

Rosemary Moore

What information should Ecology provide in its annual report?

I am extremely concerned that the state is falling far short of the percentage of CCA funds required to go to overburdened communities. Further, these funds must not go to projects that increase pollution. Here are Front and Centered's suggestions as to how to report accountability which I support: Frequent updating of online report information, ideally at least twice a year, with at least one update being issued immediately prior to legislative session. Use of quantitative data as well as narrative reporting based on community feedback. Incorporation of full information on effects to frontline communities resulting from projects and programs, including, but not limited to: Direct and indirect benefits to frontline communities resulting from the project; Environmental health disparities reductions; Unintended adverse impacts from expenditures;
Detailed explanation of how communities were identified, including how communities were consulted in the identification processes; Geographic boundaries of the communities identified and project scope;
Which vulnerable populations were reached and their demographics; and How frontline communities were consulted prior to receiving funding and during program implementation
Reporting on greenhouse gas emission reductions, community resiliency, and environmental impacts beyond carbon.
Accountability and transparency through use of clearly defined and easily tracked metrics in order to track progress over time
False Promises.

As Front & Centered point out, many of Washington State's investments could end up being false promises, as they mirror federal investments in ways that fail to take advantage of the state's more flexible use of funds and develop strategies that complement what's missing. For example, the Reducing Emissions in Hard-to-Decarbonize Sectors Program is an investment that, without community control, may end up as giveaways to major polluters who already get a free pass under cap-and-trade. Funds for ferry electrification could be met through the existing highway funds, billions of which are being used to expand highways, induce driving, and worsen pollution.

What additional information should be included about spending that benefits vulnerable populations in overburdened communities?

See my answer to no. 1

How should Ecology determine which projects are required to report their GHG emissions reductions?

See my answer to number 1. Require a very broad range within the bounds of the legislature.

What should Ecology consider when determining how to evaluate greenhouse gas emissions reductions from projects?

Follow informed scientific opinion.

What else would you like to share?

Please ensure CCA money goes to projects that will truly assist reductions in pollution, such as low cost, clean local and long distance rail travel using truly renewable resources (not natural gas or ethanol!).