

BEFORE THE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request by Washington)	
Natural Gas Company for a Waiver to)	
Operate the Redmond Eight Inch, High)	DOCKET NO. UG-951278
Pressure Supply Main Pipeline at a Pressure)	
of 300 psig Within One Hundred Feet of)	ORDER GRANTING
Buildings Intended for Human Occupancy)	TEMPORARY, CONDITIONAL
(WAC 480-93-030).)	WAIVER
.....)	

On November 1, 1995, Washington Natural Gas Company (WNG), a Washington Corporation, filed a request for a waiver of WAC 480-93-030, Proscribed areas, to operate the Redmond eight inch high-pressure supply main pipeline at pressures up to 300 psig within one hundred feet of buildings intended for human occupancy.

FINDING OF FACT

1. WNG has provided documentation that the maximum allowable operating pressure of this pipeline had been established at 200 psig as a result of operating pressures between 1965 and 1970, in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 192.619(c).
2. WNG has provided documentation that this pipeline has been operating at pressures in excess of 200 psig since November 3, 1971, and consequently, in violation of 49 CFR, part 192.619 during that same time period.
3. WNG has performed a comprehensive uprate procedure, as required by 49 CFR, part 192.557 and WAC 480-93-155, and established a maximum allowable operating pressure of 250 psig for this pipeline.
4. WNG has submitted a request for a waiver of WAC 480-93-030 to operate this pipeline at pressures up to 300 psig within one hundred feet of buildings intended for human occupancy.
5. WNG has provided documentation that the Redmond high pressure pipeline cannot provide adequate capacity to meet the existing demand at pressures of 250 psig or less.
6. Staff has found anomalies during the preliminary review of this pipeline that require further evaluation to determine their effects upon the safe operation of this pipeline at pressures in excess of 250 psig.
7. Staff has found nothing that would preclude the safe operation of this pipeline at a pressure of 300 psig.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. The request by Washington Natural Gas Company for a waiver of WAC 480-93-030, Proscribed areas, shall be granted on an temporary basis with the following conditions:

a. During the temporary period, WNG shall be allowed to operate the Redmond eight inch, high-pressure supply main pipeline at pressures up to 300 psig.

b. This waiver shall be in effect for 180 days from the date of this Order to allow WNG the ability to provide adequate capacity to its customers and allow the WUTC staff sufficient time to properly evaluate the integrity and safety of this pipeline.

c. WNG shall perform a comprehensive uprate procedure to establish a maximum allowable operating pressure of 300 psig, as required by 49 CFR, Part 192.557 and WAC 480-93-155.

d. WNG shall review the maximum allowable operating pressure of all high pressure supply main pipelines within ninety days to ensure safe operations and compliance with 49 CFR, Part 192.619.

2. The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter to effectuate the provisions of this order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 8th day of November, 1995.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



SHARON L. NELSON, CHAIRMAN



RICHARD HEMSTAD, COMMISSIONER



WILLIAM R. GILLIS, COMMISSIONER