

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

LC 79

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS  
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

2022 Integrated Resource Plan.

ORDER

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

On December 22, 2022, the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) filed a proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in this proceeding. CUB's proposed budget showed eligible expenses of \$50,000; and it sought an Issue Fund Grant of \$40,000, which was approved in Order No. 23-041. Subsequently, on June 21, 2023, CUB requested a \$31,250.60 increase to its proposed budget, resulting in a \$25,000 increase of its issue fund grant to \$65,000.

The Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 22-506, 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. Section 6.7 of the IFA allows an intervenor to amend its proposed budget.

CUB was automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.2(a) of the IFA and OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a). CUB's 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 CUB's amended proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

**ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board's amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant is approved.
2. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$65,000.

Made, entered, and effective Jul 20, 2023.



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

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