

SERVICE DATE

MAY - 1 1992

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	DOCKET NO. UG-920487
	)	
Complainant,	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER TO SHOW
	)	CAUSE WHY PENALTIES
v.	)	SHOULD NOT BE ASSESSED
	)	AND WHY CORRECTIVE ACTION
WASHINGTON NATURAL GAS	)	SHOULD NOT BE ORDERED
COMPANY,	)	
	)	
	)	AND
Respondent.	)	
	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
	)	(June 12, 1992)
. . . . .	)	

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, complainant, alleges:

I

Complainant is an agency of the State of Washington created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Washington and vested by those laws with the supervision and regulation of public utility companies providing natural gas service to the public in the State of Washington under the provisions of Title 80 RCW.

II

Respondent, Washington Natural Gas Company, is a public utility company providing natural gas service to the public in the State of Washington. At all times pertinent herein, Respondent was and is subject to the provisions of Title 80 RCW and Chapter 480-93 WAC.

III

The Commission Staff has investigated the Respondent's facilities, has interviewed a number of the Respondent's employees, and has examined the Respondent's records. From this preliminary investigation, it appears, and the Commission therefore alleges, that actions of the Respondent or conditions allowed by the Respondent to occur constitute violations of the following laws and regulations:

WAC 480-93-184	Gas Leak Responsibility
WAC 480-93-185	Gas Leak Investigation
WAC 480-93-186	Leakage Classification and Action Criteria
WAC 480-93-187	Records and Self Audit
WAC 480-93-010	Compliance with Federal Standards

49 CFR Sections:

192.161	Supports and Anchors
192.455	External Corrosion Control: Buried or Submerged Pipelines Installed after July 31, 1971
192.459	External Corrosion Control: Examination of Buried Pipeline when Exposed
192.465	External Corrosion Control: Monitoring
192.491	Corrosion Control Records
192.605	Essentials of Operating and Maintenance Plan
192.613	Continuing Surveillance
192.614	Damage Prevention Program
192.615	Emergency Plans
192.723	Distribution Systems: Leakage Surveys and Procedures
192.751	Prevention of Accidental Ignition
192.755	Protecting Cast-Iron Pipelines

ORDER  
AND  
NOTICE OF HEARING

WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED That, unless by notice issued by the secretary of the Commission a different time and place be specified, respondent shall appear before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission at the hour of 9:30 a.m., on June 12, 1992, in Commission Hearing Room No. 250 at 1300 S. Evergreen Park Way S.W., Olympia, Washington, then and there to answer the complaint herein and show cause, if any, why penalties should not be assessed for violations of the laws of the State of Washington and the regulations of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and why the Commission should not order the Respondent to take corrective action.

Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to adjudicative proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.422, 34.05.440, 34.05.449 and 34.05.452. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW, having legal authority to regulate the rates,

services, and practices of gas companies under chapter 80.28 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.28.010, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.050, RCW 80.28.090, RCW 80.28.100, RCW 80.28.210, RCW and 80.28.212. Other relevant statutes include Chapter 80.01 RCW and chapter 80.04 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.04.160 and RCW 80.01.040. In addition to the foregoing statutes, rules involved include those within chapter 480-09 WAC, including WAC 480-09-480, and chapters 480-90 WAC and 480-93 WAC. The ultimate issues involved are whether the activities of and conditions allowed by the respondent constitute violations of law or rule and whether penalties should be assessed for those violations.

If a limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired party needs an interpreter, a form has been attached to this notice to be filled out and returned as indicated, so a qualified interpreter may be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That public hearings will be held at the hour of 9:30 a.m., on June 12, 1992, in Commission Hearing Room 250, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT ANY PARTY WHO FAILS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING SET HEREIN, OR OTHER STAGE OF THIS PROCEEDING, MAY BE HELD IN DEFAULT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF RCW 34.05.440.

An Administrative Law Judge from the Utilities and Transportation Subdivision of the Office of Administrative Hearings, Third Floor, 2420 Bristol Court SW, Building E, PO BOX 42489, Olympia WA 98504-2489, (206) 753-6403, will be designated to preside at the hearing.

The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant: Washington Utilities and  
Transportation Commission  
Chandler Plaza Building  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.  
P. O. BOX 47250  
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7250

Representative: Assistant Attorney General  
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
P. O. BOX 40128  
OLYMPIA WA 98504-0128  
(206) 753-2282

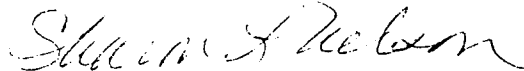
Respondent: Washington Natural Gas Company  
P. O. Box 1869  
Seattle, Washington 98111

Representative: Unknown

Notice of any other procedural phase will be given in writing or on the record as the Commission may deem appropriate during the course of the proceeding.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 1st day of May 1992.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



SHARON L. NELSON, Chairman



RICHARD D. CASAD, Commissioner



A. J. PARDINI, Commissioner