

SERVICE DATE
AUG 25 1992

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	DOCKET NO. UG-920840
Complainant,)	
)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
)	CONFERENCE
vs.)	(September 17, 1992)
)	
WASHINGTON NATURAL)	
GAS COMPANY,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

The Washington Natural Gas Company filed in this cause July 27, 1992, certain tariff revisions designed to effect a general increase in its rates for gas service. The cumulative effect of such tariff revisions is to increase annual revenues by approximately \$41,421,000. The operation of the tariff revisions has been suspended by order of the Commission in this cause pending hearing or hearings concerning such changes and the justness and reasonableness thereof.

Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to adjudicative proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.422, 34.05.440, 34.05.449 and 34.05.452. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW, having legal authority to regulate the rates, services, and practices of gas companies under chapter 80.04 RCW and chapter 80.28 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.28.010, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.050, RCW 80.28.090, RCW 80.28.100, and RCW 80.01.040. In addition to the foregoing statutes, rules involved include those within chapter 480-09 WAC, including WAC 480-09-480, and chapter 480-90 WAC. The ultimate issues involved are whether the tariff revisions are just, reasonable, and sufficient and in the public interest, as well as whether existing rates are just, reasonable, and sufficient, and in the public interest. The issue as to the justness, reasonableness, and sufficiency of the proposed and existing rates includes consideration of alternative rate design or structure. In accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.04.130 the burden of proof to show that the tariff revisions are just and reasonable will be upon the respondent.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a prehearing conference herein will be held at the hour of 9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 17, 1992, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia,

Washington. The time and place for the evidentiary hearings will be set at the prehearing conference or by later written notice. The purpose of said prehearing conference is to consider formulating the issues in the proceeding and determining other matters to aid in its disposition, as specified in WAC 480-09-460. Respondent will be expected to have available at that time for distribution to all parties and interested persons copies of the direct testimony and exhibits that they propose to present. Those documents will at that time be marked as exhibits. Petitions to intervene should be made in writing prior to that date or made orally at that time.

If a limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired party needs an interpreter, a form is attached to this notice to be filled out and returned as indicated, so a qualified interpreter may be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT ANY PARTY WHO FAILS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE PREHEARING CONFERENCE SET HEREIN, OR OTHER STAGE OF THIS PROCEEDING, MAY BE HELD IN DEFAULT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF RCW 34.05.440.

An Administrative Law Judge from the Utilities and Transportation Subdivision of the Office of Administrative Hearings, Third Floor, 2420 Bristol Court SW, Building E, PO BOX 42489, OLYMPIA WA 98504-2489, (206) 753-6403, will be designated to preside at the hearing.

The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant: Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
P O BOX 47250
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7250
(206) 753-6423

Representative: Robert D. Cedarbaum
Jeffrey D. Goltz
Assistant Attorneys General
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
P O BOX 40128
OLYMPIA WA 98504-0128
(206) 753-2282

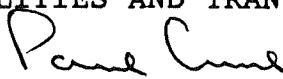
Respondent: Washinton Natural Gas Company
815 Mercer Street
Seattle, WA 98111

Representative: D. Scott Johnson
Attorney at Law
815 Mercer Street
Seattle, WA 98111

Thereafter proper notices will be given as to the time and place for public hearings on respondent's filing for the requested tariff changes.

It is planned that specially designated hearing sessions for the purpose of receiving the testimony of members of the public will be held at a time and place to be set later. The Commission will provide at its offices in Olympia, Washington, current records of the hearing for the use of those who may wish to review them. The Public Counsel Section of the Office of Attorney General has been designated by the Attorney General to represent the public. The address of the Commission, shown below, may be used for inquiries of Public Counsel, or Public Counsel may be contacted directly by writing or calling the address or telephone number listed below. Public Counsel will be able to help members of the public to prepare their testimony if assistance is desired.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION


PAUL CURL
Secretary

August 25, 1992

Inquiries should be addressed to:

The Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Chandler Plaza Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
P O BOX 47250
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7250
(206) 753-6423

or

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900 Fourth Avenue, TB-14
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