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April 28, 2016

Mr. Steven V. King, Executive Director & Secretary Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's 2016 Integrated Resource Plan Work Plan (UG-\_\_\_\_\_)

Dear Mr. King:

Pursuant to WAC 480-90-238(4), enclosed for filing is Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's updated Work Plan for its 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP or Plan). This document provides an outline of the content for the Plan, the timing of the plan development and the method for assessing potential resources.

Cascade will be developing a range of demand forecasts, examine all feasible resources for meeting that demand whether they are supply-side or demand side and compare them on an equal basis, considering the uncertainty over the planning horizon, develop a 2 year action plan and involve the public and the various stakeholders in the planning process. Additionally, Cascade will address the component concerns identified in the Commission's April 14, 2016 letter regarding Cascade's 2014 IRP (UG-140008).

If you have any questions regarding the Work Plan, please contact me at (509) 734-4589 (email at <a href="mark.sellers-vaughn@cngc.com">mark.sellers-vaughn@cngc.com</a>) or Brian Robertson at (509) 734-4546 (email at <a href="mark.sellers-vaughn@cngc.com">brian.robertson@cngc.com</a>).

Sincerely,

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

Mark Sellers-Vaughn

Manager, Supply Resource Planning

**Enclosures** 

## Cascade Natural Gas Corporation 2016 IRP Work Plan (UG-\_\_\_\_)

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's ("Cascade" or "the Company") Work Plan for its 2016 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") is filed pursuant to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) IRP rules (WAC 480-90-238).

### Purpose of the Integrated Resource Plan/Key Issues for 2016 IRP

The primary purpose of Cascade's long-term resource planning process has been, and continues to be, to inform and guide the Company's resource acquisition processes, consistent with the rule (WAC 480-90-238). Input and feedback from the Company's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will continue to be an important resource to help ensure Cascade's IRP is developed from a broader perspective than Cascade could have on its own.

#### **Outline of IRP Content:**

The following is an outline of the Company's 2016 IRP plan. Organizational structure of the final IRP may be revised based on results of analysis and feedback received through the planning process.

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Introduction & Planning Overview
- III. Demand Forecast
- IV. Distribution System Enhancements
- V. Demand Side Resources
- VI. Supply Side Resources
- VII. Resource Integration
- VIII. Two-Year Action Plan
  - IX. Appendices

#### 2016 IRP Timeline

The following is Cascade's tentative 2016 IRP timeline (we anticipate all meetings will be held at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Conference Center):

- Develop Demand Forecast: May through July 2016
- Distribution System Planning Analysis: May through August 2016
- Demand Side Resource Analysis: May through August 2016
- Gas Supply Analysis: May through September 2016
- Integration of Supply and Conservation Resources: May through October 2016
- Public Process: Technical Advisory Group Meetings (tentative dates)
  - TAG 1: Process, Key Assumptions, IRP Team, Timeline, Latest Economic Indicators, Price Forecast and Demand Forecast, Plan for dealing with issues raised in 2014 IRP (June 2016)
  - TAG 2: Drilling down into segments of demand forecast, Current Supply Resources, Transport Issues, Alternative Resources, Carbon/environmental concerns, Update on 2 Year Plan (July 2016)
  - TAG 3: Conservation, Distribution System Planning, Planned Scenarios and Sensitivities (August 2016)
  - TAG 4: Preliminary Resource Integration Results, Avoided Costs, Proposed new 2 year Plan (September 2016)
  - TAG 5: Final Integration Results, finalization of plan components (October 2016)
- File Draft 2016 IRP: (October 2016)
- Comments due on draft (November 2016)
- TAG 6 (if needed) (November 2016)
- Final 2016 IRP Filed: on or before December 15, 2016

#### Planning Assumptions

Information needed to perform analysis will be gathered and input assumptions developed throughout Spring and early Summer 2016. This will include detailed definitions of alternative scenarios and all primary input assumptions for demand forecasting and resource modeling. Additional planning information will be assimilated into the analytical process and planning information that is not incorporated into the modeling process will continue to be assessed.

# Cascade Natural Gas Corporation 2016 IRP Work Plan (UG-\_\_\_\_)

Date	Process Element	Location (Subject to change)
Thursday, June 09, 2016	TAG 1 sliides distributed to stakeholders	
Thursday, June 16, 2016	TAG 1: Process, Key Assumptions, IRP Team, Timeline, Latest Economic Indicators, Price Forecast and Demand Forecast, Plan for dealing with issues	Seattle Airport Conference Center
	raised in 2014 IRP	
Thursday, July 14, 2016	TAG 2 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Wednesday, July 20, 2016	TAG 2: Drilling down into segments of demand forecast, Current Supply Resources, Transport Issues, Alternative Resources, Update on 2 Year Plan	Seattle Airport Conference Center
Friday, August 12, 2016	TAG 3 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Thursday, August 18, 2016	TAG 3: Conservation, Distribution System Planning, Planned Scenarios and Sensitivities	Seattle Airport Conference Center
Thursday, September 08, 2016	TAG 4 slides distributed to stakeholders	
Thursday, September 15, 2016	TAG 4: Preliminary Resource Integration Results, Avoided Costs, Proposed new 2 year Plan	Seattle Airport Conference Center
Tuesday, October 04, 2016	TAG 5: Final Integration Results, finalization of plan components	Seattle Airport Conference Center
Monday, October 17, 2016	Draft of 2016 IRP distributed	Kennewick, WebEx
Monday, November 07, 2016	Comments due on draft from all stakeholders	
Thursday, November 17, 2016	TAG 6, if needed	Seattle Airport Conference Center
Wednesday, November 23, 2016	Final IRP goes to press	
Thursday, December 01, 2016	Executive Summary Presentation to Senior Management	Kennewick, WebEx
Thursday, December 15, 2016	IRP filing in Washington	
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