



June 15, 2023

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Charles Lockwood, PUC Staff
201 High St. SE, #100
Salem, OR 97301

Regarding: ADV 1502 / Advice 23-04, NW Natural revising Smart Energy to Include Renewable Natural Gas

Dear Commissioners,

The Albany Area Chamber of Commerce works tirelessly to support an environment that fosters and represents the special talents, expertise, and knowledge of all backgrounds and perspectives. The Chamber is professionally managed, goal-oriented, and highly visible. Our members provide a united effort to improve the overall well-being of the community.

As in other locations, Oregon will continue to face new challenges related to climate change. Utility partners, government, business, and industry must come to the table to collaborate and generate innovative solutions to this complicated problem. NW Natural's Smart Energy Program is already helping over 84,000 customers lessen their environmental impact in homes and businesses. Diversifying this program by offering renewable natural gas as an additional option to choose from will generate new participation, further important conversations and education regarding emissions reduction, and allow NW Natural to further build out its company wide emphasis on implementing sustainable ways to meet the demands of the region's growing population. By capturing methane emissions from places like landfills and wastewater treatment facilities, NW Natural can recondition it and allow Smart Energy Program customers to have renewable natural gas used in their home and business consumption. Doing so creates additional carbon mitigating resources in this already established program.

Thank you for your consideration in adopting this proposal from NW Natural.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Janet Steele'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Janet Steele
President
Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

Spark growth.

435 1st Ave. W
PO Box 548
Albany, OR 97321

541.926.1517

albanychamber.com