

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1415

In the Matter of the

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON

ORDER

Staff Investigation into Cost Methods for Use
in Developing Electric Rate Spreads.

**DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND
GRANTS APPROVED**

On July 13, 2011, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed a Motion for Expedited Consideration of CUB's Request for PGE, PacifiCorp and Idaho Power Company Issue Fund Grants & Proposed Budget wherein it stated that no parties opposed its motion. On July 14, 2011, CUB filed a proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants in this proceeding. CUB's proposed budget shows eligible expenses in the amount of \$32,375; and it seeks Issue Fund Grants totaling \$25,900 as follows: \$12,900 from the Portland General Electric Company (PGE) Issue Fund, \$2,500 from the PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Fund, and \$10,500 from the Idaho Power Company Issue Fund.

The First Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 07-564, 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 an estimate of the amount of available funds in that account;
- 5) A budget showing estimated attorney, consultant and expert witness fees, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operations support; and
- 6) A representation that the intervenor will use matching funds in the form of either in-house resources or outside funding to account for or pay at least 20 percent of the eligible expenses for which the intervenor is seeking an Issue Fund Grant.

Once a proposed budget is received, we decide whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the IFA. We have 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 860-001-0120(3)(a). 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, we believe that CUB's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants is approved.
2. Issue Fund Grants are approved up to \$12,900 from the Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund, \$2,500 from the PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Fund, and \$10,500 from the Idaho Power Company Issue Fund.

Made, entered, and effective JUL 25 2011.



John Savage
Commissioner



Susan K. Ackerman
Commissioner

