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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

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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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 1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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 3 STATE OF WASHINGTON

 4 COUNTY OF THURSTON

 5

 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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