

Erica Lee
Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Tel: 503.226.4211 x3589
Fax: 503.721.2516
Email: enl@nwnatural.com



August 14, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: PUC Filing Center
201 High Street SE, Suite 101
Post Office Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

**Re: UG 334 – NW Natural’s OPUC Advice No. 17-12
Annual Purchased Gas Cost and Technical Adjustments Affidavits of Publication
and Tear Sheets**

Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (“NW Natural” or the “Company”) files herewith as required by OAR 860-022-0017(4), an affidavit attesting that notice has been given of the above referenced filing, dated July 28, 2017. Affidavits of Publication and tear sheets from the major newspapers¹ in the Company’s Oregon service territory are attached hereto.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 503.226.4211 ext. 3589.

Respectfully,

/s/ Erica Lee

Erica Lee
Staff Assistant 3
NW Natural

Attachments

cc: Phil Boyle, OPUC Consumer Services

¹ *The Oregonian* (Portland); *Statesman Journal* (Salem); *The Register-Guard* (Eugene); and *The World* (Coos Bay).



AFFIDAVIT

I, Erica Lee, do hereby attest notice has been given that NW Natural has filed for a rate change in NW Natural's OPUC Advice Filing No. 17-12 / UG 334 dated July 28, 2017.

Attached to this affidavit are the tear sheets of the notice as published by the four major newspapers in the Company's Oregon service territory, with accompanying Affidavits of Publication from each; said notice, titled "NW Natural Files to Reduce Rates in Oregon", being duly published in *The Oregonian* on August 9, 2017, the *Statesman Journal* on August 9, 2017, *The Register-Guard* on August 8, 2017, and *The World* on August 9, 2017.

DATED at Portland, Oregon, this 14th, day of August 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Erica Lee', written over a horizontal line.

Erica Lee
Staff Assistant 3
NW Natural
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97209-3991

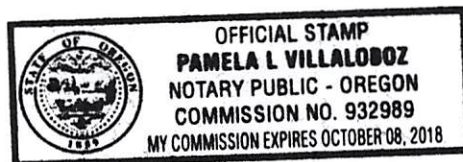
State of Oregon

County of MULTNOMAH

This instrument was acknowledged before me on August 14, 2017 by Erica Lee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pamela L. Villaloboz', written over a horizontal line.

Pamela Villaloboz, Notary Public – State of Oregon





OREGONLIVE

The Oregonian

OREGONIAN MEDIA GROUP

Affidavit of Publication

Dana Hollowell being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of Oregonian Media Group; that The Oregonian is a public newspaper published in the city of Portland, with general circulation in Oregon, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):

NW NATURAL GAS

August 9, 2017

000828882

Dana Hollowell

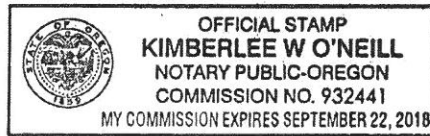
Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this date: **9th Day of August, 2017**

Kimberlee W. O'Neill

Kimberlee W. O'Neill
Notary Public for Oregon

My Commission expires 9-22-18



The full moon sets over Mount Calvary Cemetery in southwest Portland. An air pollution advisory issued last week has been extended until noon Friday as haze from Northwest wildfires lingers over Portland. *Stephanie Yao Long / staff*



Pollution alert extended to Friday

Samantha Matsumoto
The Oregonian/OregonLive

An air pollution advisory issued last week has been extended until Friday at noon as haze from Northwest wildfires continues to hang over Portland.

Continuing hot weather and wildfire smoke will continue to affect air quality through the end of the week, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality said Tuesday. The advisory has been extended for Portland, Vancouver, Salem and Eugene.

The advisory was issued last Wednesday and was initially set to end Tuesday night.

Last week, triple-digit heat and smoke made Portland's air quality unhealthy, with levels of pollution exceeding those in Beijing.

Though conditions are not likely to be as extreme this week, the DEQ expects smog and temperatures in the 90s will make air quality levels unhealthy for sensitive groups in the Portland metro area.

The DEQ asked motorists to avoid driving and using gas-powered yard equipment or aerosol sprays. Older adults, children and people with asthma and heart or lung conditions should limit their time outside, the DEQ said.

The Southwest Clean Air Agency, which enforces air quality standard in Southwest Washington, also extended an air quality advisory for all of Southwest Washington until Friday.

smatsumoto@oregonian.com;
503-294-4001

Lightning strikes start 5 wildfires in Umpqua National Forest

Samantha Matsumoto
The Oregonian/OregonLive

A lightning storm in southwest Oregon started five new wildfires in the Umpqua National Forest, U.S. Forest Service officials said.

Four are less than an acre and one, the Paradise fire five miles west of the forest, is 20 acres, Forest Service spokeswoman Cheryl Caplan said Tuesday.

Umpqua National Forest is at extreme fire danger, Caplan said. Campfires are restricted to campground fire rings and fireplaces.

The new wildfires started as several others burned across the state. The wildfires and hot, dry conditions prompted Gov. Kate Brown to declare a state of emergency last week. The declaration allows the Oregon National Guard to assist the state Department of Forestry and state Fire Marshal's Office.

The Oregon National Guard and the Forestry Department are fighting the Whitewater Fire in the Mount Jefferson Wilderness east of Detroit. The fire, started by lightning at the end of July, has burned 5,515 acres.

Two helicopters dropped nearly 4,000 gallons of water on the fire Monday and 25 National Guard personnel were dispatched.

All trail access points into Jefferson Park are closed, including a 28-mile stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail. Trails and recreation areas are also closed in the Willamette and Deschutes national forests.

Here's a rundown of other fires in the state:

Spruce Lake Fire: The Spruce Lake fire near Crater Lake has burned 4,631 acres, but scattered rain is helping fire-fighting efforts, officials said Tuesday. The fire, ignited by lightning on July 29, is 19 percent contained.

A level 1 evacuation notice remains in effect for Rim Village and Crater Lake Park headquarters. A level 1 notice means people should be ready to leave. Several trails are closed in the area. The area west of the fire on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest

is also closed.

Florence Fire: Gov. Kate Brown declared the 1,000-acre fire near Prospect a conflagration, meaning it is a large fire that threatens lives, health or property. The declaration, made Tuesday evening, allows the state fire marshal to mobilize resources to help local agencies battle the blaze.

Approximately 50 homes north of Lost Creek Reservoir were placed on level 1 evacuation notice.

The fire was started Monday by lightning.

Bear Butte Fire: The nearly 500-acre fire outside Baker City forced the evacuation of the Anthony Lakes Resort. The Anthony Lakes area is closed along Forest Road 73. It is 30 percent contained. The fire started Aug. 4. Its cause is unknown.

Cinder Butte Fire: The Cinder Butte Fire, started by an unknown cause Aug. 2, covers 52,531 acres outside Burns. It is 80 percent contained. The fire threatened five homes and 10 minor structures. It has destroyed four outbuildings.

Indian Creek Fire: The 83-acre fire in the Columbia River Gorge has shown little fire activity in recent days, officials said. It started July 4. Its cause remains under investigation.

The southern part of the Eagle Creek Trail, Wahtum Lake and Indian Springs campgrounds and several other trails are closed.

Blanket Creek Fire: The Blanket Creek Fire, ignited by lightning in late July near Prospect, is 4,739 acres. It is 36 percent contained. Thunderstorms dampened parts of the fire, but it continued to burn dry timber Tuesday, officials said. Crews are trying to prevent the fire from spreading further east in the Crater Lake National Park.

smatsumoto@oregonian.com;
503-294-4001

Trump approves FEMA disaster relief funds after winter storms

Gordon R. Friedman
The Oregonian/OregonLive

President Donald Trump has approved use of federal disaster assistance funds for four Oregon counties following a bitter winter that saw much of the state's eastern region battered by snow and ice storms and ravaged by flooding and mudslides.

Federal Emergency Management Agency funds will now be made available to state, local and tribal governments in Columbia, Deschutes, Hood River and Josephine Counties, agency spokesman Peter Sessum confirmed Tuesday. The money can be used to repair buildings and infrastructure damaged by storms from Jan. 7-10, according to an agency news release.

The approval of funds reverses an earlier decision by FEMA not to send money to Oregon. FEMA Acting Administrator Robert Fenton said in May that storm damage was "not of such severity and magnitude"

that the state couldn't handle it on its own. Sessum, who is based at the agency's regional offices in Seattle, said he is unsure why the agency ultimately decided to provide Oregon with aid. But the administration of Gov. Kate Brown appealed the FEMA funds denial, Sessum said, and the appeal may have provided new information that persuaded officials in Washington D.C. to send assistance.

Brown declared a state of emergency in January due to severe winter storms. Dangerous levels of snow had fallen in Crook County and severe snow and ice accumulations collapsed onion sheds in Malheur County.

Those counties were left off FEMA's list for funding, said Paula Negele, spokeswoman for the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, along with others the state sought aid for: Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Jefferson, Wasco, Curry and Union.

Jessica Floum contributed to this report.

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Post Office Box 1088
Salem, Oregon 97308-1088
800-522-2404
Salem: 503-378-6600



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

In The Matter Of: NW Natural ad

This is to certify that the above advertising for NW Natural ad appeared in:

Newspaper name Salem Statesman Journal

On Date August 9th, 2017

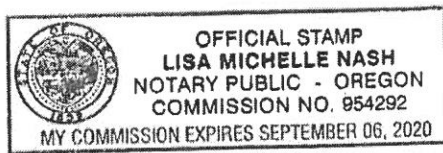
Melinda Hautala

Signature

Sworn to before me this 11th day of August, 2017.

Lisa Michelle Nash

Notary Public



Holding Court

Continued from Page 6A

Targeting Traffickers, Salem Dream Center and Called to Rescue.

Which brings us to Smith, who is with Parents Targeting Traffickers. The organization is a local nonprofit that brings awareness to sex trafficking in our area by alerting parents to potential dangers of what their kids may be looking at daily.

"A lot of people aren't aware," Smith said. "It's such an 'in plain sight' kind of thing."

There's also a heightened potential threat to trafficking with so many expected tourists expected in the Salem area for the Aug. 21 eclipse.

"The heart of Advantage is to help out the local community," Sommers said. She pointed out how Advantage assists nonprofits in unconventional ways, such as including missing person fliers in their invoices.

"Make sure you know where they're at and who they're meeting on social media," Smith said about how parents can take precautions. "Also, you can watch people who are watching them. If you're not on your phone all the time, you're going to notice that people are watching you. It really comes back to one thing: observing your surroundings."

Starting in September, Parents Targeting Traffickers will meet twice monthly. For more information, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ParentsTargetingTraffickers.

Come learn what Northwest Human Services has to offer

Adrienne Schutte, Jan Margosian and Marybeth Beall sat down with Holding Court to discuss the Northwest Human Service's Community Open House and Patient Appreciation Day on Aug. 17.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Salem Clinic, 1233 Edgewater St. NW, the center will host fun activities, refreshments and plenty of information about what Northwest Human Services offers.

Margosian summed it up succinctly: "It's for regular people who are looking for good, affordable health care."

The event is being held under the umbrella of National Health Centers Week.

Here's a CliffsNotes version since we wouldn't want to steal these ladies' thunder:

Northwest Human Services is a federally qualified health center, meaning they can serve medically underserved populations in our area. And age or status matters not: coverage ranges "from homeless teenagers to retired state workers," Margosian said.

They are a nonprofit center offering dental and mental health services as well.

"It gives us a unique place in the community so that folks that are having trouble getting access to care have a place to go," Beall said.

Want to learn more? Check out their open house, or call 503-588-5828.

First Englewood Forest Festival to highlight environmental care on Saturday

Saturday marks the inaugural Englewood Forest Festival. Although this is the first year for the event, committee organizer Sherry Clements hopes it will continue for years.

"We're really excited about all the different factions



Rian Razubala, Morgan Sund and Ben Perry gather at the Statesman Journal's Holding Court at the Court Street Dairy Lunch in downtown Salem on Tuesday.



Kenzi Clements, left, Sherry Clements and Ella Clements stand together at the Statesman Journal's Holding Court at the Court Street Dairy Lunch in downtown Salem on Tuesday.

from all over the community that have come together to start it out," said Clements.

The festival will feature over 65 booths with music and food and workshops about Englewood Park, Salem's first public park, purchased by the city in 1926.

"The purpose of the festival is to make folks aware of how to take care of a natural area. We have a heavy emphasis on recycling and leaving the park the way we found it," said Clements.

The festival will open with a proclamation from Mayor Chuck Bennett and continue until 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Read more about the Englewood Forest Festival in Wednesday's Weekender section.

Reach Lee Clarkson at lclarkson@statesmanjournal.com or 503-399-6833.

Reach Cooper Green at cgreen@statesmanjournal.com or 503-399-6747.

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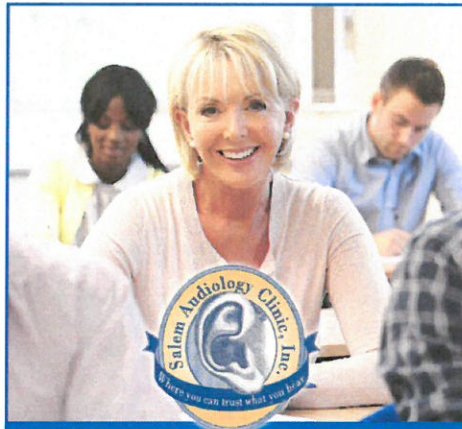
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Weekend Academy

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Salem Audiology Clinic, Inc.
Located at 2521 Boone Rd SE
Suite 120 • Salem, OR 97306
www.SalemAudiologyClinic.com

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

In The Matter Of: NW Natural ad

Advertisement for - NW Natural

This is to certify that the above advertising for **NW Natural** appeared in

Newspaper name The Register Guard

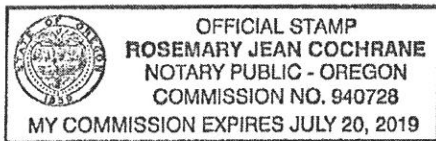
On (Dates) 8/8/17

Martin D...

Signature

Sworn to before me this 9th day of August 2017.

Rosemary Jean Cochrane
Notary Public



Bipartisan experts urge next steps on health care push

The group wants the Trump administration and Congress to shore up insurance coverage

By ALAN FRAM
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A group of conservative and liberal health policy experts are pressing the Trump administration and Congress to take steps to quickly shore up coverage

under the Obama health care law, an idea that's been anathema to President Trump and many congressional Republicans.

The plan, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, includes continuing federal payments to insurers that

Trump has threatened to block. They also want Trump and lawmakers to find a way for people to buy coverage in the handful of counties that may have no insurers next year in the federal and state insurance exchanges created by President Obama's signature statute.

In addition, the analysts want the administration to continue urging

people to sign up for policies and helping them enroll, efforts stressed under Obama and credited with prompting many to acquire coverage. The Trump administration has signaled it might curtail those outreach efforts, one of several steps it's suggested it might take to undermine the law.

It is unclear whether the recommendations will

have much influence on one of the most politically polarizing issues in Washington. The impact also might be blunted because the Senate's jolting July 28 defeat of the GOP effort to repeal Obama's law has left Republicans divided over whether to seek a bipartisan deal with Democrats.

Yet the advice, from leading policy advisers to politicians of both parties,

underscores that politics aside, there are steps respected voices from both sides agree could be taken to prop up a law that's expanded coverage to around 20 million Americans.

The experts composed the plan as a project of the Convergence Center for Policy Resolution, a bipartisan nonprofit group that looks for solutions to divisive issues.

Trump touts his base as support slips

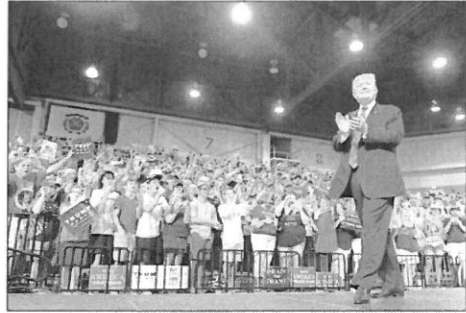
The president stands on shaky ground with little to show after seven months in office

By JULIE PACE
AND LAURIE KELLMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After six months of infighting, investigations and legislative failures, President Trump is trying to combat new signs of weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters.

White House officials have been urging the president to refocus on immigration and other issues that resonate with the conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has ramped up his media-bashing via Twitter, along a successful tactic for Trump, and staged rallies hoping to marshal his base to his defense.

The effort underscores Trump's shaky political positioning not yet seven months into his presidency. Trump has remained deeply unpopular among Democrats, and there are signs that his support among Republicans may be softening. His advisers are aware that a serious slip in support among his base could jeopardize hopes for a major, early legislative accomplishment and



President Trump arrives to speak at a campaign-style rally in Huntington, WV.

would certainly increase Trump's claim. A recent Quinnipiac University survey showed the president's approval dipping into negative territory among whites without college degrees — a key group of supporters for the president. The percentage of Republicans who strongly approve of his performance also fell, with just more than half of Republicans saying they strongly approved of Trump. That's down from the two-thirds of Republicans who strongly approved of the president's performance in June.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway acknowledged the concerns Sunday on ABC, saying the president's approval rating "among Republicans and conservatives and Trump voters is down slightly."

"It needs to go up," she said. In a Monday morning tweet, Trump dismissed his adviser's statement. "The Trump base is far bigger & stronger than ever before," he wrote on Twitter. He later insisted that his support "will never change!"

But polling doesn't support Trump's claim. A recent Quinnipiac University survey showed the president's approval dipping into negative territory among whites without college degrees — a key group of supporters for the president. The percentage of Republicans who strongly approve of his performance also fell, with just more than half of Republicans saying they strongly approved of Trump. That's down from the two-thirds of Republicans who strongly approved of the president's performance in June.

Just one-third of all Americans approved of his job performance, a new low in the poll. In a televised event at the White House last week, the president endorsed legislation that would dramatically reduce legal immigration to the United States. The bill is unlikely to ever become law, but that mattered little to Trump's advisers. Their barometer for success was the reaction from conservatives like commentator Ann Coulter, who called the White House's embrace of the controversial legislation "the best moment of the Trump presidency since the inauguration."

Report reveals haven for heroin, drug users

It's believed to be the first of its kind in the United States; some states want to copy it

By MIKE STOBBE
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A safe haven where drug users inject themselves with heroin and other drugs has been quietly operating in the United States for the past three years, a report reveals.

None were known to exist in the United States until the disclosure in a medical journal, although several states and cities are pushing to establish these so-called supervised injection sites where users can shoot up under the care of trained staff who can treat an overdose if necessary.

In the report released Tuesday, two researchers said they've been evaluat-

ing an underground safe place that opened in 2014. As a condition of their research, they didn't disclose the location of the facility — which is unsanctioned and potentially illegal — or the social service agency running it.

The researchers offered little data, and their main finding was that no one died while injecting at the safe place. Some experts say new approaches are needed to fight the opioid epidemic, including safe havens. But they've faced legal and political hurdles. Critics have argued these places may undermine prevention and treatment, and seem to fly in the face of laws aimed at stopping drug use.

AG Sessions scolds Chicago over lawsuit

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO — Mayor Rahm Emanuel sued the Justice Department on Monday over President Trump's threat to cut off federal grants for sanctuary cities such as Chicago, calling it an attack against

public safety and the city's conscience.

Hours later, Attorney General Jeff Sessions struck back, describing street violence in Chicago as horrific and saying that "no amount of federal taxpayer dollars will help a city that refuses to help

its own residents."

The exchange was an escalation in the struggle over federal funding and sanctuary cities, but also in a continuing back-and-forth between the White House and Chicago over the city's gun and gang violence.

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EAST EUGENE Tuesday, August 15 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (Coffee & Dessert) Phonix Inn 850 Franklin Blvd Corner of Franklin Blvd & Alder	NEAR COSTCO Thursday, August 17 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (Coffee & Dessert) Kallie Williams Realty 2644 Suzanne Way Coburg Rd. E. on Chard L. on Suzanne
--	---

*** When you attend, you'll be entitled to a "FREE Market Analysis" of your home! ***

At This FREE Seminar, You'll Find Out...

- 4 key ingredients to setting a price for your home — to generate offers quickly.
- 9 low cost ways to improve your home to attract buyers and bring higher offers.
- How to ensure a buyer is qualified to buy your home before you take it off the market.
- 3 techniques you can use to ensure the offer you accept doesn't fall through.
- 4 qualities to look for in an agent, so you can relax knowing your sale is in good hands.
- What important steps to take before you post a "for sale" sign in your front yard.

What Homeowners are Saying About This Seminar...

"Great Ideas & Very Informative" "It Will Change the Way You View Home Selling!" "It Was Excellent!"

Realtors Jennifer Karandy & Kathryn Dunn will show you what it takes to price, stage & market your home to attract the highest offers. Karandy & Dunn have 36+ years of experience in sales & marketing, and they use proven techniques to sell homes for top dollar — their seminars always get rave reviews!

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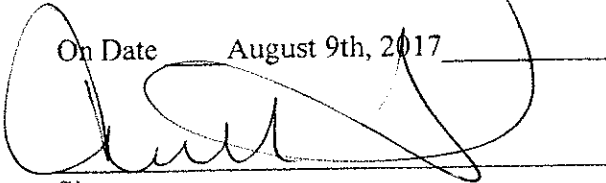
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In The Matter Of: NW Natural ad

This is to certify that the above advertising for **NW Natural ad** appeared in:

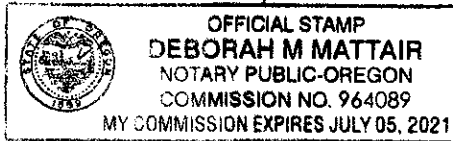
Newspaper name TRE WORLD

On Date August 9th, 2017


Signature

Sworn to before me this 9th day of August, 2017.

Deborah M. Mattair
Notary Public *EXPIRES 17-05-2021*



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NW NATURAL FILES TO REDUCE RATES IN OREGON

NW Natural proposes to reduce rates for Oregon customers effective Nov. 1, 2017. On July 28, NW Natural filed its initial request with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to reflect gas purchases and other miscellaneous adjustments to rates for the upcoming year that begins Nov. 1. NW Natural will update this filing in mid-September as part of the regulatory process; it is likely that rates will be slightly higher or lower depending on changes in the market price of natural gas between now and September. These costs are updated in similar filings every year.

HOW MUCH WILL MY GAS BILL GO DOWN?

If the rate changes are approved as initially filed, residential rates will be lower by about 5.9 percent and commercial rates will be lower by about 6.7 percent. Large industrial firm rates will be lower by 8.5 percent, and large industrial interruptible rates will be lower by 2.9 percent. The percentages for large industrial customers do not include the proposed increase in pipeline demand costs. Residential customers using an average of 50 therms per month would see a monthly bill reduction of about \$3.15.

WHY THE PRICE CHANGE?

The primary reason for the price change is to reflect a pass-through to customers of the gas costs NW Natural will pay over the coming year to its suppliers, a true-up of prior year gas cost purchases, and changes in other nongas cost activities approved by regulators for inclusion in customer rates. This reduction is in addition to the June bill credits that the company applied to customer bills as a refund from efficient pipeline management and optimization of gas storage.

If approved as filed, NW Natural's net revenues from Oregon customers will decrease by \$37,359,985 or about 5.8 percent. The revenue decrease is made up of \$12,714,776 cost-of-gas reductions with \$24,645,209 from the net of other nongas-related items.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS FILING?

Copies of the filing are available for inspection at NW Natural's main office, and on NW Natural's website at nwnatural.com. For more information about the filing, or notice of the time and place of any hearing, contact NW Natural or the Public Utility Commission of Oregon as follows:

NW Natural Main Office
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97209-3991
800-422-4012, ext. 3589
Portland: 503-226-4211 ext. 3589

**Public Utility Commission
of Oregon**
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Post Office Box 1088
Salem, Oregon 97308-1088
800-522-2404
Salem: 503-378-6600

