

ORDER NO.

14 046

ENTERED

FEB 18 2014

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: AMENDED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND
GRANTS APPROVED**

On March 20, 2013, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed a proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in this docket and in Order No. 13-108, we approved the budget showing eligible expenses in the amount of \$62,500 and an issue fund grant in the amount of \$50,000 to be split among the Issue Funds of Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities (\$8,344); Cascade Natural Gas Company (\$8,333); Idaho Power Company (\$8,344); Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (\$8,333); PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power (\$8,333); Portland General Electric Company (\$8,333). On February 6, 2014, CUB filed a request to amend its proposed budget issue fund grant. The amended proposed budget shows total eligible expenses in the amount of \$125,000, and CUB now seeks to amend its Issue Fund Grant from \$50,000 to \$100,000. CUB notes that this additional grant amount is to be split among the utilities' issue funds in the same manner as the original granted request.

The Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement), approved in our Order No. 12-452¹, provides that an intervenor who received Commission approval for an Issue Fund Grant may file to amend its budget and request additional funding due to unforeseen changes in the scope or complexity of issues, positions taken by other parties, changes in the schedule of the case, or other good cause. Agreement at 15.

Once an amended proposed budget is received, we decide whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the Agreement. We have the authority to

¹ Order No. 12-452 was subsequently supplemented by Order No. 13-317 to include Exhibits A, B, and C.

accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.

CUB is automatically certified to receive intervenor funding under OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a). CUB's amended 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 amended proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant is approved.
2. An additional \$50,000 is approved for the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon Issue Fund Grants.

FEB 18 2014


Made, entered, and effective _____.



Susan K. Ackerman
Chair



John Savage
Commissioner



Stephen M. Bloom
Commissioner

