BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, DOCKETS UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 (Consolidated)

Complainant,

v.

NW ENERGY COALITION'S REOUEST FOR PAYMENT OF **FUND GRANT**

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

- Pursuant to Order 06 in Docket Nos. UE-220066 and UG-220067 Granting Requests for Case 1 Certification issued by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("UTC") and Order 16-02 Approving Proposed Budgets in the same dockets, NW Energy Project ("NWEC") hereby respectfully requests payment of a Fund Grant from the Customer Access Fund for Puget Sound Energy ("PSE")¹ in the amount of \$40,331. In support of this request, NWEC states the following:
- On January 31, 2022, PSE filed its request for a multi-year general rate revision for electric and 2 natural gas distribution in its Washington service territory. On February 22, 2022, NW Energy Project timely intervened.
- 3 On March 14, 2022, NWEC filed a Request for Case Certification and Notice of Intent to Request a Fund Grant (Notice and Request). On March 24, 2022, the Commission approved NWEC's request.²
- On April 25, 2022, NWEC filed a Proposed Budget and requested a Fund Grant in this docket in 4 the amount of \$50,000 to partially offset the costs of its participation in the proceeding. The

¹ See Petition for approval of an interim participatory funding agreement pursuant to RCW 80.28.430, Docket U-210595 Order 01 (February 24, 2022), Attachment A § 4.2 (Executed February 24, 2022) (hereinafter "Funding Agreement").

² Order 08, Granting Requests for Case Certification (Mar. 24, 2022).

- Commission approved NWEC's Proposed Budget for a Fund Grant in the amount of \$50,000 on May 26, 2022.³
- NWEC focused on all matters related to the financial impact to customers from PSE's proposed rate increase, the environmental impacts of PSE's proposed investments, and the associated costs of continued investment into fossil fuel powered infrastructure, programs and bill impacts to low-income and vulnerable customers, including low-income assistance program funding and design, and performance-based regulation of PSE's energy utility services.
- NWEC respectfully submits that this request for payment satisfies the requirement of the Funding Agreement Section 7.1 as follows:
 - a. <u>Section 7.1(a)</u>. The itemized expenses, payees and hourly rates for amounts to be reimbursed, including billing details, and including separately identified amounts for consultant or expert fees and travel expenses are attached as Confidential Exhibit A.
 - b. Section 7.1(b). NWEC was a full and active participant in this docket and the expenses are reasonable and directly attributable to issues and positions pursued on behalf customers including expert witness testimonies addressing the impacts of PSE's proposed investments on customers, and the environment. NWEC issued and reviewed discovery, participated in settlement conferences, participated in several prehearing/status conferences, filed numerous expert witness testimonies opposing PSE's proposed rate increase, reviewed testimony of other parties; prepared for and attended an evidentiary hearing and filed a closing brief. 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 NWEC's participation in UG-220067 and UE-220066.
 - c. <u>Section 7.1(d).</u> This request is a final request for payment under this Approved Fund Grant for the full amount of the Approved Fund Grant.
 - d. <u>Section 7.3.</u> All of the expenses included in Confidential Attachment A are Eligible Expenses as defined in Section 7.3 of the Funding Agreement.

³ Order 16-02, Approving Proposed Budgets (May 26, 2022).

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

NW Energy Coalition 811 1st Avenue, Suite 305 Seattle, WA 98104

NWEC has satisfied the terms of the Funding Agreement and respectfully requests that the Commission approve payment of NWEC's Fund Grant in the amount of \$40,331 from the PSE Customer Representation Sub-Fund within 30 days of receiving this Request for Payment as provided in Section 7.6 of the Funding Agreement.

Dated this 14th day of February, 2023.

/s/ Jaimini Parekh

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