

ORDER NO. 19-327

ENTERED Oct 02 2019

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UE 358

In the Matter of

PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC
COMPANY,

Advice No. 19-02 (ADV 919) New Load
Direct Access Program.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: AMENDED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT
APPROVED**

In Order No. 19-138, the Commission approved the ¹Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' (AWEC) proposed budget of \$27,500 and Issue Fund Grant of \$22,000 from the 2019 Portland General Electric Company (PGE) Issue Fund. On September 30, 2019, AWEC filed an amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in the proceeding, requesting an additional \$6,507.55 for its Issue Fund Grant, reallocated from its Issue Fund Grant for docket UE 359 from the 2019 PGE Issue Fund. AWEC's amended proposed budget shows total eligible expenses of \$35,634.44; and it seeks an amended Issue Fund Grant of \$28,507.55. In support of its request, AWEC states that there is good cause to support approving the amended budget because the complexity and time-consuming nature of issues have resulted in the need for additional funding that were not anticipated when AWEC submitted its initial proposed budget.

The Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 18-017, 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;

¹ Formerly known as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU)

- 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, 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.

As noted in Order No. 19-138, AWEC is precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants. AWEC's initial and amended proposed budgets include the requisite information and reflect 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, the Commission believes that AWEC's amended proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant is approved.
2. An Amended Issue Fund Grant is approved up to a total of \$28,507.55

Made, entered, and effective Oct 2, 2019.



Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division

