Intervenor Funding Update

Access to Funding & Next Steps for Rules



Nolan Moser, Chief ALJ March 30, 2022

What is Intervenor Funding?

- Financial support to engage in PUC processes
- Accessible through rules for groups representing broad customer classes

- Representing low-income residential customers
- Representing environmental justice community customers

New funding available for organizations...

HB 2475 Funding

- \$500,000 available annually
- Based on agreements between recipient groups and utilities
- Agreements negotiated and memorialized in final rules later this year

Interim HB 2475 Funding

- Consistent with Order No. 22-043
- Interim agreement negotiated with utilities
- Groups may request funds, if approved by PUC, groups will sign agreements with utilities to receive funds
- Separate funding requests for each docket



Eligibility

Groups Representing

- Interests of residential households at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, or
- Interests of environmental justice customers, including communities of color, communities experiencing lower income, tribal communities, rural communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including but not limited to seniors, youth and persons with disabilities

Dockets/Matters

- Non-complaint contested cases, rulemakings, and non-contested dockets that affect the applicable utility and its low-income residential customers and environmental justice communities are eligible for funding
- Named, non-docketed Commission led processes addressing issues that affect the applicable utility and its low-income residential customers and

Steps for interim intervenor funding under HB 2475



1. Submit Intervention Request

- •Request to make docket an Eligible Proceeding, and to designate your group as an Eligible Participant. This would all happen in one document, one filing.
- •Fillable Template for Intervention Request and Sample Filing with Instructions.

2. Submit Budget

- This can be submitted with your intervention request noted in Step 1, or separate. Find information on requirements in <u>Intervenor Funding FAQ</u>.
- See this example of a <u>Proposed Budget</u> for additional guidance.

3. PUC Approval •The PUC will review and Commissioners will decide whether to approve the request at a public meeting.

4. Sign Agreement

- •Sign the Commission Approved Form of Interim Funding Agreement with the specific utility in question.
- •Find the Approved Form in Order No. 22-043, starting in Appendix A, page 11.

5. Work in the Case

 Throughout your organization's involvement in the docket, maintain record of work such as testimony or comments prepared, etc.

6. Request Payment

- Through filing a Request for Payment, consistent with the approved budget submitted in Step 2, your organization can receive payment for eligible work.
- •Example of Request for Partial Payment and Request for Final Payment.

7. Commission Approval

- The PUC will to the best of their ability process the request for payment within 30 days of the receipt of the request.
- Approval of payment occurs on a rolling basis, not at public meetings.

8. Utility Provides Payment

- The utility will provide full payment approved by the Commission in Step 7.
- Once the request for payment has been approved by the PUC, the utility has 30 days to disburse the funds.