

# Cascade Natural Gas Corporation-CAG 2024 Q1 Meeting Minutes 1/17/2024

*Meeting held: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm--Meeting Recording available to supplement notes*

**Microsoft Teams meeting**  
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[+1 509-505-0479,,931128918#](#) United States, Spokane

Phone Conference ID: 931 128 918#

**Attendees:**

<u>CNGC</u>	<u>CNGC – Continued</u>	<u>NEEA</u>	<u>WA Dept of Comm</u>
Kathy Wold	Stephanie Reed	Peter Christeleit	Liz Reichert
Mike Parvinen	Sheila McElhinney		Lauren Savage Wittig
Desiree Bickmore	Ty Jennings	<u>WUTC</u>	
Caleb Reimer	David Pettit	Byron Harmon	<u>Energy Project</u>
Noemi Ortiz	Ted McCammant	Quinn Weber	Shaylee Stokes
Brian Robertson			
Mark Sellers-Vaughn	<u>TRC</u>	<u>Public Council</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Sonya Wald	Brian Farnsworth	Corey Dahl	Gil (Hugh) Peach

The meeting was recorded to capture all discussions and is distributed to CNGC/CAG members via the Company’s website at: [Cascade Natural Gas Conservation Advisory Group Meetings - Cascade Natural Gas Corporation \(cngc.com\)](https://cngc.com)

\*\* Time stamp for each agenda item is located beside the topic header below in this format HH:MM

**The Agenda is embedded below:**



Q1 2024 CNGC CAG Meeting Agenda.pdf

**Safety Moment - led by Caleb Reimer - 00:00:31**

- Stretching & Mobility Safety.

**Roll Call & Review Q4 action items - led by Desiree Bickmore – 00:00:45**

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Completed roll call.
- Dez emailed invites on 10/19/23 to CAG members for 2024 quarterly meetings.
- Caleb did contact Seattle City Light regarding why they discontinued their behavioral energy program, per Cory’s suggestion. Spoke to Lars and he said it was a great success but unfortunate timing due to COVID that caused dislodging the entire plan. Positive mentions about behavioral programs recommended that Cascade continue to pursue for it.

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### Quarterly Portfolio update - led by Brian Farnsworth & Caleb Reimer

#### Commercial Highlights – led by Brian Farnsworth - 00:11

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Overview of Q4 2023-Progress to Goal.
- Therms by Measure Type – Custom Heat Recovery all due to Walmart and will continue to work with Walmart in 2024.
- Biennium Progress – Achieved 719,438 therms, Remaining Goal is 237,881 therms.
- 2024 Outlook – Forecast is looking good. Strong pipeline for 2024-2025: 750,000+ therms.

### Residential Program Highlights and Activity through Q3 2023 - led by Caleb Reimer – 00:16

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Call out to the team for what they accomplished for 2023.
- Some highlights for 2023.
  - Grew and fostered POS program
  - Revamped our marketing – more data driven
  - Team being fully staffed – one position open for Economic Analyst at this time
- Provided update on our progress to goal – achieved 119% of goal.
- Reached 99.7 percent of Biennial goal.

### Biennial Conservation Plan Update – led by Caleb Reimer – 00:21

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Conservation Plan filed on 11/15/2023 (Docket UG-230937).
- Heard in a recessed open meeting on 1/17/2024.
- Program transition on 3/15/2024.
- Significantly increased Residential rebate amounts.

### Biennial Report Timeline – led by Caleb Reimer – 00:25

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Cascade will deliver a biennial program report in 2024 – BCP conditions Docket UG-210838, Section 5c).
- Revised draft delivered to CAG by 5/15/2024.
- Final revised draft delivered to WUTC by 6/15/2024.

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### Low-Income Program Updates – led by Sheila McElhinney & Noemi Ortiz – 00:27

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Sheila provided update on participation through Q4Y23 – new record of 131 projects completed.
- Byron asked about the tariff provision increasing the amount of money CAP agencies can collect on their projects, any response so far or is it too early to tell? Have you seen any movement from the CAP agencies responding to that yet?
  - Per Sheila, tariff was approved for 2024 - 30 percent project coordination and 10 percent indirect rate – agencies will receive 40 percent of the total installed cost
  - Yes, we have projects in the hopper
- Table provided on participation through Q4Y23 – expect program participation to increase in 2024.
- Provided update on WA Department of Commerce: New Workforce Development Manager, relaunching multi-family RFP, and working on ECOS implementation.
- Noemi provided update on the Equity Advisory Group that was established September 2023.
  - A couple of action items are the website translation and the bill assistance income guideline

### ERA Software Migration - led by Caleb Reimer - 00:40

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Plan to shift from DSMC to ERA (Enterprise Rebate Application) by year end 2024.
- ERA currently used by Intermountain Gas since April 2023.
- ThoughSpot will be used for data tracking.
- ERA visualization slide provided for some insight.

### Commercial/Industrial Program RFP – led by Caleb Reimer - 00:44

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- Currently implemented by TRC.
- CNGC intends to RFP for this service in the summer of 2024.
- Recommendations for distribution are welcome.

### Wrap-up and Meeting Schedule - led by Caleb Reimer - 00:46

**Action Items: None**

**Decisions Made: None**

**Noted Discussion:**

- 2024 Meeting Cadence:
  - 2024 Quarterly meeting invitations have been dispersed.
  - Next meeting will be on April 17, 2024.