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Meeting Title:	CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION GAS SUPPLY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (GSOC) MEETING MINUTES						
Date of Meeting:	July 9, 2019 2:30 PM until 3:55 PM (Pacific Time)						
Location:	Conference Call #: (888) 503-	Conference Call #: (888) 503-1226, Conference Code #: 7502912118, press # to join					
Name	Job Title	E-mail Address	GSOC Member Eligible to Vote	Comment			
Naina Agarwal	Internal Controls Coord, Sr						
Kent Bayazitoglu	Director of Market Analytics			Gelber & Associates			
Mark Chiles	VP, Reg Affairs & Cust Svc						
Kevin Connell	Dir, Gas Supply		Y	Unable to attend			
Patrick Darras	VP, Engineering & Operation Services		Y				
Ashton Davis	Resource Planning Analyst I						
Art Gelber	President			Gelber & Associates			
Brian Hoyle	Financial Analyst II						
Scott Madison	EVP, Bus Dev & Gas Supply		Y	GSOC Chair			
Devin McGreal	Resource Planning Analyst I						
Daniel Myers	Market Analyst			Gelber & Associates			
Isaac Myhrum	Regulatory Analyst II						
Tammy Nygard	Controller - Utility Group		Y				
Michael Parvinen	Dir, Regulatory Affairs		Y				
Brian Robertson Mark Sellers- Vaughn	Supv, Resource Planning Manager, Supply Resource Planning EVP, Regulatory Affairs &			Recording Secretary			
Garret Senger	CAO		Y				
Carolyn Stone	Gas Supply Analyst III						
Eric Wood	Supv, Gas Supply						
Prepared by:	Mark Sellers-Vaughn, Carolyn Stone						
Materials Provided:	Presentation - Hedge Execution Plan Recommendation to GSOC						

## AGENDA

- Hedge Execution RolesPrevious Year Hedged Percentages Results
- Market Outlook
- Gelber & Associates Hedge Recommendation
- Other Important Notices

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## MEETING DISCUSSION

Sellers-Vaughn noted a quorum was present (5 of 6 members). Sellers-Vaughn welcomed the attendees and noted receipt of the 2018 WA IRP acknowledgement letter. Pointed out that WUTC expects Cascade to model an Enbridge type event in next IRP.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 2019 Hedge Execution Plan (HEP). He also asked attendees to keep in mind that the HEP does not change the physical portfolio volumes. We will still buy the supply needed at the various basins to meet the demand. The physical portfolio is sourced to meet actual demand as always. Sellers-Vaughn stated that it has been a very active period for the internal team and Gelber. Unfortunately, portions of the timeline have been stretched a bit, but the transition continues. Finally, he noted that this is Cascade's last transition year from the current hedging plan to the new hedge program that GSOC authorized earlier this year. Other than establishing the thresholds, the basic principles of the HEP elements are consistent with hedging discussions held with GSOC over the past year.

The discussion then turned to a review of the hedge execution roles (see below). It was noted that the Policy Management Committee should listed as the Management Policy Committee.

ROLE	ASSIGNED TO	TITLE	
Corporate Authority to Hedge	Policy Management	President MDUR	
	Committee	President MDUG	
		VP, Treasurer & Controller MDUR	
Oversight and authorization of	Gas Supply Oversight		
Cascade's Hedge Program	Committee		
Final Transaction Approval (upon receipt of signed agreement from counterparty	Scott Madison	EVP, Business Development & Gas Supply	
Hedge Execution Director	Kevin Connell	Director, Gas Supply	
Delegated Execution Primary	Eric Wood	Supervisor, Gas Supply	
Delegated Execution Secondary	Chris Robbins	Manager, Gas Supply & Controls	
Deal Capture	Carolyn Stone	Gas Supply Analyst III	
Confirmation Review	Mark Sellers-Vaughn	Manager, Supply Resource Planning	

Gelber & Associates (G&A) reviewed the previous year's hedged percentages results:



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G&A noted that the savings estimate was based upon hedges compared to monthly indexed prices.

The reason for the gains was due to the Enbridge event. This primarily impacted Sumas prices, particularly in March. That is where the significant savings occurred.

G&A then moved on to discuss highlights of their market outlook. They noted the following:

- NYMEX Henry Hub benchmark prices have tumbled to three-year lows this summer due • to record production and quickly rising storage inventories.
  - Demand growth (LNG, Industrial, Mexican exports, Power) not far behind; price risk remains.
- Historically, the Pacific Northwest (PNW) basins have had a strong correlation to prices in the rest of the country, namely NYMEX Henry Hub.
  - Correlation has weakened in recent years due to falling Northwest prices, • especially at the AECO hub.
  - The Enbridge incident further broke the pricing relationship with the rest of the country as Sumas prices skyrocketed this past winter.
  - G&A expects Enbridge to be fully repaired by November 2019, although Sumas • will remain the most expensive basin for winter 2019/2020.
- G&A expects a strong correlation to return, although PNW locations will often trade at a • discount to NYMEX during non-peak periods.
- Year 2 and Year 3 remain the best value

G&A then provided attendees with G&A's hedge recommendation. A summary of their recommendation is provided below.

- The transition to the new Hedge Program continues.
- Mechanisms to handle financial transactions should be fully tested and implemented in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.
- G&A recommends that Cascade continue to hedge primarily with fixed-price physicals • until financial mechanisms are in place.
- G&A recommends the implementing financial instruments, when economically appropriate, to increase the offering of hedge tools.
- In general, G&A believes there is value in all forward purchases, particularly Year 2 and • Year 3.
- G&A's end of season hedge volume recommendations are as follows:
  - Year 1 (November 2019 through October 2020) 40% (from 20% start)
  - Year 2 (November 2020 through October 2021) 40% (from 5% start)
  - Year 3 (November 2021 through October 2022) 20% (from 0% start)

Sellers-Vaughn noted the hedge program approved by GSOC now allows Cascade to hedge using NYMEX Henry Hub, in addition to the regular pricing basins.

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There was some brief discussion involving the GSOC membership (Members or Membership) on whether the WUTC considers storage as a hedge under the new WUTC guidelines. Since the value of storage layers are currently booked as a fixed price, the membership felt it was a hedge but wasn't' sure if the WUTC saw it that way. Sellers-Vaughn indicated we will hopefully get some clarification about this when Cascade files the 2019 Annual Hedge Plan with the Commission later this summer.

G&A stated that recording systems will be in place by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and plan to implement financials during this time frame.

It was pointed out that the Commission expects financials as part of the company's risk management toolbox.



However, if the

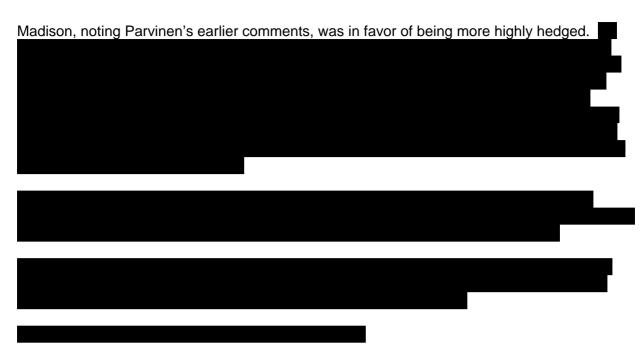
Enbridge shortfalls continue this winter, it would also cause the price at other basins to rise. The upside risks would be higher if that occurs. That is part of the calculation of how much to hedge looking at VaR Up and VaR Down to protect against the pipeline not being back to full capacity. A percentage of the market that is going to be at Sumas is already priced at an escalated level because of the fear.

Madison felt that based institutional knowledge of the qualitative risks associated with uncertainty at Enbridge, pricing is attractive, and the downside risk is low.



Madison expressed that there is some risk that Enbridge won't be back to full capacity in time. Robbins agreed and noted that prices would rise in that situation. Sellers-Vaughn felt that Parvinen's concerns are valid about not hedging more compared to the other regional LDCs. He reminded attendees that there has been some past concern expressed by the commission because we have historically hedged lower than the other LDCs. It was noted that the Commission also recognizes that Cascade is still in transition to the new program. Still, the Commission will expect to see demonstrative progress in implementing a more risk responsive program.

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Sellers-Vaughn also provided the following information:

- GSOC will be informed (via email and return receipt) prior to notable deviations from the • HEP. An example of a deviation would be actions that would change the end of year hedge percentage target by more than 500 basis points.
  - Example: A purchase that changes the end of year hedge percentage from 20% • to 26% would be deemed a notable deviation to the HEP while a purchase that changed the end of year hedge percentage from 20% to 24% would not.
- Unwinding financial derivatives requires authorization from the Policy Management Committee
- GSOC reserves all other hedging authority subject to MDUR Corporate Derivative Policy 21.14.

## **Action Items**

Agenda Item	Decision Made
Gelber & Associates Hedge Recommendation	GSOC approved the Hedge Execution Plan as presented with the following modifications:

ID	Actions Required:	Person(s) Assigned	Open Date	Due Date/ Status
1	Modify Hedge Execution Plan to reflect GSOC's decision above	M Sellers- Vaughn	7/9/2019	7/23/2019

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