

From: [Lisa Adatto](#)
To: [PUC PUC.FilingCenter * PUC](#)
Subject: NW Natural General Rate Case, docket# UG 490 -- Please reject
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 4:36:26 PM
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To: Chair Decker and Commissioners Tawney and Perkins, Oregon PUC
From: The Board of Directors, Lake Oswego Sustainability Network (LOSN)
Re: NW Natural General Rate Case, Docket # UG 490 -- Please reject
Date: April 16, 2024

I appreciate the opportunity to send written testimony about a critical issue. On behalf of the Lake Oswego Sustainability Network, I urge you to reject NW Natural's rate proposal.

Specifically, we are urging you to reject all subsidies for the line extension allowance.

To meet state climate targets, we need to reduce and eventually eliminate the use of natural gas, which is composed of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. The NW Natural rate proposal includes expenditures that go in the opposite direction.

We are already experiencing unhealthy, expensive, and dangerous effects of climate change. During the summers we are beset by fires that harm our forests and our air. We have suffered from heat surges and droughts. As greenhouse gasses accumulate in the atmosphere, scientists predict that our climate will get worse. Policymakers in Oregon take this very seriously; we must make the hard choices to meet our goals.

LOSN is a volunteer-based sustainability group in Lake Oswego. We work to promote a clean and safe environment for future generations by helping local residents reduce their use of toxics and fossil fuels. We have a thousand people on our mailing list, and many hundreds of people attend our events and work with us on a multitude of projects. We host a program, "Electrify LO" which helps our citizens switch to low carbon options such as electric vehicles, heat pumps, induction stoves and more.

Polling done by the chamber of commerce and the city of Lake Oswego shows that climate change and sustainability are among top concerns for Lake Oswego residents. As much as individuals can do locally, state policies are imperative to change our system. Please build on your own guidance from the NW Natural's integrated resource plan by directing the utility to pursue electrification, which is the only feasible, proven path to meeting its decarbonization obligations under state policy.

NW Natural's proposal is to *increase* its ratepayer-funded subsidies for many new gas connections. Our state needs to *end* this outdated, expensive, and climate-damaging approach.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lisa Adatto, Board Member

On behalf of The LOSN Board of Directors

ladatto3@gmail.com

