

**Docket No. UG-220198 - Vol. II**

**In the Matter of Cascade Natural Gas Corporation**

**June 6, 2022**



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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND ) DOCKET UG-220198  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,) )  
) )  
Complainant, ) )  
) )  
vs. ) )  
) )  
CASCADE NATURAL GAS ) )  
CORPORATION, ) )  
) )  
Respondent. ) )

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VIRTUAL PREHEARING CONFERENCE, VOLUME II

Pages 17-29

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES SAMANTHA DOYLE and  
RAYNE PEARSON

June 6, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast  
Lacey, Washington 98503

REPORTED BY: TAYLER GARLINGHOUSE, CCR 3358

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

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A P P E A R A N C E S (Cont.)

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\* \* \* \* \*

1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; JUNE 6, 2022

2 9:30 A.M.

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4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5

6 JUDGE DOYLE: Let's be on the record. Good  
7 morning. We're here today for a prehearing conference  
8 in Docket UG-220198, which is captioned in -- as The  
9 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
10 versus Cascade Natural Gas Corporation.

11 Today is Monday, June 6th, 2022, and the  
12 time is approximately 9:30 a.m.

13 My name is Samantha Doyle. I use she/her  
14 and they/them pronouns. And with me is Rayne Pearson,  
15 who uses she/her pronouns. We are administrative law  
16 judges with the Washington Utilities and Transportation  
17 Commission, and we will be co-presiding in this matter,  
18 along with the Commissioners.

19 Let's start by taking appearances and  
20 addressing AWEC's petition for intervention.

21 For appearances, let's begin with Cascade.  
22 Please state your first name, and feel free to provide  
23 your pronouns, if you'd like.

24 MS. BARNETT: Thank you, Judge Doyle. Donna  
25 Barnett. I use she/her pronouns. And I'm with Perkins

1 Coie, representing Cascade.

2 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you.

3 And for Staff?

4 MR. CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Nash  
5 Callaghan, appearing on behalf of Commission Staff. My  
6 pronouns are he/him.

7 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you.

8 And for Public Counsel?

9 MS. PAISNER: Good morning. This is Ann  
10 Paisner, with the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington  
11 Attorney General's Office. And my pronouns are she/her.

12 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you.

13 And for the Alliance of Western Energy  
14 Consumers, or AWEC?

15 MR. STOKES: Good morning. Chad Stokes,  
16 from the Cable Huston law firm, on behalf of the  
17 Alliance of Western Energy Consumers. And I use he/him.  
18 Thank you.

19 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you.

20 That brings us to petitions for  
21 intervention. Are there any petitions for intervention  
22 other than AWEC's petition, which is filed in this  
23 docket?

24 Okay. Hearing none, let's proceed.

25 We've reviewed AWEC's petition, and there

1 are no written objections to it that have been made.

2 Does anyone wish to object orally?

3 MR. CALLAGHAN: No objections from Staff,  
4 Your Honor.

5 JUDGE DOYLE: Okay. Hearing none, AWEC's  
6 petition to intervene is granted.

7 Just to cover electronic filing and  
8 electronic service, I want to remind the parties that  
9 the Commission requires electronic filing of documents  
10 for formal filings and will waive paper filing  
11 requirements for this case due to the ongoing COVID-19  
12 pandemic.

13 Also, the Commission's rules provide for  
14 electronic service of documents. The Commission will  
15 serve the parties electronically, and the parties will  
16 serve each other electronically.

17 And in regards to designated person for  
18 service, if any party has not yet designated a lead  
19 representative for service, please do so via an email to  
20 me and Judge Pearson as soon as possible. My email is  
21 samantha.doyle@utc.wa.gov, and Judge Pearson's email is  
22 rayne.pearson@utc.wa.gov.

23 And for the service list additions for  
24 support staff, if anyone would like to add names and  
25 email addresses of other representatives or support

1 staff who should receive electronic courtesy copies of  
2 all documents filed in this proceeding, please email  
3 that to us as well.

4 And for data requests, because parties often  
5 request that any data requests and responses are shared  
6 with every other party, it would make this easier on the  
7 parties to include this requirement in the prehearing  
8 conference order.

9 Is there any objection to including that  
10 requirement? Okay.

11 MS. BARNETT: No.

12 JUDGE DOYLE: Great. Hearing none, we will  
13 be including that.

14 For the procedural schedule, we have two  
15 sets of dates the parties can choose from for the  
16 evidentiary hearing. Those dates are November 8 and  
17 9th, 2022, or November -- November 17th and 18th, 2022.

18 If the parties select the earlier hearing  
19 dates, rebuttal testimony will be due on October 11th.  
20 And if the parties select the later dates, rebuttal  
21 testimony will be due October 20th.

22 JUDGE PEARSON: Sorry, Judge Doyle. This is  
23 Judge Pearson. I just wanted to clarify one thing.  
24 When we had initially set those dates aside, we were  
25 anticipating the parties asking two days, but it looks



1 like, from Staff's email this morning, that they only  
2 anticipate one day.

3 Mr. Callaghan, can you confirm that that's  
4 correct, that the parties only anticipate needing one  
5 day?

6 MR. CALLAGHAN: That's just from Staff, Your  
7 Honor, but, yes, Staff only anticipates needing one day  
8 for an evidentiary hearing in this case.

9 JUDGE PEARSON: So when the parties confer,  
10 if you all decide -- end up deciding that you need two  
11 days, that's why we put those two days back-to-back, or  
12 you can pick one of those four days. I just wanted to  
13 clarify that. Thank you.

14 MR. CALLAGHAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you, Judge Pearson.

16 Okay. Well, with that, we will take a brief  
17 recess to allow the parties time to check their  
18 calendars and discuss their preferences between the two  
19 sets of hearing dates and select the remaining  
20 procedural dates as well, including a date for a first  
21 settlement conference and a date for a public comment  
22 hearing.

23 Mr. Callaghan, will you please alert us in  
24 the chat for this meeting when the parties are ready?

25 MR. CALLAGHAN: Yes, Your Honor.

1 JUDGE DOYLE: Thank you.

2 JUDGE PEARSON: Okay. So we can be off the  
3 record.

4 (Recess taken from 9:36 a.m.  
5 until 9:49 a.m.)

6 JUDGE DOYLE: Let's be back on the record.  
7 It's approximately 9:50.

8 Okay. And after the parties had an  
9 opportunity to look at their calendars and confer,  
10 Mr. Callaghan, will you let us know which dates the  
11 parties prefer?

12 MR. CALLAGHAN: Yes, Your Honor. So the  
13 parties were able to come to an agreement on Staff's  
14 proposed procedural schedule, with a few changes.

15 So that would include changing the  
16 evidentiary hearing to November 17th. That would also  
17 include changing the second settlement conference to  
18 September 30th.

19 And we would also ask that the DR response  
20 times be changed after the response testimony is filed.  
21 Originally, in my email, I had included five days, but  
22 the parties asked for seven.

23 And I believe those are all the changes.

24 Your Honor --

25 JUDGE DOYLE: I was on mute, yes.

1 I was pulling up the previous schedule. Can  
2 you give me the changed dates one more time? Thank you.

3 MR. CALLAGHAN: Oh, yes. No problem. So  
4 the second settlement conference would be changed to  
5 September 30th. We would also include a public comment  
6 hearing before the evidentiary hearing to be determined.  
7 Change the evidentiary hearing date to November 17th,  
8 and change the due dates for DR responses from five days  
9 to seven days after the response testimony is filed.

10 JUDGE DOYLE: Perfect. Thank you.

11 All right. Perfect. And with that, I just  
12 want to confirm, so with the public comment hearing,  
13 WAC 480-07-197 requires the prehearing conference to  
14 address the time and location.

15 So location and amount of customer notice  
16 the Company is required to give in advance of the public  
17 comment hearing, the Commission now has a Zoom account  
18 and can schedule those hearings for the parties when the  
19 date has been selected.

20 So because the date is to be announced, we  
21 will note in the prehearing conference that the public  
22 comment hearing will be held virtually, via Zoom, before  
23 any hearing on the final disposition of the case, and  
24 that customers will receive at least 30 days' notice of  
25 those hearing dates, and that the notices will contain

1 information required in WAC 480-90-197.

2 To address errata sheets, under  
3 WAC 480-07-461(b), the deadline for filing errata sheets  
4 to exhibits may be established in the order and -- okay.  
5 That was -- perfect. Okay. Sorry. I was just  
6 double-checking.

7 Does anyone have an objection to setting a  
8 deadline for the week prior to the evidentiary hearing?

9 MR. CALLAGHAN: No, Your Honor.

10 JUDGE DOYLE: Okay. So hearing none, we  
11 will incorporate that date into the prehearing  
12 conference as well.

13 Is there anything that we need to address  
14 before we adjourn today?

15 MS. PAISNER: Excuse me, Your Honor. I  
16 apologize. I just would like to confirm that the  
17 rebuttal testimony date is October 20th? I believe that  
18 was the later option, if we chose the later hearing  
19 dates, but I realized I wasn't clear on my note.

20 JUDGE DOYLE: Yes, you're correct.  
21 October 20th was the later date.

22 MS. PAISNER: Thanks.

23 JUDGE DOYLE: Sorry I didn't clarify that.  
24 Thank you.

25 Okay. With that, we will issue an order

1 shortly, containing the procedural and other deadlines,  
2 our guidelines for disposition of this case.

3 And with that, we're adjourned. Thank you,  
4 everyone, for coming.

5 (Adjourned at 9:53 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
COUNTY OF THURSTON

I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

Tayler Garlinghouse  
Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358

