

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) DOCKET UG-190210
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)
))
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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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

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1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

2 6:02 P.M.

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4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5

6 CHAIR DANNER: All right. Good evening.

7 Today is September 5th, 2019, and this is a meeting of
8 the Utilities and Transportation Commission.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 CHAIR DANNER: Okay. In that case, we
24 will -- we will adjourn this hearing early tonight. I
25 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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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF THURSTON

I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.



Tayler Garlinghouse

Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358