

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY

COMMISSION OF OREGON

UG 490

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY,
dba NW Natural,

Request for a General Rate Revision.

ALLIANCE OF WESTERN
ENERGY CONSUMERS'
REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF
NW NATURAL ISSUE FUND
GRANT

Pursuant to Section 7.3 of the Fifth Amended and Restated Intervenor Funding Agreement (“IFA”) approved by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (“Commission”) in Order No. 22-506 (December 29, 2022), Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (“AWEC”) hereby requests payment of AWEC’s Issue Fund Grant in Docket No. UG 490 in the amount of \$96,000. In support of this request, AWEC states the following:

1. On December 29, 2023, Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural filed its Request for a General Rate Revision. On January 3, 2024, AWEC intervened in Docket No. UG 490 and provided its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant.

2. On March 12, 2024, AWEC filed a Proposed Issue Fund Budget in Docket No. UG 490 in the amount of \$120,000, less in-house resources of 20 percent, for a total Issue Fund Grant request of \$96,000.

3. AWEC’s Eligible Expenses for this proceeding are shown in **Confidential Exhibit A**. After applying the 20 percent match using AWEC’s funds, AWEC hereby requests that the Commission authorize this Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$96,000.

4. AWEC respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of IFA Section 7.3 as follows:

Section 7.3(a) - The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates are attached as

Confidential Exhibit A.

Section 7.3(b) - AWEC was a full and active participant in this docket. AWEC issued and reviewed discovery on NW Natural's filed case, attended multiple all party settlement conferences, attended multiple staff/intervenor settlement conferences; filed multiple rounds of testimony and reviewed the testimony of other parties; negotiated two stipulations and drafted supporting testimony, drafted opening and closing briefs and reviewed the briefs of other parties, participated in the hearing and oral argument. The expenses included in **Confidential Exhibit A** are Eligible Expenses as defined in IFA Section 7.4 and are reasonable and directly attributable to AWEC's participation in Docket No. UG 490 on behalf of large volume sales and transportation customers.

Section 7.3(c) – The only condition of the Issue Fund Grant is that AWEC must contribute 20% of Eligible Expenses using in-house resources. AWEC used its own funds to pay for at least 20% of the Eligible Expenses as required by Section 6.5 of the IFA.

Section 7.3 (d) – This request is a request for final payment of the approved Issue Fund Grant in this docket.

5. Section 7.4 – All of the expenses included in **Confidential Exhibit A** are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.4 of the IFA and are consistent with AWEC's proposed budget in this proceeding.

6. Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, NW Natural should send payment to AWEC as follows:

Alliance of Western Energy Consumers
818 SW Third Avenue #266
Portland, OR 97204

7. AWEC has satisfied the terms of the IFA and respectfully requests that the Commission approve payment of AWEC's Issue Fund Grant in the amount of \$96,000 from the NW Natural Issue Fund within 30 days of receiving this Request for Payment as provided in Section 7.6 of the IFA.

8. AWEC's expenses and costs exceeded its proposed budget in this docket. AWEC will seek the remainder of these costs through matching funds.

Dated this 30th day of September 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



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