

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

CASCADE NATURAL GAS  
CORPORATION,

Petitioner,

For An Accounting Order Authorizing  
Deferred Accounting Treatment of  
Expenses Related to the Environmental  
Remediation of the Old Bremerton Gas  
Works and Sesko Property Site.

DOCKET UG-100589

ORDER 02

ORDER GRANTING CASCADE'S  
MOTION TO AMEND ORDER 01

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On April 12, 2010, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition seeking an accounting order (Petition) under WAC 480-07-370(1)(b) authorizing Cascade to defer treatment of expenses related to the environmental remediation of the Old Bremerton Gas Works and Sesko Property Site (Bremerton Site).<sup>1</sup>
- 2 On September 16, 2010, the Commission granted Cascade's Petition subject to a number of conditions, including a requirement that Cascade report its deferred expenses and balances semi-annually.
- 3 On March 19, 2018, Cascade filed with the Commission a Motion requesting to reduce its reporting requirement to once per year. Cascade will continue to include its deferred expenses and balances, but additionally proposes to provide a summary of the status of remediation in its reports.

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<sup>1</sup> On March 5, 2010, the Washington State Department of Ecology notified Cascade that it was a potentially liable person under the Washington Model Toxics Control Act for environmental contamination at the Bremerton Site.

4 On March 22, 2018, Commission staff (Staff) filed a response expressing support for Cascade's Motion. In its response, Staff explains that simply reporting deferral amounts and balances twice annually has little value to the Commission. Because the environmental remediation at the Bremerton Site will continue indefinitely, Staff believes that a single annual report is sufficient for compliance purposes. Staff notes that the proposed annual report will continue to report deferral amounts and balances, but will also include a summary of the previous year's remediation efforts to ensure continued progress and prudent management of the site's cleanup.

### **DISCUSSION**

5 We grant Cascade's Motion to amend Order 01 to modify the reporting requirements related to the Company's environmental remediation deferral project. Cascade's proposed modifications to Order 01 are both reasonable and consistent with the Commission's objectives underlying that order. As Staff notes, the Company's current reporting lacks both a narrative summary and timeline of the remediation project's progress to date. In addition to providing deferral amounts and balances on an annual basis, the revised reports will include this additional information, which will assist Staff in monitoring the Company's compliance with its remediation obligations.

### **ORDER**

#### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS that Order 01 is amended as follows:**

- 6 (1) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation will file annual reports for the environmental remediation of the Bremerton Site on March 1 of each year.
- 7 (2) In its annual report, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation will include the amount of expenses deferred in the period and the balance to date, along with a summary of the status of remediation.
- 8 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Cascade to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 29, 2018.

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary**