

[Service Date April 30, 2004]

April 30, 2004

**NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR FILING SETTLEMENT PACKAGE  
(By Noon, Friday, May 14, 2004)**

**NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF TESTIMONY FILING DEADLINES  
(By May 21, 2004 and June 18, 2004)**

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Northwest  
Natural Gas Company, Docket No. UG-031885

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On April 29, 2004, Northwest Natural Gas Company (NWN), Commission Staff, Public Counsel, Northwest Industrial Gas Users, and Citizens' Utility Alliance of Washington (collectively, the Parties) notified the Commission that the Parties have reached a settlement in principle on all issues in dispute in this docket.

The Parties request that the Commission set a deadline of May 14, 2004, for filing the settlement package to allow the Parties additional time to finalize the details of the settlement. In addition, in the event that the Parties are unable to file a settlement package by May 14, 2004, the Parties request that the Commission extend the filing dates for responding parties' direct testimony from May 7, 2004, to May 21, 2004, and for Company rebuttal testimony from June 11, 2004, to June 18, 2004. In all other respects the schedule set forth in the Prehearing Conference Order, Order No. 02, dated January 14, 2004 would remain in effect.

The Commission finds that it is consistent with the public interest to facilitate the parties efforts to finalize a settlement in this proceeding. Accordingly, the Commission orders that the parties must file a settlement package for Commission approval **by noon on Friday, May 14, 2004.**

In addition, the Commission extends the filing dates for responding parties' direct testimony to **May 21, 2004**, and for Company rebuttal testimony to **June 18, 2004**, to maintain a procedural schedule in the event the Parties fail to file a settlement package by May 14, 2004.

Sincerely,

KAREN M. CAILLÉ  
Administrative Law Judge