

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 221

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

Request for a General Rate Revision

PREHEARING CONFERENCE
MEMORANDUM

On August 19, 2012, the Commission held a prehearing conference in this docket. Representatives appeared on behalf of Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural; Commission Staff; Northwest Industrial Gas Users; and the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB).

The conference was held to address issues related to the Commission's September 14, 2012 bench request. CUB requested the conference and proposed a procedural schedule that would allow the parties to conduct discovery and, if necessary, file additional briefing related to NW's Natural's response to the bench request. During the conference the parties agreed to a schedule, which was subsequently clarified via e-mail. The following schedule is adopted.

1. NW Natural's formal deadline to respond to the bench request is September 21, 2012. In order to facilitate the remainder of this schedule, NW Natural will attempt to file its response to the bench request before this date.
2. Staff and intervenors may serve data requests on NW Natural related to the bench request. Staff and intervenors will attempt to serve data requests on NW Natural in time to allow the company at least three days to respond before September 27, 2012.¹
3. Staff and intervenors may file supplemental briefing limited to the issues raised in the bench request and NW Natural's response to that request. The deadline for supplemental briefing is October 5, 2012.

¹ CUB originally requested a three-day turnaround for NW Natural's responses to data requests. Because of scheduling issues, NW Natural agreed to a three-day turnaround until September 27, 2012. After that date, NW Natural will use its best efforts to respond to data requests within three days.

4. If NW Natural chooses to file a response to the supplemental briefing, it must be filed by October 9, 2012.



Lisa D. Hardie
Administrative Law Judge