

BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

[UE 416]

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
Request for a General Rate Revision and 2024  
Annual Power Cost Update

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP’S REQUEST  
FOR AMENDMENT OF PROPOSED BUDGET

Pursuant to HB 2475 (ORS 757.072), OAR 860-001-0860, and the Justice Funding Agreement adopted by the Oregon Public Utility Commission (Commission) in UM 2211 by Order 23-033 (February 7, 2023), the Community Action Partnership of Oregon (CAPO) files this Request for Amendment of Proposed Budget in Docket No. UE 416 (this Proceeding), seeking an increase of \$9,325 to its approved Justice Funding Case Fund Grant in this Proceeding, for a new grant in the amount of \$20,825.

On May 9, 2023, CAPO filed its Request for a Justice Funding Case Grant together with a Proposed Budget. On June 6, 2023, the Commission case certified CAPO and approved its submitted budget by Order No. 23-197. CAPO is now seeking to amend its authorized budget. As a new energy justice intervenor, CAPO underestimated how time-intensive participation in a general rate case is. Even without hiring an attorney and/or expert witnesses, simply being reasonably informed (i.e. reviewing thousands of pages of testimony and exhibits) and attending all meetings where issues of relevance to low-income customers might be discussed, is very resource-intensive. For instance, settlement conferences are often scheduled from 9am to 4pm without a very specific schedule. CAPO staff has so far spent around 82h of work on being involved in this proceeding exceeding every line item in the proposed budget with the exception that no outside consultant was hired. CAPO therefore proposes to amend its authorized budget to be able to continue participating in this proceeding until the end, budgeting up to 119h in total. This is not only to cover costs, but also to demonstrate how much participation for low-income advocates costs. Together with energy justice intervenor Community Energy Project, CAPO is planning on submitting a letter to the Commission sharing their experience in this proceeding and making recommendations on how contested cases can become more accessible for a larger diversity of voices, especially those historically not represented in proceedings like this.

**a. Previously Authorized Budget**

| Benedikt Springer, PhD<br>(Utility Policy Analyst) | Rate   | Hours | Cost     |
|--|--------|-------|----------|
| Participate in Meetings                            | \$ 175 | 20    | \$3,500  |
| Research and Analysis                              | \$ 175 | 20    | \$3,500  |
| Drafting Testimony                                 | \$ 175 | 20    | \$3,500  |
| Reserve for Consulting                             | ?      | ?     | \$1,000  |
| TOTAL  |        | 60    | \$11,500 |

**b. Amended Budget**

| Benedikt Springer, PhD<br>(Utility Policy Analyst) | Rate   | Hours | Cost     |
|--|--------|-------|----------|
| Participate in Meetings                            | \$ 175 | 55    | \$9,625  |
| Research and Analysis                              | \$ 175 | 32    | \$5,600  |
| Drafting Testimony                                 | \$ 175 | 32    | \$5,600  |
| Reserve for Consulting                             | \$0    | 0     | \$0      |
| TOTAL  |        | 119   | \$20,825 |

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.



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