Exh. ANH-6 Docket UG-200568 Witness: Aimee N. Higby

# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

**DOCKET UG-200568** 

Complainant,

v.

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION,

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO TESTIMONY OF

Aimee N. Higby

STAFF OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Cascade Response to UTC Staff Data Request No. 88

November 19, 2020

### Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

v.

## Cascade Natural Gas Corporation UTC STAFF Data Request UG-200568

#### Request No. 88

Date prepared: 9/2/2020

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#### **UTC STAFF DATA REQUEST NO. 88:**

**Re: Weather Normalization** 

The Joint Settlement Agreement in Docket UG-152286 provides that the Company shall "use an alternative way of reporting monthly usage if unbilled therms are not trued up monthly: align heating degree days with billing cycles on a monthly basis, rather than using monthly usage data that includes gross estimates of unbilled therms." (UG-152286 Order 04, Exhibit A, paragraph 44, subsection (f)).

Please describe whether and how the Company complies with this settlement term regarding monthly usage data as provided in Exh. BLR-2.

#### **Response:**

Cascade's unbilled therm process is trued up annually in the month of August. Cascade attempted to align heating degree days with billing cycles in the 2017 GRC, UG-170929, where pipeline data was used to align heating degree days with actual daily usage. This methodology also required an allocation using shifted billing cycles to allocate the pipeline usage data to the appropriate rate schedules. Staff expressed concern with this methodology, so Cascade and the UTC agree to continue using the agreed weather normalization methodology. Outside of a load study, Cascade does not believe there is a better way to align HDDs with actual usage than the existing unbilled adjustment.