

**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

RULING

DISPOSITION: REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION DENIED

On August 1, 2012, NW Natural filed a motion to strike certain testimony of Hugh Larkin, Jr., a witness for the Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon (CUB) and the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU). Because NW Natural's surrebuttal testimony is due on August 9, 2012, NW Natural asks for expedited treatment of the motion. NW Natural states that CUB and NWIGU object to the request for expedited treatment.

NW Natural's interest in expedited consideration of the motion is understandable, as it presumably does not wish to respond to testimony it considers inadmissible. Nevertheless, the time period between the filing of NW Natural's motion and its deadline for surrebuttal testimony is so short that, in order to make the expedited treatment meaningful, CUB/NWIGU's timeframe for responding and the Commission's for deciding the issue would be unreasonably short.¹

Responses to the motion will be due under the ordinary deadlines.

Dated this 3rd day of August, 2012, at Salem, Oregon.



Lisa D. Hardie
Administrative Law Judge

¹ Mr. Larkin's testimony was filed on July 20, 2012, twelve days before NW Natural filed its motion. Ordinarily, this might not be a particularly long time, but given the short time periods between the remaining procedural events in this docket, it creates a challenge and a burden that must necessarily fall somewhere.