

January 6, 2022

NWN WUTC Advice No. 22-01

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

Re: Rule 5—Disconnection and Reconnection Procedures

Dear Ms. Maxwell:

Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural or Company), files herewith the following revisions to its Tariff WN U-6, stated to become effective with service on and after February 25, 2022.

Third Revision of Sheet 5.1	Rule 5	Disconnection and Reconnection Procedures
First Revision of Sheet 5.2	Rule 5	Disconnection and Reconnection Procedures
First Revision of Sheet 5.3	Rule 5	Disconnection and Reconnection Procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to update language in Rule 5 to be compliant with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-90-128(11) - Disconnecting service during inclement weather.

Background

On July 29, 2020, the Commission issued an order amending and adopting rules in docket U-180525 amending consumer protection and meter rules to accommodate deployment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure by regulated electric and natural gas companies. These rules became effective August 29, 2020. NW Natural proposes to update its tariff Rule 5 to reflect its existing process for a cold-weather moratorium that is compliant with WAC 480-90-128(11), which provides that a utility must establish conditions in its tariff(s) under which the utility will cease non-voluntary service disconnections during inclement weather events.

Proposed Changes

NW Natural proposes to modify Rule 5 to add the conditions under which NW Natural will postpone residential disconnection for non-payment during inclement weather conditions. NW Natural has been following the process outlined in the proposed conditions since at least 2017, when the Company implemented similar language in its Oregon tariff Rule 11 in compliance with new rules adopted in Oregon codified as Oregon Administrative Rule 860-021-0407.

In both its Washington and Oregon service territories, NW Natural postpones disconnections of residential customers for non-payment when the daily high temperature will be less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit. The proposed language in NW Natural's tariff Rule 5 memorializes this existing practice in its tariff and is compliant with WAC 480-90-128(11).

State Of WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

01/06/22 15:18

Received
Records Management

Conclusion

NW Natural respectfully requests that the Commission approve this tariff change with an effective date of February 25, 2022.

In accordance with WAC 480-90-193 and WAC 480-90-195(3), copies of this letter and the attached filing are available in the Company's main office in Portland, Oregon, and on its website at www.nwnatural.com.

As requested by WAC 480-80-103(4)(a), I certify that I have authority to issue tariff revisions on behalf of NW Natural.

Please address correspondence on this matter to me with copies to the following:

eFiling
NW Natural Rates & Regulatory Affairs
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Fax: (503) 220-2579
Telephone: (503) 610-7330
eFiling@nwnatural.com

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Natasha Siores

Natasha Siores
Manager, Regulatory Compliance
NW Natural
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 610-7074
natasha.siores@nwnatural.com

Attachments:

NEW-NWN-WUTC-Advice-22-01-Trf-Sheet-5-1-01-06-2022
NEW-NWN-WUTC-Advice-22-01-Trf-Sheet-5-2-01-06-2022
NEW-NWN-WUTC-Advice-22-01-Trf-Sheet-5-3-01-06-2022