

WAC 480-100-660 Incremental cost of compliance. (1) **Incremental cost methodology.** To determine the incremental cost of the actions a utility takes to comply with RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050, the utility must compare its lowest reasonable cost portfolio to the alternative lowest reasonable cost and reasonably available portfolio. The utility should use a portfolio optimization model, such as the one used in its most recent IRP, as the basis for calculating the alternative lowest reasonable cost and reasonably available portfolio to show the difference in portfolio choices and investment needs between the two portfolios, and demonstrate which investments and expenses are directly attributable costs to meet the requirements of RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050.

(a) The utility may include in its documentation of both portfolios those investments and expenses that are not reflected in the portfolio optimization if the utility demonstrates that the investment or expense could not reasonably have been reflected in the portfolio optimization model.

(b) If the portfolios provided are the result of a model, the utility must provide a fully linked and electronically functional copy of that model as part of its workpapers.

(c) The utility may propose an alternative incremental cost methodology if it can demonstrate that it meets the requirements of a methodology as described in RCW 19.405.060 (3) and (5), and that it will comply with RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050 at the lowest reasonable cost.

(2) **Incremental cost calculation.** The utility must calculate the average annual threshold amount for determining eligibility for reliance on RCW 19.405.060(3) as a means of compliance. The average annual threshold amount is equal to a two percent increase over the utility's weather-adjusted sales revenue to customers from each previous year, divided by the number of years in the period. For a period consisting of four years, the mathematical formula for the annual threshold amount is:

$$\text{Annual Threshold Amount} = \frac{(WASR_0 \times 2\% \times 4) + (WASR_1 \times 2\% \times 3) + (WASR_2 \times 2\% \times 2) + (WASR_3 \times 2\%)}{4}$$

(3) **Directly attributable costs.** An investment or expense is directly attributable only if all the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) The utility made the investment or incurred the expense during the implementation period.

(b) The investment or expense is part of the lowest reasonable cost portfolio that results in compliance with RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050.

(c) The investment or expense is additional to the costs that the utility would incur for the alternative lowest reasonable cost and reasonably available portfolio.

(d) The investment or expense is not required to meet any statutory, regulatory, or contractual requirement or any provision of chapter 19.405 RCW other than RCW 19.405.040 or 19.405.050.

(4) **Projected incremental cost.** The utility must file projected incremental cost estimates in each CEIP using the methodology described in subsection (1) of this section and using projected weather-adjusted sales revenue in the calculation in subsection (2) of this section to estimate the average annual threshold amount for the implemen-

tation period. The utility must support the projections with workpapers, models, and associated calculations, and must:

(a) Identify all investments and expenses that the utility plans to make during the period in order to comply with the requirements of RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050.

(b) Demonstrate that the investments and expenses identified in (a) of this subsection are directly attributable to actions necessary to comply with, or make progress towards, the requirements of RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050.

(c) Provide the expected cost of the utility's planned activities and the expected cost of the alternative lowest reasonable cost and reasonably available portfolio.

(5) **Reported actual incremental costs.** In each CEIP compliance report as described in WAC 480-100-650, the utility must file the actual incremental costs using the methodology described in subsection (1) of this section and the calculation in subsection (2) of this section. The utility must support its filing by providing the following information:

(a) The actual costs the utility incurred during the implementation period. Presentation of capital and expense accounts should be reported by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) account by year.

(b) A demonstration that the reported incremental cost is directly attributable to specific actions the utility has taken that were necessary to comply with RCW 19.405.040 and 19.405.050, per subsection (2) of this section.

(c) Documentation of the cost of the alternative lowest reasonable cost and reasonably available portfolio; the utility must update verifiable and material inputs of this portfolio with the most recent information available.

(d) If the utility uses the incremental cost compliance option as described in this subsection, a demonstration that during the implementation period the average annual incremental cost of meeting the standards or the interim targets equals or exceeds a two percent annual increase of the investor-owned utility's weather-adjusted electric retail sales revenue to customers for electric operations above the previous year.

(e) An explanation for the variance between the projected incremental cost in subsection (3) of this section and the actual incremental costs reported in subsection (4) of this section.

(f) Workpapers and calculations supporting the incremental cost calculations.

(6) **Determination of incremental cost of compliance option.**

(a) For any implementation period in which the utility relies on RCW 19.405.060(3) as the basis for compliance with the standard under RCW 19.405.040(1) or 19.405.050(1), the utility must request a determination from the commission when filing its clean energy compliance report, per WAC 480-100-650.

(b) The utility must also provide evidence that, if the utility relied on alternative compliance options allowed under RCW 19.405.040(1)(b) during the applicable period, the utility has maximized investments in renewable resources and nonemitting electric generation before relying on these alternative compliance options.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 19.285.080, and 19.405.100. WSR 22-14-055 (Docket UE-210183, General Order R-604), § 480-100-660, filed 6/29/22, effective 7/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW

80.01.040, 80.04.160, and chapters 80.28, 19.280, and 19.405 RCW. WSR 21-02-022 (Dockets UE-191023 and UE-190698, General Order 601), § 480-100-660, filed 12/28/20, effective 12/31/20.]