

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2114

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Investigation into the Effects of the COVID-
19 Pandemic on Utility Customers.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: AMENDED PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT
AND CASE FUND GRANT APPROVED IN PART; PAYMENT OF
GRANTS ORDERED**

In Order No. 23-444., the Commission denied in part the Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) proposed budget in the amount of \$21,762 with a grant request of \$15,800 from the Issue Funds of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, Portland General Electric Company (PGE), Cascade Natural Gas Company, Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities, and Idaho Power Company. On December 1, 2023, in response to Order No. 23-444, SBUA filed an amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant and a Case Fund Grant in the proceeding, identifying PGE Issue Funds and Case Certified Issue Funds as the sole issue funds to be used. SBUA's amended proposed budget shows eligible 2023 expenses in the amount of \$3,512; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant and a Case Fund Grant to a total amount of \$2,809.

SBUA has requested that all funds for this budget be supplied from PGE accounts. The Commission notes, however, after the issuance of Order No. 23-463 in docket UE 416, in which SBUA's case certification and proposed budget for a case certified issue fund grant were approved, the total of funds available to SBUA from the PGE accounts is \$1,360 from the Case Certified Issue Fund account and \$718 from the PGE Issue Fund account.¹ Accordingly, at the time of the December 1, 2023, filing of SBUA, there was only \$2,078 available in the PGE Issue Fund accounts.

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.

¹ Order No. 23-463 was served on November 29, 2023.

In light of the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions made, the Commission believes that SBUA's amended proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved in part, as limited by the funds available in the identified Issue Fund accounts of PGE.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Small Business Utility Advocates amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant is approved in part, as limited by the available funds in the Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund and Case Certified Issue Fund accounts.
2. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$718.
3. A Case Certified Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$1,360.
4. Portland General Electric Company pay \$718 from the 2023 Portland General Electric Company Issue Fund to the Small Business Utility Advocates within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Portland General Electric Company's small business (Schedule 32) customers.
5. Portland General Electric Company pay \$1,360 from the 20203 Portland General Electric Company Case Certified Issue Fund to the Small Business Utility Advocates within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Portland General Electric Company's small business (Schedule 32) customers.

Made, entered, and effective _____ Dec 5, 2023 _____.



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

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division