

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 2276

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Approval of Justice Funding
Precertification.

COALITION OF COMMUNITY OF
COLOR'S
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST HB 2475
INTERVENOR FUNDING
PRE-CERTIFICATION

Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) hereby submits this letter of intent to request HB 2475 Intervenor Funding Pre-Certification for \$65,500.

Coalition of Communities of Color is a 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to support a collective racial justice effort to improve outcomes for communities of color through policy analysis and advocacy, environmental justice, and culturally-appropriate data and research. CCC is an alliance of culturally-specific community based organizations with representation from African, African American, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latine, Middle Eastern and North African, Native American, and Slavic communities. CCC is strongly rooted in Oregon's communities of color with more than a decade of experience building intentional relationships across communities and organizations of color.

CCC engages in local and statewide policy development that centers the needs and lived experiences of low-income, communities of color. The projects we are involved in employ a model of collaborative governance and community leadership wherein community leaders lead processes and shape the policies that impact them. CCC's work is rooted in the belief that impacted communities are experts, and that this expertise is critical to developing strategies and solutions that lead the way to a more equitable future. This is why we worked with statewide environmental justice partners to lead the statewide campaign to develop and pass the Energy Affordability Act (HB 2475) and 100% Clean Energy for All (HB 2021).

CCC has gained expertise in utility planning and energy affordability programs, and has built partnerships with other community and energy justice advocates to elevate environmental justice priorities within PUC. Over the past 3 years, CCC has participated in the following dockets:

- UM 2225 (Investigation into HB 2021 Clean Energy Plans)
- UM 2114 (Customer Protections from Disconnections)
- UG 435 (NW Natural Rate Revision)
- UM 2005 (Investigation into Distribution System Planning)
- UM 2211 (Implementation of HB 2475)

CCC intends to request HB 2475 pre-certification funding for 2023 to continue to support this engagement at the PUC and pass through resources to member organizations and/or other community partners to support with engaging community members on issues such as energy affordability, access to clean energy, and community climate resilience, among others, in partnership with CCC staff. The information and data gathered from community members at these meetings will inform the positions CCC takes and priorities we advocate for at the PUC.

CCC intends to request a total of **\$65,500** to be broken down in approximately the following ways:

- \$10,000 passed to 3 CCC member organizations/community partners to support community engagement workshops or sessions in their communities for a total of **\$30,000**. CCC will work alongside these organizations to prepare materials and develop curriculum/agenda.
- **\$5,500** for community meeting logistics, including food, stipends, and translation services.
- A total of **\$30,000** to support CCC's staff time in docket participation and community outreach and engagement.

CCC anticipates being involved in the following issues/dockets, alongside our other community partners with whom we have been working closely on PUC docket engagement:

- UM 2211 - Implementation of HB 2475: This is a non-contested docket for the implementation of HB 2475. Several of CCC's member organizations and partners provide energy assistance resources to low-income households, so this docket impacts their clients who live in the Portland Metro region or surrounding counties. Through this policy, utilities are engaging community stakeholders to help shape programs to alleviate energy burden. We anticipate participating in meetings pertaining to PGE, PacificCorp, and potentially NW Natural's low-income bill discount programs, all of which fall within UM 2211.

- Rate Revisions: Dockets such as UE 416 (PGE's Request for a General Rate Revision) impacts residential customers through increasing rates, and CCC and its member organizations and partners focus on energy affordability for low-income and cost burdened customers.
- HB 2021 Implementation: CCC plans to participate in dockets relating to HB 2021 Implementation and Clean Energy Plans (UM 2273 - Investigation into HB 2021 Implementation Issues and AR 655 - Rules for Filing, Review, and Update of Clean Energy Plans). We will continue to advocate for stronger consideration of community benefits and impacts in the Clean Energy Plans, as well as meaningful community engagement strategies. We will also continue to be part of the Energy Advocates coalition to drive equity in HB 2021 implementation.

CCC may also be involved in other dockets that impact the following areas:

- Energy affordability and low-income rates
- Community resilience
- Disconnections
- Decarbonization/electrification

As this notice functions as a letter of intent and not a formal funding request, please note that some of this information (namely, specific docket for participation) are subject to change. CCC aims to file a formal funding request shortly.

Dated this 3rd day of April 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

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