ORDER NO. 24-246

ENTERED Jul 26 2024

## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

## **OF OREGON**

UE 433

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP, dba PACIFIC POWER,

ORDER

Request for a General Rate Revision.

## DISPOSITION: CASE FUND GRANT REQUEST APPROVED; 50 PERCENT PAYMENT ORDERED

On April 29, 2024, Community Energy Project (CEP), Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) and Verde (collectively the Joint Coalition) filed a joint notice of intent to request justice funding case fund grant, request for case certification, proposed budgets, and request for 50 percent prior payment consistent with Order Nos. 23-033, 23-180, 23-485, and OAR 860-001-0800 through OAR 860-001-0900. On May 2, 2024, CEP, CCC, and Verde filed a petition to intervene in this docket, which was granted on May 8, 2024.<sup>1</sup>

CEP, CCC, and Verde are intervenors in this docket. CEP and CCC were found to be eligible for Justice Funding in Order No. 22-043, and CEP, CCC, and Verde were found to be eligible for Justice Funding in Order Nos. 23-033, 23-180, and 23-485. The Joint Coalition notes that this proceeding is an eligible proceeding per OAR 860-001-0830(1) and that this proceeding affects customers of PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power. No party objected to the Joint Coalition's notice of intent, proposed scope of work, proposed budget, or request for payment of 50 percent of the proposed budget up front.

CEP, CCC, and Verde intend to participate in the proceeding through reviewing and analyzing PacifiCorp's filings, filing testimony, and participating in hearings and in settlement discussions. CEP CCC, and Verde further describe that they will focus engagement efforts in areas affecting low-income and environmental justice communities, including low-income bill discount programs, wildfire mitigation, low-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Per Article 6.3 of the Justice Funding Agreement the notice of intent should be filed concurrent with the petition to intervene.

income weatherization, and other equity issues through analyses of cost allocations, impacts to low-income customers and utility resources.

In its proposed budgets, the Joint Coalition describes expenses for meeting participation, research and analysis, testimony, and legal representation. The Joint Coalition requests up-front payment of 50 percent of its grants in accordance with Article 7.2 of the Justice Funding Agreement.

I agree that CEP, CCC, and Verde qualify as eligible organizations under Order No. 23-033 and OAR 860-001-0840. I agree with the Joint Coalition's application of Order No. 23-033 to use Case Funds for this docket.

Accordingly, the request for a case fund grant and a 50 percent up-front payment should be granted. The Joint Coalition provided proposed budgets containing descriptions of eligible expenses, identification of the utility account from which the Joint Coalition requests funds, and a statement of work.

The Commission has the authority to accept, deny, or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant, and may delegate this responsibility to the Chief Administrative Law Judge, consistent with Order No. 23-321.

CEP's, CCC's and Verde's proposed budgets include the requisite information and reflect the current schedule adopted in this docket. Considering the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, the Joint Coalition's proposed budgets are reasonable and should be approved.

## ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Community Energy Project's proposed budget is approved;
- 2. Coalition of Communities of Color's proposed budget is approved;
- 3. Verde's proposed budget is approved;
- 4. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for Community Energy Project up to \$28,090 from the 2024 PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Case Fund for activity in this docket;

- 5. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$14,045 from the 2024 PacifiCorp Case Fund to Community Energy Project within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers;
- 6. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for Coalition of Communities of Color up to \$24,541 from the 2024 PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Case Fund for activity in this docket;
- 7. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$12,270.50 from the 2024 PacifiCorp Case Fund to Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers;
- 8. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for Verde up to \$18,560 from the 2024 PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Case Fund for activity in this docket; and
- 9. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$9,280 from the 2024 PacifiCorp Case Fund to Verde within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective

Jul 26, 2024



Alison Lackey Chief Administrative Law Judge