

Public Comments by Case

Total Comments: 10
In Favor: 0
Opposed: 10
Undecided: 0

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
No			
	Brian Rae	E-mail	<p>Our February 14, 2022 Cascade Natural Gas bill was \$192.06, the highest it's ever been. Its billing period was Dec. 18, 2021 - Jan. 19, 2022. We were away from home December 19-27, 2021 and our heat (gas furnace) was turned down to 58 degrees during that 8 day period of time. We also weren't home to use our gas hot water heater (no showering or running our washer or dishwasher or using our hot water taps during that time)! And, we weren't using our gas insert fireplace during that time!</p> <p>When I called Customer Service to inquire, I was told that in November of 2021, there was a 17% rate increase and that we'd be surprised how much the absence of our body heat lowers the temperature of our home's interior. (Yeah, but our thermostat was turned down to 58 degrees)!</p> <p>So, when I recently received this proposed rate increase for a 5.12 % increase, I was shocked. According to Cascade Natural Gas, there was a 17% increase in November of 2021! This is too soon for another increase! I would encourage a NO! on this most recent 5.12 % rate increase.</p> <p>Brian Rae</p>
	Jim Slydell	Web	<p>Taken by CTC</p> <p>You guys gave them 11 percent two years ago and 21 percent last year that went effect in January. My home, it raised my heat bill over \$60 per month. You know, these guys... It's frustrating. Their CEO's get paid a million or close to it per year. I'm 80 years old living on marginal income and so is a large percentage of the rest of the state. I can't pay for this greed that these guys are slapping on us and the state of washington is allowing them to do it. I mean, 21%? My social security, I think I got \$20 this year, and that was a big deal. Then they turned around and took it away from me for Medicare. I want to know what the UTC is going to do about putting a cap on these guys. They only have costs for purchasing gas and maintenance. I can't be the only guy in the state that's alarmed by this. It's unbelievable they would come back three months after they hit us with a huge increase and then go back after another one. The state of</p>

			<p>Washington didn't even try to mitigate it. You guys didn't do anything. At least you usually come back and fight in our defense, but you gave them exactly what they asked for. The only option my wife and I have is to get rid of Cascade Gas and go to electric. I've already talked to my heating consultant and he figured if I live long enough, it's worthwhile to do at the rate gas prices are increasing. We got taken in here about 15 years ago and CNG said if you'll go to a hot water heater, CNG will help and make payments on it and the furnace. Now we're hooked and have CNG for our water and heat and everybody, my friends at least in our age group, that have electric heat and water; their bill is significantly less than mine. My heating bill was \$600 for last month, and I live in an 1,800 square foot home that is well insulated. The senior citizens are getting beat up and nobody is there to help us.</p>
	michael hildreth	Web	<p>Proposing a 17.7% increase for Residential, Schedule 503 natural gas service is unacceptable. CNGC has been nit-picking additional charges on monthly billings for years now and have not proven the necessity for these charges. Some months there are over ten different charges for gas costs, amortization, assistance funds, pipeline replacement and decoupling mechanism, many are tiered and there are two charges for each. It is almost an annual increase and consumers are bearing the weight of over 34% increase since 2017. I do not believe CNGC has increased operating costs that would justify this proposed increase. They have a monopoly on the natural gas market and are taking advantage of their customers who have no voice. Please be our voice and reject this proposal. Sincerely, Michael Hildreth</p>
	Robert Swope	Web	<p>Taken by CTC</p> <p>I am calling to express my fervent hope that when facing the next rate increase request by Cascade Natural Gas, since its last request approved 11/1/2021, that the commission will be extremely reluctant to grant yet another increase. Please please consider the plight of citizens who are unemployed, retired on a fixed income, struggling as single-parent families, and others. At present, citizens are struggling with inflation which is partly motivated by greed and it would be very unhelpful to face yet another rate increase. Thank you very much.</p>
	Laura C Hodges	Web	<p>You are pricing we elderly right out of our homes when natural gas is our only means of heat. We elderly cannot deal with cold temperatures like we did when we were younger. You have got to stop all these increases before you end up with homeless elderly who are being priced out of their homes.</p>
	Dianna Torico	Web	<p>The proposed increase is too high, because it is much higher than the cost of living increase I receive from Social Security. Your proposal is based on a typical customer bill based on 54 therms per month. This is not realistic, my typical average bill for the year is about 100 therms per month. My budget payment is \$120 per month. That should be a more accurate number to use in providing the monthly increase amount per bill per month. So I cannot afford the 5.12% increase you have proposed.</p> <p>Thank you, Dianna Torico</p>
	Becca Caveny	Web	<p>Please do not increase the gas rates 5.12%. With everything being ridiculously price gouged and increased in all daily bills, food, etc. Could you possibly just consider a 3.5% increase this year, and next year implement the other 1.62% rate increase? Since you have opened up for consumer input on this proposed rate hike, and I know it is necessary for your company to implement it to keep up with inflation rates, this is just my 2cents. It would make it just a little easier for your customers, and make us respect your company more, for thinking about us little people. Thanks so much, and thanks for</p>

			reading my opinion. Have a blessed day!
	Teri Shilling	Web	<p>I reviewed the notice of the proposed rate increase.</p> <p>It seems unfair that the accounts that are currently paying the highest rate have the largest % rate increase. It seems that those with lower rates should have the higher rate of increase to equalize the cost.</p> <p>I understand that costs have increased but residential customers have no options and are unfairly burdened with higher percentage of rate increase.</p>
	Joe Towns	Web	<p>I strongly oppose this rate increase. In this time of staggering inflation, people on fixed income are struggling to afford and maintain their standard of living. CNG needs to live within their means as well and plan for maintenance and replacement of infrastructure on their existing income and not put this on the backs of retired and hardworking customers. I urge a rejection of this proposed rate increase.</p>
	KAREN VARNELL	Web	<p>Please do not approve the CNG increase. There was just a 17% increase from them last year. We cannot afford another 5%. Inflation is hitting all of us very hard - from groceries to insurance to gasoline to property taxes. We are all struggling. Also, Cascade should do more to assist low income. They have the lowest threshold of income to qualify for assistance. Example: Snohomish County Single Household: With CNG, you can only earn \$2200 per month (200% of federal poverty), yet in Oregon CNG level for assistance is 300% of federal poverty or \$3400 a month. Less than one mile away from my home (still Snohomish County), if I was with Puget Sound Energy, assistance would be based on 80% of AMI (Area Median Income) or \$5500 a month income. Snohomish County residents take a hard hit already with getting any assistance from CNG. Every penny counts for our budgets. Don't hurt north Snohomish County residents and give CNG another 5% (unless they match the Oregon level of assistance or the neighboring PSE assistance). Make it fair for all! Thank you!</p>