

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1717

In the Matter of)
) CUB REQUEST FOR AN
) ISSUE FUND GRANT & PROPOSED
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS) BUDGET
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL)
)
Application for Prudence Review of Costs)
of Post-Carry Wells)
_____)

The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (“CUB”) requests a total grant of \$9,840 from the Northwest Natural Gas Company (“NW Natural” or “Company”) Issue Fund. CUB’s request in this docket reflects the need to accommodate the requests of other intervenors. CUB staff will keep track of their participation by hours and activity.

CUB is precertified per OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). UM 1717 is an eligible proceeding under the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”), as approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission in Order No. 12-452, entered November 20, 2012. The proceeding directly affects NW Natural, which is a participating public utility under the IFA. See Order No. 12-452 at Article 1(k). CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant concurrent with its Notice of Intervention, as required by the IFA (Article 6.2).

Pursuant to paragraph 6.3 of the IFA, the proposed budget must identify certain points of information. CUB provides the information below.

(a) Statement of Work to Be Performed: CUB intends to participate in every procedural

aspect of this case. CUB participated in the pre-hearing conference. We will attend, either in person or by phone, and participate in all or most workshops, settlement meetings, hearings, and any Commission presentations. We will review testimony filed by the Company and by other parties, and will file our own testimony as appropriate. We will pursue discovery, as appropriate, and will respond to data requests asked of us. We will present our recommendations to the Commission.

(b) Description of Areas to Be Investigated: CUB intends to investigate issues including, but not limited to:

- A. The prudence of NW Natural's decision to invest in gas wells in 2014 under the Company's joint venture agreement with Jonah Energy, LLC
- B. A review of the costs of the investment proposed to be included in customer rates through the 2015 PGA
- C. Whether additional costs should be included in customer rates through future PGAs; and
- D. Issues raised by other parties to the proceeding.

(c) Description of the Class or Classes Benefiting from CUB's Participation:

CUB represents the interests of NW Natural's residential customers, though other customer classes may benefit from many aspects of our participation.

(d) The Fund from Which CUB Seeks an Issue Fund Grant & Available Funds: CUB is seeking an issue fund grant from the 2015 NW Natural Issue Fund. CUB's budget shows total eligible expenses of \$26,900, and seeks an issue fund grant of \$9,840.¹

¹ Due to its own outstanding requests for NW Natural issue funds in other dockets and the need to accommodate the requests of other intervenors for NW Natural's issue funds, CUB is reducing its request in this docket. Should additional NW Natural funds become available at a later date, CUB may request to amend its request for an issue fund grant in this docket.

As of April 3, 2015, the current available balance of NW Natural's 2015 Issue Fund is \$42,905.

(e) *The Budget Showing Estimated Fees and Costs:* CUB's budget accompanies this document as Attachment A.

(f) *A Representation of the Use of Matching Funds:* The budget and an accounting for the use of matching funds accompany this document as Attachment A.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2015
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Jenks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bob Jenks
Executive Director
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

CUB Proposed Budget -- UM 1717

CUB Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Bob Jenks, Executive Director	\$250	20.00	\$5,000.00
Jaime McGovern, Senior Economist	\$225	70.00	\$15,750.00
Nadine Hanhan, Utility Analyst	\$125	10.00	\$1,250.00
Sommer Templet, Staff Attorney	\$175	65.00	\$11,375.00
 <i>Other Expenses</i>			
Printing & Mailing			\$50.00
Travel			\$200.00
<hr/>			
In-House Resources			
20% of Eligible Expenses			(\$6,725)
Total			\$26,900
CUB Request*			\$9,840.00

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