

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1654

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

Investigation of Interstate Storage and
Optimization Sharing.

RULING

On March 11, 2014, I held an expedited telephone conference to address a discovery dispute between NW Natural and the Citizens' Utility Board. After reviewing the parties' arguments, I find that data requests resulting from information discussed during the Commission Examination that took place on February 3, 2014 are within the scope of permissible discovery, regardless of whether that information could have been requested prior to the Commission Examination. However, discovery regarding matters that were not discussed at the Commission Examination falls outside the scope of permissible discovery at this stage.

NW Natural requested, and CUB agreed to, additional time to respond to CUB's data requests. I direct the parties to propose a hearing date once NW Natural has responded to CUB's data requests. I also note that no further discovery will be permitted after the hearing.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2014, at Salem, Oregon.


Shani Pines

Administrative Law Judge