

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	DOCKET UG-131547
	)	
CASCADE NATURAL GAS	)	ORDER 01
CORPORATION,	)	
	)	
To Amend its Certificate of Public	)	
Convenience and Necessity to Operate a	)	
Gas Plant for Hire in the Badger Mountain	)	
South area in Benton County	)	ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On August 20, 2013, in compliance with RCW 80.28.190, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade or Company) filed an application to amend its present Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire, to include an additional area in Benton County which is contiguous to its presently certified area.
- 2 Cascade is presently certificated for and is now providing gas service in Benton County. Cascade is requesting a certificate to expand the service area in the Badger Mountain South Area.<sup>1</sup> The additional area requested is contiguous to the existing certificated area.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 This filing requests no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to service this addition to Cascade’s service area, and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with the treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Cascade’s results of operations for ratemaking purposes.
- 4 It appears that Cascade is best suited to serve the requested service territory economically, therefore, the application should be granted to satisfy the public convenience and necessity. No other gas provider is currently serving in this area.

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<sup>1</sup> See map in attachment B-1 of the filing.

<sup>2</sup> Legal description is shown in attachment B-2 of the filing.

**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 rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including gas companies. RCW 80.01.040; RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.
- 6 (2) Cascade is a gas company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 7 (3) RCW 80.28.190 states no gas company shall operate in this state any gas plant for hire without first having obtained from the Commission a certificate declaring that public convenience and necessity requires or will require such operation and setting forth the area or areas within which service is to be rendered.
- 8 (4) Cascade has previously been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate a gas plant for hire.
- 9 (5) Cascade has filed an application to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to include an additional area in Benton County. This area is contiguous to Cascade's presently certificated area.
- 10 (6) Commission Staff has reviewed the Company's application and recommends approval of the certificate for public convenience and necessity as filed.
- 11 (7) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 10, 2013.
- 12 (8) After review of the request filed by Cascade and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public convenience and necessity that the Certificate of Cascade be amended to reflect the addition of areas in the Badger Mountain South area, located in Benton County.

**O R D E R**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 13 (1) The application of Cascade Natural Gas Corporation to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire within the certificated area in Benton County is granted and the Certificate shall be amended in accordance with the legal description provided in the supplemental information filed on September 16, 2013 in attachment B-2.
- 14 (2) This Order makes no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to serve this addition to Cascade's service area, and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Cascade's results of operations for ratemaking purposes.
- 15 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Cascade Natural Gas Corporation to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

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 October 10, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary