

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

In the Matter of the Request of	)	DOCKET UG-072052
	)	
CASCADE NATURAL GAS	)	ORDER 01
CORPORATION	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
For Less Than Statutory Notice in	)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
Connection with Tariff Revisions	)	STATUTORY NOTICE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On October 18, 2007, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, (Cascade or the Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3, designated as Forty-Eighth Revision Sheet No. 500-A (Canceling Forty-Seventh Revision Sheet No. 500-A) to update the tariff sheet to reflect the tax rate reduction associated with the Woodland Business and Occupation Tax (Ordinance 1031).
- 2 RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require thirty days notice to the Commission prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheets bear an inserted effective date of November 18, 2007. This date recognizes statutory notice as required. Cascade requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted in WAC 480-80-122, and that the revisions become effective November 1, 2007. Cascade stated the reason for less than statutory notice is that the change was inadvertently omitted in a prior change to Sheet 500-A.
- 3 WAC 480-90-194 requires notification to customers or publication of the revision sought in this filing. Granting Cascade’s less than statutory notice request also requires an exemption from WAC 480-90-194. For the same reason listed for seeking less than statutory notice, the Company seeks such an exemption from notice requirements. Cascade proposes to notify customers by bill insert for all customers impacted by the proposed tariff change following final disposition of this filing.
- 4 The November 1, 2007, requested effective date is not feasible. The earliest acceptable effective date is November 7, 2007. Cascade failed to submit the tariff revision in sufficient time for the new rates to go into effect on the date requested.

5 Since the proposed tariff revisions appear to be fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, and  
less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the  
Commission grant Cascade's request with an effective date of November 7, 2007.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the  
state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates,  
regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated  
interest transactions of public service companies, including gas companies. *RCW*  
*80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16, and RCW 80.28.*
- 7 (2) Cascade is a gas company and a public service company subject to the jurisdiction  
of the Commission.
- 8 (3) Cascade is subject to the provisions of *RCW 80.28.060* and *WAC 480-80-121*  
requiring gas companies to file changes in any rate or charge with thirty days  
notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes  
without requiring thirty days notice by order specifying the changes to be made  
and the time when it shall take effect. *WAC 480-80-122.*
- 9 (4) *WAC 480-90-008* provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from  
the provisions of any rule in *RCW 480-90 WAC*, if consistent with the public  
interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- 10 (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket UG-072052 and recommends the less  
than statutory notice request of Cascade be granted to be effective November 7,  
2007. Staff further recommends the Commission grant an exemption to *WAC*  
*480-90-194* and require the Company to notify customers by bill insert for all  
customers impacted by the proposed tariff change following final disposition of  
this filing.
- 11 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled  
meeting on November 7, 2007.

- 12 (7) After reviewing the proposed tariff revisions Cascade filed on October 18, 2007, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective November 7, 2007.
- 13 (8) The Commission also finds Cascade should be granted an exemption to the customer notice requirements.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 14 (1) The request sought by Cascade Natural Gas Corporation for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 15 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation is granted an exemption from WAC 480-90-194, "Publication of proposed changes to increase charges or restrict access in service." The Company shall notify customers by bill insert for all customers impacted by the proposed tariff change following final disposition of this filing.

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

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective November 7, 2007.

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary**