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October 24,2005

Oregon Public Utility Commission Attn: Filing Center 550 Capitol Street, N.E., #215 P.O. Box 2148 Salem, Oregon 97308-2148

RE:

In the Matter of the Adoption of Permanent Rules Implementing

SB 408 Relating to Utility Taxes

Docket No. AR 499Our File No. 26678.501

Dear Filing Center:

Enclosed please find an original and one (1) copies of the **Northwest Industrial Gas Users' Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant** in the above-referenced Docket. This was filed electronically with the OPUC on this date, and will be served both electronically and by U.S. Mail on those parties listed on the OPUC's current Service List.

Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

& a Finkles

Edward A. Finklea

EAF/nh

cc: Current Service List

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

AR 499

In the Matter of the Adoption of Permanent Rules Implementing SB 408 Relating to Utility Taxes))))	NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS' NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE FUND GRANT
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The Northwest Industrial Gas Users ("NWIGU")¹ files this Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant ("Notice of Intent") in the above-captioned docket pursuant to OAR § 860-017-0050 and Article 6.2 of the Intervenor Funding Agreement ("IFA").

1. The IFA was approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission ("OPUC" or "Commission") in Order No. 03-388 (July 2, 2003). NWIGU submits this Notice of Intent to notify the Commission of NWIGU's intent to request intervenor funding in this Docket.

PAGE - 1 NWIGU NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE FUND GRANT

¹ NWIGU is a nonprofit association comprised of thirty-two end users of natural gas with major facilities in the states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. NWIGU members include diverse industrial interests, including food processing, pulp and paper, wood products, electric generation, aluminum, steel, chemicals, electronics, and aerospace. The association provides an informational service to its members and participates in various regulatory matters that affect member interests. NWIGU member companies purchase transportation services from Williams Gas Pipeline – West, also known as Northwest Pipeline Corporation ("NPC"), and from PG&E Gas Transmission, Northwest Corporation and purchase sales and transportation services from local distribution companies ("LDCs"), including NW Natural, Cascade and Avista, that acquire service from both pipelines.

- 2. Senate Bill 408 was passed by the 2005 Oregon Legislature and signed by the Governor. The new law requires Northwest Natural Gas Company ("NW Natural"), Portland General Electric ("PGE"), Pacific Power and Light (d/b/a "PacifiCorp") and Avista Utilities ("Avista") to file tax reports annually with the Commission. Beginning January 1, 2006, these tax reports may trigger an adjustment to customers' bills from any overpayment of taxes. To implement SB 408, the Commission has adopted temporary rules in Docket AR 498, and in this Docket, AR 499, permanent rules will be adopted. There are significant legal and policy issues that must be resolved in this proceeding.
- 3. AR 499 is an eligible proceeding under Article 1 (c) of the IFA. The IFA defines an eligible proceeding as "any Commission proceeding that directly affects one or more of the Participating Public Utilities, including but not limited to rulemaking proceedings. . . ." IFA Article 1(c). AR 499 is a rulemaking that will directly affect all Participating Public Utilities. NW Natural is a Participating Public Utility under Article 1(k) of the IFA. Therefore, an Issue Fund Grant may be made for this proceeding under Article 6.1 of the IFA.
 - 4. NWIGU is pre-certified to receive an Issue Fund Grant under Article 5.2 of the IFA.
- 5. NWIGU designates the NW Natural Account as the account from which NWIGU intends to request an Issue Fund Grant.

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PAGE - 2 NWIGU NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE FUND GRANT

6. This Notice of Intent is timely under Article 6.2 of the IFA and is being served on each affected Participating Public Utility, all pre-certified organizations, and all parties identified on the service list for this Docket.

DATED: This 2442 day of October, 2005, Portland, Oregon.

Edward A. Finklea

OSB # 84216

Chad M. Stokes

OSB # 00400

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Of Attorneys for Northwest Industrial Gas Users Users Association

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS' NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE FUND GRANT on the attached Service List obtained on October 24, 2005 from the Oregon Public Utility Commission's Website:

- [XX] by **MAILING** a full, true and correct copy thereof in a sealed, postage-paid envelope, addressed as shown on the attached Service List, and deposited with the U.S. Postal Service at Portland, Oregon, on the date set forth below;
- [XX] <u>and</u> by electronic mail ("e-mail") to those parties on the Oregon Public Utility Commission's Website Service List who listed an e-mail address.

DATED: This Jyth day of October, 2005, Portland, Oregon.

Edward A. Finklea

OSB # 84216

Chad M. Stokes

OSB # 00400

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