

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2024

In the Matter of

ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY
CONSUMERS,

Petition for Investigation Into Long-Term
Direct Access Programs.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANTS APPROVED

On November 15, 2019, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC), formerly known as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities filed a proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in this proceeding. AWEC's proposed budget shows eligible expenses of \$25,000; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant of \$20,000 split between the Portland General Electric Company (PGE) and PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Funds. Specifically, AWEC seeks a \$10,000 Issue Fund Grant from the 2020 PGE Issue Fund, a \$6,069.86 Issue Fund Grant from the 2020 PacifiCorp Issue Fund,¹ and a \$3,930.14 grant from the 2019 PacifiCorp Issue Fund (reallocated from AWEC's UM 1968 budget).²

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 Article 6.3 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement provides that an issue fund grant may be sought from funds available the next year when eligible expenses will be incurred in the next year.

² On November 15, 2019, AWEC also filed for final payment and reallocation of its Issue Fund Grant in docket UM 1968.

- 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 agreement. The Commission has the authority to accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.

AWEC became precertified as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities on August 21, 2003, in Order No. 03-502. AWEC's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects 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 proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants is approved.
2. Issue Fund Grants are approved up to \$10,000 from the Portland General Electric Company 2020 Issue Fund, up to \$3,930.14 from the 2019 PacifiCorp Issue Fund, and up to \$6,069.86 from the 2020 PacifiCorp Issue Fund.

Made, entered, and effective Nov 25, 2019.



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

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division