

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 388

In the Matter of)	
)	CUB REQUEST FOR AN ISSUE
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS)	FUND GRANT & PROPOSED
COMPANY dba NW NATURAL,)	BUDGET
)	
)	
Request for a General Rate Revision.)	
_____)	

The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (“CUB”) requests a grant of \$70,000.00 from the 2020 NW Natural Issue Fund. CUB has been tracking its participation in this docket by hours and activity.

CUB is pre-certified per OAR 860-012-0100(3)(a). UG 388 is an eligible proceeding under the Fourth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”), as approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission in Order No. 18-017, entered January 17, 2018. The proceeding directly affects NW Natural, which is a participating public utility under the IFA. See IFA at Article 1(n). The IFA defines an Eligible Proceeding for Issue Funds as “i. general rate case request” IFA, Article 1(c). UG 388 is NW Natural’s Request for a General Rate Revision; thus, an Issue Fund Grant may be made for this proceeding under Article 6.1 of the IFA.

Article 6.2 of the IFA requires an intervenor seeking and Issue Fund Grant to file a Notice of Intent to Request and Issue Fund Grant. CUB filed its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant concurrent on February 3, 2020, as required by the IFA (Article 6.2).

Article 6.3 of the IFA requires an intervenor seeking and Issue Fund Grant to file a

proposed budget within 30 days after the prehearing conference at which the schedule for the proceeding is established. The prehearing conference in this docket was held on January 30, 2020.

Pursuant to paragraph 6.3 of the IFA, the proposed budget must identify certain points of information. CUB provides the information below.

(a) Statement of Work to Be Performed: CUB intends to participate in every procedural aspect of this case. CUB participated in the prehearing conference and will participate in all workshops and settlement meetings. CUB will also attend and participate in the hearing scheduled for this docket. CUB has reviewed and analyzed the testimony filed in this docket, and will review the briefs yet to be filed. We have pursued discovery of NW Natural through data requests and we will respond to data requests asked of us. We will file testimony and briefs.

(b) Description of Areas to Be Investigated: CUB is investigating issues including, but not limited to:

- i. Review the capital costs included in this general rate request to determine whether they were prudently incurred.
- ii. Examine costs and issues related to NW Natural's corporate relocation.
- iii. Examine issues related to rate spread and rate design.
- iv. Examine all other issues raised by other parties to this proceeding.

(c) Description of the Class or Classes Benefiting from CUB's Participation:

CUB represents the interests of NW Natural's residential customers, though other customer classes may benefit from many aspects of our participation.

(d) The Fund from Which CUB Seeks an Issue Fund Grant & Available Funds: CUB is seeking a \$70,000.00 grant from the 2020 NW Natural Issue Fund. CUB respectfully requests that

the Commission approve CUB's request for a \$70,000.00 grant from the 2020 NW Natural Issue Fund.

(e) The Budget Showing Estimated Fees and Costs: CUB's budget accompanies this document as Attachment A.

(f) A Representation of the Use of Matching Funds: The budget and an accounting for the use of matching funds accompany this document as Attachment A.

Dated this 9th day of February 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Jenks", written in a cursive style.

Bob Jenks
Executive Director
Oregon Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

Attachment A

CUB Proposed Budget -- UG 388

CUB Internal Expenses	Rate	Hours	Cost
<i>Staff</i>			
Bob Jenks, Executive Director	\$275	140.00	\$38,500.00
Michael Goetz, General Counsel	\$250	50.00	\$12,500.00
Essie Bender, Office Manager	\$100	10.50	\$1,050.00
Will Gehrke, Economist	\$225	110.00	\$24,750.00
Sudeshna Pal, Economist	\$200	42.00	\$8,400.00
Jack Watson, Legal Intern	\$130	17.75	\$2,307.50
<i>Other Expenses</i>			
Travel			
SubTotal			\$87,507.50
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In-House Resources			
20% of Eligible Expenses			\$17,502
Total			\$70,006