

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 389

In the Matter of)	
)	CUB REQUEST FOR AN ISSUE
AVISTA CORPORATION dba AVISTA)	FUND GRANT & PROPOSED
UTILITIES,)	BUDGET
)	
<u>Request for a General Rate Revision.</u>		

The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (“CUB”) estimates eligible expenses of \$51,256.50 before the 20% match and requests a grant of \$41,005 from the 2020 Avista Utilities Issue Fund. CUB has been tracking its participation in this docket by hours and activity.

CUB is pre-certified per OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). UG 389 is an eligible proceeding under the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”), as approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission in Order No. 18-017, entered January 17, 2018. The proceeding directly affects Avista Utilities, which is a participating public utility under the IFA. *See* IFA at Article 1(n). The IFA defines an Eligible Proceeding for Issue Funds as “i. general rate case request.” IFA, Article 1(c). UG 389 is Avista Utilities’ Request for a General Rate Revision; thus, an Issue Fund Grant may be made for this proceeding under Article 6.1 of the IFA.

Article 6.2 of the IFA requires an intervenor seeking an Issue Fund Grant to file a Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant. CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant concurrent on March 30, 2020, as required by the IFA (Article 6.2).

Article 6.3 of the IFA requires an intervenor seeking an Issue Fund Grant to file a proposed budget within 30 days after the prehearing conference at which the schedule for the

proceeding is established. The prehearing conference in this docket has not yet been scheduled.

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 will participate in the prehearing conference and will participate in all workshops and settlement meetings. CUB will also attend and participate in the hearings scheduled for this docket. CUB has reviewed and analyzed the testimony and briefs filed in this docket and will review the briefs yet to be filed. We have pursued discovery of Avista Utilities through data requests and we will respond to data requests asked of us. We will file testimony and briefs, and we will participate in the scheduled hearings in this docket.

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

- i. Reviewing capital expenditures to ensure any costs were prudently incurred
- ii. Reviewing issues related to capital structure and ROE
- iii. Reviewing issues related to rate spread and rate design; and
- iv. Reviewing any other issues raised by other parties in this proceeding.

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

CUB represents the interests of Avista Utilities' 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: CUB is seeking a \$41,005 grant from the 2020 Avista Utilities Issue Fund. CUB's budget shows eligible expenses of \$51,256.50, but CUB limits its request in this case to \$41,005. Given the current amount of \$82,010 available in Avista Utilities' 2020 Issue Fund, CUB respectfully requests that the Commission approve CUB's request for a \$41,005 grant from the 2020 Avista

Utilities Issue Fund.

(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 6th day of April 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Jenks", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bob Jenks
Executive Director
Oregon Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

Attachment A

CUB Proposed Budget -- UG 389

CUB Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Bob Jenks, Executive Director	\$275	21.00	\$5,775.00
Michael Goetz, General Counsel	\$250	77.00	\$19,250.00
Essie Bender, Office Manager	\$100	2.29	\$229.00
Will Gehrke, Economist	\$225	90.00	\$20,250.00
Sudeshna Pal, Economist	\$200	0.00	\$0.00
Jack Watson, Legal Intern	\$130	44.25	\$5,752.50
<i>Other Expenses</i>			
Travel			
SubTotal			\$51,256.50
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In-House Resources			
20% of Eligible Expenses			\$10,251
Total			\$41,005