

SERVICE DATE

APR 24 1996

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	DOCKET NO. UG-960452
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION,	)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
	)	REVISIONS AND ORDERING
	)	TEMPORARY RATES
Respondent.	)	
.....	)	

On April 1, 1996, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation filed with the Commission under its Advice No. CNG/W96-03-01, a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3 designated as Fifteenth Revision Sheet No. 595. The stated effective date is May 1, 1996.

The filing herein would reduce charges and rates for natural gas service rendered by respondent. However, the Commission finds that the Company has not demonstrated that the rates proposed will be fair, just, and reasonable in that the proposed rates may be too high even after to proposed reductions. Therefore, because the rights and interests of the public might be injuriously affected thereby, it is the decision of the Commission to enter upon public hearing or hearings concerning such changes and the reasonableness and justness thereof and to suspend the operation of the above tariff revision pending such hearing or hearings and decision thereon. However, because the Staff and the Company agree that the rates should at least be reduced to levels as filed and that it is in the public interest to approve such rates on a temporary basis, the Commission shall allow such revised filed rates to be effective on a temporary basis subject to further reductions and refunds dependent upon the outcome of the proceedings ordered herein.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The operation of the above tariff revision, filed herein April 1, 1996, is hereby suspended.

2. A hearing or hearings, on the Commission's own motion, shall be held at such times and places as may be required.

3. No change or alteration shall be made in the tariff revision filed herein, during the period of suspension, unless authorized by the Commission.

4. During the pendency of this proceeding, the revised rates filed by the Company shall be in effect, effective May 1, 1996, on a temporary basis, subject to further reductions and refunds.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 24th day of April, 1996.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



SHARON L. NELSON, Chairman



RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner



WILLIAM R. GILLIS, Commissioner