

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

CASCADE NATURAL GAS
CORPORATION,

Respondent.

DOCKET UG-170929

ORDER 04

GRANTING STAFF'S MOTION
FOR LEAVE TO FILE REVISED
TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS

BACKGROUND

- 1 On August 31, 2017, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-3 for natural gas service the Company provides in Washington. The effect of these filings would be to increase rates and charges for natural gas service. The Commission suspended the as-filed tariffs and set the matters for hearing in Order 01 on September 14, 2017. In Order 03, the Commission established a procedural schedule including dates for parties to file Response testimony, Cross-Answering testimony, and Rebuttal testimony.
- 2 Commission staff (Staff) and other parties filed Response testimony on February 15, 2018, in accordance with the procedural schedule.
- 3 On February 22, 2018, Staff filed a Motion for Leave to File Revised Testimony and Exhibits. In its Motion, Staff explained that it discovered an error in the testimony and exhibit of Staff witnesses David J. Panco, Kristen M. Hillstead, and Betty A. Erdahl. The error excludes three projects from Staff's pro forma plan adjustment, which resulted in a \$248,145 increase to net operating income and a \$10,394,170 reduction to rate base. After inclusion of the three projects, the increase to net operating income is \$160,212 and the reduction to rate base is \$4,954,376.
- 4 Staff further explained that Exhibit DPJ-2 is mislabeled in Mr. Panco's testimony as "Staff's Proposed Pro Forma Major Plant Additions." The correct title of the exhibit is "Cascade's Response to Public Counsel Data Request No. 45." The exhibit itself is also mislabeled and requires the same correction.

5 The error in Mr. Panco's testimony introduced errors in both Ms. Hillstead's and Ms.
Erdahl's testimonies. This affected Exhibit KMH-2, Ms. Hillstead's calculation of
Cascade's net operating income, and affected Ms. Erdahl's presentation of Staff's
ultimate revenue requirement recommendation by way of inclusion into Ms. Hillstead's
testimony.

6 Staff indicated in its Motion that no other party objects to Staff's revisions.

DISCUSSION

7 WAC 480-07-460(1)(a)(i) permits parties to seek leave from the presiding officer by
written motion if they wish to revise prefiled testimony or exhibits with substantive
changes, and WAC 480-07-460(1)(b) requires parties to file motions to make substantive
changes as soon as practicable after discovering the need to make the change. Staff
explained in its Motion that it submitted its Motion and the associated revised testimony
and exhibits four working days after it filed responsive testimony on February 15, 2018.

8 Staff made the necessary corrections and filed its Motion promptly after discovering the
error, just one week after it filed responsive testimony and well in advance of the
deadline for parties to file rebuttal and cross-answering testimony. In addition, no party
objects to Staff's Motion. In light of these circumstances, we find good cause to grant
Staff leave to file supplemental testimony.

ORDER

9 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS That Staff's Motion for Leave to File Revised
Testimony and Exhibits is GRANTED.**

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 9, 2018.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

RAYNE PEARSON
Administrative Law Judge