



13 July 2023

Public Utility Commission of Oregon

cc: 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 Washington County Chamber of Commerce represents more than 800 member companies and advocates for a healthy and competitive business environment by way of thoughtful and strategic political advocacy and collaboration with elected officials to champion our mission.

One of our legislative priorities, reviewed and ratified by the Board of Directors, states; “The Washington County Chamber of Commerce recognizes the eminent dangers of climate change that we face today. However, it is important that we continue to offer our residents affordable, dependable, reliable forms of energy”.

The Chamber has established a public policy committee charged with reviewing important policies that affect our members and the public at large and determine whether specific policies align with Chamber values, our priorities and our mission. The committee reviewed NW Natural’s proposal and unanimously voted that the “opt-in” to a renewable natural gas solution for consumers is consistent with our Chamber’s adopted policies on energy, climate, choice and economic security.

As Chair of the Board of the Washington county Chamber of Commerce and on behalf of our public policy committee, we support the requested policy change that will provide for renewable natural gas investment opportunities derived from wastewater treatment plants, landfills and farms which will provide economic opportunity for our community while putting our waste to work and we support the public option to invest in a cleaner, smarter future for our county, our state and our planet.

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

Sincerely,

Rob Harris

Chair, Washington County Chamber of Commerce