

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET NO. UG-051393
)	
Northwest Natural Gas Company)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
For Less Than Statutory Notice in)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
Connection with Tariff Revisions)	STATUTORY NOTICE
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 On September 15, 2005, Northwest Natural Gas Company (NW Natural) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-6, designated as follow:

Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 101.1	Canceling	Twelfth Revision of Sheet 101.1
Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 102.1	Canceling	Twelfth Revision of Sheet 102.1
Third Revision of Sheet 103.2	Canceling	Second Revision of Sheet 103.2
Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 119.1	Canceling	Twelfth Revision of Sheet 119.1
Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 121.1	Canceling	Twelfth Revision of Sheet 121.1
Fourteenth Revision of Sheet 127.1	Canceling	Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 127.1
Second Revision of Sheet 141.2	Canceling	First Revision of Sheet 141.2
Second Revision of Sheet 142.2	Canceling	First Revision of Sheet 142.2
Second Revision of Sheet 142.3	Canceling	First Revision of Sheet 142.3
Second Revision of Sheet 143.2	Canceling	First Revision of Sheet 143.2
Thirteenth Revision of Sheet 154.1	Canceling	Twelfth Revision of Sheet 154.1
Tenth Revision of Sheet 201.1	Canceling	Ninth Revision of Sheet 201.1
Second Revision of Sheet 201.2	Canceling	First Revision of Sheet 201.2
Twelfth Revision of Sheet 203.1	Canceling	Eleventh Revision of Sheet 203.1
Fifth Revision of Sheet 215.1	Canceling	Fourth Revision of Sheet 215.1
First Revision of Sheet 220.1	Canceling	Original Sheet 220.1
First Revision of Sheet 225.1	Canceling	Original Sheet 225.1

2 The purpose of this filing is to revise rates for the effects of changes in purchased gas costs and update temporary rate adjustments to amortize balances in deferred gas cost accounts.

3 RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-28-070 require thirty days' notice prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheets bear an inserted effective date of October 15, 2005. This date recognizes statutory notice as required. The

Company requests, however, that statutory notice be waived as authorized in WAC 480-80-122, and that the revisions become effective October 1, 2005. On August 29, 2005, NW Natural originally filed its Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) and Deferral filing with an effective date of October 1, 2005, in Docket UG-051292. The original filing was withdrawn to reflect a correction to the company's projections, which resulted in higher commodity cost. On September 15, 2005, NW Natural refiled its PGA and Deferral filing and requested the tariff sheets be allowed to become effective October 1, 2005, on Less than Statutory Notice. NW Natural stated the reason for less than statutory notice is to coincide with the proposed effective date of the Company's original annual PGA and deferral filing in Docket UG-051292.

4 WAC 480-90-194, subsection 5, provides an optional method of notice for PGA rate changes which NW Natural has complied. Post-rate-change notice is still required.

5 Since the proposed tariff revisions appear to be fair, just, and reasonable, and less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant NW Natural's request with an effective date of October 1, 2005.

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, and transfers of public service companies, including gas companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*

7 (2) NW Natural is a gas company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

8 (3) NW Natural 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 (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket UG-051393 and recommended the less than statutory notice request of NW Natural be granted.
- 10 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 28, 2005.
- 11 (7) After examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by NW Natural on September 15, 2005, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective October 1, 2005.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The request sought by Northwest Natural Gas Company for less than statutory notice is granted.

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 this 28th day of September, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary