

#### 8113 W. GRANDRIDGE BLVD., KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON 99336-7166 TELEPHONE 509-734-4500 FACSIMILE 509-737-9803 www.cngc.com

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February 19, 2020

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission Mr. Mark L. Johnson, Executive Director & Secretary P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Cascade Natural Gas Corporation 2020 Integrated Resource Plan

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On January 21, 2020, a petition was filed my Cascade Natural Gas to move the 2020 IRP filing date from December 14, 2020 to February 26, 2021. On February 6, 2020, the petition was accepted by WUTC. Enclosed for filing is an amendment to Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's Work Plan for its 2020 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP or Plan).

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (509) 734-4546 or Mark Sellers-Vaughn at (509) 734-4589. Alternatively, we may be reached at <a href="mailto:brian.robertson@cngc.com">brian.robertson@cngc.com</a>, <a href="mailto:mark.sellers-vaughn@cngc.com">mark.sellers-vaughn@cngc.com</a>, or at <a href="mailto:IRP@cngc.com">IRP@cngc.com</a>.

Sincerely,

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

**Brian Robertson** 

Supervisor, Resource Planning

**Enclosures** 

# **Purpose of the Integrated Resource Plan**

The primary purpose of Cascade's long-term resource planning process has been, and continues to be, to inform and guide the Company's resource acquisition processes, consistent with the rule (WAC 480-90-238). Input and feedback from the Company's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will continue to be an important resource to help ensure Cascade's IRP is developed from a broader perspective than Cascade could have on its own.

## **Outline of IRP Content:**

The following is an outline of the Company's 2020 IRP plan. Organizational structure of the final IRP may be revised based on results of analysis and feedback received through the planning process.

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Company Overview
- III. Demand Forecast
- IV. Supply Side Resources
- V. Environmental Considerations
- VI. Avoided Costs
- VII. Demand Side Management
- VIII. Resource Integration
  - IX. Distribution System Planning
  - X. Stakeholder Engagement
  - XI. Two-year Action Plan
- XII. Glossary and Maps
- XIII. Appendices

#### 2020 IRP Timeline

The following is Cascade's tentative 2020 IRP timeline:

- Develop Demand Forecast: February 2020 through April 2020
- Distribution System Planning Analysis: March through June 2020
- Gas Supply Analysis: April through July 2020
- Integration of Supply and Energy Efficiency Resources: April through September 2020
- Public Process: Technical Advisory Group Meetings
  - TAG 1: Process, Key Points, IRP Team, Timeline, Regional Market Outlook, Plan for dealing with issues raised in the 2018 IRP. (April 2019)
  - TAG 2: Demand and Customer Forecast and Non-Core Outlook, Drilling down into segments of demand forecast. Upstream Pipeline presentation. (May 2020)
  - TAG 3: Distribution System Planning, Planned Scenarios and Sensitivities, Alternative Resources, Price Forecast, Avoided Costs, Current Supply Resources, Transport Issues. (June 2020)
  - TAG 4: Carbon Impacts, Energy Efficiency, Bio-Natural Gas, Preliminary Resource Integration Results. (August 2020)
  - TAG 5: Final Integration Results, finalization of plan components, Proposed new 4-year Action Plan. (September 2020)
- File Draft 2020 IRP: (November 2020)
- Comments due on draft (December 2020)
- TAG 6 (if needed) (January 2021)
- Final 2020 IRP Filed: on or before February 26, 2021

# **Planning Assumptions**

Information needed to perform analysis will be gathered and input assumptions developed throughout the first nine months of 2020. This will include detailed definitions of alternative scenarios and all primary input assumptions for demand forecasting and resource modeling. Additional planning information will be assimilated into the analytical process and planning information that is not incorporated into the modeling process will continue to be assessed.

### **2020 IRP improvements**

In the 2018 IRP acknowledgment letter, the WUTC Commission noted six observations where they would like to see improvements in the 2020 IRP.

- Validation of methods
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Modeling of significant emergency events
- Clarify distribution system planning priorities
- Continue to monitor renewable natural gas opportunities
- Public Participation

The Company looks forward to working through these improvements with Commission Staff throughout the 2020 IRP.

Date (Subject to change)	State	Process Element	Location (Subject to change)
Wednesday, April 8, 2020	WA	TAG 1 slides distributed to stakeholders	- constant (cons)
Wednesday, April 15, 2020	WA	TAG 1: Process, Key Points, IRP Team, Timeline, Regional Market Outlook, Plan for dealing with issues raised in the 2018 IRP	SeaTac Airport - 9 am to 12 pm
Wednesday, May 13, 2020	WA	TAG 2 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Wednesday, May 27, 2020	WA	TAG 2: Demand and Customer Forecast and Non-Core Outlook, Drilling down into segments of demand forecast. Upstream Pipeline presentation.	SeaTac Airport - 9 am to 12 pm
Wednesday, June 17, 2020	WA	TAG 3 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Wednesday, June 24, 2020	WA	TAG 3: Distribution System Planning, Planned Scenarios and Sensitivities, Alternative Resources, Price Forecast, Avoided Costs, Current Supply Resources, Transport Issues.	SeaTac Airport - 9 am to 12 pm
Wednesday, July 29, 2020	WA	TAG 4 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Thursday, August 6, 2020	WA	TAG 4 Carbon Impacts, Energy Efficiency, Bio-Natural Gas, Preliminary Resource Integration Results.	Community Service Room in Bellingham, WA - 9 am to 3 pm
Wednesday, September 16, 2020	WA	TAG 5 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Wednesday, September 23, 2020	WA	TAG 5: Final Integration Results, finalization of plan components, Proposed new 4-year Action Plan.	SeaTac Airport - 9 am to 12 pm
Tuesday, November 17, 2020	WA	Draft of 2020 WA IRP distributed	
Wednesday, December 23, 2020	WA	Comments due on draft from all stakeholders	
Wednesday, January 27, 2021	WA	TAG 6, if needed	WebEx Only
Friday, February 26, 2021	WA	IRP filing in Washington	