

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**
2 **OF OREGON**

3 UM 2214

4 In the Matter of

5 NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
6 COMPANY, dba NW Natural,

7 Updated Depreciation Study Pursuant to
8 OAR 860-027-0350.

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

9 Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Staff) submits this proposed
10 procedural schedule pursuant to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ)'s January 24, 2022
11 Scheduling Memorandum. In the Memorandum, the ALJ instructed parties to confer regarding
12 the need for convening a procedural conference or establishing a procedural schedule in the near
13 term and in the event the parties seek to establish a procedural schedule at this time, to provide a
14 proposed schedule.

15 Staff has conferred with NW Natural Gas Company (NW Natural), the Oregon Citizens'
16 Utility Board (CUB), and the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC)¹ regarding the
17 procedural schedule in this case. These parties have agreed it is appropriate to implement a
18 procedural schedule in the near term and have agreed to a procedural schedule that will result in
19 a final Commission decision regarding updates to NW Natural's depreciation rates in September
20 2022.

21 Staff notes that NW Natural has asked that the depreciation rates from the study filed in
22 this docket be made effective November 1, 2023. The parties have agreed the effective date of
23 the depreciation rates is an issue to be resolved in this case and/or in NW Natural's pending
24 general rate case docketed as UG 435. A schedule that results in a final decision in
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26 ¹ AWEC has not yet petitioned to intervene in this case. Staff anticipates that it will do so and that it will be granted party status.

1 2022 regarding NW Natural’s proposed updates to its depreciation rates will leave the
 2 Commission the opportunity to make the depreciation rates effective November 1, 2023, as
 3 NWN asks, or earlier, i.e., at the time rate changes from NWN’s pending GRC go into effect on
 4 November 1, 2022.

5 The proposed scheduled agreed to by parties is as follows:

Activity	Day	Date
Company Filed UM 2214	Friday	12-17-2021
NWN requested Rate Effective Date		November 1, 2023
Prehearing Conference		TBD
Deadline to File Petitions to Intervene	Friday	2-18-2022
Staff and Intervenors Settlement Proposals Issued	Friday	5-20-2022
Settlement Conference	Wednesday	5-25-2022
All Party Testimony	Friday	6-17-2022
Settlement Conference	Thursday	6-23-2022
All Party Reply Testimony	Friday	7-15-2022
Hearing	Tuesday	7-26-2022
Opening Briefs	Tuesday	8-16-2022

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