

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-220066 and UG-220067
(Consolidated)

FRONT AND CENTERED
PROPOSED BUDGET

Front and Centered hereby submits its proposed budget pursuant to RCW 80.28.430, the Washington Interim Participatory Funding Agreement (Funding Agreement) approved by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) and Order 08.

Statement of Work:

As a party to the proceeding, Front and Centered requests a Fund Grant to partially offset participation expenses. These expenses include the staff and expert time other resources that directly inform participation in this docket. Front and Centered is a coalition of over 85 organizations led by and serving communities of color in Washington state, and many of these communities live and work in territory occupied by Puget Sound Energy (“PSE”) services and operations. The wealth of knowledge, experience and critical perspectives that communities of color contribute to Front and Centered’s engagement in PSE’s General Rate Case and other regulatory proceedings is not easily reduced to a monetary accounting. The attached budget (Exhibit A) includes the costs of completed and anticipated staff time and coalition consultations dedicated to this proceeding as requested for Commission approval to offset expenses incurred.

Front and Centered is actively involved in other energy utility proceedings and will submit additional fund requests and budgets where appropriate to go towards, as closely as possible, the true costs of the coalition's participation in each proceeding. The Fund Grant request does not cover the entire cost of Front and Centered's participation in this proceeding.

Specific Fund

As stated in its Request for Case Certification and Notice of Intent to Request Fund Grant, Front and Centered requests a Fund Grant from the Prioritized Organization Sub-Fund of PSE's Customer Access Fund. Front and Centered will be requesting additional funding under the Funding Agreement in PSE and all-utility dockets.

Budget

As reflected in Exhibit A attached, Front and Centered submits the following estimated budget for its requested Fund Grant:

Estimated Expert Consultant/Witness:	\$10,000
Estimated Staff:	\$5,000
Total:	\$15,000

These estimates do not represent the full time and market value of these services and exclude attorneys' fees and costs.

Prioritized Organization Interest in Areas of Intervention

With a substantial rate increase, programming and investment interests at play, there is a significant breadth of ways that this case and PSE's concurrent and subsequent actions, will impact the lives of much of the population of Western Washington. A Prioritized Organization,

Front and Centered is primarily interested in intervening in the Commission’s investigation into the customer and community impacts of PSE’s proposed rate change, investments, assistance programs, and performance measurements with particular attention to the interests of highly-impacted communities and vulnerable populations, including frontline and low income communities of color.

Front and Centered supports the efforts of other Prioritized Organizations involved in this and related proceedings to recover costs, increase the quality of participation, and communicate the opportunities to address a general need for more resources to better represent the interests of overburdened communities in energy regulation.

DATED: April 25, 2022

BY: 

Mariel Thuraingham
Clean Energy Policy Lead
Front and Centered

Exhibit A

NW Energy Coalition Proposed Budget for Issue Fund Grant

People Resources	Hours	Rate	Cost
<i>Experts</i>			
Coalition Consultations	50	200	\$10,000
<i>Staff</i>			
Policy Director	20	\$50	\$1,000
Policy Lead	62.5	\$40	\$2,500
Associate	50	\$30	\$1,500
<i>Other Expenses</i>			
Travel			
Printing and Postage			
Total Front and Centered Request¹			\$15,000

¹ Front and Centered is not requesting Fund Grant support to cover attorney fees or expenses at this time.
PROPOSED BUDGET OF
FRONT AND CENTERED
DOCKETS UE-220066 and UG-220067