

ORDER NO. 23-418

ENTERED Nov 01 2023

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2264

In the Matter of

ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY
CONSUMERS

Request for Intervenor Funding.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: MATCHING GRANT REQUESTS APPROVED

On September 29, 2023, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers, formerly known as the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (AWEC), filed Requests for Payment of its 2023 Preauthorized Matching Grants. Section 7.2 of the Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (Agreement), adopted by the Commission in Order No. 22-506, governs the procedures for payment of Matching Fund Grants. Funds from the Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities Matching Fund; the Cascade Natural Gas Company Matching Fund, and the Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural Matching Fund are available for use exclusively by AWEC. AWEC, as the Northwest Industrial Gas Users, was precertified to receive Matching Fund Grants on February 3, 2004, in Order No. 04-055.

AWEC asks for \$9,553.50 from the Avista Utilities Matching Fund Account, \$3,507.40 from the Cascade Natural Gas Matching Fund Account, and \$35,452.37 from NW Natural Preauthorized Matching Fund Account.¹ Under the terms of the Agreement, AWEC must establish that it has used in-house resources or outside funding for at least 35 percent of the Eligible Expenses for an Eligible Proceeding. AWEC provided the required documentation in its request.

Section 7.7 of 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

¹ AWEC's requests for payment from the NWN Matching Fund and the Cascade Matching Fund contained math errors affecting the total amount of the grant request. The figures herein represent the amounts of the corrected totals.

the various customer classes. Section 7.7(b) of the Agreement provides that the Preauthorized Matching Grants are allocated and charged to industrial customers.

The Commission finds that AWEC has met the requirements of the Agreement, and its request should be approved. Section 7.2 of the Agreement provides that the utility must pay the Preauthorized Matching 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 Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its requests are approved.
2. Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities pay \$9,553.50 from the 2023 Avista Utilities Preauthorized Matching Fund to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to Avista Utilities' industrial customers.
3. Cascade Natural Gas Corporation pay \$3,507.40 from the 2023 Cascade Natural Gas Preauthorized Matching Fund to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to Cascade Natural Gas's industrial customers.
4. Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural, pay \$35,452.37 from the 2023 NW Natural Preauthorized Matching Fund to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant is assessed to NW Natural's industrial customers.

Made, entered, and effective Nov 1, 2023.



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

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division