

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2030

In the Matter of

Public Utility Commission of Oregon

Investigation Into the Use of Northwest
Natural's Renewable Natural Gas
Evaluation Methodology.

NOTICE OF PHASE TWO
TIMELINE UPDATE

In Northwest Natural's (NW Natural) 2018 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), the Company requested approval (“acknowledgement”) of its methodology for determining the cost effectiveness of bringing renewable natural gas (RNG) resources to customers. The methodology is described in Appendix H to the 2018 IRP. The Commission opened this docket to conduct an investigation into the use of the proposed methodology, and adopted Staff’s proposed framework consisting of two phases.

The investigation has completed Phase One in which NW Natural presented its updated Appendix H RNG evaluation methodology for review through a December 2019 workshop, and through a January 2020 submission to the docket; stakeholders submitted comments on the updated methodology in February 2020, and the Company submitted reply comments in March 2020.

Phase Two of the investigation began on June 1, 2020, when NW Natural filed work papers demonstrating the Revised Appendix H methodology as applied to a RNG project. Staff held a workshop on June 16, 2020, in which NW Natural reviewed these work papers and addressed questions with Staff and stakeholders that had signed the modified protective orders for this docket.

Phase Two of the investigation is currently planned to consist of the following steps:

- When NW Natural has a project for consideration, the Company will file work papers demonstrating the RNG methodology as applied to the RNG project.
Complete as of June 1, 2020.
- Within two months of the date the company shares the RNG project information, there will be a final opportunity for all parties to submit comments on the methodology.

This is the current status of the investigation.

- Within one month, Staff will bring a recommendation to the Commission at a public meeting.

Staff announces the following revisions to Phase Two:

- When NW Natural has a project for consideration, the Company will file work papers demonstrating the RNG methodology as applied to the RNG project.
Complete as of June 1, 2020.
- Within two months of the date the company shares the RNG project information, there will be a final opportunity for all parties to submit comments on the methodology.
This is the current status of the investigation; the deadline is August 3, 2020.
- **New:** By August 14, 2020, NW Natural will submit reply comments.
- **Revised:** Staff will bring a recommendation to the Commission at the September 22, 2020, Public Meeting

Questions and comments can be directed to Nick Sayen at nick.sayen@state.or.us or (503) 378-6355.