ORDER NO. 25-480

ENTERED Dec. 2, 2025

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UG 520

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

ORDER

Request for a General Rate Revision.

DISPOSITION: CASE FUND GRANT REQUEST PAYMENT ORDERED

On November 17, 2025, Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) and Verde filed a request for payment of their case fund grant in this docket. The procedures for payment of Case Fund Grants are governed by Section 7.2 of the Environmental Justice Communities Funding Agreement (Agreement) adopted by the Commission in Order No. 23-033. The proposed budget was approved in Order No. 25-158. That order approved a grant of up to \$2,887 for CCC, and a grant of up to \$1,500 for Verde and directed a 50 percent up-front payment of each.

CCC and Verde request payment in the amount of \$1,443.50 for CCC, and \$160 for Verde. Verde explains that the time associated with work on this case was lower than anticipated in its budget, resulting in a lower amount requested in its final disbursement.

Under the Agreement, the request for payment must:

- 1. Itemize the expenses, payees and hourly rates for amounts to be reimbursed, including billing details, and including separately identified amounts for consultant or expert witness fees and travel expenses;
- 2. Demonstrate that the expenses are reasonable and are directly attributable to issues and positions pursued on behalf of low-income residential customers or Environmental Justice Communities and consistent with the grantee's Proposed Budget;
- 3. Provide information sufficient to show that the grantee has complied with any condition or requirement of the Case Fund Grant; and

4. Specify whether the request for payment is for a progress payment or final payment in full and indicate whether any approved budget amount may be released back to the applicable Case Fund because the grantee does not intend to request payment for the full approved budget amount.

The Commission finds that CCC and Verde's request meets the requirements of the Agreement, and its request should be approved. Section 7.1 of the Agreement provides that the utility must pay the Case Fund Grant to the requesting intervenor within 30 days after receipt of Commission directive. The remaining \$590 of Verde's Case Fund Grant is released back to the Case Fund.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The Coalition of Communities of Color's request meets the requirements of the Environmental Justice Communities Funding Agreement, and its request for payment of its Case Fund grant is approved.
- 2. Northwest Natural Gas Company pay \$1443.50 from the 2025 Northwest Natural Company Case Fund to the Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Northwest Natural Company's residential customers.
- 3. Verde's request meets the requirements of the Environmental Justice Communities Funding Agreement, and its request for payment of its Case Fund grant is approved.
- 4. Northwest Natural Gas Company pay \$160.00 from the 2025 Northwest Natural Company Case Fund to Verde within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Northwest Natural Company's residential customers.



Alison Lackey Chief Administrative Law Judge