

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In re Commission Investigation of the Gas
Pipeline System of the City of Enumclaw

DOCKET PG-051609

JOINT MOTION TO AMEND
STIPULATED AGREEMENT TO
CLOSE DOCKET

I. INTRODUCTION

1 In Order 01, issued on December 13, 2006, the Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission (Commission) approved a Stipulated Agreement to Close
Docket (Agreement), entered into by Commission Staff (Staff) and the City of Enumclaw
(City) and filed on November 20, 2006. Staff and the City filed an Addendum to the
Agreement on June 25, 2007. Paragraph 10 (or Section 4) of the Agreement required that
the City assign an employee to the role of “Natural Gas Systems Manager” and required that
this person not have responsibilities outside the management of the City’s gas system. The
City subsequently hired a Natural Gas Systems Manager in compliance with the Agreement,
and also hired support staff to assist the Natural Gas Systems Manager.

2 On January 28, 2014, the City filed a letter with the Commission requesting that
Section 4 of the Agreement be amended so that the City’s provision of additional support
staffing for the Natural Gas Systems Manager can result in some flexibility with respect to
the duties that the Natural Gas Systems Manager can perform. *See Attachment A* to this
Motion. Staff and the City subsequently agreed on an Amendment to Paragraph 10 (Section
4) of the Agreement to accomplish this purpose, which is set out below, and present this

Joint Motion to Amend the Stipulated Agreement, and Modify Order 01 pursuant to WAC
480-07-875.

II. PROPOSED AMENDMENT

3 Commission Staff and the City of Enumclaw propose to amend Paragraph 10 (Section
4) of the Agreement, by adding the word, "significant," as follows:

4. The City agrees to assign an employee to the role of "Natural Gas Systems Engineer" or "Natural Gas Systems Manager." This person shall be knowledgeable of the applicable federal and state pipeline safety regulations and experienced in the operation of gas distribution systems. This person shall also coordinate all work of the City's gas system personnel and be responsible for maintaining up to date plans, procedures and records as required under such regulations. The Parties understand that it is critical that this person not have significant responsibilities outside the management of City's gas system. The City will also maintain other staff dedicated to the maintenance and operation of its system, including an Operations Supervisor and, at minimum, three qualified workers and a technician. No later than June 30, 2007, the City will have in place the staffing described in this section.

(Emphasis added).

4 The sole change to the Agreement is the addition of the word "significant" to Section
4. The Stipulated Agreement, with the Addendum, is unchanged in all other respects.

5 The parties also request that Order 01 be modified accordingly to permit the above
Amendment to the Stipulated Agreement to Close Docket.

III. NARRATIVE IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

6 Under WAC 480-07-875(1), the Commission may alter or amend any order that it has
issued after notice to the public service company affected and to all parties in the proceeding.
Any order amending a prior order will have the same effect as any other final order when
served upon the public service company affected.

7 Under the original terms of the Agreement, the City's Natural Gas Systems Manager
was required to have no responsibilities outside the management of the gas system. With the

proposed Amendment, the Agreement will provide that this person shall not have significant responsibilities outside management of the gas system. Since the Commission approved the Agreement in 2006, the City has hired a Natural Gas Systems Manager as well as staff to assist him. The City is considering additional staffing to assist the Natural Gas Systems Manager. The City believes that this additional staffing will enable the current Natural Gas Systems Manager to potentially provide assistance to the City in other areas of City operations, utilizing his experience and expertise for the City's benefit. The performance of these additional duties would not result in any work related to management of the gas system being left undone. See Attachment A. The proposed Amendment would provide the City with this flexibility. The proposed Amendment, therefore, balances the practical needs of the City, as described in Attachment A, with the public interest in insuring that the Gas Manager's primary and significant responsibilities remain at all times with the City's gas system. This is in the public interest.

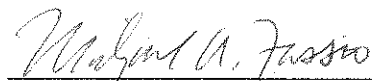
IV. CONCLUSION

Commission Staff and the City of Enumclaw jointly request that the Commission approve the proposed Amendment to the Stipulated Agreement to Close Docket, and modify Order 01 accordingly.


Dated this 24th day of February, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT W. FERGUSON
Attorney General



MICHAEL A. FASSIO
Assistant Attorney General
Counsel for Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission Staff



MICHAEL J. REYNOLDS
City Attorney
Counsel for City of Enumclaw

Attachment A



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

January 27, 2014

Steven V. King
Executive Director
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Request to Amend Nov 2006 Docket No. UG-051609

Dear Mr. King:

In November 2006, Stipulated Agreement to Close Docket No UG-051609 was signed by the City of Enumclaw and UTC staff. Section 4 of the agreement contained the following provision:

4. The City agrees to assign an employee to the role of "Natural Gas Systems Engineer" or "Natural Gas Systems Manager." This person shall be knowledgeable of the applicable federal and state pipeline safety regulations and experienced in the operation of gas distribution systems. This person shall also coordinate all work of the City's gas system personnel and be responsible for maintaining up to date plans, procedures and records as required under such regulations. The Parties understand that it is critical that this person not have responsibilities outside the management of City's gas system. The City will also maintain other staff dedicated to the maintenance and operation of its system, including an Operations Supervisor and, at minimum, four qualified persons. No later than June 30, 2007, the City will have in place the staffing described in this section.

The City hired Ed Hawthorne into the position of Natural Gas Systems Manager on April 1, 2008. Since his hiring Mr. Hawthorne has brought the City's gas division into strict regulatory compliance and assembled a team of qualified staff as directed in the agreement. Other direct support staff includes the public works director, an administrative secretary, two meter readers, and an engineering technician. Indirect support is provided by City administrative, legal, IT, equipment maintenance, and financial staff.

While there have been many reduction in staff in other areas of the City since Mr. Hawthorne assumed his position, gas division staffing has been kept at the stipulated level. As Public Works Director since November 1st last year, I am looking to backfill my previous position with a second engineering technician with the intent of dedicating a

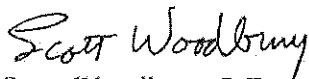
portion of this position to assisting Mr. Hawthorne with the more routine functions that Mr. Hawthorne has been performing. These would include duties such as data entry, contract preparation, public awareness, reporting, asset management, inventory, and records management. This will free up some of Mr. Hawthorne's time for continuing the great work he has been doing for the gas system, but also hopefully enable him to take on limited additional duties outside of the management of the gas system that more fully utilizes Mr. Hawthorne's experience and expertise and benefits the City's overall operations. Mr. Hawthorne has extensive experience with instrumentation, control systems, complex industrial plants, and even decorative concrete countertops. Duties that Mr. Hawthorne could potentially provide assistance with include the following in order of importance:

- Supervising non-gas division staff at the City shops as needed when other supervisory staff is not available.
- Providing technical assistance with equipment issues that may arise at City facilities.
- Assisting with troubleshooting control system problems at the City's wastewater treatment plant or managing small plant improvement projects.
- Establishing telemetry systems at the City's sewer lift stations.
- Setting up a system for manufacturing high strength concrete pavers for the City's downtown decorative streetscape to replace failing sandstone and bluestone pavers with a color concrete product that is durable and matches the existing pavers.
- Assistance with other tasks yet to be identified

The performance of these additional duties would not result in any work related to management of the gas system being left undone. However, given the strictness of the order stipulation above it is necessary to request that it be amended so that the provision of additional support staffing for the Natural Gas Systems Manager can result in some flexibility with respect to the duties that the manager can perform.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please contact me at 360-615-5728 or swoodbury@ci.enumclaw.wa.us.

Sincerely,



Scott Woodbury, P.E.
Public Works Director

c: Ed Hawthorne, Natural Gas Systems Manager
Chris Searcy, City Administrator