

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2276

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Approval of Justice Funding
Precertification.

VERDE’S ADDENDUM TO REQUEST
FOR HB 2475
INTERVENOR FUNDING
PRE-CERTIFICATION 2024

On November 13, 2023, Verde submitted a request for HB 2475 pre-certified intervenor funding for 2024. Verde hereby submits this update/addendum to that request with additional information.

Verde requested funding for focus group style training with Lideres Verdes. The Lideres Verdes program is a comprehensive 2-year leadership development program hosted by Verde. Participants speak predominantly in Spanish, live in Portland, Oregon and receive services from Portland General Electric, Northwest Natural, and/or Pacific Power. Participants gain valuable knowledge and skills to build power among low-income people and people of color in protecting their communities from the harmful effects of climate change. The program aims to educate the community about pollution and its effects on health and safety, engage in environmental organizing and advocacy, and participate in a Neighborhood Emergency Team. The program offers up to 100 hours of training, including an 8-week training with Adelante Mujeres. Lideres Verdes includes classroom training provided by the Latino Network, which covers subjects like “Introduction to community organizing” and “Getting to know your city government.” Field training is also included, where Lideres Verdes identify community environmental issues and develop a goal for that issue, with support from Verde. Verde will provide training on the PUC, including an overview of the PUC, information on relevant dockets, and provide a space for feedback and discussion around access to clean energy, energy affordability, and climate crises.

Verde also requested funding for stipends related to community education, accessibility resources, and overall testimony/engagement with the PUC. Stipends are one-time payments intended to cover or offset expenses associated with participation in unpaid activities like volunteering, community events or endeavors where compensation is deemed necessary for participation. Stipends play a crucial role in facilitating community members’ participation in the PUC, particularly when considering the various challenges they face to attend and participate.

Many of our community members who wish to contribute to PUC proceedings often have to travel substantial distances to attend and the financial burden of transportation can be a deterrent for those with limited resources. Moreover, participation may require individuals to take time off from work, resulting in lost wages. Individuals may also spend time away from their family and potentially require them to hire child-care services to engage in PUC activities. Stipends acknowledge and honor these sacrifices, fostering a more inclusive and representative process. Additionally, the need for translation of materials, hearings, and testimony further reinforces the necessity of stipends. Stipends help alleviate this financial strain, ensuring that diverse voices are represented and do not face unnecessary barriers to participation.

Appendix A details the updated proposed budget.

Dated this 15th day of December 2023.



Cheyenne Holliday
4145 NE Cully Blvd, Portland, OR, 97218
cheyneholliday@verdenw.org
(503) 545-7656

VERDE UPDATED PROJECTED BUDGET

Verde Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Anahi Segovia Rodriguez, Energy Justice Coordinator	\$100	210	\$21,000
Indi Namkoong, Transportation Justice Coordinator	\$100	100	\$10,000
Cheyenne Holliday, Energy Climate and Transportation Manager	\$150	50	\$7,500
Stacie Walen, Finance Director	\$150	15	\$2,250
<u>Staffing Subtotal</u>			<u>\$40,750</u>
<i>Contracting</i>			
TBD, Technical Assistance Provider	\$150		\$3,750
<u>Contracting Subtotal</u>			<u>\$3,750</u>
<i>Community Resources</i>			
Lideres Verdes (Verde Community Group) (Focus Group/Training)			\$3,000
Community PUC Education/Testimony Stipends and Accessibility Resources			\$5,000
<u>Community Resources Subtotal</u>			<u>\$8,000</u>
Total			<u>\$52,500</u>