

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2340

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Investigation Into Guidelines for Wildfire
Mitigation Plans.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: CASE CERTIFICATION REQUEST GRANTED; PROPOSED
BUDGET APPROVED**

On December 3, 2025, the NW Energy Coalition (NVEC) filed a notice of intent to request Justice Funding Case Fund Grant consistent with Order No. 25-409 and OAR 860-001-0800 through OAR 860-001-0900.

To be eligible for a Case Fund grant, an organization must:

- a. Demonstrate that it represents the interests of low-income residential customers or Environmental Justice Communities, and participation in proceedings will be primarily directed at public utility issues affecting those interests, including but not limited to interests in utility rates and terms and conditions of service, interests in the cost of access and impact from the delivery of services, interest in utility programs, and interest in utility resource planning;
- b. Indicate the particular Environmental Justice Community or low-income customers it represents and demonstrate that it is able to effectively represent them;
- c. Demonstrate that it is able to effectively represent or develop advocacy positions benefitting or informed by the Environmental Justice Community or low-income customers, in the service area of each utility for which funding is sought and demonstrates how it will identify the issues or advocacy positions that are important to them; and

- d. Where applicable, indicate where in past Commission matters the organization demonstrated the ability to substantively contribute to the record on behalf of such interests.

In its application, the organization must identify:

- a. The matter or matters in which the applicant intends to participate, the nature of that participation, and why these matters are Eligible Proceedings;
- b. The Participating Public Utility account or accounts from which the applicant seeks funds; and
- c. A budget showing estimated Eligible Expenses, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operational support; a budget showing estimated consultant fees, expert witness fees, or contractor costs, which also may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operational support.

The Commission may, but is not obligated to consider any of the following factors:

- a. The breadth and complexity of the issues or the importance of community participation;
- b. The degree to which any policy issues affect the interests of low-income residential customers or the interests of residential customers that are members of Environmental Justice Communities;
- c. The proposed budget;
- d. Whether the organization has significant ties to the Environmental Justice Community or low-income customers in the service area of each utility for which pre-certification or funding from a Case Fund is sought;
- e. The qualifications of the applicant and experience before the Commission; and
- f. The level of available funding available under the agreement.

NWEC states that it is eligible for a case fund grant because it represents the interests of low-income households and rural communities who are PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, Portland General Electric Company, and Idaho Power Company ratepayers and who face disproportionate wildfire risk and higher vulnerability to energy burden. NWEC explains that it has participated in major Oregon proceedings addressing wildfire mitigation, energy affordability, integrated resource planning, transmission, and customer protections, and that the organization has a long track record of constructive, data-driven participation. NWEC states that its participation will be directed at public utility issues affecting the communities it represents by ensuring wildfire mitigation planning, modeling, and related assessments reduce wildfire risk, enhance community safety, maintain affordability, and capture co-benefits to maximize utility investments.

No party objected to NWEC's notice of intent or proposed scope of work.

NWEC included a proposed budget for consideration upon being deemed eligible for Case Funds. NWEC requests case funding in the amount of \$15,000, split equally across the three electric utility case funds. No party objected to NWEC's certification request or contested its ability to represent PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, Portland General Electric Company, or Idaho Power Company customers. NWEC requests a progress payment of 50 percent of its total request.

I agree that NWEC qualifies as an eligible organization under Order No. 25-409 and OAR 860-001-0840. I find that docket UM 2340 qualifies as an eligible proceeding because it is a Commission proceeding affecting participating utilities (PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power, Portland General Electric Company, or Idaho Power Company), their customers, and environmental justice communities. Accordingly, the request for case certification should be granted.

NWEC states that it plans to: analyze wildfire mitigation plan risk-spend efficiency proposals and valuation modeling; evaluate utility proposals for transparency, measurable risk reduction, and cost-benefit analysis; facilitate internal meetings with wildfire advocates and other relevant experts; and submit written comments, conduct research, and participate in workshops as appropriate.

NWEC's proposed budget includes the requisite information and reflects the anticipated activity in this docket. No party opposed NWEC's proposed budget. Considering the issues being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, NWEC'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. 25-408.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The NW Energy Coalition is certified to receive Case Funds in this docket.
2. The NW Energy Coalition's proposed budget is approved.
3. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the NW Energy Coalition up to \$5,000 from the 2026 Idaho Power Company Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2340.
4. Idaho Power Company pay \$2,500 from the 2026 Idaho Power Case Fund to NW Energy Coalition within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Idaho Power Company's residential customers.
5. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the NW Energy Coalition up to \$5,000 from the 2026 Portland General Electric Company Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2340.
6. Portland General Electric Company pay \$2,500 from the 2026 Portland General Electric Company Case Fund to NW Energy Coalition within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Portland General Electric Company's residential customers.
7. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the NW Energy Coalition up to \$5,000 from the 2026 PacifiCorp dba Pacific Power Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2340.

8. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power pay \$2,500 from the 2026 PacifiCorp Case Fund to NW Energy Coalition within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective December 24, 2025.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Lackey", is written above a horizontal line.

Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge