

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In re Commission Investigation of the
Pipeline System of Northwest Natural Gas
Company

DOCKET PG-060208

ORDER 01

ORDER ACCEPTING
AGREEMENT AND CLOSING
INVESTIGATION

- 1 This docket involves an inspection by the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) of the natural gas pipeline system owned and operated by Northwest Natural Gas Company (Company) in Clark County, Washington. The Commission Staff conducted the inspection. As a result of the inspection, Commission Staff believes an appropriate way to address certain issues in this docket is through an agreement under which the Company agrees to take specific steps to improve its system, operating policies and procedures, and record keeping.
- 2 On August 8, 2007, the Commission Staff and the Company filed an Agreement consisting of three documents: a "Stipulated Agreement to Close Docket;" Appendix A ("Staff Report of Probable Violations" (September 22, 2006)); and Appendix B ("Company Response to Staff Report" (November 3, 2006)).
- 3 The Agreement states it is not effective until approved by the Commission. According to the Agreement, its effective date is the date the Commission approves it.
- 4 The Commission has reviewed the Agreement and has determined it provides an appropriate basis for concluding this docket, and it is consistent with the public interest. Therefore, the Commission approves the Agreement, and closes the investigation.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 5 (1) Northwest Natural Gas Company operates a gas pipeline distribution system serving the public in Clark County, Washington.
- 6 (2) The Commission Staff conducted an inspection of the Company's gas distribution system, which is summarized in Appendix A of the Agreement. The Company responded to Staff's inspection report in Appendix B of the Agreement.
- 7 (3) The Commission Staff and the Company have entered into the Agreement as an

appropriate resolution of the issues raised by the inspection in this docket.

- 8 (4) The Commission has reviewed the Agreement. The Agreement is an appropriate resolution of the issues raised by the inspection in this docket.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 9 (1) The Commission has jurisdiction under RCW Chapter 80.28 to regulate the safety of the gas plant owned and operated by Northwest Natural Gas Company in Clark County, Washington.
- 10 (2) The Agreement entered into between the Company and the Commission Staff represents an appropriate resolution of the issues raised by the inspection in this docket. The Agreement is in the public interest. The Agreement should be approved, and the investigation in this docket should be closed.
- 11 (3) The effective date of the Agreement is the date of this Order.

ORDER

- 12 It is hereby ordered that the Agreement filed August 8, 2007 is approved, and the investigation in this docket is closed. The Commission retains jurisdiction to effectuate the terms of this order, including enforcement of the Agreement, if necessary.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective August __, 2007.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

PATRICK OSHIE, Commissioner