

ORDER NO. 20-418

ENTERED Nov 13 2020

**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: ISSUE FUND GRANTS REQUEST APPROVED**

On October 21, 2020, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers<sup>1</sup> filed a Request for Payment of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, and Portland General Electric Company (PGE) Issue Fund Grants. Section 7.3 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement), adopted by the Commission in Order No. 18-017, governs the procedures for payment of Issue Fund Grants. AWEC (as the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities) was precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants on August 21, 2003, in Order No. 03-502.

AWEC asks for a progress payment of \$22,285.85 from the PGE Issue Fund and for a progress payment of \$20,000 from the PacifiCorp Issue Fund (\$3,930.14 reallocated from UM 1968 funds in 2019 Issue Fund and \$16,069.86<sup>2</sup> from the 2020 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;

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<sup>1</sup> Formerly known as the Industrial Customers Northwest Utilities.

<sup>2</sup> There was a typographical error in the request, which was clarified with AWEC.

- 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 the Agreement, AWEC must establish that it has "used in-house resources or outside funding to account for or pay at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses for the work to be performed in the proceeding for which the intervenor is seeking an Issue Fund Grant." Agreement at 15. AWEC provided the required documentation in its request.

The Agreement provides that the Commission will make a determination in each proceeding as to how the participating utilities are to recover the funding grants from the various customer classes. Under Section 7.7(b), Issue Fund Grants should be allocated so as to fairly align the costs of the advocacy with the intended potential beneficiaries of the advocacy. Agreement at 23. The Commission has considered the intended beneficiaries, and finds that the issue fund expenditures should be allocated to (Utility's) industrial customers.

The Commission finds that AWEC 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 Alliance of Western Energy Consumers has met the requirements of the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its request is approved.
2. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power pay \$20,000 from the PacifiCorp Issue Fund to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp's industrial customers.

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3. Portland General Electric Company pay \$22,285.85 from the Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers within 30 days after receipt of this Order, and the grant be assessed to Portland General Electric Company's industrial customers.

Made, entered, and effective Nov 13, 2020.



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

**Nolan Moser**  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Administrative Hearings Division