

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

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In the Matter of)	
)	
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
OREGON)	REPORT
)	
Staff Request to Open an Investigation into)	
the Earnings of Cascade Natural Gas.)	

On September 21, 2006, a prehearing conference was held in Salem, Oregon in the above-captioned docket. The primary purpose of the prehearing conference was to establish a procedural schedule for the docket.

Identification of the Parties

Appearances were entered as follows: Stephanie Andrus appeared on behalf of Staff of the Oregon Public Utility Commission (Commission); James M. Van Nostrand appeared on behalf of Cascade Natural Gas Company (Cascade); Chad Stokes appeared, by telephone, on behalf of the Northwest Industrial Gas Users Association (NWIGU); and Lowrey Brown appeared, by telephone, on behalf of the Citizens Utility Board of Oregon (CUB).

A petition to intervene filed by NWIGU prior to the prehearing conference was conditionally granted, to be final after the period for objections has passed. CUB's Notice of Intervention was also acknowledged.

Procedural Schedule

Conference participants agreed to, and I adopted, the following procedural schedule:

Petitions to intervene due	October 4, 2006
Staff and intervenors may begin discovery	October 23, 2006
Staff and intervenors file direct testimony	February 15, 2007
Settlement Conference ¹	March 15, 2007
Cascade files direct testimony	April 16, 2007
Staff and intervenors file rebuttal testimony	May 21, 2007
Hearings	June 5-7, 2007 (details TBD)
Briefing schedule due	TBD

The dates for filing are considered “in hand” dates.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2006, at Salem, Oregon.

Traci A. G. Kirkpatrick
Administrative Law Judge

¹ For the convenience of parties, the settlement conference date is included in this memorandum. This date is not an official schedule date adopted by the Commission. Consequently, parties may change the date of, or cancel, the settlement conference without authorization from the Commission.