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1 BEFORE THE WASHINGTON

2 UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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4 WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND )

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, )

5 )

Complainant, )

6 )

vs. ) DOCKET NO. UG-170929

7 )

CASCADE NATURAL GAS )

8 CORPORATION, )

)

9 )

Respondent. )

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PREHEARING CONFERENCE, VOLUME I

12

Pages 1-8

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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE GREGORY J. KOPTA

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10:00 a.m.

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October 9, 2017

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18 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW

19 Olympia, Washington 98504

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REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

21

Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC

22 1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1840

Seattle, Washington 98101

23 (206) 287-9066

(360) 534-9066

24 (800) 846-6989

25 www.buellrealtime.com

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

3 GREGORY J. KOPTA

Washington Utilities and

4 Transportation Commission

1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Sw

5 Olympia, Washington 98504

6

FOR PUBLIC COUNSEL:

7

ARMIKKA BRYANT

8 Assistant Attorney General

800 - 5th Avenue, Suite 2000

9 Mailstop TB-14

Seattle, Washington 98104

10 (206) 389-2055

armikkab@atg.wa.gov

11

12 FOR COMMISSION STAFF:

13 ANDREW J. O'CONNELL

Assistant Attorney General

14 UTC Division

PO Box 40128

15 Olympia, Washington 98504

(360) 664-1192

16 aoconnel@utc.wa.gov

17

FOR CASCADE NATURAL GAS:

18

LISA F. RACKNER

19 McDowell Rackner Gibson PC

419 SW 11th Avenue, Suite 400

20 Portland, Oregon 97205

(503) 595-3925

21 lisa@mrg-law.com

22

23

24

25

0003

1 A P P E A R A N C E S (Cont.)

2

FOR THE ENERGY PROJECT:

3 (Via bridge line)

SIMON FFITCH

4 Attorney at Law

321 High School Road NE

5 Suite D3, Box 383

Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110

6 (206) 669-8197

simon@ffitchlaw.com

7

8 FOR NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS:

(Via bride line)

9 CHAD M. STOKES

Cable Huston LLP

10 1001 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 2000

Portland, Oregon 97204

11 (503) 224-3092

cstokes@cablehuston.com

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13

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1 OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON; OCTOBER 9, 2017

2 10:00 A.M.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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6 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Then let's be on

7 the record in Docket UG-170929, caption, Washington

8 Utilities and Transportation Commission versus Cascade

9 Natural Gas Company. We are here today for a prehearing

10 conference, and my name is Gregory J. Kopta. I'm the

11 administrative law judge who will be presiding with the

12 commissioners in this proceeding.

13 Let's begin by taking appearances beginning

14 with the Company.

15 MS. RACKNER: Lisa Rackner on behalf of

16 Cascade Natural Gas with the law firm of McDowell

17 Rackner & Gibson.

18 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. And with Staff.

19 MR. O'CONNELL: Andrew J. O'Connell,

20 Assistant Attorney General on behalf of Commission

21 Staff.

22 JUDGE KOPTA: Public Counsel.

23 MR. BRYANT: Armikka Bryant, Assistant

24 Attorney General on behalf of Public Counsel.

25 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. And I understand

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1 we have people on the phone who wish to make an

2 appearance. For The Energy Project.

3 MR. FFITCH: Simon ffitch, attorney

4 appearing for The Energy Project.

5 JUDGE KOPTA: And for Northwest Industrial

6 Gas Users.

7 MR. STOKES: Good morning. This is Chad

8 Stokes from the Cable Huston law firm for the Northwest

9 Industrial Gas Users.

10 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Is there anyone

11 else who wishes to make an appearance other than those

12 who already have?

13 Hearing not, I think that's our cast of

14 characters for the day.

15 First item of business is interventions.

16 I've -- the Commission has received petitions to

17 intervene from the Northwest Industrial Gas Users and

18 The Energy Project. We have those in writing. I don't

19 think we need anything further. Are there any

20 objections to intervention by those two parties?

21 MR. O'CONNELL: None from Staff, Your Honor.

22 MS. RACKNER: None from the Company.

23 MR. BRYANT: None from Public Counsel.

24 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. And then the

25 Commission will grant those petitions and those two

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1 parties will be parties.

2 The Order 01 has already made discovery

3 available and we've -- Commission's already entered a

4 protective order, so that takes care of that. And the

5 prehearing conference order I will let you know how many

6 copies to provide. I still need to check and make sure

7 how many we need. It won't be the original and 19. It

8 will be substantially less, but I will let you know in

9 that order.

10 I think the last thing we need to talk about

11 is schedule, unless folks have something else that they

12 want to discuss today. Not seeing anything. Staff

13 counsel has provided me with a schedule that would

14 have -- well, I'll just say the hearings would be May 15

15 through 17, 2018. The suspension date is

16 August 1st, 2018.

17 So is this an agreed schedule,

18 Mr. O'Connell?

19 MR. O'CONNELL: Yes, Your Honor. The

20 parties have consulted with each other about these dates

21 and did agree to propose that schedule for this case.

22 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. Rather than read this

23 off into the record, I think I will just provide a copy

24 to the court reporter, and I don't see any issues at

25 this point. Did you check with the commissioners'

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1 calendar to see if those dates for a hearing are

2 available, Mr. O'Connell?

3 MR. O'CONNELL: Thank you, Your Honor. Yes,

4 I did consult someone over on that side of the

5 Commission who did confirm that the commissioners were

6 available and were in town that week of May.

7 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. Well, that's kind of

8 the first priority when we're scheduling hearings. So I

9 will confirm that that works. I will let the parties

10 know if there's any issue, otherwise I think we can

11 adopt this schedule. I'll confirm that in the

12 prehearing conference order.

13 So that's my list. Anyone have anything

14 else that we need to talk about today? All right.

15 Hearing none, we're adjourned. Thank you.

16 (Proceedings ended at 10:06 a.m.)

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3 STATE OF WASHINGTON

4 COUNTY OF THURSTON

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6 I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand

7 Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby

8 certify that the foregoing transcript is true and

9 accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

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Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358

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