

UTC
Washington Utilities
and Transportation
Commission

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Overview, and Large Load Customers

Charlie Inman, Energy Policy Advisor

10/8/2026

Contact Information

- Charlie Inman

Charlie.inman@utc.wa.gov

360-742-2628

- Contacting the UTC in general

<https://www.utc.wa.gov/contact-us>

The screenshot shows the UTC website's contact page. The header includes the UTC logo and navigation links for Documents, Events Calendar, News and Updates, and Contact Us. A search bar is located in the top right. The main navigation menu includes Home, Consumers, Regulated Industries, Public Safety, Documents and Proceedings, About Us, Contact Us, and Resource Plans by Company. The hero section features a dark background with the text "Need more information? Contact us." and an image of a hand holding a smartphone with a speech bubble icon. Below the hero section, the "Contact Us" page title is displayed. The "We Are Here to Help You" section lists general questions, including phone number (360-664-1160), hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m.), and TTY relay services. The "Consumer Complaints" section provides a link to file a complaint and lists phone number (1-888-333-WUTC (9882)), hours (9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m.), and a note that the line is closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The "Public Comments" section provides a link to submit comments and lists phone number (1-888-333-WUTC (9882)) and hours (9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m.). The "Reach Out to Us" section includes a list of links: Legislative Updates, Media Inquiries, Outreach Requests, Public Records, UTC Teams and Staff, Website Issues, and Your Privacy.

UTC
Washington Utilities
and Transportation
Commission

Documents Events Calendar News and Updates Contact Us

Search
Site Search Companies Search Dockets Search

HOME CONSUMERS REGULATED INDUSTRIES PUBLIC SAFETY DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS ABOUT US CONTACT US RESOURCE PLANS BY COMPANY

Need more information?
Contact us.

Home / Contact Us

Contact Us

We Are Here to Help You

General Questions

- **Phone:** 360-664-1160
- **Hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- **TTY Relay Services for hearing or speech help:**
 1. Dial 1-800-833-6384 or 711.
 2. Give the relay operator our phone number: 360-664-1160.

Consumer Complaints

[File a complaint](#) against a regulated company.

- **Phone:** Toll-free at 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)
- **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m.
- **Note:** This line is closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Public Comments

[Submit comments](#) on a case or company filing.

- **Phone:** Toll-free at 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)
- **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Reach Out to Us

- Legislative Updates
- Media Inquiries
- Outreach Requests
- Public Records
- UTC Teams and Staff
- Website Issues
- Your Privacy



About the commission



Mission:

“to protect the people
of Washington by ensuring
that investor-owned utility and
transportation services are
safe, available, reliable,
and fairly priced.”



Evolution of the Commission



UTC Jurisdiction expands.



UTC evolved to cover many different industries.

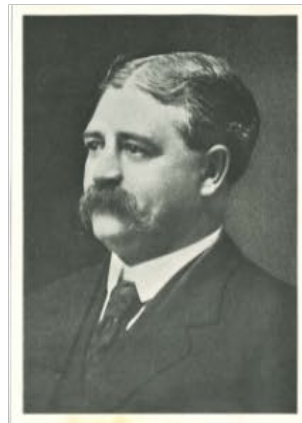
1905

1911

1961

NOW

UTC is created as the Washington Railroad Commission.



Renamed to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.



Commissioners and Executive Director



Governor



Chair



Commissioner



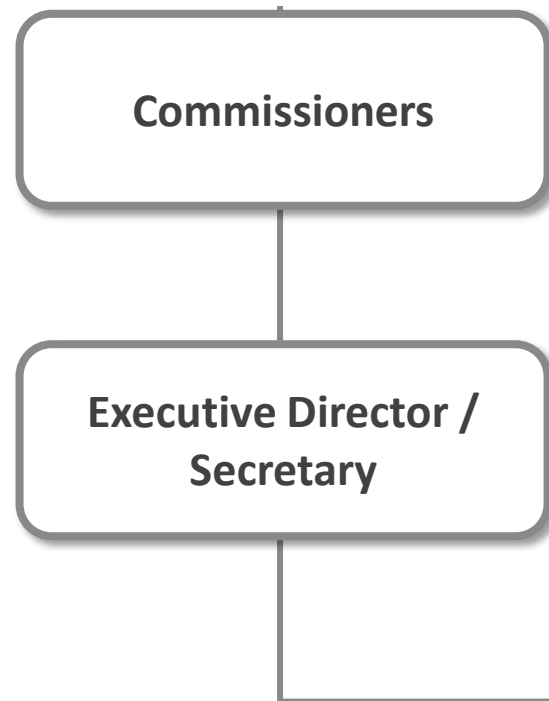
Commissioner



Executive Director /
Secretary



Commission Structure



**Administrative
Law**



**Administrative
Services**



Communications



**Consumer
Protection**



**Equity, Diversity
and Inclusion**



**Human
Resources**



**Legislative
Program**



Policy



**Pipeline
Safety**



**Regulatory
Services**



**Transportation
Safety**



Can UTC
employees all
work together?



Rulemakings



Open Meetings

- More than 170 employees
- Largest division: Regulatory Services
- **Staff make recommendations, but the commission does not have to agree with them**



We regulate private utility and some transportation companies



Electric and
Natural Gas



Landline
Phone



Water

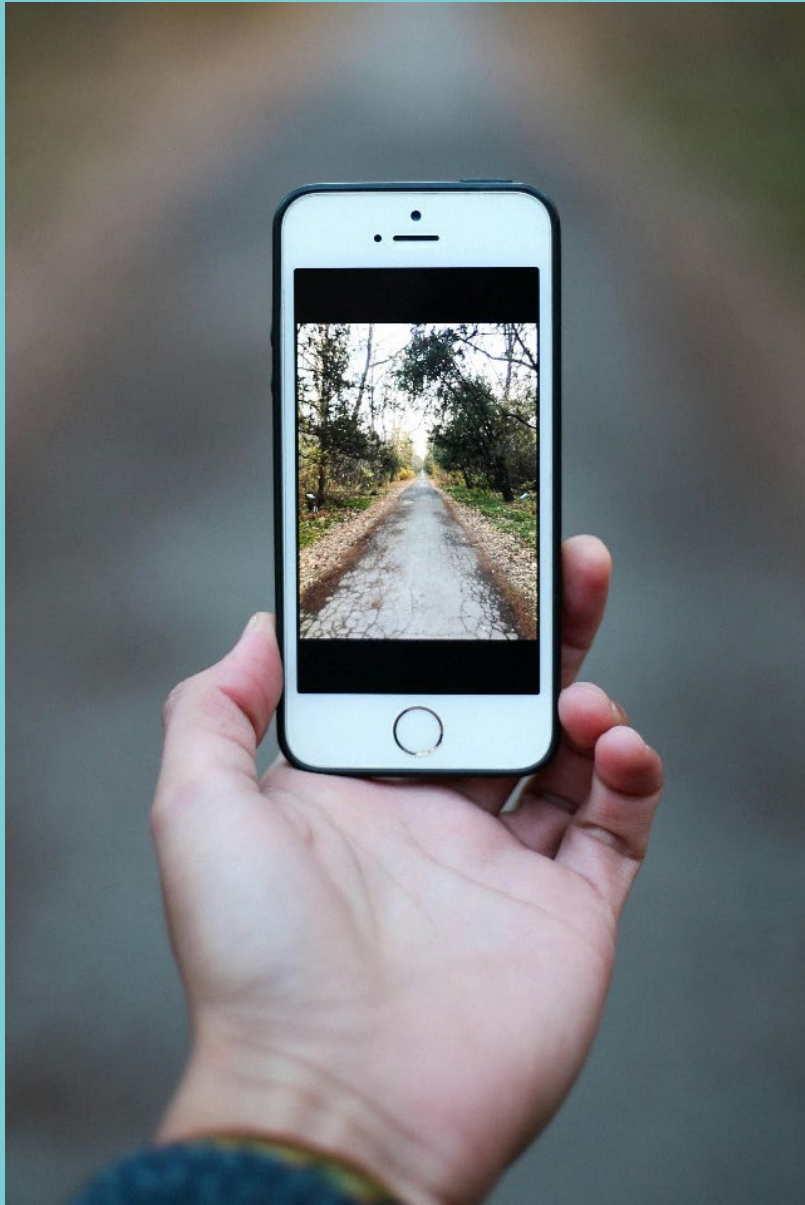


Solid Waste
and Recycling



Residential Movers,
Commercial Ferries,
Pipeline Companies,
Solid Waste Haulers





The commission does **not** regulate:

- PUDs (Public Utility Districts)
- City government owned utility companies (Seattle City Light, Tacoma Power)
- Broadband
- Cellular telecommunications service



Industry Terms

IOU: Investor-Owned Utility

A utility owned by a board of investors, not a local government or other public entity.

COU: Consumer-Owned Utility

A utility owned by a public group of consumers, like a cooperative. The UTC does not oversee COUs.



Industry Terms

Quasi-Judicial Agency

Unlike most state agencies, the commission often functions like a court of law. It rules on cases brought before it.

Adjudication

The legal process of resolving a dispute or deciding a case.



Industry Terms

General Rate Case

A regulatory proceeding to review a new tariff revision a utility files with the commission. A general rate case can take up to 11 months.

Tariff

A utility's schedule of rates or charges for a class of customers. Utilities must submit tariff changes to the UTC for approval.



What is a docket?



- A docket is how information is organized at the UTC.
- Dockets are where all documents related to a case go, including:
 - Comments from stakeholders
 - Announcements from the Commission, judges, or staff
 - Exhibits in rate cases

- [UTC Docket Search Page](#)



UTC
Washington Utilities
and Transportation
Commission

Documents Events Calendar News and Updates Contact Us

Search
Site Search Companies Search Dockets Search

HOME CONSUMERS REGULATED INDUSTRIES PUBLIC SAFETY DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS ABOUT US CONTACT US RESOURCE PLANS BY COMPANY

Home / Documents and Proceedings / Dockets List

Dockets List

Dockets List

Company Name Search docket # or keyword Industry Status

Displaying 1 - 50 of 36679

Docket	Company Name(s)	Type	Status	Last Order	Industry	Description
260829	Basin Disposal Inc.	Tariff Revision	Pending	n/a	Solid Waste	Tariff adoption notice of Emergent Investment Office, LP, to adopt the existing tariff No. 95 of Basin Disposal, Inc. to become effective August 27, 2026.





Utilities



Regulated IOU Companies



Electric Providers



Natural Gas Providers



Why do IOUs need our regulation?

Monopolies - Only one company provides a specific service in a specific area.



When to contact the commission



Consumer Protection

UTC's Consumer Protection Division can help customers with:

Billing Disputes

Disconnect Notices

Service Shut-Offs

Service Complaints

Payment Arrangements

Energy Assistance

Telephone Assistance

Transportation Company Lookup



Consumer Help Line



File electronically using our Online Complaint Form;



Email consumer@utc.wa.gov; or



Call our Help Line: 888-333-9882
Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Write the UTC at P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504.
Please include a return address.





Types of Commission Proceedings



Proceedings



Increase Revenue



Build New
Infrastructure



Changes in
Service Policies
of Tariffs



Rulemakings

- Legislature makes laws (RCW), agencies make rules (WAC)
- Commission rules are in WAC Title 480
- For example, the Carbon and Electricity Markets Rulemaking in [Docket UE-210183](#)



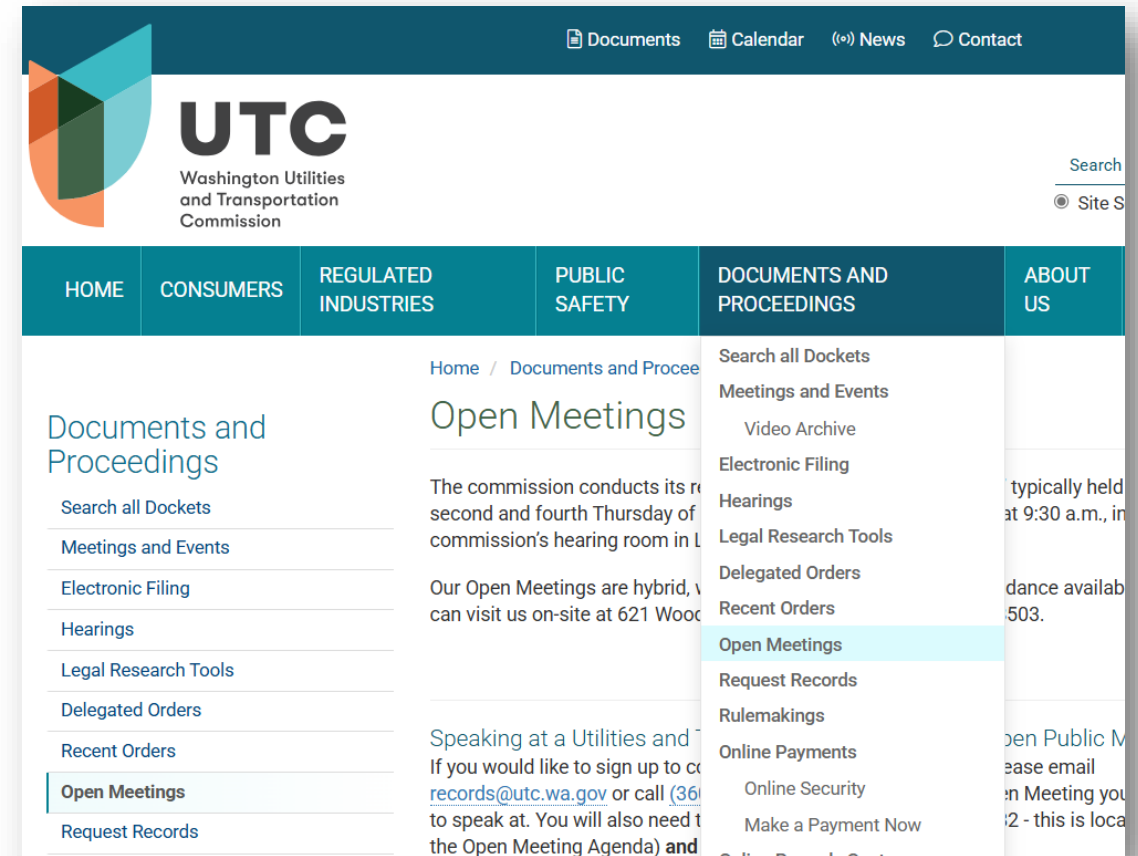
Adjudications

- A trial-like proceeding
- Administrative law judge presides
- Pre-filed, written testimony
- Includes a hearing primarily for cross-examination



Open Meetings

- Held every other Thursday
- Join online or in-person
- To view the webpage:
 1. Visit utc.wa.gov
 2. Select **Documents and Proceedings** in the banner
 3. Go to **Open Meetings**



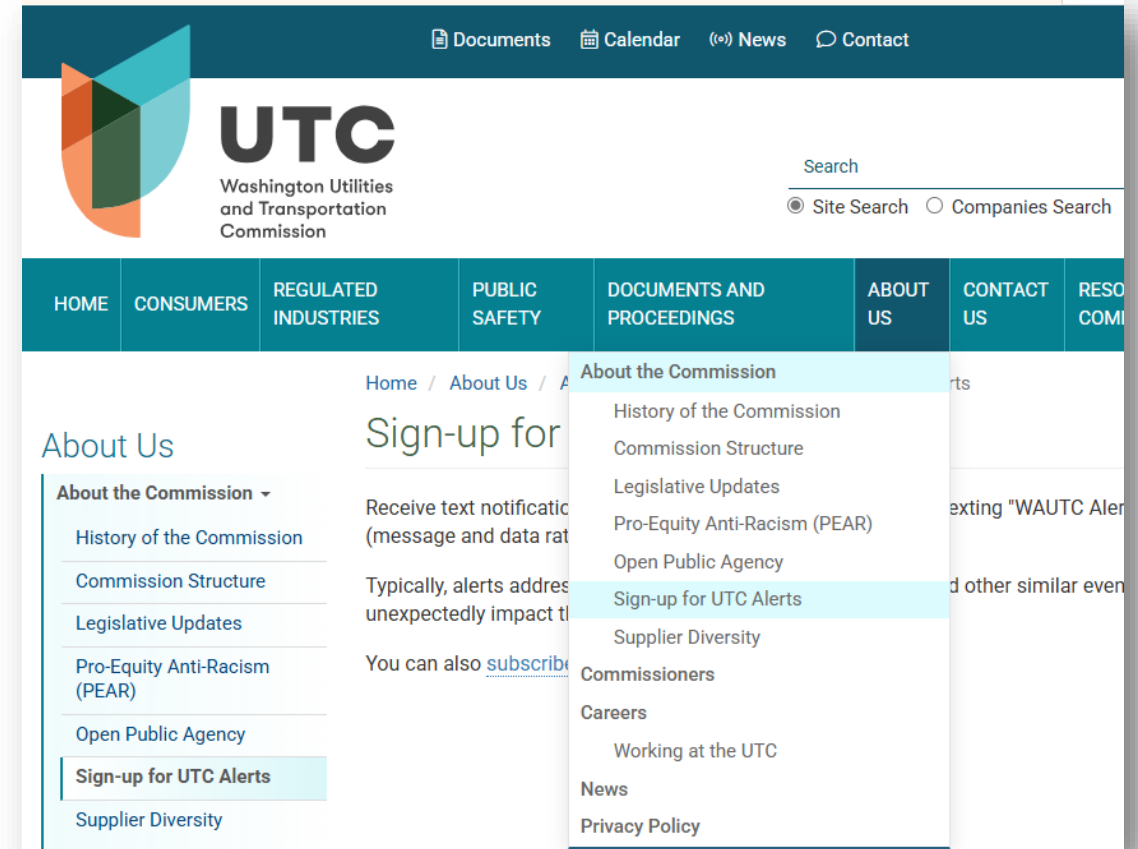
More Ways to Get Involved

Subscribe to the UTC email lists

1. Visit **utc.wa.gov**
2. Select **About Us** in the banner
3. Go to **Sign-up for UTC Alerts**

Discover the UTC Pro-Equity Anti-Racism External Advisory Group

1. Visit **utc.wa.gov**
2. Select **About Us** in the banner
3. Go to **Pro-Equity Anti-Racism**





Governor's Data Center Workgroup



UTC
Washington Utilities
and Transportation
Commission

Workgroup members and goal

- Governor Ferguson's Executive Order 25-05:
 - *The Dept. of Revenue shall establish and lead a Data Center Workgroup to “discuss the impacts of data centers on Washington State’s economy, tax revenue, energy use, and the environment. The Workgroup will consider policies that balance industry growth, tax revenue needs, energy constraints, and sustainability.”*
- Workgroup Members:

State Government	Advocacy Groups	DC Industry + Utilities	Other Groups
• Governor's Office • WA UTC • WaTech • Commerce • Ecology • Revenue • UW's CIO • Senator Sharon Shewmake • Senator Matt Boehnke • Representative April Berg • Representative Alex Ybarra	• Front and Centered • Renewable Northwest • The Nature Conservancy • WA Building and Construction Trades Council • Grant County Economic Development Council • Climate Jobs WA • NW Energy Coalition	• Data Center Coalition • Microsoft • Amazon • Sabey Data Centers • Avista • Chelan PUD • PSE	• Yakama Nation Fisheries • Pacific NW National Lab • IBEW • UA Local 598



Results

- 5 meetings over the course of 2025, two subgroups
 - Tax Revenue & Economic Development
 - Energy & Resource Impacts
- [Preliminary Report](#)
- Findings and Recommendations
 - Discussion of WA's energy landscape and relevant policies related to construction, pollution, and financial pressures
 - Electric load growth management
 - Tax and revenue effects
 - Recommendations to manage data center growth effectively



Pursuant to Executive Order 25-05





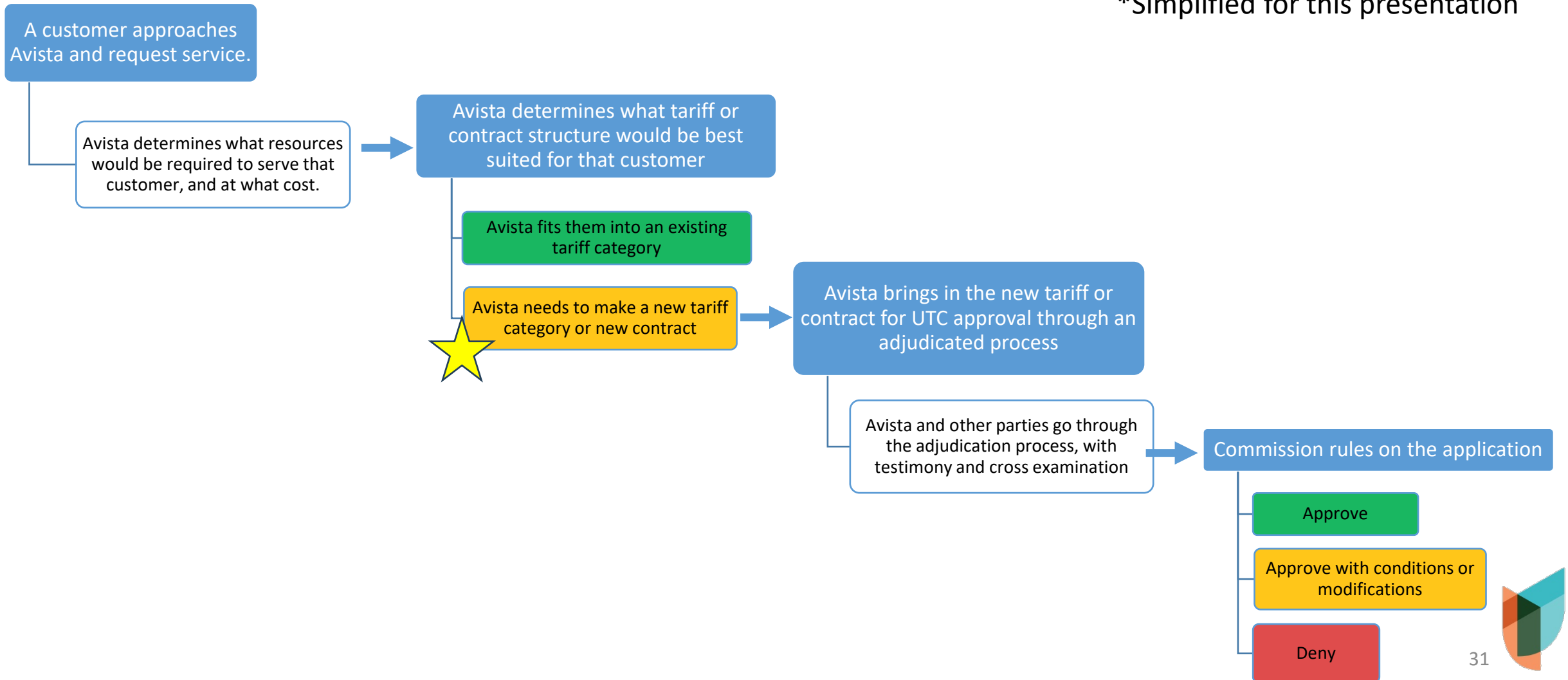
Docket UE-260162

UTC's Electric Large Load Customers Policy Docket



How do new customers join a utility?*

*Simplified for this presentation



Why did we open UE-260162?

- Data center and other large industrial loads have been coming online across the country and in Washington.
 - “Large Load Customers” may not fit in existing tariff structures
 - LLCs have not yet arrived in IOU service territories, but they are inquiring. →
- Utilities are obligated to serve customers under [RCW 80.28.110](#).
 - “1) Every [...] electrical company [...] engaged in the sale and distribution of [...] electricity [...] shall, upon reasonable notice, furnish to all persons and corporations who may apply therefor and be reasonably entitled thereto, suitable facilities for furnishing and furnish all available [...] electricity [...] as demanded
- The Commission is working to address these issues proactively instead of reactively.



By Thomas Clouse 
tomc@spokesman.com
(509) 459-5495

Editor's note: Avista announced Friday afternoon that the utility is pausing negotiations with the data center developer.



UE-260162 Policy Docket

- The Commission has hosted two public events to ask questions and gather stakeholder input
 - April 27, 2026 and August 12, 2026
 - All materials, submitted comments, and recordings are available on the [docket webpage](#).
- The Commission will put out a Policy Statement outlining the Commission's position on how regulated utilities should be handling large load customers.
 - What is a large load customer?
 - What are the risks?
 - How should risks be addressed?
- Tentative Timeline
 - Draft by early November for public feedback, final version by end-of-year





Thank you! Questions?

