

ORDER NO. 18-475

ENTERED Dec 19 2018

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UM 1965

In the Matter of the SB 978 Issue Fund

OPAL, VERDE and COALITION OF  
COMMUNITIES OF COLOR,

Requests for Approval of Proposed  
Budgets and Issue Fund Grants.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: WAIVER REQUEST GRANTED; PROPOSED BUDGETS APPROVED;  
ISSUE FUND GRANTS APPROVED**

On December 6, 2018, Verde filed a proposed budget and a request for payment of Issue Fund Grants in this proceeding. Verde's proposed budget shows eligible expenses of \$11,436.48; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant of \$10,000, split evenly between the SB 978 Issue Funds of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, and Portland General Electric Company (PGE).

On December 10, 2018, OPAL filed a proposed budget and a request for payment of Issue Fund Grants in this proceeding. OPAL's proposed budget shows eligible expenses of \$13,056.25; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant of \$13,056, split evenly between the SB 978 Issue Funds of PacifiCorp and PGE.

On December 18, 2018, the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) filed a proposed budget and a request for payment of Issue Fund Grants in this proceeding. CCC's proposed budget shows eligible expenses of \$16,750; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant of \$16,750, split evenly between the SB 978 Issue Funds of PacifiCorp and PGE.

The Funding Agreement for Senate Bill 978 Issue Fund Grants (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 18-339, 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 addressed by the organization in the SB 978 process;
- 3) A description of the particular group or groups of residential utility customers that will benefit from the organization's participation;
- 4) Identification of the specific account or accounts from which the organization is seeking an SB 978 Issue Fund Grant;
- 5) A budget showing estimated cost for appropriate support staff and operation support..

Once a proposed budget is received, the Commission decides whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the IFA. The Commission has the authority to accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.

Verde, OPAL, and CCC were automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.2(a) of the IFA. Verde, OPAL, and CCC proposed budgets include the requisite information.<sup>1</sup>

In light of the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, the Commission believes that the proposed budgets are reasonable and should be approved.

Article 7 of the IFA governs the procedures for payment of SB 978 Issue Fund Grants, and provides that the SB 978 Issue Fund Grants are allocated and charged to residential customers.

The Commission finds that Verde, OPAL, and CCC have met the requirements of the IFA, and their requests should be approved. Article 7.5 of the IFA provides that the utility must pay the SB 978 Issue Fund Grants to the Certified Organizations within 30 days after receipt of the Commission directive.

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<sup>1</sup> Per the IFA, proposed budgets were due 30 days after the signing of the IFA. Verde, OPAL, and CCC each requested a waiver of that provision.

**ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The requests of Verde, OPAL, and the Coalition for Communities of Color for waiver of the proposed budget filing deadline are granted.
2. Verde, OPAL and the Coalition for Communities of Color have met the requirements of the Funding Agreement for Senate Bill 978 Issue Fund Grants, and their requests are approved.
3. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$5,000 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the Verde within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers.
4. Portland General Electric Company pay \$5,000 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the Verde within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to Portland General Electric Company's residential customers.
5. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$6,528 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the OPAL within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers.
6. Portland General Electric Company pay \$6,528 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the OPAL within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to Portland General Electric Company's residential customers.
7. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$8,375 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers.

8. Portland General Electric Company pay \$8,375 from the SB 978 Issue Fund to the Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to Portland General Electric Company's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective Dec 19, 2018.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Grant".

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**Michael Grant**  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Administrative Hearings Division