



Christine O. Gregoire

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Utilities and Transportation Division

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April 29, 2004

Carole J. Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: *WUTC v. Northwest Natural Gas Company*
Docket No. UG-031885

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
04 APR 29 PM 2:50
STATE OF WASH
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing are the original and 14 copies of the Joint Notice of Settlement in Principle and Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony, and Certificate of Service.

Very truly yours,

CHRISTOPHER SWANSON
Assistant Attorney General

CS:kl
Enclosures
cc: Parties



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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	DOCKET NO. UG-031885
)	
Complainant,)	JOINT NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT
)	IN PRINCIPLE AND MOTION FOR
v.)	EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE
)	TESTIMONY
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

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1 Northwest Natural Gas Company (NWN), Commission Staff, Public Counsel
 Section of the Washington State Attorney General’s Office, Northwest Industrial Gas
 Users, and Citizens’ Utility Alliance of Washington, (collectively, “the Parties”) provide
 notice to the Commission pursuant to WAC 480-07-730(4) and WAC 480-07-740(1)(c),
 that the Parties have reached a settlement in principle on all issues in dispute in this
 docket.

2 In order to give the Parties additional time to finalize the details of the settlement,
 the Parties ask the Commission to set a deadline of May 14, 2004, by which time any
 settlement package must be filed with the Commission for approval. The Parties ask the
 Commission to suspend all deadlines in this docket once the settlement package is filed.

3 In consideration of the unlikely event that the Parties are unable to file a
 settlement package by May 14, 2004, the Parties move for an extension of the deadline
 for responding parties to file direct testimony from May 7, 2004, until May 21, 2004, and

move for an extension of the deadline for the Company to file rebuttal testimony from June 11, 2004, until June 18, 2004. In this event, the Parties ask the Commission to retain all other deadlines as outlined in prior orders.


4 Since the Parties have tentatively settled on a July 1, 2004, effective date for proposed rates to go into effect, the Parties ask for accelerated consideration of this motion and ask the Commission to set a settlement hearing date and public hearing date as soon as possible following the May 14, 2004, settlement filing date.

RESPECTULLY SUBMITTED this 29th day of April, 2004.

JAMES M. VAN NOSTRAND
Stoel Rives LLP
Counsel for Northwest Natural Gas
Company

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Attorney General

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Attorney General


GREGORY J. TRAUTMAN
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Counsel for Commission Staff

ROBERT W. CROMWELL
Assistant Attorney General
Public Counsel Section of the
Washington State Attorney
General's Office

EDWARD A. FINKLEA
Cable Huston Benedict, Haagensen & Lloyd LLP
Counsel for Northwest Industrial
Gas Users

RONALD ROSEMAN
Counsel for Citizens' Utility
Alliance of Washington

JOINT NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT IN
PRINCIPLE AND MOTION FOR EXTENSION
OF TIME TO FILE TESTIMONY - 2

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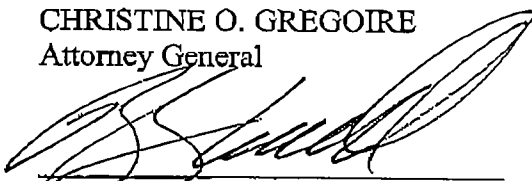
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Counsel for Northwest Natural Gas
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Attorney General

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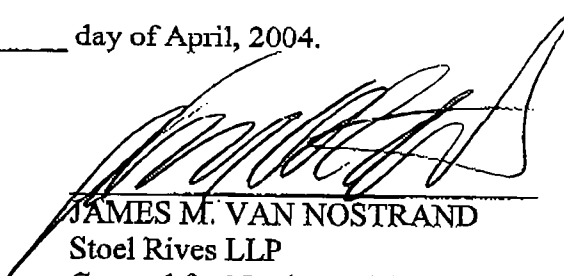
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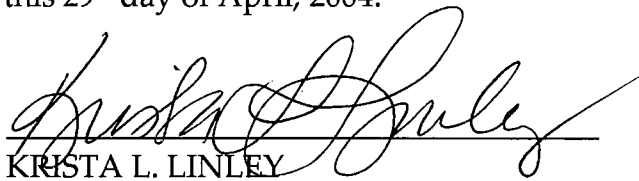
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Docket No. UG-031885
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the persons and entities listed on the Service List below by depositing a copy of said document in the United States mail, addressed as shown on said Service List, with first class postage prepaid.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 29th day of April, 2004.


KRISTA L. LINLEY

James Von Nostrand
Stoel Rives
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