# SECTION 10 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation
DRAFT 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (UG-160453)

#### Overview

Cascade's long-term resource planning process is consistent with the rule (WAC 480-90-238). Input and feedback from the Company's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is an important resource to help ensure that CNGC's IRP is developed from a broader perspective than Cascade could have on its own.

#### **Approach to Meetings and Workshops**

As a result of various issues identified in WUTC's April 14, 2016 letter to the Company regarding the 2014 IRP, the WUTC ordered Cascade to file a new IRP on or before December 14, 2016. As a result the Company faced a shortened IRP development and process arc of less than 6 months. The Company committed to an aggressive timeline in order to ensure our compliance with the WUTC order.

The Company's standard approach is to hold a series of public meetings, typically near Seattle, WA. Cascade's IRP stakeholders are widely spread out geographically; Seattle is more easily accessible for individuals to reach than Kennewick, WA. For those unable to travel, all meetings allowed for WebEx/teleconference participation. Cascade scheduled five TAG meetings between June and October 2016. Additionally, throughout the plan development stage Cascade provided supplemental workshops for WUTC Staff to cover Cascade's forecasting methodology in greater detail as well as provided a more detailed overview of the Company's Gas Supply function.

#### List of Stakeholders

The Company encourages public participation in the IRP process. Invited participants at these public meetings include interested ratepayers, regional upstream pipelines, Pacific Northwest LDCs, utility commission staff, associated advocates such as the Northwest Gas Association, Citizens Utility Board of Oregon, Washington Public Counsel, and the Northwest Industrial Gas Users. Internally, the Cascade IRP stakeholders and participants came from the following departments:

- Resource Planning
- Gas Supply/Gas Control
- Regulatory Affairs
- Operations/Engineering
- Conservation, Energy Efficiency
- Finance/Accounting
- Information Technology
- Executive group

Additionally, Cascade contracted the services of an IRP consultant, Bruce Folsom Consulting, to assist the Company with meeting the aggressive 2016 IRP schedule.

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation
DRAFT 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (UG-160453)

More discussion about the Company's commitment to the IRP process can be found in Section 11 (Regulatory Compliance).

### **Number and Dates of TAG meetings**

Cascade held five public TAG meetings with internal and external stakeholders. Information about each meeting date and major agenda items are provided below.

#### 2016 IRP TAG 1 Meeting - Thursday, June 16th, 2016

- Location: Seattle, WA at the Sea-Tac Airport Conference Center from 9 am to noon
- IRP Timeline
- Demand Forecast Methodology
- Latest Economic Indicators

#### 2016 IRP TAG 2 Meeting - Tuesday, July 19th, 2016

- Location: Seattle, WA at the Sea-Tac Airport Conference Center from 9 am to noon
- Demand Forecast Results
- Current and Alternative Supply Resources
- Transport Issues

#### 2016 IRP TAG 3 Meeting – Tuesday, August 23rd, 2016

- Location: Kennewick, WA at Cascade's Headquarters, Snake River Room from 9 am to 3 pm
- Demand Side Management
- Planned Scenarios and Sensitivities
- Carbon Legislation

#### 2016 IRP TAG 4 Meeting - Thursday, September 15th, 2016

- Location: Seattle, WA at the Sea-Tac Airport Conference Center from 9 am to noon
- Distribution System Planning
- Preliminary Resource Integration Results
- Avoided Costs

# 2016 IRP TAG 5 Meeting - Friday, October 14th, 2016

- Location: Kennewick, WA at Cascade's Headquarters, Snake River Room from 9 am to noon
- Final Integration Results
- Proposed 2 Year Action Plan
- Discussion of any Remaining Items Prior to Filing the Draft 2016 IRP

# Cascade Natural Gas Corporation DRAFT 2016 Integrated Resource Plan (UG-160453)

## **Opportunity for Public Participation**

Cascade is fully committed to ensuring public participation in its IRP process. Cascade filed the Work Plan for the 2016 IRP with the WUTC on April 28, 2016. Notice was also provided via email to all participants of Cascade's 2014 IRP. Also, in order to improve the public's access to the Company's IRP related information, Cascade recently established a dedicated Internet webpage where all parties can view the IRP timeline, TAG presentations and minutes, as well as current and past IRPs.<sup>1</sup> For future IRPs the Company will announce the IRP process in a customer insert as close to practical to the filing of the IRP Work Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.cngc.com/rates-services/rates-tariffs/integrated-resource-plan