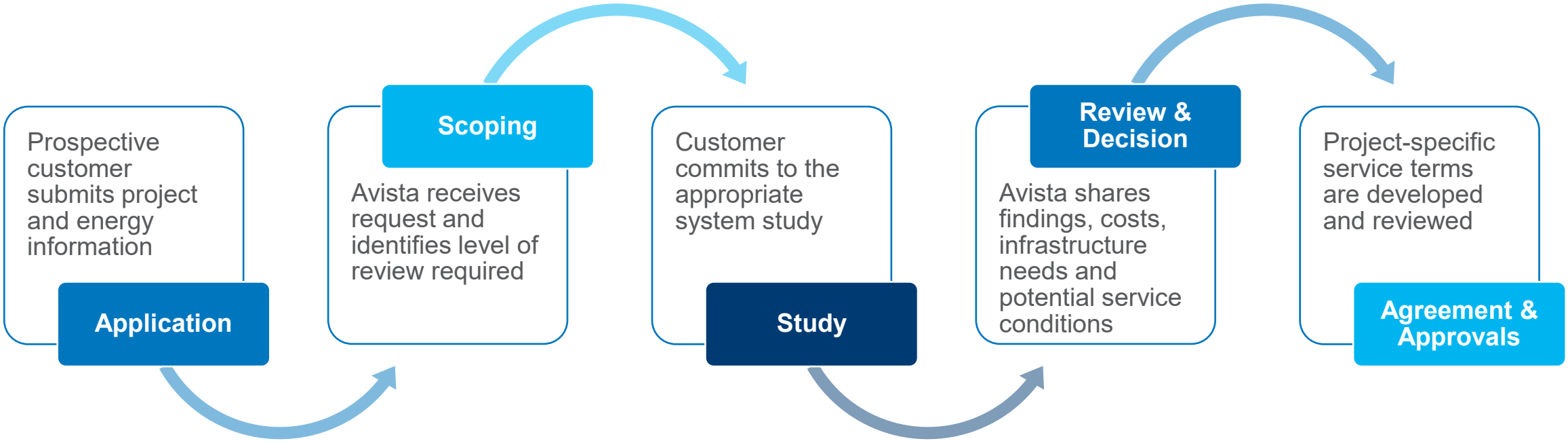
Load Interconnection Process

- Energy availability
- System impacts
- Infrastructure needs
- Reliability impacts
- Service costs

Other Agencies Evaluate

- Land use & zoning
- Local permits
- Water use & availability
- Environmental requirements
- State & local requirements

Load Interconnection Application Process



The process evaluates energy availability, system impacts, infrastructure needs, reliability and cost responsibility to determine whether service can be provided safely and responsibly.

How Avista is responding to large-load growth

Pause Hyperscale Customer Applications

- Paused processing hyperscale data-center applications requiring significant new transmission or generation infrastructure while conversations continue across our region about the role of data centers. *Expected to remain in place for at least 12 months.*

Engage with Communities

- Continuing to participate in community, local government and state policy discussions.

Develop a Framework

- Working toward a WUTC tariff and framework that establishes requirements and evaluation standards for future significant data-center requests.

Avista's Approach



Named Community Investment Fund Prioritization Update

Marissa York | NCIF Program Manager & Amber Lenhart | EAG Facilitator

Agenda

- Named Community Investment Fund background
- Review EAG survey results and updated priority list based on feedback
- Discuss updated priority list and find consensus on updated list

Named Communities Investment Fund

- Dedicated to the equitable distribution of benefits and reduction of burdens for Named Communities
- Up to $5 million annually

$2M

Supplement Energy Efficiency

$3M

Community Investments

2021 CEIP's NCIF Project Summary

Energy Efficiency Awards

- Schools, churches, community centers, food banks & shelters
- Spokane Tribe partnerships
- Home weatherization improvements
- HVAC improvements
- Enhanced energy rebates

Community Awards

- Spokane Tribe partnerships
- Matching grants
- Tree canopy planning
- Solar & battery projects
- Workforce development
- Multi-language access

Planning for the 2025 CEIP's NCIF Priorities

2026

February

EAG members supported maintaining existing priorities, refining and adding to include new strategy ideas, and revisiting the prioritization activity.

March

EAG members ranked priorities based on leverage, feasibility, specificity, and values using an online survey.

October

Where we are now: Reviewing survey results and new priority rankings and gaining group consensus.

NCIF Prioritization Results

New Rank	Old Rank	Priority Area	Ave. Score
1	1	Improve energy efficiency and implement energy efficiency education in schools, community centers, senior centers, libraries, and other places where Named Communities spend time.*	2.5
1	2	Improve energy efficiency in multi-family and mobile home communities.	2.5
2	new	Grow community resilience and sustainability in preparation for natural disasters, inclement weather, power outages, and other emergencies in Named Communities especially outside of the City of Spokane.**	2.3
2	1	Focus efforts on improving energy efficiency for Tribal partners.	2.3
2	5	Leverage outside funding opportunities, for example by complementing partner-funded opportunities or matching funds for grant applications.*	2.3
3	3	Increase access to energy efficient products and appliances for Named Communities.	2.2
4	3	Increase and preserve tree canopy and shade in Named Communities.*	2.1
5	4	Increase awareness of and engagement in energy efficiency programs while also meeting whole-house needs through community-based partnerships and referrals to services.	2.0
6	6	Improve conditions for community members without stable housing to reduce energy burden and increase energy efficiency and access to stable housing.*	1.8

NCIF Priority Discussion

- Do you agree with the priority list?
- What, if anything, is missing from the list?
- How well does the new list reflect the needs of your communities?
- What concerns do you have?
- What feels exciting about the NCIF priorities?

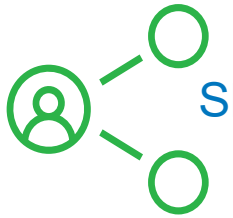
Questions and Discussion

Amber Lenhart

Questions and Discussion

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Thank you



Share information with your communities

Stay Engaged

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter

Provide Feedback

Provide input through our public comment form

www.myavista.com/ceta

Next EAG Equity Lens Session Meetings

Afternoon: **12 – 1:30 pm**

Wednesday, November 18

Friday, November 20

Morning: **7:30 – 9:00 am**

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