

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UM 1302

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF	)	ORDER
OREGON	)	
	)	
Staff Investigation into the Treatment of	)	
CO <sub>2</sub> Risk in the Integrated Resource	)	
Planning Process.	)	

**DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET AND FINAL ISSUE FUND  
GRANT REQUEST APPROVED**

On July 29, 2008, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) a request for final payment from the Issue Funds of Portland General Electric Company (PGE), PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power (Pacific Power), and Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural). Section 7.3 of the Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement), adopted by the Commission in Order No. 03-388, governs the procedures for payment of Issue Fund Grants.<sup>1</sup>

On March 19, 2007, CUB submitted a proposed budget of \$25,500 (\$8,500 per utility), assuming a fully litigated case. The Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 03-388, provided 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.

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<sup>1</sup> This request is being processed under the terms of the Agreement that was in effect at the time of the proposed budget approval.

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's proposed budget included the requisite information and reflected the schedule adopted in this docket.

CUB now seeks payment of its costs in this case, amounting to \$4,136 (\$1,378 from each of the PGE, Pacific Power, and NW Natural Issue Funds).<sup>2</sup> CUB states that this request will be its final request for payment. Under Section 7.3 of the Agreement, the Request for Payment must:

- 1) Itemize the expenses, payees and hourly rates of amount to be reimbursed;
- 2) Demonstrate that the expenses are reasonable and are directly attributable to issues and positions pursued on behalf of a particular customer class and consistent with the intervenor's proposed budget; and
- 3) Provide information sufficient to show that the intervenor has complied with any conditions imposed on the Issue Fund Grant.

The Agreement provides that the Commission shall make a determination in each proceeding as to how the participating utilities are to recover the funding grants from the various customer classes. Pursuant to Section 7.7(b), Issue Fund Grants should be allocated so as to fairly align the costs of the advocacy with the intended potential beneficiaries of the advocacy.

We find that CUB has met the requirements of the Agreement, and its proposed budget and its final payment request should be approved. We have considered the intended beneficiaries, and find that the issue fund expenditures should be allocated equally to PGE's, Pacific Power's and NW Natural's residential customers.

Section 7.2 of the Agreement provides that the utility shall pay the Issue Fund Grant to the requesting intervenor within 30 days after receipt of Commission directive. The balance of the approved budget should be made equally available to the Pacific Power, to the PGE and to the NW Natural Issue Funds provided no party requests clarification or reconsideration of Order No. 08-339 within the appropriate timeframe.

## **ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that:

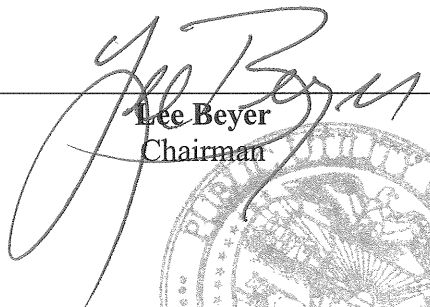
1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon has met the requirements of the Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its proposed budget and final payment request are approved.

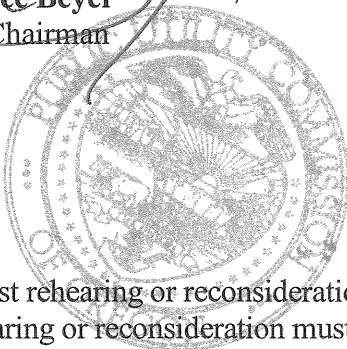
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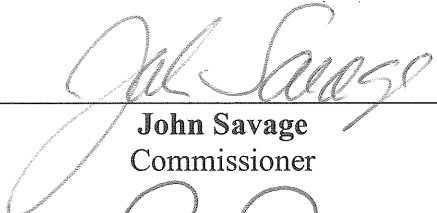
<sup>2</sup> CUB's costs total \$4,136.37 which divided equally among the three utilities would result in \$1,378.79 each. It is CUB's practice to round down to whole dollar amounts.


2. Portland General Electric Company shall pay \$1,378 from the Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund to the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant shall be assessed to Portland General Electric Company's residential customers.
3. Pacific Power shall pay \$1,378 from the Pacific Power Issue Fund to the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant shall be assessed to Pacific Power's residential customers.
4. Northwest Natural Gas Company shall pay \$1,378 from the NW Natural Issue Fund to the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant shall be assessed to NW Natural's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective           AUG 02 2008          .

  
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**Lee Beyer**  
Chairman



  
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**John Savage**  
Commissioner

  
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**Ray Baum**  
Commissioner

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480-183.484.