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September 29, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Diane Davis
Intervenor Funding Coordinator
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
201 High St. SE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301

Zachary Kravitz
NW Natural
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97209-3991
Zachary.Kravitz@nwnatural.com

**Re: Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' Request for Payment of a
Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant – NW Natural Utilities Account
Docket No. UM 1929**

Dear Ms. Davis:

Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (“AWEC”) files this request for payment of a Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant for costs incurred from April 1, 2022- September 30, 2022 from the Northwest Natural Gas Company (“NW Natural”) Preauthorized Matching Fund Account in the amount of \$31,030.55. This request for payment is filed pursuant to Section 7.2 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”) approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) in Order No. Order No. 18-017 (January 17, 2018).

AWEC meets all of the criteria for payment of a Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant from the NW Natural Preauthorized Matching Fund Account for 2022, as demonstrated by the following:

1. Under the IFA, NW Natural makes available an Annual Grant Amount, which is increased by 3 percent per year, and added to NW Natural’s Preauthorized Matching Fund Account each calendar year during the term of the IFA. IFA at § 4.2. For 2022, the Annual Grant Amount for NW Natural was \$81,867.27. The current balance in NW Natural’s Preauthorized Matching Fund Account for use by AWEC for 2022 is \$140,516.39. Prior to this filing, AWEC made a Request for Payment from NW Natural’s Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant for Eligible Expenses incurred from September 1, 2021, through February 28, 2022. AWEC intends to file another Request for Payment for an NW Natural Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant by April 1, 2023, which will include additional eligible expenses incurred in 2022 that are not covered by this request. IFA at § 7.2.

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2. A Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant from NW Natural must be used solely to pay Eligible Expenses for Eligible Proceedings involving NW Natural. IFA at Section 4.2.2. AWEC requests the payment of a Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant for Eligible Expenses incurred in Dockets LC 71, UM 1929, UG 456, UG 457, UG 435, UI 451, UM 2251, UM 2213, UM 2178 and UM 2217 as Eligible Proceedings from April 1, 2022- September 30, 2022. AWEC requests payment of \$31,030.55 Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant for the expenses listed in confidential **Exhibit A**, attached, which are Eligible Expenses under Section 7.4 of the IFA. These expenses are in excess of any amounts recovered through Issue Fund Grants and/or other Matching Fund Grant Requests.

3. A Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant may be provided only if AWEC demonstrates that it has used in-house resources or outside funding for at least 35% of the Eligible Expenses for Eligible Proceedings. IFA at Section 7.2. As shown in confidential **Exhibit A**, AWEC has used in-house resources and outside funding for at least 35% of the Eligible Expenses in these proceedings.

4. AWEC is the successor to the Northwest Industrial Gas Users, which became precertified as eligible to receive intervenor funding grants under Section 5.2 of the original Intervenor Funding Agreement pursuant to Order No. 04-055, entered by the Commission on February 3, 2004. Under the current version of the IFA, funds from NW Natural's Preauthorized Matching Fund Account are available for use exclusively by AWEC. Amended IFA at Section 4.2.2.

5. Having demonstrated that it meets all of the criteria and conditions for such request, AWEC requests payment of a Preauthorized Matching Fund Grant from NW Natural's Preauthorized Matching Fund in the amount of \$31,030.55. AWEC requests that the Commission grant this request and order NW Natural to pay AWEC the amount of \$31,030.55 within 30 days after receipt of the Commission directive, in accordance with Section 7.2 of the Amended IFA.

Payment should be sent to the following address:

Alliance of Western Energy Consumers
818 SW Third Avenue #266
Portland, OR 97204

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Chad M. Stokes

Counsel for Alliance of Western Energy Consumers

CMS:jmh
Enclosure