

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 461

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

The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) requests a grant of \$40,000 from the 2023 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 461 is an eligible proceeding under the Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), as approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission in Order No. 18-017, entered December 29, 2022. The proceeding directly affects Avista Utilities, which is a participating public utility under the IFA. See IFA at Article 1(k). The IFA defines an Eligible Proceeding for Issue Funds as “general rate case request,” IFA, Article 1(e)(i). UG 461 is Avista Utilities’ general rate case request; 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 and Issue Fund Grant. CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant on March 30th, 2023, 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.

Pursuant to Article 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 participated in the prehearing conference and will participate in all workshops and settlement meetings. CUB will also attend and participate in the hearing scheduled for this docket. CUB will review and analyze the testimony filed in this docket and will review the briefs yet to be filed. We will pursue discovery of Avista Utilities through data requests and we will respond to data requests asked of us. We will file testimony and briefs.

(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 \$40,000 grant from the 2023 Portland General Electric Issue Fund. CUB respectfully requests that the Commission approve CUB's request for a \$40,000 grant from the 2023 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 1st day of May, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Goetz".

Michael P. Goetz, OSB #141465
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Attachment A

CUB Proposed Budget -- UG 461

CUB Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Bob Jenks, Executive Director	\$350	26.00	\$9,100.00
Michael Goetz, General Counsel	\$325	20.46	\$6,649.50
Will Gehrke, Senior Economist	\$300	50.00	\$15,000.00
John Garrett, Economist	\$275	70.00	\$19,250.00
<i>Other Expenses</i>			
Travel			
SubTotal			\$49,999.50
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In-House Resources			
20% of Eligible Expenses			\$10,000
Total			\$40,000