

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY,

Petitioner,

For a Revision to Northwest Natural Gas
Company's Tariff WN U-6, Schedule J,
Gas Residential Energy Assistance Tariff
(GREAT) Program Cost Recovery

DOCKET UG-250714

ORDER 01

APPROVING TARIFF REVISION
WITH CONDITIONS

BACKGROUND

- 1 In Northwest Natural Gas Company's (NW Natural, or Company) 2024 annual low-income filings¹, rates were forecasted and set at \$982,815.
- 2 On September 15, 2025, the Company filed with the Commission, in Docket UG-250714, proposed revisions to its Tariff WN U-3, Schedule 592, Program Cost Recovery.
- 3 This is NW Natural's annual low-income true-up filing, which also forecasts rates for the next year. This filing proposes a decrease to revenue requirement of \$79,010, or 0.07 percent.
- 4 Natural gas customers using an average of 56 therms per month will see an increase of \$0.05.
- 5 On August 28, 2025, at the Commission's regularly scheduled Open Meeting, Docket A-250549 was heard. The Commission chose to initiate a Policymaking Docket regarding RCW 80.28.425(2). There is not yet a Docket number available for this item.

¹ Docket UG-240696.

DISCUSSION

- 6 In similar fashion to its peer utility Puget Sound Energy, and in keeping with consistent treatment across the Commission's regulated energy companies, Commission Staff (Staff) recognizes the Commission's ongoing Policymaking Docket regarding RCW 80.28.425(2), and the "five-percent" threshold mentioned in statute.
- 7 With respect to public interest, Staff urges the Commission to prioritize finalizing the Policymaking Docket regarding RCW 80.28.425(2).
- 8 Similarly, how the Company calculates the 5 percent is also subject to Commission interpretation. Staff does not have the necessary insight to make any recommendations regarding calculation methodology currently; however, it looks forward to engaging in those discussions in future Open Meetings.
- 9 This item was heard at the Commission's regularly scheduled Open Meeting on October 23, 2025.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 10 (1) The 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 electric companies.
- 11 (2) NW Natural is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction, providing service as a natural gas company.
- 12 (3) Staff believes the requested relief is reasonable and is in the public interest to be approved.
- 13 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 23, 2025.
- 14 (5) After reviewing the petition, associated workpapers, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that the requested relief should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 15 (1) Within 30 days of the Commission issuing Policy Guidance regarding RCW 80.28.425(2), Northwest Natural Gas Company will file with the Commission an appropriate tariff revision, as needed, to this Docket.
- 16 (2) This Order shall not affect the Commission's authority over rates, services, accounts, valuations, estimates, or determination of costs, on any matters that may come before it. Nor shall this Order granting Petition be construed as an agreement to any estimate or determination of costs, or any valuation of property claimed or asserted.
- 17 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Northwest Natural Gas Company to effectuate the provisions of this Order.
- 18 The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective October 23, 2025.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFF KILLIP
Executive Director and Secretary