

ORDER NO. 16 356

ENTERED SEP 21 2016

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1773

In the Matter of the

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

Petition for Partial Waiver of Competitive
Bidding Guidelines and Approval of
Request for Proposals.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: ISSUE FUND GRANT REQUEST APPROVED

On September 16, 2016, the Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) filed a Request for Payment of its Portland General Electric Company (PGE) Issue Fund Grant. Section 7.3 of the Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement), adopted by the Commission in Order No. 13-335, governs the procedures for payment of Issue Fund Grants. SBUA was case-certified to receive Issue Fund Grants on July 7, 2016, in Order No. 16-256. SBUA's proposed budget of \$4,085 for an Issue Fund Grant was approved in Order No. 16-308.

SBUA asks for a progress payment of \$4,085 from the PGE Issue Fund. Under 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;
- 3) Provide information sufficient to show that the intervenor has complied with any conditions imposed on the Issue Fund Grant; and
- 4) Specify whether the request for payment is for a progress payment or a final payment and indicate whether any approved budget amount may be released back to the applicable Issue Fund.

Further, under the terms of Section 7.3(c) of the Agreement, SBUA must establish that it has "used in-house resources or outside funding for at least 20 percent of the Eligible Expenses for an Eligible Proceeding." SBUA provided the required documentation in its request.

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. Section 7.7(b) of the Agreement provides that Issue Fund Grants should be allocated so as to fairly align the costs of the advocacy with the intended potential beneficiaries of the advocacy. The Commission has considered the intended beneficiaries, and finds that the issue fund expenditures should be allocated to PGE's small nonresidential customers.

The Commission finds that SBUA has met the requirements of the Agreement, and its request should be approved. Section 7.8 of the Agreement provides that the utility must pay the Issue Fund Grant to the requesting intervenor within 30 days after receipt of the Commission directive.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Small Business Utility Advocates has met the requirements of the Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its request is approved.
2. Portland General Electric Company pay \$4,085 from the PGE Issue Fund to the Small Business Utility Advocates within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant be assessed to PGE's small nonresidential customers.

Made, entered, and effective SEP 21 2016.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Grant", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael Grant
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division