

**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: THIRD AMENDED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND
GRANTS APPROVED**

In Order No. 19-414, the Commission approved the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' (AWEC's) proposed budget of \$20,000 to be split between the Portland General Electric Company (PGE) and PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Funds. On February 19, 2020, AWEC filed an amended proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants in the proceeding. In Order No. 20-073, the Commission approved AWEC's amended proposed budget showing eligible expenses in the amount of \$50,000; with Issue Fund Grants in the amount of \$40,000 to be split evenly between the PacifiCorp and PGE Issue Funds. In Order No. 20-337, the Commission approved AWEC's second amended proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants, showing eligible expenses of \$62,125.50, and seeking Issue Fund Grants of \$49,700.40, split between PacifiCorp (\$20,000), and PGE (\$29,700.40). On September 16, 2021, AWEC filed a third amended proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants, showing eligible expenses of \$74,250.50, and seeking Issue Fund Grants of \$59,400.40, split between PacifiCorp (29,700.00) and PGE (\$29,700.40). In support of its request, AWEC states that there is good cause to support approving the amended budget because of the increased costs for the anticipated substantial time commitment required by AWEC to participate in this docket.

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;

- 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 Nos. 19-414, 20-073, and 20-337, AWEC is precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants. AWEC's third amended 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 third amended proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Alliance of Western Energy Consumers' third amended proposed budget for Issue Fund Grants is approved.
2. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$29,700.00 from the PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Fund.
3. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$29,700.40 from the Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund.

Made, entered, and effective Sep 17, 2021 .



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

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division