

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UG-070332
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	ORDER 01
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
Cascade Natural Gas Corporation,)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 12, 2007, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, (Cascade or Company) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3, designated as:
 - Eighteenth Revision Sheet No. 2-A, Canceling Seventeenth Revision Sheet No. 2-A
 - Sixth Revision Sheet No. 682
 - Fourth Revision Sheet No. 684
 - Third Revision Sheet No. 684-A
- 2 The stated effective date is March 15, 2007. The tariff sheets are filed in response to the Commission’s Order 03 in Docket UG-061256 and reflect gas supply service options available to non-core customers.
- 3 The filing would enable non-core customers to enter into contracts for gas supply services provided by Cascade. Because these services might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Cascade has not demonstrated that the services would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service

companies, including natural gas companies. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.28, RCW 80.08 and RCW 80.12.*

- 5 (2) Cascade is a natural gas company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 14, 2007.
- 7 (4) The tariff revisions filed by Cascade on February 12, 2007, would allow non-core customers to enter into contracts with charges and rates for service provided by Cascade, that might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 8 (5) Cascade has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates and services that are fair, just and reasonable.
- 9 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate Cascade's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Cascade's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Cascade's operations.
- 10 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (4), Cascade bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed tariffs, including terms, conditions, and rates, are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 11 (8) Cascade may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.20.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The tariff revision(s) filed on February 12, 2007, are suspended.

- 13 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 14 (3) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 15 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 16 (5) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.20.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 14, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner