



July 7, 2023

Megan Decker, Chair
Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC)
c/o Charles Lockwood, PUC Staff
201 High St. SE #100
Salem, OR 97301

*Submitted online to:
PUC.FilingCenter@state.or.us*

RE: Support ADV 1502/ Advice 23-04: NW Natural revising Smart Energy to include Renewable Natural Gas

Dear Chair Decker and Commissioners:

The City of Wilsonville has been one of Oregon's fastest-growing cities for the past 20+ years, with a residential population now over 27,000 and an employment labor force of 20,000 jobs. With 90% of the workforce commuting to jobs in Wilsonville, providing reliable, affordable public-transit options is crucial for employee recruitment/retention as well as reducing single-occupancy vehicles on our highways and consequent carbon emissions.

The City operates the award-winning South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) agency, which seeks to power all buses sustainably with alternative fuels by 2028. SMART has won over \$4 million in federal and state grants over the past few years to advance a low- or no-emissions bus fleet and build the corresponding supportive fueling infrastructure.

The City is working with Clackamas County on a Climate Action Plan seeking to reduce GHG emissions from the transit fleet and other municipal operations. Previously, the City and SMART collaborated in 2014 with Metro regional government to develop the Climate Smart Strategy to reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions from cars and small trucks by 2035.

SMART seeks to advance sustainability and lower carbon emissions by utilizing Renewable Natural Gas (RNG), which would otherwise not be captured for beneficial use, and reduces reliance on traditional methods of natural gas production.

PUC consideration of this Docket/proposal title is important to the City of Wilsonville and SMART by providing more opportunity to achieve our sustainability goals. The City would appreciate the opportunity this update to the program creates—an additional carbon-mitigating resource in this established program.

Thank you for your consideration in adopting ADV 1502/Advice 23-04 proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Fitzgerald".

Julie Fitzgerald, Mayor
City of Wilsonville