

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UG-091894
)	
CASCADE NATURAL GAS)	ORDER 01
CORPORATION,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
For Less Than Statutory Notice in)	STATUTORY NOTICE; ALLOWING
Connection with Tariff Revisions)	TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On December 7, 2009, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3, designated as Ninth Revision Sheet No. 663, Canceling Eighth Revision Sheet No. 663. The proposed revision is to update the Company’s five-year average lost and unaccounted for percentage under the fuel use requirements section of this tariff.
- 2 RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require thirty days’ notice to customers prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheet bears an effective date of January 7, 2010. This date recognizes the required 30-day statutory notice. The Company requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted by WAC 480-80-122, and that the revision becomes effective January 1, 2010. Cascade requests less than statutory notice because the lost and unaccounted for percentage must be updated annually, on January 1, and given the timing of the submittal, the 30-day statutory notice could not be met.
- 3 Under the fuel requirement section of its Tariff WN U-3, the company is required to annually update the five-year average lost and unaccounted for percentage. This filing updates the percentage from 0.3797 percent to 0.3409 percent.
- 4 Since the proposed tariff revision appears 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 January 1, 2010.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests 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.*
- 6 (2) Cascade is a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) Cascade is subject to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121, which require gas companies to file changes in any rate or charges 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. *RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-122.*
- 8 (4) Staff has reviewed Cascade's request in Docket UG-091894 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice.
- 9 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 23, 2009.
- 10 (6) After reviewing Cascade's proposed tariff revision filed on December 7, 2009, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective January 1, 2010.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's request for less than statutory notice is granted.

- 12 (2) The tariff revisions Cascade Natural Gas Corporation filed in Docket UG-091894 on December 7, 2009, will be effective on January 1, 2010.

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 December 23, 2009.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary