#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### OF OREGON

UM 1234

In the Matter of	)	
	)	ORDER
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC	)	
	)	
Application for Deferred Accounting of Excess	)	

Power Costs due to Plant Outage.

## DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT APPROVED

On January 20, 2006, the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed a proposed budget for an intervenor grant to be funded by Portland General Electric's (PGE) Issue Fund. CUB's proposed budget is in the amount of \$38,080. A copy of CUB's proposed budget is attached as Appendix A.

)

The Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 03-388, provides that precertified intervenors must submit a proposed issue fund budget to the Commission that contains, at a minimum, the following information:

- 1) A statement of the work to be performed;
- 2) A description of the areas to be investigated;
- 3) A description of the particular customer class(es) that will benefit from the intervenor's participation;
- 4) Identification of the specific fund accounts from which the intervenor is seeking monies; and
- 5) A budget showing estimated attorney, consultant and expert witness fees, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operations support.

Once the proposed budget is received, the Commission decides whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use. The Commission makes these determinations based on the following factors:

- 1) Breadth and complexity of the issues;
- 2) Significance of policy issues;
- 3) Procedural schedule;
- 4) Dollar magnitude of the issues at stake;
- 5) Participation of other parties that adequately represent the interests of customers:

- 6) Amount of funds being provided by the applicant intervenor;
- 7) Qualifications and experience before the Commission;
- 8) Level of available funds; and
- 9) Other Eligible Proceedings in which intervenors may seek additional Issue Fund Grants from the same Fund account(s).

The Commission has the authority to accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.

CUB was automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.2(a) of the IFA and OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). CUB served its proposed budget on all parties to the docket. No party objected or filed comments. CUB's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects the current schedule adopted in this docket. In light of the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, CUB's proposed budget should be approved.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$38,080 is approved.

Made, entered, and effective

Jan 3 1 2006

Lee Beyer
Chairman

Commissioner

Ray Baum
Commissioner

# DEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

RECEIVED

JAN 20 2006

UM 1234

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Administrative Hearings Unit Division

In the Matter of	)	CUB REQUEST FOR A
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC,	)	PGE ISSUE FUND GRANT & PROPOSED BUDGET
Application for Deferred Accounting of Excess Power Costs Due to Plant Outage.	)	

The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) requests a grant of \$38,080 from the PGE Issue Fund.

CUB is precertified as per OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). UM 1234 is an eligible proceeding under the Intervenor Funding Agreement, adopted by the Commission in Order No. 03-388 (July 2, 2003), because the proceeding directly affects PGE, a participating public utility. Agreement, 1(c). CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request a PGE Issue Fund Grant concurrent with its Notice of Intervention, as required by the Intervenor Funding Agreement. Agreement 6.2.

Pursuant to paragraph 6.3 of the Intervenor Funding Agreement, the proposed budget must identify certain points of information. We provide the information below.

1) Statement of Work to be Performed: CUB intends to participate in every procedural aspect of this case. We have participated in the first pre-hearing conference. We will attend and participate in all settlement conferences and, if necessary, hearings and Commission presentations. We will review and analyze opening testimony,

supplemental testimony, rebuttal testimony, sursurrebuttal testimony, and briefs filed by PGE as well as testimony, surrebuttal testimony, and briefs filed by other parties if such materials are filed in this docket. We will pursue discovery of PGE through data requests, and we will respond to data requests asked of us. If necessary, we will file opening testimony, surrebuttal testimony, and briefs.

- 2) Description of Areas to be Investigated: CUB intends to investigate issues related to this deferred accounting application, including, but not limited to the following:
  - A. Issues relating to the cause of the Boardman outage, including an examination of the maintenance of that facility.
  - B. Issues relating to replacement power, including identifying the cost associated with replacing the power that Boardman was expected to generate, and examination of the actions PGE has taken to minimize that cost.
  - C. Issues relating to allocation of these costs between customers and the utility, including the applicability of Commission Order No. 05-1070 in UM 1147.
- 3) Description of the Class or Classes Benefiting from CUB's Participation:

  CUB represents the interests of PGE's residential customers, though other customer classes may benefit from many aspects of our participation.
- 4) The Specific Fund from which CUB Seeks an Issue Fund Grant: CUB is seeking an issue fund grant from the PGE Issue Fund.
- 5) The Budget Showing Estimated Fees and Costs: CUB's budget accompanies this document as Attachment 1. CUB notes that we have increased the billing rate that we are charging for internal attorney and expert witness costs. While we believe the rate we are proposing in this budget is below the market rate, we also believe that this

budget reflects a reasonable solution to the billing rate disparity issue that has been discussed at PUC stakeholder meetings over the last year. The total grant request from the PGE Issues Fund is \$38,080. This assumes a fully litigated case; settlement of the case would reduce the ultimate request for reimbursement. CUB staff will keep track of their participation by hours and activity.

Dated this 20th Day of January, 2006 Respectfully submitted,

Jason Eisdorfer #92292

Attorney for Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

### UM 1234 CUB Intervenor Funding Budget

CUB Internal Expenses Staff:		Hours	Rate	Cost
Bob Jenks, Executive Director			\$115.00	
	discovery	15		
	case preparation	30		
	communications	5		
	settlement	30		
	hearings and workshops	10		
	procedural matters	2 15		
	briefing and oral argument  Bob Subtotal	107		\$12,305
Jason Eisdorfer, Attorney			\$150.00	, , , , ,
dason Elsdoner, Attorney	discovery	10	φ130.00	
	case preparation	25		
	communications	10		
	settlement	30		
	hearings and workshops	15		
	procedural matters	10		
	briefing and oral argument	20		
	Jason Subtotal	120		\$18,000
Lowrey Brown, Utility Analyst			\$75.00	
	discovery	20		
	case preparation	35		
	communications	5		
	settlement	30		
	hearings and workshops	2		
	procedural matters	2 5		
	briefing and oral argument  Lowrey Subtotal	99		\$7,425
	Lowley Subtotal	99		\$7,420
Staff Expenses:				
	Printing & Mailing			\$150
	Travel			\$200
	CUB Internal Expense			\$38,080
	CUB Total Budget			\$38,080

