ORDER NO. 24-358

ENTERED Oct 25, 2024

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 2345

In the Matter of

PACIFICORP, dba PACIFIC POWER,

ORDER

Continual Progress towards HB 2021 Compliance.

DISPOSITION: CASE CERTIFICATION REQUEST GRANTED; PROPOSED BUDGET APPROVED

On September 30, 2024, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) filed a notice of intent to request Justice Funding Case Fund Grant consistent with Order No. 23-033 and OAR 860-001-0800 through OAR 860-001-0900. CRITFC filed a supplement to its request on October 17, 2024, including a revised budget and request for an up front payment of 34 percent of its budget, or \$13,710, for participation in phase 1 of this proceeding.

CRITFC states that it is eligible for Justice Funding because it is a policy and technical organization representing the interests of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Nez Perce Tribe, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (Member Tribes). CRITFC states that its participation in this proceeding will be directed at public utility issues affecting Oregon tribal communities and the energy priorities of CRITFC's Member Tribes. CRITFC asserts that tribal reservation communities, and tribal fishers on the Columbia River, many of whom reside in PacifiCorp's service territory, are vulnerable populations that are highly impacted by energy decisions, climate risks and resiliency, regional reliance on federal hydropower, and impacts to treaty-reserved and culturally significant resources. CRITFC also states that tribal communities experience disproportionate energy burdens as predominately low-income and rural customers.

CRITFC notes that this proceeding is an eligible proceeding per OAR 860-001-0830 because this is a contested case involving a participating utility and that the outcomes of this proceeding will affect environmental justice communities in PacifiCorp's service territory. No party objected to CRITFC's notice of intent or proposed scope of work.

CRITFC included a proposed budget for consideration upon being deemed eligible for Case Funds. No party objected to CRITFC's certification request or contested its ability to represent the Columbia Basin tribal communities. CRIFTC states that it has been involved in HB 2021 implementation in docket UM 2273 and has participated in the 2023 Integrated Resource Plan and Clean Energy Plan dockets for both Portland General Electric Company and PacifiCorp.

I agree that CRITFC qualifies as an eligible organization under Order No. 23-033 and OAR 860-001-0840. I find that docket UM 2345 qualifies as an eligible proceeding because it is a contested case proceeding that is anticipated to have a substantial impact on environmental justice communities.

Accordingly, the motion for case certification should be granted.

In its proposed budget, CRITFC requests \$39,920 from the PacifiCorp Case Fund. CRITFC requests \$13,710 for phase 1 of the proceeding, to review all legal and policy issues, prepare and file briefs, participate in oral arguments, and take all other actions necessary for complete representation in this matter. CRITFC requests \$26,210 for phase 2, and states it will retain expert services, develop testimony, and participate in settlement discussions, and evidentiary hearings. CRITFC states that it plans to investigate issues directly related to environmental justice communities, including but not limited to furthering the energy vision of CRITFC's Member Tribes and ensuring energy benefits flow to tribal communities. CRITFC requests payment of 34 percent of the total proposed budget, or \$13,710 up front, for the costs of participating in phase 1.

CRITFC's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects the current schedule adopted in this docket. No party opposed CRITFC's proposed budget. Considering the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, CRITFC's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

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. 21-213.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is certified to receive Case Funds in this docket.
- 2. The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's proposed budget is approved;
- 3. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission up to \$39,920 from the 2024 PacifiCorp Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2345; and
- 4. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$13,710 from the 2024 PacifiCorp Case Fund to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective Oct 25, 2024



inh

Alison Lackey Chief Administrative Law Judge