BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UG 288

In the Matter of	
AVISTA CORPORATION dba AVISTA UTILITIES,) REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF ISSUE) FUND GRANT OF NORTHWEST) INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS
Request for a General Rate Revision))
)

Pursuant to Section 7.3 of the Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement ("IFA") approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission ("Commission") in Order No. 15-335 (October 20, 2015), Northwest Industrial Gas Users ("NWIGU") hereby requests payment of NWIGU's Issue Fund Grant in Docket No. UG 288 in the amount of \$41,353.21. In support of this request, NWIGU shows the following:

- 1. On December 1, 2015, NWIGU filed a Proposed Issue Fund Budget in the amount of \$77,080. That request resulted in an Issue Fund Grant of up to \$47,000 with \$22,000 from the 2015 Issue Fund Budget and \$25,000 from the 2016 Issue Fund Budget. *In the Matter of Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities Request for a General Rate Revision*, OPUC Docket No. UG 288, Order No. 15-390 (Dec. 03, 2015).
- 2. NWIGU hereby requests that the Commission authorize payment of the approved Issue Fund Grant in this docket in the amount of \$41,353.21, which is less than the full authorized amount. NWIGU's Eligible Expenses for this proceeding through February 2016 are shown in Confidential Attachment A. Because the amount of the requested grant is less than the full amount authorized, the remainder should be released back to Avista Corporation's Issue Fund.

3. NWIGU respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of IFA Section 7.3 as follows:

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

Section 7.3(b) - NWIGU was a full and active participant in this docket. NWIGU and its consultants participated in discovery in this proceeding, participated in informal meetings and telephone conferences with Avista, its consultants, Staff and CUB, and participated in settlement workshops and discussions, in addition to drafting testimony, partial settlement stipulations, briefs and attending oral argument. 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 UG 288.

Section 7.3(c) – The only condition of the Issue Fund Grant is that NWIGU must contribute 20% of Eligible Expenses using in-house resources. NWIGU used its own funds to pay for at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses as required by Section 6.5 of the IFA. Further, 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.

Section 7.3 (d) – This request is a request for final payment.

4. <u>Section 7.4</u> – 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.

5. Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, Avista should send payment 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 163
Ashland, Oregon 97520

6. NWIGU has satisfied the terms of the IFA and respectfully requests that the Commission approve payment of NWIGU's Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$41,353.21 from the Avista Issue Fund within 30 days of receiving this Request for Payment as provided in Section 7.6 of the IFA.

Dated this 11th day of March, 2016.

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