

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2211

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON,

Implementation of HB 2475.

ORDER

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

On April 6, 2026, the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) filed a notice of intent to request Justice Funding Case Fund Grant consistent with Order No. 25-409¹ and OAR 860-001-0800 through OAR 860-001-0900. CCC's notice of intent included a proposed budget, as permitted under OAR 860-001-0860(5), and presented a proposed allocation of the proposed budget between the three subject utility Case Funds.

To be eligible for a Case Fund grant, an organization's notice of intent 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;
- 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; and

¹ *In the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, House Bill 2475, Environmental Justice Communities Funding Agreement*, Docket No. UM 2389, Order No. 25-409 (Oct. 15, 2025).

- e. the Participating Public Utility account or accounts from which the applicant seeks funds through its grant request.

An organization's Case Fund Grant budget proposal must include:

- a. a statement of work, estimated eligible expenses;
- b. a description of the areas or issues to be investigated and addressed by the organization;
- c. a detail of estimated eligible expenses, which may include support staff, operational support, and consultant and expert witness fees;
- d. a description of the low-income customers or Environmental Justice Communities that will benefit from the organization's participation; and
- e. a description of the Participating Public utility account(s) from which the organization seeks funds and how payments should be apportioned.

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.

In Order No. 25-409, the Commission determined that CCC is an Eligible Recipient under the Environmental Justice Communities Funding Agreement, effective January 1, 2026 (EJC Funding Agreement) and approved by the Commission in Order No. 25-409.² Specifically, CCC was found to be an Eligible Recipient for grants under the EJC Funding Agreement and OAR 860-001-0840 from Portland General Electric Company (PGE), PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power; and Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural) funds. In its request in this docket, CCC explained its status as an alliance of culturally specific community-based organizations that work with Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities on issues including environmental and economic justice. CCC details its work with frontline communities and member organizations advocating for climate and environmental justice through accessible arrears management and bill discount programs, and disconnection protections for low-income and immigrant communities within PGE, PacifiCorp and NW Natural service territories.

² *Id.*

CCC states that its participation has and will continue to include exploring equitable differential ratemaking mechanisms and expanded access to programs aimed at alleviating energy cost burden. Further, CCC notes its existing and planned efforts regarding comment letters, workshop attendance and proceeding advocacy regarding environmental justice, disconnection protections, bill discounts and arrearage management programs within these proceedings.

CCC included a proposed budget for consideration. CCC requests case funding in the amount of \$16,100, spread equally across the PGE, PacifiCorp and NW Natural Case Fund accounts. CCC requests a progress payment of 50 percent of its total request. No party objected to CCC's notice of intent or proposed scope 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. 25-408.³

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

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Coalition of Communities of Color is certified to receive Case Funds in this docket.
2. Coalition of Communities of Color's proposed budget is approved.
3. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the Coalition of Communities of Color up to \$5366.67 from the 2026 Portland General Electric Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2211.
4. Portland General Electric pay \$2683.33 from the 2026 Portland General Electric Case Fund to Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Portland General Electric residential customers.

³ *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon, The Delegation of Certain Duties and Powers of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon*, Docket No. CD 27, Order No. 25-408 (Oct. 15, 2025).

5. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the Coalition of Communities of Color up to \$5366.67 from the 2026 PacifiCorp Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2211.
6. PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power, pay \$2683.33 from the 2026 PacifiCorp Case Fund to Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power's residential customers.
7. A Justice Funding Case Fund Grant is approved for the Coalition of Communities of Color up to \$5366.66 from the 2026 NW Natural Gas Company Case Fund for activity in docket UM 2211.
8. Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural pay \$2683.33 from the 2026 NW Natural Gas Company Case Fund to Coalition of Communities of Color within 30 days after receipt of this order, and the grant be assessed to Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural's residential customers.

Made, entered, and effective Apr 22, 2026.



Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge

