

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1148

In the Matter of)
)
Northwest Natural Gas Company)
)
Investigation of the utility's relationship)
with Fish Block Associates, LLC, and)
Related Transactions.)

MEMORANDUM

On May 7, 2004, Michael Grant, an Administrative Law Judge, held a prehearing conference in the matter in Salem, Oregon. The following appearances were entered: Gregg Kantor and Alex Miller, on behalf of NW Natural; Ed Finklea, attorney, representing the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU); and Jason Jones, Assistant Attorney General, on behalf of Staff.

Schedule

At the conference, the parties agreed to the following schedule:

Event	Date
Settlement Conference	May 13, 2004
Last day to Intervene	May 14, 2004
Status Conference (by telephone) to discuss further proceedings	May 20, 2004, 2:00 p.m.

Intervention

Prior to the conference, NWIGU filed a petition to intervene in this docket. NW Natural did not object to the request. I find that NWIGU has a sufficient interest in the proceeding and that its appearance and participation will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record, or unreasonably delay the proceeding. Accordingly, the petition is granted. *See* OAR 860-013-0021.

The Citizen's Utility Board also filed a notice of intervention pursuant to ORS 774.180. Accordingly, CUB has full party status in the docket.

Consolidation

Given the relationship of issues between dockets, the parties agreed that this docket should be consolidated with docket UP 205.

Finally, I refer the parties to the Commission's procedural notes for contested case proceedings, located on the Commission's website (www.puc.state.or.us). Please look under Commission Overview, and then click on Administrative Hearings Procedures.

Dated in Salem, Oregon, this 11th day of May, 2004.

Michael Grant
Administrative Law Judge

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