

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1633

In the Matter of)	
)	REQUEST FOR FINAL PAYMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF)	ISSUE FUND GRANT OF
OREGON,)	NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS
)	USERS
Investigation into Treatment of Pension)	
Costs in Utility Rates)	

Pursuant to Section 7.3 of the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”) approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) in Order No. 12-432 (November 20, 2012), Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”) hereby requests partial payment of NWIGU’s Issue Fund Grant in Docket No. UM 1633 in the amount of \$27,366.10, with \$9,122.03 paid from each of the Issue Funds for Avista, Cascade, and NW Natural. If this request for final payment is approved, \$2,005.10 of the originally requested grant will remain unused and can be released back into the relevant Issue Fund Accounts.

In support of this request, NWIGU shows the following:

1. On May 7, 2013, NWIGU submitted a proposed budget in the amount of \$41,160.00 less in-house resources of 20 percent, for a total Issue Fund Grant of \$32,928.00. The Commission approved the Budget and Issue Fund Grant for NWIGU in the amount requested on May 14, 2013. *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Investigation into Treatment of Pension Costs in Utility Rates*, OPUC Docket No.

UM 1633 (“UM 1633”), Order No. 13-176 (May 14, 2013). The Commission approved one-third of that amount for each of the Issue Funds for Avista, Cascade and NW Natural.

2. On March 13, 2014, NWIGU filed a motion to increase the amount of the approved budget by \$21,000 to take into account the extended nature of this proceeding, with equal amounts coming from the Issue Fund Accounts of Avista, Cascade, and NW Natural. The Commission granted that motion, resulting in an overall Issue Fund Budget of \$62,160.00 and an Issue Fund Grant of \$49,728.00. UM 1633, Order No. 14-101.

3. On March 31, 2014, NWIGU filed a Request for Partial Payment of Issue Fund Grant. The Commission approved that request in the amount of \$20,356.80. UM 1633, Order No. 14-119.

3. NWIGU hereby requests that the Commission authorize final payment of the Issue Fund Grant in this docket in the amount of \$27,366.10. NWIGU’s Eligible Expenses for this proceeding through August 30, 2015 are shown in Confidential Attachment A.

4. NWIGU respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of IFA Section 7.4 as follows:

Section 7.3(a) - The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates are attached as Confidential Attachment A.

Section 7.3(b) - NWIGU is a full and active participant in this docket. NWIGU and its consultants participated in discovery in this proceeding, participated in workshops, participated in informal meetings and telephone conferences with the

PUC, retained its own expert Larkin & Associates (shared with Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities), and filed testimony in this proceeding. The expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in IFA Section 7.4 and are reasonable and directly attributable to NWIGU's participation in UM 1633 on behalf of all customers.

Section 7.4(c) – NWIGU used its own funds to pay for at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses as required by Section 6.5 of the IFA. In addition NWIGU has supplied substantial resources in this proceeding through its Executive Director's active involvement in addition to the Eligible Expenses set forth on Attachment A, which Attachment reflects only those Eligible Expenses from outside legal counsel at the law firm of Cable Huston, LLP and NWIGU's expert witness, Larkin & Associates (shared with ICNU).

Section 7.4 – All of the expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.4 of the IFA and are consistent with NWIGU's proposed budget in this proceeding. No conditions were placed on NWIGU's Issue Fund Grant in Order No. 13-176.

5. Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, Avista Corporation, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation and Northwest Natural Gas should each send payment of \$9,122.03 to NWIGU as follows (which address is different than NWIGU's mailing address for service):

Edward Finklea
Executive Director
Northwest Industrial Gas Users
P.O. Box 2058
Tualatin, Oregon 97062

Dated this 25th day of September 2015.

CABLE HUSTON, LLP



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