

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UM 2276

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Approval of Justice Funding
Precertification.

FINAL REPORT HB 2475 INTERVENOR
FUNDING - OREGON JUST
TRANSITION ALLIANCE

Oregon Just Transition Alliance, a fiscally sponsored project of [Community Initiatives](#), hereby submits its second report on HB 2475 Intervenor Funding Pre-Certification on November 13, 2023.

Oregon Just Transition Alliance (OJTA) is a movement of communities facing environmental racism, climate change, and economic exploitation – the frontlines of injustice and the frontlines of change. We bring together organizations committed to base-building in frontline communities. We gather to create ownership over our collective future and move Oregon toward an economy that is rooted in our shared values, [the principles of a Just Transition](#). Our Steering Committee includes Rogue Climate, Verde, Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN), Beyond Toxics, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), and OPAL Environmental Justice.

As per article 5, Oregon Just Transition Alliance is an approved Environmental Justice Intervenor as of April 2023. This reporting period is from July 1, 2023, to October 2023 and includes a description of planned activity through December 31, 2023.

OJTA and its members were very active during the 2023 legislative session. This activity in the first two quarters of the year along with staff transitions in the second quarter resulted in limited capacity to engage as anticipated in the first half of the year. In the third and fourth quarters, OJTA was able to engage more in PUC-related activities. As stated in our initial application OJTA requested justice funding to hire a full-time staff member to lead our work in the PUC advocacy and engage in several dockets. Due to limited capacity, we have reallocated the requested funds for 2023 from the initial request to staff time for our Advocacy and Systems Director, Communications Manager, and Executive Director since October. We received the funds at the end of July 2023. Where most of August and September staff have been engaged in

setting up a work plan for our new hire in 2024, catching up on dockets, attending the Energy Advocates group weekly meetings and signing on to comments, and identifying which dockets OJTA can continue to engage in 2024, and finalizing our community engagement efforts for sub-grants.

We anticipate exhausting the salary allocation of \$42,250 for staff time from October - to December between our three staff of the Advocacy and Systems Director, Communications Manager, and Executive Director.

In regards to our sub-grant updates, as requested by Order No. 23-180. OJTA has finalized our grant agreements with Oregon Rural Action, and Comunidades, fiscally sponsored by Columbia Riverkeeper as recipients of these grants. They are member organizations interested in engaging in this work and working with rural Oregon and Latinx communities. To date, we finalized the grant agreements, scope of work, and community engagement and have released the funds over to them. We were no longer able to grant out a third subgrant to Adelante Mujeres, due to staff transitions and limited capacity. We do not anticipate returning funds from this allocation back into the fund.

We anticipate that we will return the \$7,750 allocation for Community Stipends and Outreach into the fund since we included the Community Stipends and Outreach in the sub-grants awarded to Comunidades and Oregon Rural Action.

As listed in our application, OJTA has been involved and will continue to be involved in the dockets listed below through the end of the year. General goals and activities have been listed under each docket that OJTA has engaged in. Some information might be missing due to staff turnover and limited documentation of previous involvement before July 2023.

UM 2211 - Implementation of HB 2475 (ADV 1365, ADV 1390, ADV 1412):

UM 2211 is a non-contested docket that addresses the implementation of HB 2475 (Energy Affordability Act). This docket impacts energy-burdened households across Oregon, as utilities are tasked to consider feedback from stakeholders, such as OJTA, to create programs to address the energy burden for low-income and underserved customers.

OJTA has:

- Has met separately with EJ advocates around low-income discount programs.
- Participates in PGE learning labs

OJTA plans to (for the rest of the funding year):

- Meet separately with EJ advocates around low-income discount programs.
- Participate in future PGE and Pacific Power meetings

- Provide feedback to PAC on plan components that connect with our work and communities
- Engage in energy efficiency/weatherization discussions

UM 2225 - HB 2021 Implementation:

OJTA continues to be a part of the HB 2021 Energy Advocates groups and continues to be a part of the HB 2021 Community Advocates program that was launched in October 2022, in collaboration with Rogue Climate, Coalition of Communities of Color, Verde, Northwest Energy Council, and Multnomah County Office of Sustainability. OJTA has:

- Joined weekly advocate meetings about HB 2021 implementation
- Reviewed PGE/PacifiCorps CEP/IRP filings and other materials
- Contributed to Energy Advocate comment letters (OJTA signed on to Docket LC 80: Energy Advocates' Round 1 Comments on Portland General Electric's Clean Energy Plan and Integrated Resource Plan)
- Contributed to Energy Advocate comment letters (OJTA signed on to Docket LC 82: Energy Advocates' Round 1 Comments on PacifiCorp's Clean Energy Plan and Integrated Resource Plan)
- Presented to and facilitated bi-weekly conversations with a cohort of community members engaged in HB 2021.
- Met regularly with cohort organizers to plan for meetings and the long-term strategy of the cohort for 2024
- Participated in Learning Labs hosted by PGE

OJTA will continue to work closely with coalition partners to ensure that the utility Clean Energy Plans and related community engagement are equitable, inclusive, and accessible to all and that utility actions and investments are prioritized based on community needs.

LC 79 - NWN IRP Intervenor:

This docket is eligible because it aligns with OJTA's mission to promote community-based solutions to energy issues and to ensure that low-income and underserved communities are not disproportionately affected by the actions of utility companies.

OJTA plans to (for the rest of the funding year):

- Research and understanding of NWN IRP process and documentation in preparation for the 2024 updated IRP filing.
- Connect with OJTA member organizations on a forward-looking trajectory for engagement

General PUC Planning

OJTA has spent time planning for future ways to advocate within the PUC beyond specific dockets already in motion. Examples of arenas and topics include:

- Building Resilience Coalition (SB 868, “Healthy Heating and Cooling for All”) to install 500,000 new heat pumps, prioritizing LI and other Frontline Household
- Stakeholder “Utility Policy Reading Group” to learn more about technical issues and discuss PUC engagement strategies
- We are also engaging in the PUC Study Group to learn more about the structure of the PUC to support bringing on our member organizations.

OJTA intends to be involved in other dockets that impact the following items as stated in our request; public utility issues affecting the interests of low-income residential customers or environmental justice communities, including but not limited to interests in utility rates and terms and conditions of service, interests in the cost of access and impact from the delivery of services, interest in utility programs, and interest in utility resource planning. This could include issues that arise from IRP and rate cases, decarbonization/electrification, grid equity, equity metrics, disconnections, and resilience.

Budget

Attachment A shows our updated budget. This includes reallocated funds to the Advocacy and Systems Director, Communications Manager, and Executive Director staff time from October until December 2023. This budget includes final sub-grant amounts.

Attachment B shows our PUC Intervenor Funding by Utility breakdown.

Attachment C shows OJTA's spent funds.

Dated this 13th day of November 2023.

/s/ Joel Iboa

Joel Iboa

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Attachment A
OJTA's Updated PUC Intervenor Funding Budget

	<u>Intervenor Funding Request</u>
<i>Staff time</i>	
Executive Director	\$14,083
Advocacy and Systems Director	\$14,084
Communications Manager	\$14,083
Total	\$42,250
 <i>Subgrants to Member organizations</i>	
Oregon Rural Action	\$20,000
Comunidades	\$20,000
Total	\$40,000
 <i>Community Stipends and Outreach</i>	
Stipends for community participation (e.g., HB 2021 Community Advocates program, travel reimbursements, child care, access needs, community stipends for focus groups, educational events)	\$7,000
Outreach	\$750
Total	\$7,750
 <i>Overhead</i>	
fiscal sponsorship fee	\$10,000
Total	\$10,000
 Total	 \$100,000

Attachment B
OJTA's PUC Intervenor Funding by Utility

	<u>PGE</u>	<u>Northwest Natural</u>	<u>PacifiCorp</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$14,083	\$14,084	\$14,083	\$42,250
<i>Staff time</i>				
Executive Director	\$4,694	\$4,695	\$4,694	
Advocacy and Systems Director	\$4,694	\$4,695	\$4,694	
Communications Manager	\$4,694	\$4,695	\$4,694	
<i>Subgrants to Member organizations</i>				
Oregon Rural Action	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$20,000
Comunidades	\$6,667	\$6,667	\$6,666	\$20,000
<i>Community Stipends and Outreach</i>				
Stipends for community participation (e.g., HB 2021 Community Advocates program, travel reimbursements, child care, access needs, community stipends for focus groups, educational events)	\$2,333	\$2,333	\$2,333	\$7,000
Outreach materials	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$750
<i>Overhead</i>				
fiscal sponsorship fee	\$3,333	\$3,334	\$3,333	\$10,000
Total	\$33,333	\$33,335	\$33,332	\$100,000

Attachment C
OJTA's spent funds

	<u>Intervenor</u>		
	<u>Funding Request</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
<i>Staff time</i>			
Executive Director	\$14,083	\$8,073.54	\$6,009.46
Advocacy and Systems Director	\$14,084	\$8,073.54	\$6,010.46
Communications Manager	\$14,083	\$8,073.54	\$6,009.46
Total	\$42,250	\$24,220.62	\$18,029.38
 <i>Subgrants to Member organizations</i>			
Oregon Rural Action	\$20,000	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Comunidades	\$20,000	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Total	\$40,000	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
 <i>Community Stipends and Outreach</i>			
Stipends for community participation (e.g., HB 2021 Community Advocates program, travel reimbursements, child care, access needs, community stipends for focus groups, educational events)	\$7,000	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
Outreach	\$750	\$0.00	\$750.00
Total	\$7,750	\$0.00	\$7,750.00
 <i>Overhead</i>			
fiscal sponsorship fee	\$10,000	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Total	\$10,000	\$10,000.00	\$0.00

Total

\$100,000 \$74,220.62 \$25,779.38