

ORDER NO. 24-462

ENTERED Dec 27, 2024

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UE 425, UE 426

In the Matters of

IDAHO POWER COMPANY,

2024 Annual Power Cost Update; and

Request for a General Rate Revision.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: ISSUE FUND GRANT FUNDS REALLOCATED; AMENDED
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT APPROVED**

On December 17, 2024, the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) filed a request to reallocate \$10,000 from its Idaho Power Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 425 to its Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 426. Also on December 17, 2024, CUB filed for approval of an amended budget in docket UE 426. The Intervenor Funding Agreement by and among Idaho Power Company and the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 20-493, governs the procedures for amending Issue Fund Grant budgets.

CUB asks to reallocate \$10,000 from the Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 425 to its Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 426, per Article 6.6 of the Agreement. CUB's amended proposed budget in docket UE 426 shows eligible expenses in the amount of \$79,000; and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$63,000, or an increase of \$10,000 over its initial proposed budget. In support of its request, CUB states that there is good cause to support approving the amended budget because the scope, complexity of issues and changes in the schedule have resulted in the need for additional funding that were not anticipated when CUB submitted its initial proposed budget.

The IFA approved by the Commission in Order No. 20-493, provides that CUB 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 CUB's participation;
- 4) An estimate of the amount of available funds in the Issue Fund 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 CUB 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 CUB 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.

CUB was automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.1 of the IFA and OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a). CUB's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects the current schedule adopted in this docket.

In light of the issues addressed and the complexity of the issues, the Commission believes that CUB's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board has met the requirements of the Intervenor Funding Agreement, and its reallocation request is approved.
2. The balance of the Issue Fund Grant, \$10,000 in docket UE 425, be reallocated as indicated above to the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 426.

3. The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board's amended proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in docket UE 426 is approved.
4. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$63,000.

Made, entered, and effective Dec 27, 2024.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Lackey".

Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division