

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET UG-120572
)	
CASCADE NATURAL GAS)	ORDER 01
CORPORATION,)	
)	
To Amend its Certificate of Public)	
Convenience and Necessity to Operate)	
a Gas Plant for Hire in the General)	ORDER DETERMINING A
Area of the Department of Energy's)	CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC
Hanford Site.)	CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On April 23, 2012, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an application to amend its present Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate Customer-Owned Gas Plant, to include an additional area in designated portions of Department of Energy's Hanford Site, Benton County (Exhibit A-1).
- 2 Cascade is presently certified for and is now providing gas service to Area 300 of the Hanford Site.¹ Cascade is requesting a certificate to expand the service area to the entire Hanford Site (See attachment for legal description, Attachment A-2). Cascade possesses an Areawide Public Utilities Contract with the U.S. General Services Administration (Exhibit A-3) as well as a request from the Department of Energy requesting service from Cascade (Attachment A-4).
- 3 Cascade does not request that the Commission determine at this time the reasonableness or ratemaking treatment of the gas pipeline facility to service this addition to Cascade's service area. Cascade recognizes the right of the Commission to determine the reasonableness and rate making treatment of services and expenditures in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Cascade's results of operations.
- 4 It appears that Cascade is well suited to serve the requested service territory economically, therefore, the application should be granted to satisfy the public convenience and necessity.

¹ Docket UG-971267, *In the Matter of the application of Cascade Natural Gas Corporation to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire in the General Area of Benton County*. October 29, 1997

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including gas companies. [RCW 80.01.040](#), [RCW 80.04](#), [RCW 80.08](#), [RCW 80.12](#), [RCW 80.16](#) and [RCW 80.28](#).
- 6 (2) Cascade is a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) Under RCW 80.28.190, no gas company shall operate in this state any gas plant for hire without first having obtained from the Commission a certificate declaring that public convenience and necessity requires or will require the operation and setting forth the area or areas within which service will be rendered.
- 8 (4) Cascade filed an application for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate a gas plant for hire throughout the Hanford Site.
- 9 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2012.
- 10 (6) After reviewing Cascade's application filed in Docket UG-120572 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire presently held by Cascade Natural Gas Corporation should be further amended to include the additional are applied for herein.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation is granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate a gas plant in the state, subject to the conditions set forth in the Company's previously granted Certificates noted in Docket UG-971267.
- 12 (2) The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 14, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary