

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1586

In the Matter of

ORDER

PACIFICORP, dba PACIFIC POWER,

Multi-State Process Intervenor Funding.

DISPOSITION: AMENDED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR AWEC MSP FUND
GRANT APPROVED

On January 2, 2019, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC), formerly known as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, filed a proposed budget for an AWEC MSP Fund Grant, seeking an AWEC MSP Fund Grant of \$45,000. The Commission approved AWEC's proposed budget in Order No. 19-014. Subsequently, in Order No. 19-340, the Commission approved an amendment to the Multi-State Process Intervenor Funding Agreement (MSP IFA), increasing the funds available by \$7,500. On October 21, 2019, AWEC filed an amended proposed budget showing eligible expenses of \$65,625 and requested an increase in its proposed budget of \$7,500, bringing the total proposed budget to \$52,500. In support of its request, AWEC states that there is good cause to support approving the amended budget because the issues in the multi-state process have become more complex and time-consuming than initially anticipated.

The Multi-State Process Third Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 19-013 and amended by Order No. 19-340, provides that eligible intervenors must submit a proposed MSP fund budget to the Commission that contains, at a minimum, the following information:

- 1) A statement of the breadth and complexity of the MSP Activities;
- 2) The significance of any policy issues directly attributable to MSP Activities;
- 3) The MSP Activities schedule;
- 4) The participation of other parties in MSP Activities that adequately represent the interests of customers;
- 5) A statement of MSP Activities to be performed by the applicant for which the applicant is seeking an MSP Fund Grant;
- 6) A description of the areas to be investigated by the intervenor relating to MSP Activities;
- 7) A budget of MSP Activities showing estimated attorney and consultant fees, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operation support; and

- 8) 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 a MSP Fund Grant.

Once a proposed budget is received, the Commission decides whether MSP 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.

Under section 4.3 of the agreement, only AWEC and the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon are eligible to apply for MSP Fund Grants. AWEC's amended proposed budget includes the requisite information.

In light of the complexity of the issues being addressed 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 Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities' amended proposed budget for an AWEC MSP Fund Grant is approved.
2. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$52,500.

Made, entered, and effective Oct 23, 2019.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nolan Moser".

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division