



SERVICE DATE

AUG - 2 2000

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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August 2, 2000

**NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
PARTIAL STIPULATION**

RE: Northwest Natural Gas Rate Case  
Docket UG-000073

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On July 21, 2000, Commission Staff and Northwest Natural Gas Company (Company) filed with the Commission a Partial Stipulation which would settle the cost of capital issues in this proceeding. Article II of the Partial Stipulation states that Commission Staff and the Company agree to an overall rate of return on rate base of 8.95%. Public Counsel and Intervenors have no objection to the Partial Stipulation.

The Commission approves the Partial Stipulation as in the public interest. This ruling will be formally incorporated into the Commission's final order in this case.

Very truly yours,

KAREN M. CAILLÉ

Administrative Law Judge

