ORDER NO. 26-445

ENTERED Nov 17 2026

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

# OF OREGON

AR 676

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| In the Matter of<br><br>PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON,<br><br>Rulemaking to Establish Multi-Year Plan Framework (HB 3179 & SB 688 Implementation). | ORDER |

DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT APPROVED

On September 23, 2026, the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) filed a request for a $24,000 Issue Fund Grant and proposed budget showing $32,050.00 in eligible expenses in this proceeding. CUB asks that its $24,000.00 come in the form of $6,000.00 grants from each of the 2026 PacifiCorp, dba Pacific Power Issue Fund, 2026 Avista Issue Fund, 2026 Northwest Natural Issue Fund, and 2026 Idaho Power Company Issue Fund. The Commission designated this docket as eligible for Issue Fund Grants.[1]

The Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement governs the procedures for Issue Fund Grants related to several utilities, including PacifiCorp, NW Natural, and Avista.[2] The Intervenor Funding Agreement for 2026-2030 governs the procedures for Issue Fund Grants between Idaho Power Company and CUB.[3] CUB is automatically pre-certified to receive Issue Fund Grants under OAR 860-001-0120(3)(a) and under both agreements. Both agreements require that proposed issue fund grant budgets contain 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 intervenor's participation;
4) A budget showing estimated attorney, consultant and expert witness fees, which may include the cost for appropriate support staff and operations support; and

[1] Order No. 26-067 (Mar. 10, 2026).
[2] *In the Matter of Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Approval of the Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement*, Docket No. UM 2264, Order No. 22-506 (Dec. 29, 2022).
[3] *In the Matter of the Intervenor Funding Agreement by and among Idaho Power Company and Oregon Citizens' Utility Board*, Docket No. UM 2424, Order No. 26-032 (Feb. 03, 2026).

5) A representation that the intervenor 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 the intervenor is seeking an Issue Fund grant.

The agreements also require that the proposed issue fund grant budgets identify the specific fund accounts from which the intervenor is seeking monies and an estimate of the amount of available funds in that account.

Once a proposed budget is received, the Commission decides whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the agreements. The Commission may accept, deny, or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant. The Commission has delegated responsibility to sign uncontested orders relating to Intervenor Funding Agreements to the Chief Administrative Law Judge, consistent with Order No. 25-408.[4]

CUB's proposed budget includes the requisite information. In light of the issues addressed, the complexity of the issues, and the significant policy decisions made in the docket, I find that CUB's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

## ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board's proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant is approved.

2. An Issue Fund Grant is approved up to $24,000.00, with $6,000.00 coming from each of the following funds: 2026 PacifiCorp Issue Fund, 2026 Avista Issue Fund, 2026 Northwest Natural Issue Fund, and the 2026 Idaho Power Company Issue Fund.

Made, entered, and effective Nov 17, 2026.

Alison Lackey
Chief Administrative Law Judge

[4] *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).