

ORDER NO. 14 172

ENTERED MAY 21 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: ISSUE FUND GRANT REQUESTS APPROVED

On May 15, 2014, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon filed a Request for Payment of Issue Fund Grants from Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities; Cascade Natural Gas Corporation; Idaho Power Company; Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural; PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power; and Portland General Electric Company. The procedures for payment of Issue Fund Grants are governed by Section 7.3 of the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement, adopted in our Order No. 12-452¹ and in Section 7.2 of the Idaho Power Intervenor Funding Agreement, adopted in our Order No. 10-396 (Agreements). CUB is automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a) and under Article 5 of the Agreements.

CUB asks for progress payment as follows:

Avista	Cascade	Idaho Power	NW Natural	Pacific Power	PGE
\$8,334	\$8,333	\$8,334	\$8,333	\$8,333	\$8,333

CUB notes that although it is requesting amounts that equal the approved proposed budgets, it is deeming this request a progress payment because the docket is ongoing and CUB may amend its budget and request additional funds at a later date. Under the Agreements, the Request for Payment must:

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

1. Itemize the expenses, payees and hourly rates of amount to be reimbursed;
2. Demonstrate that the expenses are reasonable and are directly attributable to issues and positions pursued on behalf of a particular customer class and consistent with the intervenor's proposed budget;
3. Provide information sufficient to show that the intervenor has complied with any conditions imposed on the Issue Fund Grant; and
4. Specify whether the request for payment is for a progress payment or a final payment and indicate whether any approved budget amount may be released back to the applicable Issue Fund.

Further, under the terms of the Agreements, CUB must establish that it has used in-house resources or outside funding for at least 20 percent of the Eligible Expenses for an Eligible Proceeding. CUB provided the required documentation in its request.

The Agreements provide that we determine in each proceeding how the participating utilities are to recover the funding grants from the various customer classes. Under Article 7 of the Agreements, Issue Fund Grants should be allocated to align the costs of the advocacy with the intended potential beneficiaries of the advocacy. We considered the intended beneficiaries, and find that the issue fund expenditures should be allocated to residential customers of the Participating Utilities.

We find that CUB's request meets the requirements of the Agreements, and its request should be approved. Article 7 of the Agreements provides that the utilities must pay the Issue Fund Grants to the requesting intervenor within 30 days after receipt of our directive.

ORDER

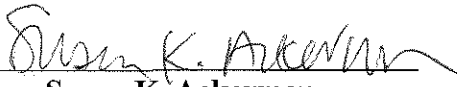
IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's request meets the requirements of the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement and the Idaho Power Company Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its request is approved.


ORDER NO. 14 172

2. Within 30 days after receipt of this order, the Participating Utilities pay the amounts indicated on page 1 of this order to the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, and the grants be assessed to the residential customers of the Participating Utilities.


Made, entered, and effective MAY 21 2014.



Susan K. Ackerman
Chair



John Savage
Commissioner



Stephen M. Bloom
Commissioner

