

ORDER NO. 15 252

ENTERED AUG 26 2015

**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 August 21, 2015, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon filed a Request for Payment of Issue Fund Grants from Cascade Natural Gas Corporation; Idaho Power Company; Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural; PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power; and Portland General Electric Company (PGE). 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 Order No. 12-452¹ and in Section 7.2 of the Idaho Power Intervenor Funding Agreement, adopted in 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 final payment as follows:

Cascade	Idaho Power	NW Natural	Pacific Power	PGE
\$3,000	\$3,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000

Under the Agreements, the Request for Payment must:

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;

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

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 the Commission 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. The Commission considered the intended beneficiaries and finds that the issue fund expenditures should be allocated to residential customers of the participating utilities identified on page 1 of this order.

The Commission finds 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. 15 252

2. Within 30 days after receipt of this order, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation; Idaho Power Company; Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural; PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power; and Portland General Electric Company pay the amounts indicated on page 1 of this order to the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, and each grant be assessed to the residential customers of the corresponding utility.

Made, entered, and effective AUG 26 2015.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Grant", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael Grant
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division