

November 12, 2002) and the balance of the proceeds to repay short-term debt undertaken to redeem \$25,000,000 principal amount of the \$6.95 Series of Redeemable Preference Stock on December 31, 2002.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 3 (1) Northwest is engaged in the business of natural gas service within the state of Washington. As a public service company, it is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of Chapter 80.08 RCW.
- 4 (2) As to form, the application herein meets the requirements of Chapter 80.08 RCW and the rules and regulations of the Commission adopted pursuant thereto. *Chapter 480-146 WAC.*
- 5 (3) The Company's application in this Docket contains: (a) a certification by an authorized officer that the proceeds will be used for one or more purposes allowed by RCW 80.08.030; (b) a description of the proposed issuance, including the terms of financing, and (c) a statement as to why the proposed transaction is in the public interest.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 6 (1) Northwest Natural Gas Company has complied with the requirements of RCW 80.08.040 with respect to the proposals set forth in its application and may issue and sell up to \$40,000,000 principal amount of its Medium-Term Notes, Series B.

- 7 (2) This authorization is conditioned on Northwest Natural Gas Company filing a Report of Securities Issued as required by WAC 480-146-340. Northwest Natural Gas Company is also required to file verified copies of any agreement entered into in connection with any transaction pursuant to this Order. Finally, Northwest Natural Gas Company shall file a verified statement setting forth in reasonable detail the disposition of the proceeds of each offering made pursuant to this Order.
- 8 (3) This Order shall in no way affect the authority of this Commission over rates, services, accounts, valuations, estimates, or determination of costs, or any matters whatsoever that may come before it, nor shall anything herein be construed as acquiescence in any estimate or determination of costs, or any valuation of property claimed or asserted.
- 9 This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on December 31, 2002. The Commissioners, having determined this filing to meet the requirements of Chapter 80.08 RCW, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 31st day of December, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary