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To: [PUC PUC.FilingCenter * PUC](#)
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Chair Decker and Commissioners Tawney and Perkins, thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening. My name is Nora Lehmann, I'm a mom of two young children and tonight I'm speaking on behalf of Families for Climate. We are a grassroots non-profit mobilizing parents, kids and families for climate justice and a livable future for all.

We request that the Commission reject Northwest Natural's attempt to expand their system of methane pipelines at their customers' expense, and at the expense of a livable climate for our children.

A recent NOAA report¹ confirmed that in 2023 emissions of methane and carbon dioxide continued to surge to historic highs. Oregonian families are relying on decision-makers to set policy that ensures fossil fuel usage actually declines; not prop up false solutions like biogas and hydrogen blending, which have been demonstrated to be scarce, expensive, and dangerous.

The plain fact is that in order to meet our climate targets, we must start shrinking the gas pipeline system—not expanding it. Please build on your guidance from 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.

In the context of our fragile and rapidly devolving climate, and the fact that Oregon has yet to actually meet any of its GHG pollution reduction benchmarks², it's imperative to ensure that ratepayers aren't subsidizing the growth of fossil fuel infrastructure. Given this concern, we urge the commission to instruct NW Natural to discontinue its line extension allowance.

As parents, grandparents and caretakers, we have an obligation to do everything we can to protect our children's health and safety, and we thank the PUC for their work and for considering our testimony.

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1. <https://research.noaa.gov/2024/04/05/no-sign-of-greenhouse-gases-increases-slowing-in-2023/>
 2. <https://www.opb.org/article/2023/04/14/oregon-must-cut-more-greenhouse-gas-emissions-to-reach-climate-goal-panel-says/>