

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY

For Waiver of WAC 480-143-190
.....

DOCKET UG-020311

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER
OF RULES

BACKGROUND

1 On March 11, 2002, Northwest Natural Gas Company (NWN) filed with the
Commission a petition requesting a waiver of the filing due date requirement in WAC
480-143-190. WAC 480-143-190 requires that each utility report annually (by March
1st) certain property transfers made without Commission authorization. Along with
the petition NWN filed the information report required by WAC 480-143-190.

2 NWN reports that its Vancouver District Office was sold to Clark County Public
Transportation District in December 2001, in lieu of condemnation proceedings.
NWN proposes to defer the gain on the sale until it can find a new location for its
Vancouver District operations center, at which time the gain will go to offset the cost
of the new operations center. (Note: Authorization to transfer the property is not
required for sales to special purpose districts per RCW 80.12.020.)

3 Commission Staff has discussed with NWN their reason for filing the request for
waiver and report subsequent to the due date. NWN indicated that the responsible
person was unable to request a waiver or comply timely with the rule due to
circumstances beyond that person's control.

FINDINGS

4 (1) NWN is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of this
Commission under the provisions of Title 80 RCW.

5 (2) The waiver of WAC 480-143-190, and the proposed treatment of the gain as
described above, is reasonable and consistent with the public interest and the
Commission should approve NWN's Request.

6 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled
open meeting on April 10, 2002. The Commission having determined this
order to be consistent with the public interest, enters this Order.

ORDER

7 THE COMMISSION GRANTS The request for waiver of Northwest Natural Gas Company for an exemption from the filing date requirement established in WAC 480-143-190.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 10th day of April, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner