

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 435

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY, dba NW Natural,

Request for a General Rate Revision
(UE 435),

Advice 20-19, Schedule 198 Renewable
Natural Gas Recovery Mechanism
(ADV 1215) (UG 411).

RULING

DISPOSITION: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE OUT OF TIME DENIED

On June 10, 2022, the Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) filed a motion for leave to file out of time a reply to Northwest Natural Gas Company's May 27, 2022 response to the Second Bench Request issued in this proceeding. SBUA states that it requires additional time in order to review technical material with an expert located outside of the United States. SBUA further states that its motion is just and reasonable and that the issue of COVID-19 involves a significant amount of money and the topic had not been addressed in the original utility filing.

The motion for leave to file out of time is denied. Under OAR 860-001-0420(2), "a moving party must make a good faith effort to confer with other parties to seek agreement about the subject of the motion" and the moving party must describe that effort in the procedural motion. SBUA's motion does not include any information regarding whether it made an effort to confer with the other parties, and, if so, what the results of the effort were. Additionally, the Second Bench Request was issued on May 13, 2022, which included both the deadline for NW Natural's response and the deadline for any replies by parties. SBUA has not provided compelling justification for the motion for leave to file out of time given that the deadline was known and established almost a month earlier. SBUA will have an additional opportunity to address the information raised in the Second Bench Request in rebuttal testimony.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2022, at Salem, Oregon.



Sarah Spruce
Administrative Law Judge