

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UG-152286
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER 03
Complainant,)	
)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
v.)	ORDER; NOTICE OF HEARING
)	(Set for August 2, 2016)
CASCADE NATURAL GAS)	
CORPORATION,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING.** On December 1, 2015, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3, designed to effect a rate increase for natural gas service provided to customer in the state of Washington. Cascade requests an increase in annual revenues by approximately \$10.5 million, or 4.17 percent. Cascade agreed to the suspension of the tariff revisions. The Commission suspended operation of the tariffs on December 21, 2015, by Order 01 entered in this docket.

2 **CONFERENCE.** The Commission convened a prehearing conference in this docket at Olympia, Washington on January 26, 2016, before Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta.

3 **APPEARANCES.** Lisa Rackner, McDowell Rackner & Gibson PC, Portland, Oregon, represents Cascade. Chad M. Stokes, Cable Huston LLP, Portland, Oregon, represents Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU). Brad M. Purdy, Attorney at Law, Boise, Idaho, represents The Energy Project. Lisa W. Gafken, Assistant Attorney General, Seattle, Washington, represents the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington State Attorney General’s Office (Public Counsel). Brett P. Shearer, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia, Washington, represents the Commission’s regulatory staff (Commission Staff

or Staff).¹ Contact information provided at the conference for the parties' representatives is attached as Appendix A to this order.

4 **PETITIONS FOR INTERVENTION.** NWIGU and The Energy Project filed petitions to intervene in these dockets. No party objected to any of the petitions for intervention. The Commission grants the petitions to intervene by NWIGU and The Energy Project.

5 **CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC SERVICE.** All parties have agreed to service electronically. The Commission, therefore, may serve only electronic copies of notices and orders in this docket to the party and representative email addresses on file with the Commission.

6 **PROTECTIVE ORDER.** The Commission entered a protective order as Order 02 in this docket on December 21, 2015.

7 **DISCOVERY.** Order 01 provides that discovery will be conducted under the Commission's discovery rules, WAC 480-07-400 – 425. The Commission urges the parties to work cooperatively together to avoid having to bring discovery matters forward for formal resolution. Response times to data requests will be adjusted as set forth in Appendix B.

8 **PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE.** The parties agreed on a procedural schedule during the conference. The Commission adopts this procedural schedule, which is attached to this Order as Appendix B.

9 **DOCUMENT PREPARATION AND FILING REQUIREMENTS.** Parties must file an original plus five (5) copies of all pleadings, motions, briefs, and other prefiled materials. These materials must conform to the format and publication guidelines in WAC 480-07-395 and WAC 480-07-460. The Commission prefers that materials be three-hole punched with *oversized* holes to allow easy handling. The Commission may require a party to refile any document that fails to conform to these standards.

¹ In formal proceedings such as this, the Commission's regulatory staff participates like any other party, while the Commissioners make the decision. To assure fairness, the Commissioners, the presiding administrative law judge, and the Commissioners' policy and accounting advisors do not discuss the merits of this proceeding with the regulatory staff, or any other party, without giving notice and opportunity for all parties to participate. *See* RCW 34.05.455.

- 10 All filings must be mailed or delivered to the Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W. Olympia, Washington 98504-7250. Both the post office box and street address are required to expedite deliveries by the U.S. Postal Service.
- 11 Parties must provide electronic copies of all documents in native Microsoft software (*e.g.*, Word 6.0 (or later), Excel, etc.) and in searchable .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) format except as otherwise provided in the Commission's procedural rules. Parties must submit these electronic copies through the Commission's Web Portal (www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing) or by e-mail delivery to records@utc.wa.gov by 5:00 p.m. on the filing deadline established in the procedural schedule and must submit the original and paper copies by 5:00 p.m. on the first business day following the filing deadline as provided in WAC 480-07-145(6). Parties may submit electronic copies of voluminous documents on a flash drive, DVD, or CD by the filing deadline. Parties must follow WAC 480-07-140(5) in organizing and identifying electronic files. To perfect filing, parties must simultaneously serve the other parties and provide e-mail courtesy copies of filings to the presiding administrative law judge (gkopta@utc.wa.gov).
- 12 **EXHIBITS FOR CROSS-EXAMINATION.** Parties are required to file with the Commission and serve all proposed cross-examination exhibits by **5:00 p.m. on July 26, 2016**. The Commission requires electronic copies (in native format, if available, and searchable Adobe Acrobat (.pdf)) and one paper copy of the exhibits. If any of the exhibits contain information that is designated as confidential or highly confidential, the party must also file one electronic copy (in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf)) and one paper copy of the redacted version of each such exhibit. The exhibits must be grouped according to the witness the party intends to cross examine with the exhibits. The paper copies of the exhibits also must be organized into sets that are tabbed and labeled.
- 13 **EXHIBIT LISTS.** With each submission of prefiled testimony and exhibits, the party making the submission must include a preliminary exhibit list that identifies each submitted exhibit in the format the Commission uses for the exhibit lists it prepares for evidentiary hearings. Cascade will prepare and file its preliminary exhibit list for its initial filing in this docket. Each party must file and serve a final list of all exhibits the party intends to introduce into the evidentiary record, including all prefiled testimony and exhibits, as well as cross-examination exhibits, by **5:00 p.m., July 26, 2016**.

- 14 **CROSS-EXAMINATION TIME ESTIMATES.** Each party must provide a list of witnesses the party intends to cross-examine at the evidentiary hearing and an estimate of the time that party anticipates the cross-examination of that witness will take. Parties should not file witness lists or cross-examination time estimates but must provide them to the administrative law judge and the other parties by **5:00 p.m., July 26, 2016.**
- 15 **NOTICE OF HEARING.** The Commission will hold an evidentiary hearing in this matter on **Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington. The hearing will continue, as necessary, on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, and Thursday, August 4, 2016, in the Commission's Hearing Room.**
- 16 **ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The Commission supports the informal settlement of matters before it. Parties are encouraged to consider means of resolving disputes informally. The Commission has limited ability to provide dispute resolution services. If you wish to explore those services, please contact Gregory J. Kopta, Director, Administrative Law Division (gkopta@utc.wa.gov or 360-664-1355).
- 17 **NOTICE TO PARTIES: A party who objects to any portion of this Order must file a written objection within ten (10) calendar days after the service date of this Order, pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810. The service date appears on the first page of the order in the upper right-hand corner. Absent such objection, this Order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.**

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective January 27, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

GREGORY J. KOPTA
Administrative Law Judge

**APPENDIX A
PARTIES' REPRESENTATIVES
DOCKET UG-152286**

PARTY	REPRESENTATIVE	PHONE	E-MAIL
Cascade Natural Gas Corporation	Michael Parvinen Director, Regulatory Affairs 8113 W. Grandridge Boulevard Kennewick, WA 99336-7166	509-734-4593	Michael.parvinen@cngc.com
	Lisa Rackner McDowell Rackner & Gibson PC 419 SW 11 th Avenue, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97205	503-595-3925	lisa@mcd-law.com
	Maryalice Rosales		Maryalice.rosales@cngc.com
	Pamela Archer		Pamela.archer@cngc.com
	Jocelyn Pease		jocelyn@mcd-law.com
	Wendy McIndoo		wendy@mcd-law.com
NWIGU	Edward Finklea Executive Director 545 Grandview Drive Ashland, OR 97520	541-708-6338	efinklea@nwigu.org
	Chad M. Stokes Cable Huston LLP 1001 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97204-1136	503-224-3092	cstokes@cablehuston.com
	Tommy A. Brooks		tbrooks@cablehuston.com
	Shannon Kimmel		skimmel@cablehuston.com
	Mike Gorman		mgorman@consultbai.com
The Energy Project	Opportunity Council 3406 Redwood Ave. Bellingham, WA 98225		
	Brad M. Purdy Attorney at Law 2019 N. 17 th St. Boise, ID 83702	208-384-1299	bmpurdy@hotmail.com
Commission Staff	Brett P. Shearer Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	360-664-1187	bshearer@utc.wa.gov
	Andrew J. O'Connell	360-664-1192	aocConnell@utc.wa.gov
	Krista Gross		kgross@utc.wa.gov
	Betsy DeMarco		bdemarco@utc.wa.gov

PARTY	REPRESENTATIVE	PHONE	E-MAIL
Public Counsel	Lisa W. Gafken Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Public Counsel Unit 800 5 th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188	206-464-6595	Lisaw4@atg.wa.gov
	Simon J. ffitc		simonf@atg.wa.gov
	Chanda Mak		chandam@atg.wa.gov
	Kym Bostelle		kymh@atg.wa.gov
	Stefanie Johnson		stefaniej@atg.wa.gov
	Lea Fisher		lead@atg.wa.gov

APPENDIX B
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
DOCKET UG-152286

EVENT	DATE
Company Direct Testimony	December 1, 2015
Public Notice Report	February 26, 2016
Company-filed Issue List	March 9, 2016
Settlement Conference (parties only)	April 14, 2016
Staff, Public Counsel and Intervenor Response Testimony and Exhibits	May 4, 2016 ²
Settlement Conference (parties only)	May 17, 2016
Joint Issue List	May 27, 2016
Company Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits; Staff, Public Counsel and Intervenor Cross-Answering Testimony and Exhibits	June 10, 2016 ³
Public Comment Hearing	TBD (Exact date and location to be determined)
Discovery Cut-off ⁴	July 6, 2016
Exhibit Lists, Cross-Examination Exhibits, Witness Lists, and Time Estimates	July 26, 2016
Evidentiary Hearing	August 2-4, 2016
Post-Hearing Briefs and Updates Issue List	September 2, 2016
Suspension Date	November 1, 2016

² Response time to data requests will be 7 business days after this date.

³ Response time to data requests will be 5 business days after this date.

⁴ Response time to data requests will be 5 business days after this date.