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COMPANY NAME:

DOES REPORT CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION? No Yes If yes, submit a redacted public version (or a cover letter) by email. Submit the confidential information as directed in OAR 860-001-0070 or the terms of an applicable protective order.

Select report type: RE (Electric) RG (Gas) RW (Water) RT (Telecommunications)
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Order

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Portland, OR 97204

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nwnatural.com

November 17, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Filing Center
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Post Office Box 1088
Salem, Oregon 97308-1088

Re: RG-90 / UM 2114 / UM 2088 – NW Natural’s Third Quarter 2023 Report of COVID-19-Related Costs and Benefits

On October 26, 2023, Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural or Company), filed its third quarter 2023 compliance report in the above-referenced docket. Because the required due date for the report fell before NW Natural’s parent company’s third quarter earnings release, the Company filed the report with a confidential designation.

Northwest Natural Holding Company released its third quarter earnings on November 3, 2023; as a result, the Company’s previously filed report no longer requires the confidential designation. The unredacted, non-confidential report is provided herein.

Please address correspondence on this matter to me at rebecca.trujillo@nwnatural.com or (503) 610.7326 with copies to the following:

eFiling
Rates & Regulatory Affairs
NW Natural
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 610.7330
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eFiling@nwnatural.com

Sincerely,

/s/ Rebecca Trujillo

Rebecca Trujillo
Regulatory Consultant

Enclosure

NW Natural
Oregon Quarterly COVID Report
COVID-19 Costs, Savings, and Benefits
For the three months ended September 30, 2023

Term Sheet Category COVID Itemization:	2020 Total	2021 Total	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	2022 Total	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Current Quarter Q3 2023	2023 Total	Aggregated Total
Item a Direct Costs*	2,517,469	763,711	120,808	78,355	26,087	16,874	242,124	28,397	28,835	29,279	86,511	3,609,814
Item a Direct Savings and Benefits*	(237,839)	(576,189)	(120,567)	(29,771)	17,623	(4,728)	(137,443)	(8,232)	(8,359)	(8,488)	(25,079)	(976,550)
<i>Travel, meals and entertainment related</i>	<i>(236,843)</i>	<i>(362,053)</i>	<i>(22,897)</i>	<i>22,897</i>	-	-	<i>0</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>(598,896)</i>
<i>Employee expenses: education and refreshments</i>		<i>(201,229)</i>	<i>(91,727)</i>	<i>(46,135)</i>	<i>24,438</i>		<i>(113,424)</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>(314,653)</i>
<i>Interest</i>	<i>(996)</i>	<i>(12,907)</i>	<i>(5,943)</i>	<i>(6,533)</i>	<i>(6,815)</i>	<i>(4,728)</i>	<i>(24,019)</i>	<i>(8,232)</i>	<i>(8,359)</i>	<i>(8,488)</i>	<i>(25,079)</i>	<i>(63,001)</i>
Item b Late Payment Fees Not Assessed*	1,254,487	1,263,278	464,074	469,580	156,348	18,663	1,108,665	33,497	34,013	34,537	102,047	3,565,477
Item c Bad Debt Expense Above Baseline***	2,093,761	(134,084)	248,738	(661,061)	1,188,183	887,739	1,663,597	40,396	40,396	42,272	123,063	3,746,338
<i>Residential</i>	<i>1,188,554</i>	<i>212,535</i>	<i>182,277</i>	<i>(653,401)</i>	<i>839,789</i>	<i>717,730</i>	<i>1,086,395</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>2,487,484</i>
<i>Commercial</i>	<i>853,114</i>	<i>(299,948)</i>	<i>52,337</i>	<i>(97,983)</i>	<i>277,427</i>	<i>145,962</i>	<i>377,743</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>930,908</i>
<i>Industrial</i>	<i>29,303</i>	<i>(100,268)</i>	-	<i>75,511</i>	<i>56,155</i>	<i>10,913</i>	<i>142,579</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>71,614</i>
<i>Interest</i>	<i>22,789</i>	<i>53,598</i>	<i>14,124</i>	<i>14,812</i>	<i>14,812</i>	<i>13,133</i>	<i>56,881</i>	<i>40,396</i>	<i>40,396</i>	<i>42,272</i>	<i>123,063</i>	<i>256,332</i>
Item d Reconnections and Field Visits April 1, 2021-October 1, 2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Item e Foregone Reconnection Charges Incurred through November 15, 2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Item f COVID-19 Bill Payment Assistance Program****	-	3,730,918	2,295,925	2,802,261	372,945	92,497	5,563,627	121,865	118,689	118,367	358,921	9,653,466
Total	5,627,877	5,047,634	3,008,977	2,659,364	1,761,185	1,011,045	8,440,571	215,922	213,573	215,967	645,463	19,598,545

* Beginning October 1, 2022 the quarterly activity on these categories include interest only

** The aggregated total of Late Payment Fees was reduced in November 2022 for the UG 435 COVID late fee adjustment of \$163,000.

*** Beginning January 1, 2023 the quarterly activity on the bad debt expense category includes interest or adjustments to the previous provision for bad debt expense for recoveries and write-offs only.

Note, in Q3 2023 the activity represented interest only.

**** Activity in 2023 represents AMP time payment matching grants and interest.