

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORN

**FILED** 06/01/20 04:59 PM

Order Instituting Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion into the California's One Million New Internet Users Coalition's Misuse of California Advanced Services Fund Grant Funds; and Order to Show Cause Why the Commission Should Not Impose Penalties and/or Other Remedies for Violating Terms of Their Grant and for Refusing to Return Funds Previously Demanded by the Commission's Division.

Investigation 18-07-009

## COMMUNITY UNION, INC.'S MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE OPENING TESTIMONY

Pursuant to Rule 11.6 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Community Union, Inc. respectfully makes a *Motion for an Extension of Time to File Opening Testimony*.

By this Motion, Community Union respectfully requests that the ALJ grant Community Union an extension of time to file Opening Statement. Community Union requests Opening Testimony to be filed June 4, 2020.

Community Union is without legal counsel, has never participated in a CPUC adjudicated proceeding prior to this proceeding, and is obligated to perform extensive research as to the manner in which motions, answers, opening testimony, etc. must be prepared and submitted. In Community Union's research to prepare its Opening Testimony, we found that the weight and extensive resources at the disposal of CPUC's CPED is always used against massive corporations like Southern California Edison, PG&E, SDG&E, So Cal Gas, etc. These corporations are well resourced and have at their disposal teams of lawyers to respond in a timely fashion. To the best of our knowledge and research to date, we have not found a single agency or corporation the size, both financially, human or legally resourced, as small as Community Union to which CPED has attempted enforcement.

It is our estimation CPED has spent tens of thousands of tax payer dollars – perhaps as much one hundred thousand dollars (between them and Communications Division), in this matter against Community Union. It is also our contention that CPED is oblivious to the possibility of them having spent \$100,000 or more to recoup \$15,000 as so indicated in the KCCD and CPED Joint Settlement Agreement submitted to the ALJ for approval, to which Community Union has motioned to deny. The full weight and force CPED uses for regulated utilities, in which millions of dollars are typically at stake, is being applied here.

CPED's Ms. Baldwin in her most recent communication and motion asks that Community Union be held to a higher standard. There is no doubt Ms. Baldwin is frustrated with our inability to respond per the court's instruction. We understand CPED follows a standard protocol once engaged in these proceedings, all things being equal – were Community Union a multi-billion dollar regulated utility, we would expect the same. However, we are exponentially smaller in size to that of a PG&E or Edison.

Community Union has precedence for delivering on time after the ALJ has granted an extension of time. The Extension of Time for Opening Testimony is extremely delayed due to Community Union's filing of motions and email responses on and after May 12<sup>th</sup>, to include CPED's Data Request and Webex call. See Attachment A, Declaration of Larry Ortega.

Combined with extreme financial challenges Community Union is experiencing during the Covid-19 shut down of schools and businesses, it is simply the very best we can do. We are still, wholly consumed with making ends meet at this juncture. Keeping food on the table and a roof over our head continues to be our primary time consumer.

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For the foregoing reasons, Community Union respectfully request ALJ Zhang grant the Motion and extend the time for submission of the Opening Testimony to Thursday, June 4, 2020 as requested herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Larry Ortega For Community Union, Inc. Tel: (909) 629-9212 Email: LA@LAOrtega.com PO Box 364, Pomona CA 91769

Dated: June 1, 2020