

ORDER NO. 14 388

ENTERED OCT 31 2014

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

LC 60

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS  
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL

2014 Integrated Resource Plan.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR ISSUE FUND GRANT  
APPROVED**

On October 29, 2014, the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) filed a proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant in this proceeding. CUB's proposed budget shows eligible expenses in the amount of \$19,025 and it seeks an Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$15,220. CUB notes in its request that there are no uncommitted funds available from the 2014 Issue Fund and that the process in this docket continues into 2015. CUB requests this issue fund grant from the 2015 Issue Fund.

The Second Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (IFA), approved by the Commission in Order No. 12-452<sup>1</sup>, provides that precertified intervenors 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 intervenor's participation;
- 4) Identification of the specific fund accounts from which the intervenor is seeking monies and an estimate of the amount of available funds in that 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 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Order No. 12-452 was subsequently supplemented by Order No. 13-317 to include Exhibits A, B, and C.

Once a proposed budget is received, we decide whether Issue Fund Grants are available for use based on factors identified in the IFA. We have the authority to accept, deny or partially deny the request, and may place reasonable conditions on the grant.<sup>2</sup>

CUB was automatically precertified to receive Issue Fund Grants under Section 5.2(a) 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 being addressed, the complexity of the issues and the significant policy decisions to be made, we believe that CUB's proposed budget is reasonable and should be approved.

**ORDER**

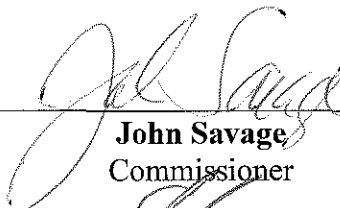
IT IS ORDERED that:


1. The Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon's proposed budget for an Issue Fund Grant from the 2015 Issue Fund is approved.
2. A 2015 Issue Fund Grant is approved up to \$15,220.

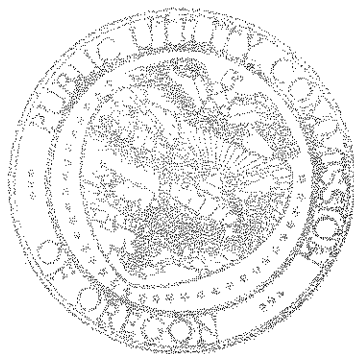
Made, entered, and effective OCT 31 2014.

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN WAS  
UNAVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE

**Susan K. Ackerman**  
Chair

  
**John Savage**  
Commissioner

  
**Stephen M. Bloom**  
Commissioner



<sup>2</sup> Article 4.4 of the IFA allows us to approve an Issue Fund Grant from the funds that will be made available in the next calendar year when the proceeding for which the Issue Fund Grant is sought is expected to continue into that year and funds in the current year's Issue Fund are inadequate to provide the level of funding we determine is appropriate.