

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION, D/B/A
AVISTA UTILITIES,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-240006 &
UG-240007 (Consolidated)

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF FUND
GRANT OF THE ENERGY PROJECT

- 1 Pursuant to the Washington Extended Interim Participatory Funding Agreement (Funding Agreement),¹ approved by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) in Docket U-210595, and Order 06 Approving Proposed Budgets and Fund Grants in Dockets UE-240006 & UG-240007, The Energy Project (TEP) hereby respectfully requests payment totaling \$85,000. In support of this request, TEP states the following:
- 2 On January 19, 2024, Avista filed with the Commission tariffs to increase rates, triggering a General Rate Case.
- 3 On February 16, 2024, TEP filed a Request for Case Certification and Notice of Intent to Request a Fund Grant. In Order 05 Granting Requests for Case Certification, the Commission granted TEP's request for case certification.
- 4 On March 21, 2024, TEP filed a Proposed Budget. On April 12, 2024, in Order 06 Approving Proposed Budgets and Fund Grants, the Commission approved TEP's Proposed Budget in the amount of \$85,000.
- 5 TEP respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of the Funding Agreement Section 7.1 as follows:
- a. Section 7.1(a). The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates for amounts to be reimbursed, including billing details, and including separately identified amounts for

¹ Docket U-210595, Order 02 Approving Agreement Subject to Condition; Requiring Refiling of Modified Agreement (February 9, 2023).

consultant or expert fees and travel expenses are attached as Confidential Exhibit A. TEP does not include any fees for legal research databases, its preparation of required paper copies (printing, mailing binders), secretarial staff time, or apportioned wages for in-house staff related to participation in this proceeding.

- b. Section 7.1(b). TEP was a full and active participant in this docket and the expenses are reasonable and directly attributable to issues and positions pursued on behalf of low-income customers and vulnerable populations. These issues included, among others, the impact of inflation and rate increases on low-income energy customers, low-income needs assessments, credit and collection issues, performance-based regulation, language access, energy burden assessments, the impact of fixed charges on low-income customers, return on power purchase agreements, provisional capital review processes, reporting requirements, and others issues impacting Avista's revenue requirement. As the only party focusing solely on the interests of low-income customers in this proceeding, TEP provided comments, participated in settlement conferences, participated in prehearing/status conferences, and submitted testimony from two expert witnesses. The expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Funding Agreement Section 7.3 and are reasonable and directly attributable to TEP's participation in this proceeding on behalf of low-income customers and vulnerable populations.
- c. Section 7.1(c). As set forth in this request for payment, TEP has provided information sufficient to demonstrate that TEP complied with all conditions and requirements of its Approved Fund Grant.
- d. Section 7.1(d). This request is a final request for payment under the Approved Fund Grant for the full amount of the Approved Fund Grant.
- e. Section 7.3. All of the expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.3 of the Funding Agreement.

6 Upon approval of this request for payment by the Commission, please send payment to TEP as follows:

The Energy Project

Washington State Community Action Partnership

PO Box 7130, Olympia, WA 98507

7 TEP has satisfied the terms of the Funding Agreement and respectfully requests that the Commission approve payment of TEP's Fund Grant in the amount of \$85,000 from Avista's Customer Representation Sub-Funds within 30 days of receiving this Request for Payment as provided in Section 7.6 of the Funding Agreement.

DATED: February 7, 2025

By: /s/ Yochanan Zakai

Yochanan Zakai, Oregon State Bar No. 130369*

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* Mr. Zakai is not a member of the State Bar of California.