BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UG 462

In the Matter of) REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF NW
NW NATURAL GAS COMPANY dba NW NATURAL) REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF NW) NATURAL ISSUE FUND GRANT OF) ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY) CONSUMERS
RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM- DAKOTA CITY	

Pursuant to Section 7.3 of the Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement ("IFA") approved by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon ("Commission") in Order No. 22-506 (December 29, 2022), Alliance of Western Energy Consumers ("AWEC") hereby requests payment of AWEC's Issue Fund Grant in Docket No. UG 462 in the amount of \$36,000.00. In support of this request, AWEC states the following:

- 1. On February 28, 2023, NW Natural Gas Company ("NW Natural") filed its request under Schedule 198 to add the Dakota City RNG project to its renewable natural gas adjustment mechanism. On March 1, 2023, AWEC intervened in UG 462 and provided its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant.
- 2. On April 11, 2023 AWEC and CUB filed a joint motion to designate this proceeding as eligible for an issue fund grant, which the Commission approved on May 30, 2023 in Order 23-189. On June 9, 2023, AWEC filed a Proposed Issue Fund Budget in these dockets in the amount of \$45,000.00, less in-house resources of 20 percent, for a total Issue Fund Grant request of \$36,000.00. The Commission approved the Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$36,000.00 on July 20, 2023, finding that "In light of the issues

being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, the Commission believes that AWEC's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved."

- 3. AWEC participated in numerous settlement conferences and calls, issued and reviewed discovery, filed opening and rebuttal testimony and exhibits, and negotiated a settlement stipulation and testimony in support of the stipulation. AWEC hereby requests that the Commission authorize the approved Issue Fund Grant in this docket in the amount of \$36,000.00. AWEC's Eligible Expenses for this proceeding through August 30, 2023 are shown in **Confidential Exhibit A**.
- 4. AWEC respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of IFA Section 7.3 as follows:

Section 7.3(a) - The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates are attached as Confidential Attachment A.

Section 7.3(b) - AWEC was a full and active participant in this docket. AWEC issued and reviewed discovery, filed testimony, filed rebuttal testimony, and reviewed the testimony of other parties, participated in settlement conferences on June 5, July 17, July 19, July 20, August 4 and August 7, negotiated a settlement stipulation and filed testimony in support of the stipulation. The expenses included in **Confidential Attachment A** are Eligible Expenses as defined in IFA Section 7.4 and are reasonable and directly attributable to AWEC's participation in UG 462 on behalf of all customers.

Section 7.3(c) – The only condition of the Issue Fund Grant is that AWEC must contribute 20% of Eligible Expenses using in-house resources. AWEC used its

own funds to pay for at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses as required by Section 6.5 of the IFA.

Section 7.3 (d) – This request is a request for final payment of the approved Issue Fund Grant in this docket.

- 7. Section 7.4 All of the expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.4 of the IFA and are consistent with AWEC's proposed budget in this proceeding.
- 8. Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, NW Natural should send payment to AWEC as follows:

Alliance of Western Energy Consumers 3519 NE 15th Avenue #249 PORTLAND, OR 97212

Or via wire transfer

To: Alliance of Western Energy Consumers Wells Fargo Bank Newberg, OR 97132 ABA:

9. AWEC has satisfied the terms of the IFA and respectfully requests that the Commission approve payment of AWEC's Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$36,000.00 from the NW Natural Issue Fund within 30 days of receiving this Request for Payment as provided in Section 7.6 of the IFA.

Acct:

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10. AWEC's expenses and costs exceeded its estimated budget in this docket. With this payment, there will be no funds remaining in the approved Issue Fund Grant, and AWEC will seek the remainder of its fees and expenses through Matching Funds.

Dated this 19th day of September 2023.

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