

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON
UM 1722**

In the Matter of)	
)	
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF)	CUB REQUEST FOR
OREGON)	ISSUE FUND GRANTS &
)	PROPOSED BUDGET
Investigation into Recovery of Safety Costs)	
by Natural Gas Utilities)	
_____)	

The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (“CUB”) requests a total grant of \$15,000, to be split evenly between the 2016 Avista Utilities (“Avista”) issue fund, the 2016 Cascade Natural Gas Co. (“Cascade”) issue fund and the 2016 Northwest Natural Gas Co. (“NW Natural”) issue fund. This presumes a fully litigated case; settlement of some or all of the issues would likely reduce our total request for reimbursement. CUB staff will keep track of their participation by hours and activity.

CUB is precertified per OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). UM 1722 is an eligible proceeding under the Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”), as approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission in Order No. 15-335, entered October 20, 2015. The proceeding directly affects Avista, Cascade and NW Natural, which are participating public utilities under the IFA. *See* IFA at Article 1(k). CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant concurrent with its Notice of Intervention, as required by the IFA (Article 6.2).

Pursuant to paragraph 6.3 of the IFA, the proposed budget must identify certain

points of information. CUB provides the information below.

(a) Statement of Work to Be Performed: CUB intends to participate in every procedural aspect of this case. CUB participated in the pre-hearing conference. We will attend and participate, either in person or by phone, all or most workshops, settlement meetings, hearings, and any Commission presentations. We will review and analyze testimony and briefs filed by other parties. We will pursue discovery, as appropriate, through data requests and will respond to data requests asked of us. We will file testimony and briefs as appropriate, and present our recommendations to the Commission including any proposed modifications or conditions.

(b) Description of Areas to Be Investigated: CUB intends to investigate issues including, but not limited to:

- A. Safety related costs incurred by natural gas utilities;
- B. Rate recovery for safety related costs;
- C. Whether extraordinary ratemaking treatment is appropriate; and
- D. Issues raised by other parties to the proceeding.

(c) Description of the Class or Classes Benefiting from CUB's Participation:

CUB represents the interests of Avista's, Cascade's and NW Natural's residential customers, though other customer classes may benefit from many aspects of our participation.

(d) The Fund from Which CUB Seeks an Issue Fund Grant & Available Funds: Because there is substantial work in 2016, CUB is seeking an issue fund grant from the 2016 Avista Issue Fund, the 2016 Cascade Issue Fund, and the 2016 NW Natural Issue Fund. CUB's budget shows eligible expenses of \$18,750; after the 20% matching

requirement, CUB requests an issue fund grant of \$15,000, to be split evenly among Avista, Cascade and NW Natural. Beginning January 1, 2016, each issue fund will receive its annual grant, which will cover the requests made by CUB and the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”) in this case.

- (e) *The Budget Showing Estimated Fees and Costs:* CUB’s budget accompanies this document as Attachment A.
- (f) *A Representation of the Use of Matching Funds:* The budget and an accounting for the use of matching funds accompany this document as Attachment A.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2015
Respectfully submitted,



Bob Jenks
Executive Director
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

CUB Proposed Budget -- UM 1722

CUB Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Bob Jenks, Executive Director	\$250	15.00	\$3,750.00
Jaime McGovern, Senior Economist	\$225	34.00	\$7,650.00
Nadine Hanhan, Utility Analyst	\$125	12.00	\$1,500.00
Sommer Templet, Staff Attorney	\$175	32.00	\$5,600.00
 <i>Other Expenses</i>			
Printing, Mailing & Travel			\$250.00
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In-House Resources			
20% of Eligible Expenses			(\$3,750)
Total			\$15,000
CUB Request*			\$15,000.00
Avista			\$5,000.00
Cascade			\$5,000.00
NW Natural			\$5,000.00