

ORDER NO. 13 108

ENTERED MAR 27 2013

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UM 1633

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
OREGON,

Investigation into Treatment of Pension  
Costs in Utility Rates.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANTS  
APPROVED**

On March 20, 2013, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed a proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants in this proceeding. CUB's proposed budget shows eligible expenses in the amount of \$62,500; and it seeks Issue Fund Grants totaling \$50,000 as follows: Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities - \$8,334; Cascade Natural Gas Corporation - \$8,333; Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural - \$8,333; Idaho Power Company - \$8,334; Portland General Electric Company (PGE) - \$8,333; and PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power - \$8,333.

The Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 12-452 and the Idaho Power – CUB intervenor funding agreement approved by the Commission in Order No. 10-396, provide that precertified intervenors must submit a proposed issue fund budget to the Commission that contains, at a minimum, the following information:

- 1) A statement of the work to be performed;
- 2) A description of the areas to be investigated;
- 3) A description of the particular customer class(es) that will benefit from the intervenor's participation;
- 4) Identification of the specific fund accounts from which the intervenor is seeking monies and an estimate of the amount of available funds in that account;
- 5) A budget showing estimated attorney, consultant and expert witness fees, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operations support; and
- 6) A representation that the intervenor will use matching funds in the form of either in-house resources or outside funding to account for or pay at least 20 percent of the eligible expenses for which the intervenor is seeking an Issue Fund Grant.

Once a proposed budget is received, we decide whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the intervenor funding agreements. We have the authority to accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.

CUB was automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.2(a) of the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement, under Article 5 of the Idaho Power – CUB intervenor funding agreement, and OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a). CUB's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects the current schedule adopted in this docket.

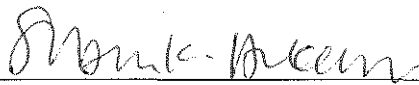
In light of the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, we believe that CUB's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

### ORDER

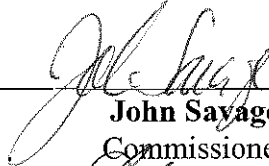
IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants is approved.
2. Issue Fund Grants totaling \$50,000 are approved as follows:
  - a. Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities - \$8,334;
  - b. Cascade Natural Gas Corporation - \$8,333;
  - c. Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural - \$8,333;
  - d. Idaho Power Company - \$8,334;
  - e. Portland General Electric Company (PGE) - \$8,333; and
  - f. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power - \$8,333.

Made, entered, and effective MAR 27 2013.



**Susan K. Ackerman**  
Chair



**John Savage**  
Commissioner



**Stephen M. Bloom**  
Commissioner

