

# NW Energy Coalition

## Virtual Member Meeting

November 19, 2020  
1:00PM - 3:00PM (PST)



# Introductions

Write in the chat:

- First and last name
- Your organization (if applicable) – or – Individual member
- Pronouns
- The state where you work



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# Member Meeting Agenda

- Board Chair and Executive Director Report
- New Member Applications
  - FlexCharging
  - Olympia Community Solar
- State Updates - Election, Legislative Priorities, Regulatory Top Lines
  - Idaho
  - Montana
  - Oregon
  - Washington
- Consumer Protection and COVID-19
- Regional
  - Power Plan and Resource Adequacy
  - Salmon / Energy
- Awards
- Member Updates



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# NW Energy Coalition

## Board Chair and Executive Director Report

Board Chair – Ben Otto

Executive Director – Nancy Hirsh



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# OREGON

## Our top priorities have been:

- Governor Brown's climate Executive Order 20-04
- Clean fuels credits and utility transportation electrification program designs and plans.
- Utility specific work on IRPs, demand-side programs, distribution system planning, and TE plans.

## In the next six months we will be:

- Participating in two dockets at the PUC expected to develop a social equity framework and an assessment of energy burden. We also expect to participate on a low-income/equity advisory group at the PUC.
- Continuing to engage with the PUC and advocates on all aspects of the Executive Order as it impacts numerous dockets and filings.
- Continuing our work directly with utilities in their program development and planning processes and participating in the on-going PUC dockets on capacity, distribution system planning, and community solar.
- Advocating for targeted policy proposals to advance clean energy, equity at the PUC, appliance standards, and renewal of the public purpose charge.



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# WASHINGTON

## Our top priority issues have been:

- Clean electricity (CETA) rulemakings across 4 agencies
- Clean & efficient buildings rulemaking and codes at state and local levels
- Utility specific work on IRPs, TE plans, demand-side programs
- State Energy Strategy
- PSE's proposed sale of Colstrip Unit 4

## In the next six months we will be:

- Encouraging adoption by state policymakers of standards and conditions for Accessible Public Charging.
- Creating a cross-state Coalition discussion to talk about what documentation markets should provide in order to comply with state based clean energy goals.
- Continuing to work on the CETA rulemaking, building performance implementation.
- Supporting energy codes that help advance toward net zero energy buildings and continuing our leadership in the Shift Zero alliance.



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# IDAHO AND MONTANA

## Our top priorities have been:

- Increasing Idaho Power's energy efficiency rider and improve program offerings
- NorthWestern Energy's proposed purchase of Colstrip Unit 4 and transmission
- Advocating to expand demand-side investments by NorthWestern Energy and support a MOU between NWE and Missoula

## In the next six months we will be:

- Reassessing our priorities in Idaho to increase our value added to the advocacy work in the state.
- Continuing to raise a ruckus on the NorthWestern Energy's DSM Advisory Group
- Furthering the dialogue between NorthWestern and City of Missoula for a clean energy commitment



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# REGIONAL & CROSS STATE

Our top priorities have been:

- Power Council's 2021 Plan and BPA power and transmission system priorities
- Dialogue on salmon restoration, four lower Snake River dams and electricity issues – federal BiOP/EIS
- Resource adequacy, system reliability, and broader regional markets
- Assessing a thoughtful transition strategy to decarbonize buildings
- Utility service and affordability during the COVID-19 pandemic

In the next six months we will be:

- Continuing to provide comments and feedback on the 2021 Plan and develop outreach materials for the broader community as the Plan moves into the public comment period.
- Developing a more detailed position on performance-based ratemaking/regulation
- Further exploring a comprehensive strategy on decarbonizing buildings that addresses electric system impacts, retrofit affordability, and gas utility services and infrastructure.
- Advocating for a new framework for resource adequacy that values customer-side resources
- Developing materials on best practices for managing demand and flexible load
- Pushing BPA to expand its energy efficiency and demand response programs



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# ORGANIZATIONAL

## Our top priorities have been:

- We are very pleased to have Paty Rincon on staff as our new communications manager.
- Supporting and managing our program, outreach to members, and administrative work during the pandemic.
- Presenting a series of webinars on energy efficiency.
- Maintaining the financial health of the organization

## In the next six months we will be:

- Forming a JEDI task force of staff, board, member organizations, to create a set of equity principles or a vision statement for equity at NW Energy Coalition
- Producing a quarterly Energy Activist newsletter covering program issues and internal news.
- Developing and distributing new materials and blog posts on topics such as Accessible Public Charging, utility TE guidelines w/ lessons learned, tools for managing load, and energy efficiency.
- Hosting an ongoing webinar series – goal is every other month



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# New Member Applications

## **FlexCharging**

FlexCharging would like to join the NW Energy Coalition because we are interested in participating in regional conversations about EV's and demand flexibility, and how to use that to solve resource adequacy problems.

## **Olympia Community Solar**

Olympia Community Solar's mission is to steward an equitable and accessible transition to clean energy through community solar. We hope to join NWECA in order to advocate for increasing access to solar energy and protecting the rights of community solar customers.

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## State Updates

# Idaho

## Election/Legislative Priorities

- More of the same
- Building codes back on the chopping block?

## Regulatory Toplines

- Net metering - Idaho Power, Rocky Mountain Power
- Energy Efficiency – Idaho Power, Intermountain Gas
- Idaho Power IRP – comments due Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> (support coal closure!)



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# Montana

## Election

- From clean energy perspective – abject disaster
  - Governor-elect Gianforte
  - Anti-clean energy Republican picked up seats in House and Senate
    - Moderate “Solutions Caucus” lost numbers
  - PSC remains 5-0 Republican
    - 2 new Commissioners with very limited, if any, energy experience



# Montana

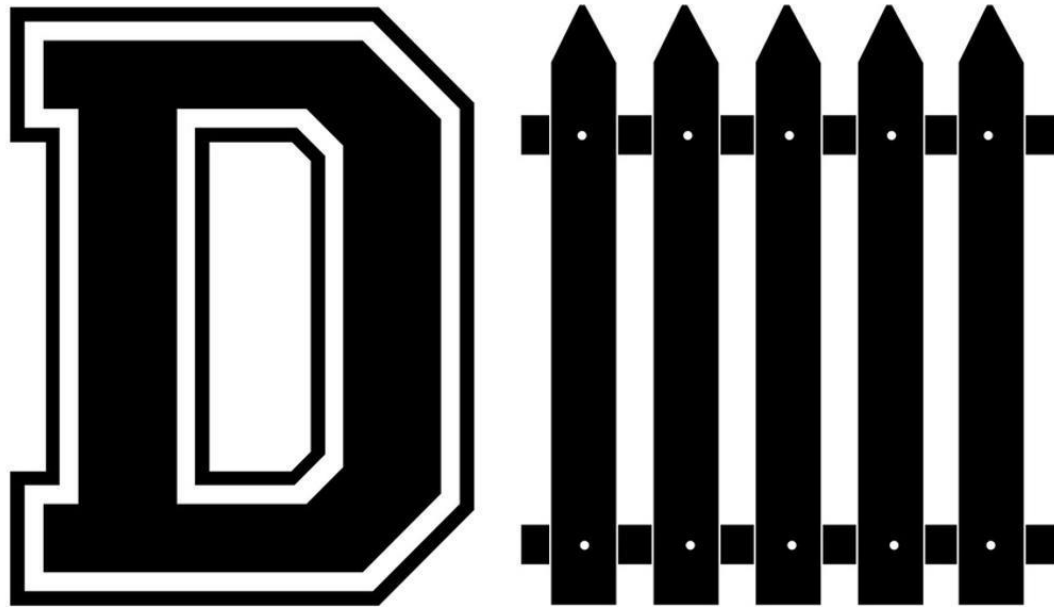
## Legislative Priorities



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# Montana

## Legislative Priorities



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# Montana

## Regulatory Toplines

- Colstrip “victory!”
  - Next steps to closure?
- NorthWestern Energy RFP - expect Natural Gas Generation “pre-approval early next year
- Demand-side management update?
- Update to planning process





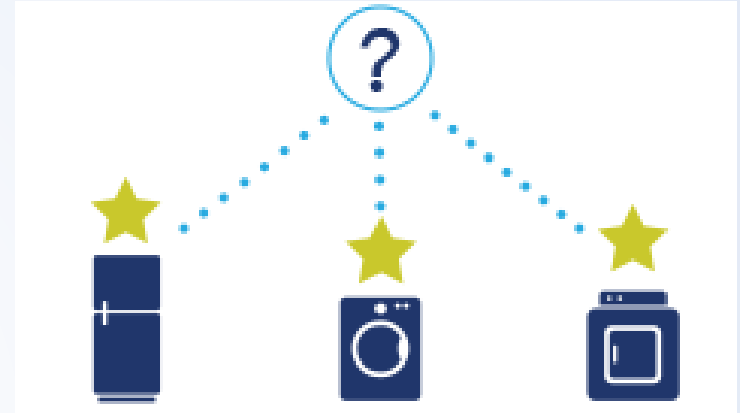
# Oregon Legislative

**Election:** Republicans +1 House, Senate same, Democrats maintain supermajority

## Legislative Priorities 2021:

### 1. Appliance Standards

- 11 products already established by rule
- Language to allow updates to existing standards without going through legislature
- <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/Appliance-Standards.aspx>



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# Oregon Legislative

## 2. Public Purpose Charge Revamp

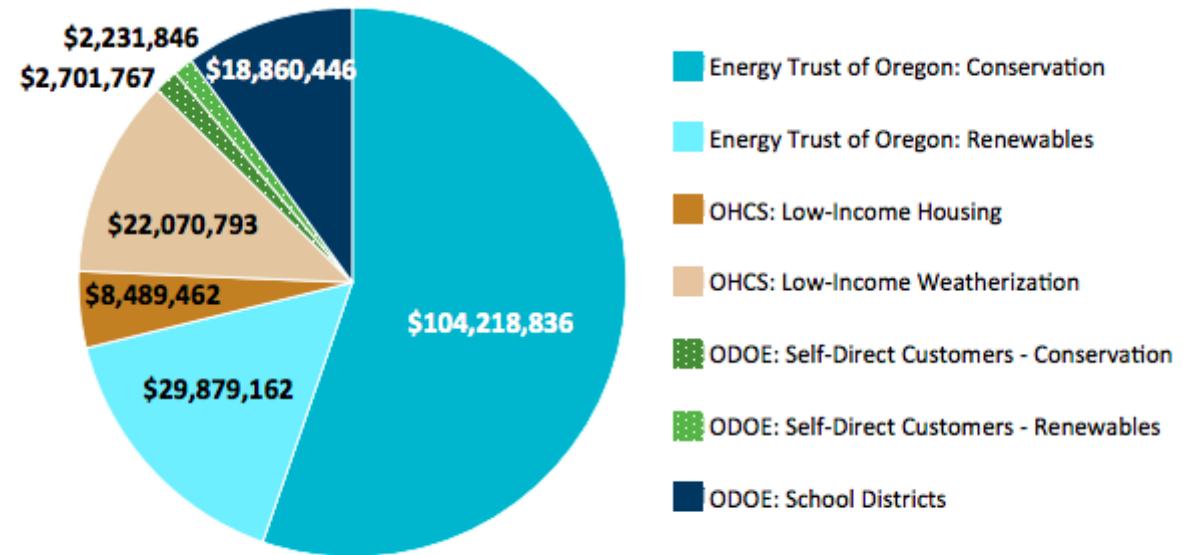
- Moves energy efficiency to rates
- Ups low-income weatherization money

## 3. PUC Equity Bill

- Expands intervenor funding
- Defines EJ communities
- Authorizes energy burden-specific rate designs

Also tracking: TE, energy democracy, 100% clean/just, water assistance

Figure ES-1: PPC Fund Receipt Allocation by Administrator and Program (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019)



Source: PPC Biennial Report to the Legislature



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# Oregon Regulatory

- **Distribution System Planning (PUC)**
  - Staff currently updating DSP guidelines; first plans fall 2021
  - Goals: inclusion, transparency
- **Executive Order 20-04 Implementation**
  - Updates Oregon GHG emissions standards while protecting vulnerable communities
  - PUC, DEQ, ODOE
- **Community Solar**
  - 23 approved projects, plenty of capacity left
  - Staying engaged to uphold legislative intent
- **ODOE Biennial Energy Report:** <https://energyinfo.oregon.gov/ber>
- Other dockets/investigations



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# Washington State Energy Strategy

- 2019 legislation directed update to state's energy strategy, covering four areas: transportation, buildings, industry, electricity
- Led by Department of Commerce with consultant support through the Clean Energy Transition Institute
- Supported by advisory group
- Draft available now
- Public hearings scheduled December 7
- More information: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/2021-state-energy-strategy/>



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# Washington State Legislative Lay of the Land

- Session starts January 11, almost all virtual
- Legislature will be focused on COVID response, budget, and systemic racial inequity
- Environmental priorities coalition: budget, transportation revenue, and clean fuels standard
- Coalition staff anticipate working on: accessible public charging, carbon pricing, legislation related to State Energy Strategy
- Tracking: budget requests related to clean energy, public building retrofits, and weatherization



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# Washington State Regulatory Updates

- 2019 Climate Legislation Rulemaking
  - Clean Buildings building performance standard
  - CETA rulemakings
- IRPs underway
- Avista General Rate Case
- IOU Biennial Conservation Targets
- Zero Emission Vehicle Standard & Advance Clean Truck Rule Update



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# Other Notes of Interest

- Seattle Energy Code updates
  - Affect commercial and large multifamily buildings (4+ floors)
  - Increase efficiency, provide more opportunities for on-site solar, and transition away from many uses of fossil fuels for space and water heating
  - Will be before Seattle City Council in December
  - Go into effect in early 2021
- Statewide energy code updates for 2021 cycle starting soon
- Transportation Electrification:
  - Puget Sound Energy's Draft TE Plan
  - Avista and SCL's TE Plans Approved in October 2020



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# COVID Impacts Update

- Differences between states
- Differences between types of utilities
- Best practices
- Ongoing discussion as the pandemic intensifies

More information: <https://nwenergy.org/featured/covid-19-consumer-protection-updates/>



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# NWEC Virtual Member Meeting

## Regional Report

# 2021 Northwest Power Plan

## *basic elements*

- Northwest Power Act (1980)
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council
- 8 members, 2 per state, appointed by governors (ID, MT, OR, WA)
- Requires updated regional power plan every 5 years
- Requires fish & wildlife program (adopted October 2020)
- Plan gives strong guidance to BPA; advisory but authoritative for others
- 20 year forecast and resource plan; 5 year Action Plan
- Resource priorities: conservation, renewables, then others



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# 2021 Northwest Power Plan

## *key developments*

- Climate-adjusted baseline (hydro, power demand)
- Major change in resource mix as coal retires and diverse clean energy portfolio comes in (renewables, storage, demand side)
- Energy efficiency continues as #1 new resource priority, but BPA and (some) public power are backsliding
- Major opportunity for flexible demand (a/k/a demand response)
- *Coalition focus: EE, DR and other demand side resources will balance the system, accelerate the clean transition, and provide immediate and ongoing benefits to customers*



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# 2021 Northwest Power Plan *schedule\**

- Draft Plan *March-April 2021*
- 60+ day public comment period *April-mid summer 2021*  
*your voice counts!*
  - public hearings in ID, MT, OR, WA
  - written comments
  - *Coalition will help coordinate response*
- Final Plan *late summer 2021*
- Follow the action! [www.nwcouncil.org](http://www.nwcouncil.org)

*\* schedule subject to change*



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# Resource Adequacy

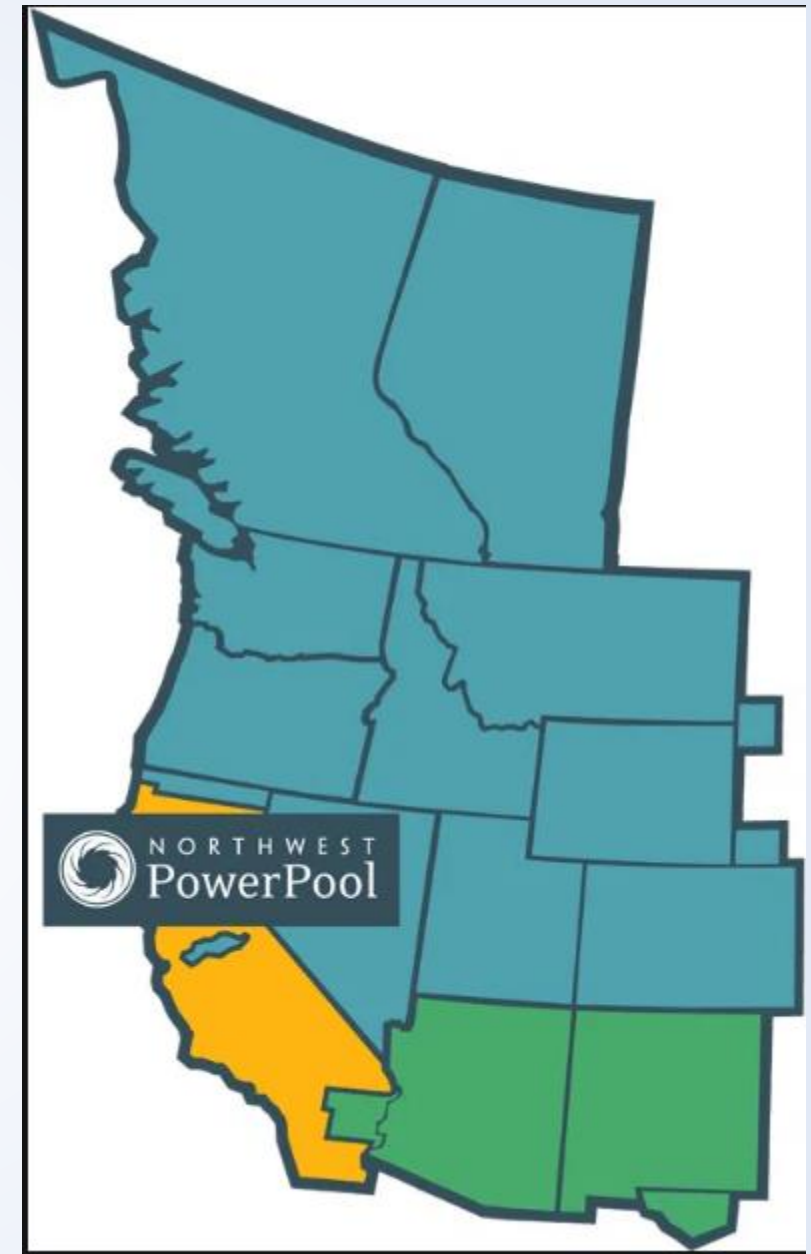
## *challenge & opportunity*

- Resource adequacy  
*Enough supply, demand and storage resources to keep the lights on in all hours*
- The context  
*We have a shared power grid -- if one area falls short, all areas are at risk of power outages and price spikes*
- The challenge  
*We already have stress conditions in late winter and late summer Coal retirement and climate change create increased uncertainty*
- The opportunity  
*A balanced portfolio of new clean resources will provide better resource adequacy than we have now*



# Northwest Power Pool Resource Adequacy Program

- Current status  
*Program now in development for full implementation in 2024*
- The opportunity  
*Regional coordination can increase reliability, decrease costs and accelerate clean energy uptake for all areas*
- The challenge  
*Mostly an "insider game"*  
*(Coalition, RNW and others on stakeholder advisory committee)*  
*Biggest focus on existing generation (hydro, gas, coal, nuclear)*



# Regional Update

## Salmon and Energy



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## Annual Awards



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# The Doug Still Memorial Community Organizing Award

## Community Energy Project



# The Bob Olsen Memorial Conservation Eagle Award

Jim Jensen



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# Headwaters Award

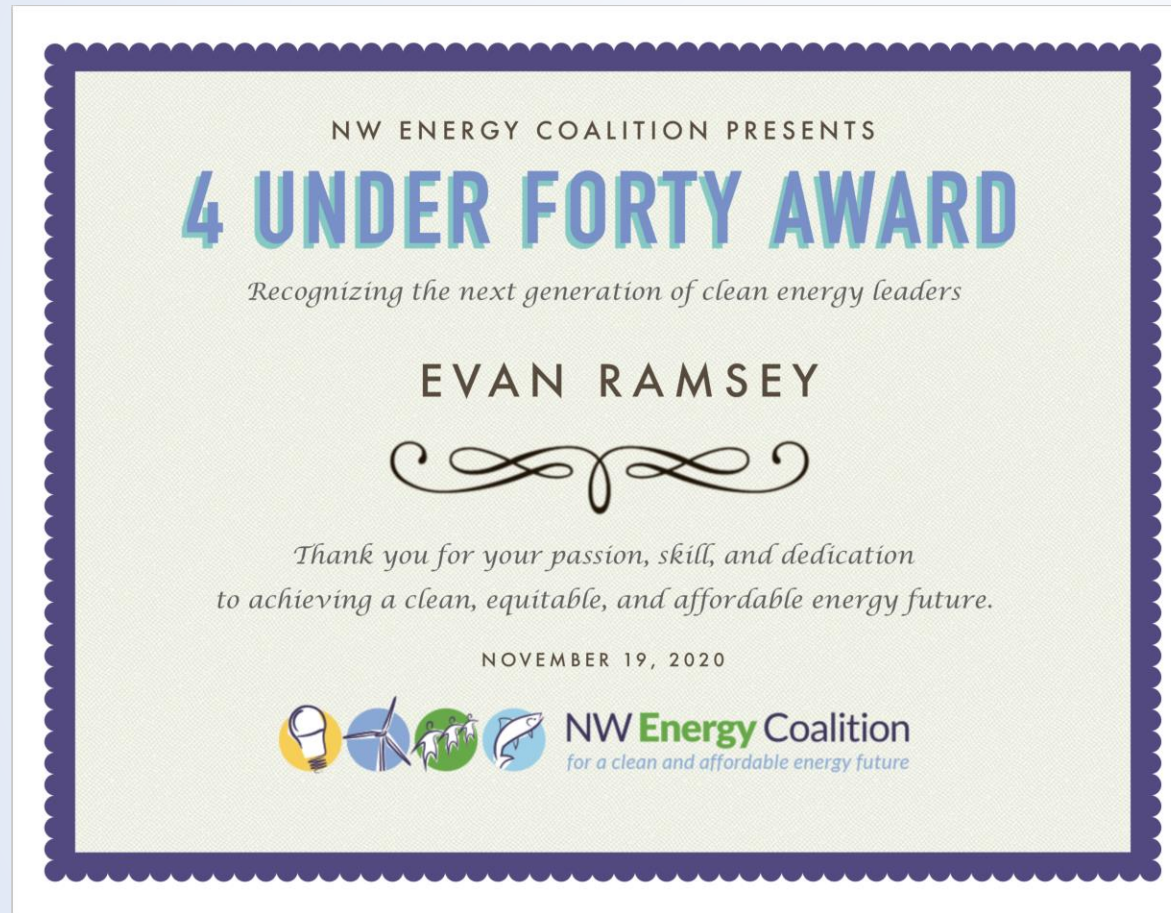
## Ken Dragoon



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# 4 Under Forty Award – Evan Ramsey



# 4 Under Forty Award – Jessica Zimmerle

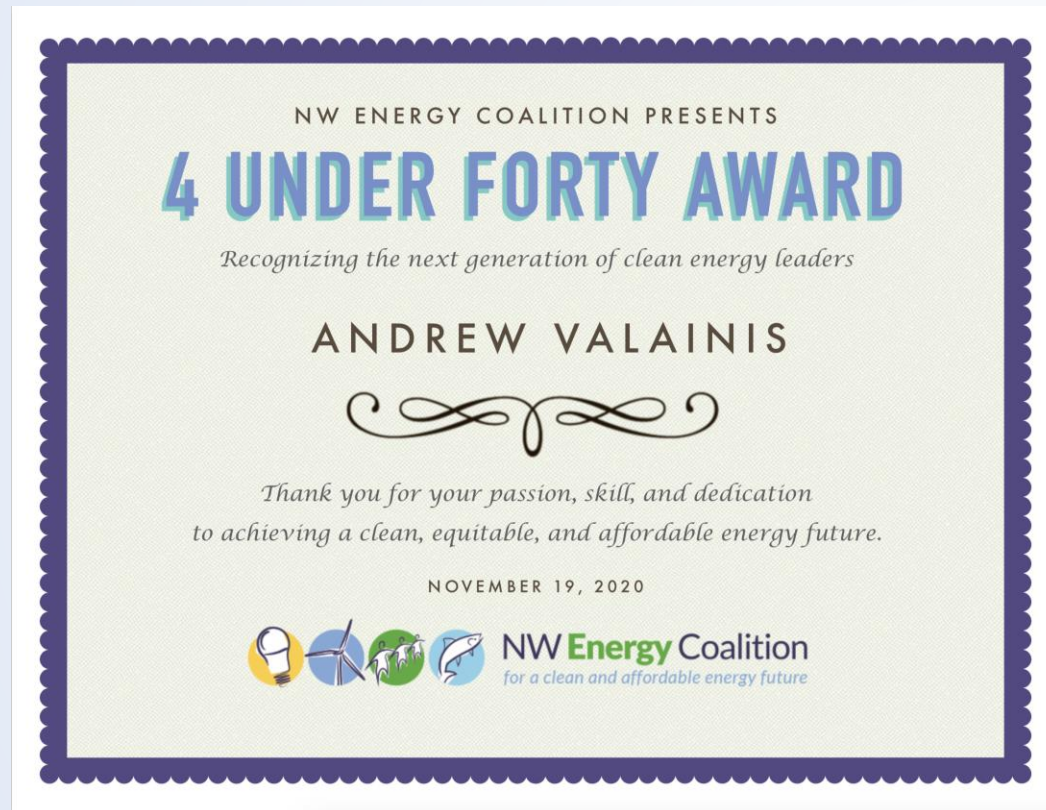




# 4 Under Forty Award – Katrina Peterson



# 4 Under Forty Award – Andrew Valainis



# Member Updates



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# Thank you!



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