

Docket No. UG-190210 - Vol. II

**Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v.
Cascade Natural Gas Corporation**

September 5, 2019



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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,) DOCKET UG-190210

Complainant,)

vs.)

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION,)

Respondent.)

PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING, VOLUME II

Pages 14-19

CHAIRMAN DANNER, COMMISSIONER RENDAHL AND COMMISSIONER BALASBAS

September 5, 2019 6:02 p.m.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast Lacey, Washington 98503

REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

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LACEY, WASHINGTON; SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 6:02 P.M.

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PROCEEDINGS

CHAIR DANNER: All right. Good evening. Today is September 5th, 2019, and this is a meeting of the Utilities and Transportation Commission.

I'm Dave Danner, and I'm Chair of the Commission. I'm joined by my colleagues, Commissioner Jay Balasbas and Commissioner Ann Rendahl, and we are here this evening for a public hearing -- a public comment hearing in UG-190210, and that is the general rate case for Cascade Natural Gas.

On March 29th, 2019, Cascade filed a request with the UTC to increase gas base rates. The Company proposed a rate increase of 12.7 million or 5.56 percent. Proposed rate, if approved, would increase residential rates by about 6 percent, and average residential customer bills for those customers using about 57 therms per month would be about \$2.84 more per month.

On August 23rd, 2019, the parties notified the UTC they reached an agreement in principle resolving the issues in the case. The UTC has subsequently

A P P E A R A N C E S

COMMISSIONERS:

DAVID DANNER, Chairman ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner JAY BALASBAS, Commissioner Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast Lacey, Washington 98503 (360) 664-1160

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suspended the procedural schedule, and they are going to have a settlement hearing on November 5th. That hearing is where the Commission hears from the parties to the case, and those are Cascade Natural Gas, Commission Staff, the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office, and The Energy Project and the Alliance of Western Energy Customers.

Tonight we wanted to provide an opportunity for members of the public who are not formal parties to the case to share their thoughts with us about this as well. We've received comments from the public in many forms; in email and snail mail and -- and by telephone.

Tonight we are here to take comments in person. I am looking around the room and I see that we have no members of the public participating tonight. I know we have received written comments, and I know we have a phone line available.

Mr. Roberts, have we received any calls from the public tonight?

MR. ROBERTS: This is Andrew Roberts with the Commission's consumer protection section, we have nobody on the line.

CHAIR DANNER: Okay. In that case, we will -- we will adjourn this hearing early tonight. I would -- if anyone is listening but not choosing to

1 comment, I would remind them that we will be receiving
 2 public comments in a variety of ways. We have a web
 3 form at utc.wa.gov/consumers/ and you can click there on
 4 submit a comment link at the top of the web page. You
 5 can also email comments at comments@utc.wa.gov. And we
 6 will receive them by mail at the UTC Post Office Box
 7 47250, Olympia, Washington 98504-7250, and finally by
 8 telephone at 1-888-333-WUTC. So please include your
 9 name and mailing address, and we will be taking those
 10 comments until November 5th, 2019, which is the date of
 11 our settlement hearing.

12 So there's nothing else to come before the
 13 Commission this evening on this matter, we will close
 14 this hearing, and we look forward to receiving more
 15 public comments by mail and in other forms. So with
 16 that, we are adjourned.

17 (Adjourned at 6:07 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

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 3 STATE OF WASHINGTON
 4 COUNTY OF THURSTON
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6 I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand
 7 Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby
 8 certify that the foregoing transcript is true and
 9 accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.
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 12 Tayler Garlinghouse
 13 Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358
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