

July 18, 2013

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Filing Center 550 Capitol St NE - Ste215 PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

RE: LC 51 – 2013 Integrated Resource Plan Update

The Public Utility Commission of Oregon Staff (Staff) supports Northwest Natural's (NWN) request for suspension<sup>1</sup> of the procedural schedule in this proceeding, as well as the closure of this docket. NWN filed its 2013 LC 51 IRP Update with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) on April 25, 2013. On July 16, 2013, NWN filed amendments to its IRP Update, which removed the request for acknowledgement of action items.

NWN's initial IRP Update filing included a revised Action Item 2.3, which requested acknowledgement of certain aspects of the development of a regional cross-Cascades pipeline on the basis of reliability and diversification of the Company's current resource portfolio. In addition, scoping criteria was proposed with regard to distribution system planning projects.

As a result of NWN's request for acknowledgement, a prehearing conference was held on May 30, 2013, where a procedural schedule was adopted. As a result of NWN's July 16, 2013 amended IRP Update, Commission acknowledgement is no longer requested. Because Commission acknowledgement is no longer requested, there is no longer a need for a schedule or Commission action in this docket and Staff supports NWN's request to close this docket.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jason W. Jones

Assistant Attorney General Business Activities Section

JWJ:jwj/#4435939 cc: all parties

Alternatively, the schedule could be vacated.

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
2	I certify that on July 18, 2013 served the foregoing Status Update upon the parties in this	
3	proceeding by electronic mail only, as all parties waived paper service.	
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