PUC Oversight of the Energy Trust

The PUC oversees the Energy Trust to ensure that it produces good results (in terms of conservation savings and renewable resource development) and that it does so efficiently.

Performance measures

- PUC sets performance measures with robust annual targets for Energy Trust.
- Performance measures aim to ensure that Energy Trust achieves high levels of conservation savings and renewable resource generation, keeps its administrative costs down, and provides a high level of customer satisfaction.

Grant agreement

- A grant agreement between Energy Trust and the PUC establishes clear expectations for Energy Trust and ground rules for operations and engagement.
- Should Energy Trust fail to meet performance measures or otherwise fail to live up to expectations set forth in the grant agreement, the PUC at its discretion, may issue a formal "Notice of Concern". If concerns are not sufficiently addressed, the contract can be terminated and funding cut off.

Management

- PUC has a dedicated staff member who provides active oversight of Energy Trust.
- A PUC representative serves as a nonvoting ex officio member of the Energy Trust board of directors. The PUC's ETO liaison also attends all Board meetings.
- Energy Trust and PUC management participate in bi-monthly status meetings.

Reports

- Energy Trust submits its quarterly and annual reports in writing and makes presentations at PUC open public meetings. All information is made available to the public.
- Energy Trust provides a detailed presentation of its annual budget and associated targets to the Commission. Staff performs analysis and provides detailed comments back to the Trust. Commission formalizes comments and makes recommendations back to the Energy Trust Board.

Interface with Regulation of Utility Planning

- Annual budgets and PUC performance measures are tied directly to utility Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs). Utility IRPs are developed through an extensive stakeholder process resulting in an action plan that is acknowledged by the Commission. IRPs establish how utilities will meet future demands needs in the lowest cost and lowest risk way.

Other Oversight

- All board meetings are open to the public and board materials, which are extensive, are made available on Energy Trust's website.
- Energy Trust is required to seek public and PUC comment before finalizing and publishing strategic plans or action plans.