ORDER NO. 15 144

ENTERED MAY 0 6 2015

## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

# OF OREGON

UE 294

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY ORDER

Request for a General Rate Revision.

#### DISPOSITION: APPLICATION FOR CASE CERTIFICATION DENIED

On April 17, 2014, the Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) filed a Petition for Case Certification and Request for Extension. The SBUA request for case certification for intervenor funding purposes is filed under OAR 860-001-0120(4) and Article 5.3 of the Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement). No party filed an objection to the request. For reasons explained below, we deny the petition.

### I. DISCUSSION

To be case certified for purposes of receiving intervenor funding, an organization must meet certain criteria set forth in OAR 860-001-0120(4). We find that SBUA fails to meet at least one of these criteria.

OAR 860-001-0120(4)(e) requires that the organization demonstrates, or has demonstrated in the past, "the ability to substantively contribute to the record on behalf of *customer interests related to rates, and terms and conditions of service* \* \* \*." (Emphasis added.)

To meet this criterion, SBUA states that it effectively represented small businesses in docket UM 1610, where it prepared expert testimony, filed documents, and participated in docket workshops and other proceedings. However, upon review of SBUA's participation in docket UM 1610, the record demonstrates that SBUA's contributions to the proceedings were not on the behalf of small business customers, but rather on behalf

of qualifying facilities selling power to utilities under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act. Although SBUA has demonstrated its ability to contribute substantively to the record, we conclude that SBUA has failed to establish its ability to contribute on behalf of *customer* interests related to rates, and terms and conditions of service.

We also note that, even if we found that SBUA met all the criteria for case certification, there is less than \$100 available in the 2015 PGE Issue Fund.

### II. CONCLUSION

We have reviewed the petition and find that SBUA does not meet all of the requisite criteria. The petition should be denied.

#### III. ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the Petition for Case Certification, filed by Small Business Utility Advocates, is denied.

Made, entered, and effective

MAY 0 6 2015

MALM K. Konce Susan K. Ackerman John Savage Chair Commissioner Stephen M. Bloom Commissioner

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under 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 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480 through 183.484.