

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1722

In the Matter of)
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF) NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS
OREGON,) USERS' REQUEST FOR FINAL
Investigation into Recovery of Safety) PAYMENT OF ISSUE FUND GRANT
Costs by Natural Gas Utilities)

Pursuant to Section 7.3 of the Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”) approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) in Order No. 15-335 (October 20, 2015), Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”) hereby requests final payment of NWIGU’s Issue Fund Grant in Docket No. UM 1722 in the amount of \$2,559.47, with \$853.15 paid from each of the Issue Funds for Avista, Cascade, and NW Natural. If this request for final payment is approved, \$4,696.15 of the originally requested grant will remain unused and can be released back into the relevant Issue Fund Accounts, in the amount of \$1,565.38 each.

In support of this request, NWIGU shows the following:

1. On December 23, 2015, NWIGU submitted a proposed budget in the amount of \$30,000.00 less in-house resources of 20 percent, for a total Issue Fund Grant of \$24,000.00. The Commission approved the Budget and Issue Fund Grant for NWIGU in the amount requested on January 4, 2016. *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon Investigation into Recovery of Safety Costs by Natural Gas Companies*, OPUC

Docket No. UM 1722 (“UM 1722”), Order No. 16-003 (Jan 04, 2016). The Commission approved one-third of that amount for each of the Issue Funds for Avista, Cascade and NW Natural.

2. Following an initial request for partial payment on July 18, 2016, NWIGU filed an Amended Request for Partial Payment of Issue Fund Grant on July 25, 2016. The Commission approved the amended request in the amount of \$16,744.38, with \$5,581.46 paid by each of Avista, Cascade and NW Natural. UM 1722, Order No. 16-278.

3. NWIGU hereby requests that the Commission authorize final payment of the Issue Fund Grant in this docket in the amount of \$3,139.34, less in-house resources of 20 percent for \$2,559.47. NWIGU’s Eligible Expenses for this proceeding through November 30, 2016 are shown in Confidential Attachment A.

4. NWIGU respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of IFA Section 7.4 as follows:

Section 7.3(a) - The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates are attached as Confidential Attachment A.

Section 7.3(b) - NWIGU is a full and active participant in this docket. NWIGU participated in discovery in this proceeding, participated in workshops, participated in informal meetings and telephone conferences with the PUC, and filed testimony in this proceeding. The expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in IFA Section 7.4 and are reasonable and directly attributable to NWIGU’s participation in UM 1722 on behalf of all customers.

Section 7.4(c) – NWIGU used its own funds to pay for at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses as required by Section 6.5 of the IFA. In addition NWIGU has supplied substantial resources in this proceeding through its Executive Director’s active involvement in addition to the Eligible Expenses set forth on Attachment A, which Attachment reflects only those Eligible Expenses from outside legal counsel at the law firm of Cable Huston, LLP.

Section 7.4 – All of the expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.4 of the IFA and are consistent with NWIGU’s proposed budget in this proceeding. No conditions were placed on NWIGU’s Issue Fund Grant in Order No. 16-003.

5. Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, Avista Corporation, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation and Northwest Natural Gas should each send payment of \$853.15 to NWIGU as follows (which address is different than NWIGU’s mailing address for service):

Edward Finklea
Executive Director
Northwest Industrial Gas Users
PO Box 163
Ashland, OR 97520

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Dated this 30th day of December 2016.

CABLE HUSTON, LLP



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