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February 29, 2008

#### VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Public Utility Commission of Oregon 550 Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 215 P.O. Box 2148 Salem, Oregon 97308-2148

Attn: Vikie Bailey-Goggins

Re: Docket No. UM 1218

2007 Annual Report for B1 Service Quality Measure for Billing

Accuracy (B1 SQM)

Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural or Company), submits herewith the annual report of the B1 SQM results for the calendar year 2007.

## Reported Bill Errors during the Measure Year

There were no Bill Errors<sup>1</sup> during the Measure Year (Year). Therefore, the Monthly Billing Accuracy Ratio for each month, as defined by the Service Quality Measure, was 100%.

## Non-Reportable Bill Corrections

The attached report shows the number and types of non-reportable bill corrections that occurred during the Year. These bill corrections are specifically excluded from the definition of a Bill Error. There were a total of 25,405 bill corrections during the Year. The largest number of bill corrections occurred due to a change in service start or end date, which result primarily because of incorrect or untimely customer provided information. The next largest number of bill corrections resulted from correcting meter reading errors that are normally encountered in meter reading operations<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> A billing error by the Company due to the Same Cause that affects a total of five hundred (500) or more bills issued to Oregon customers in a Bill Month.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> By way of example, but not of limitation, meter reading errors "normally encountered" include an inability to access a meter due to a dog, a locked gate, a cover over a meter, an unlocatable meter, or a hazardous condition, including but not limited to a confined space.

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The Company experienced an overall bill accuracy ratio for the Year of 99.64%.

#### Conclusion

The Company exceeded the 99.4% Monthly Billing Accuracy Ratio in each month that a Bill Error was recorded. Therefore, there is no remedy determination required for the 2007 Measure Year.

Please address correspondence on this matter to me with copies to the following:

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Please do not hesitate to call if you have questions or desire further information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Onita R. King

Onita R. King, Manager Tariffs & Regulatory Compliance

cc: Gregg Kantor
C. Alex Miller
Dave Williams
Inara Scott
Lori Russell
Chuck Muehleck

## **OPUC Staff:**

Judy Johnson Bonnie Tatom Deborah Garcia

# Program: CNNSQMSR Bill Accuracy Report Revenue Month Period: 01/2007 - 12/2007

as of 2/15/2008 7:49 AM

| Total Bills Issued - Oregon       | Jan<br>580,636 | Feb<br>584,059 | Mar<br>585,351 | Apr<br>580,601 | May<br>584,159 | Jun<br>583,936 | Jul<br>582,901 | Aug<br>582,254 | Sep<br>581,827 | Oct<br>586,140 | Nov<br>589,317 | Dec<br>593,545 | Total<br>7,014,726 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| BSQM Corrections - Oregon         |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                    |
| (No BSQM events in 2007)          | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0                  |
| SubTotal BSQM                     | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0                  |
| % of Total Bills Issued           | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%          | 0.00%              |
| % of Total Bills Issued Correctly | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%        | 100.00%            |
| Other Bill Corrections - Oregon   |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                    |
| Crossed Meter Correction          | 40             | 42             | 41             | 33             | 42             | 18             | 24             | 34             | 20             | 0              | 16             | 4              | 314                |
| Bill Clerk Processing Error       | 30             | 36             | 36             | 54             | 33             | 47             | 17             | 30             | 17             | 18             | 13             | 18             | 349                |
| Bill Undr/Ovr Registrd Mtr Use    | 209            | 303            | 349            | 331            | 303            | 325            | 349            | 326            | 216            | 172            | 185            | 116            | 3,184              |
| Cancl/Bill Agn to Start PmtPln    | 57             | 26             | 13             | 2              | 1              | 2              | 1              | 1              | 0              | 0              | 4              | 11             | 118                |
| Change Customer Rate Schedule     | 5              | 6              | 3              | 5              | 4              | 4              | 6              | 3              | 1              | 4              | 2              | 3              | 46                 |
| Change Service Start/End Date     | 696            | 659            | 780            | 765            | 835            | 815            | 919            | 714            | 758            | 823            | 756            | 645            | 9,165              |
| Corrects for Meter Pressure       | 17             | 21             | 11             | 9              | 7              | 6              | 6              | 5              | 5              | 6              | 4              | 3              | 100                |
| Corrects CIS Progrm Code Error    | 66             | 17             | 85             | 13             | 8              | 24             | 68             | 79             | 69             | 54             | 56             | 50             | 589                |
| Corrects ERT Install Pgm Error    | 53             | 80             | 90             | 24             | 13             | 10             | 7              | 7              | 7              | 5              | 3              | 1              | 300                |
| Corrects Info from Field Tech     | 30             | 28             | 35             | 38             | 42             | 29             | 16             | 14             | 5              | 2              | 9              | 18             | 266                |
| Corrects Meter Read Error         | 725            | 886            | 698            | 594            | 694            | 668            | 706            | 663            | 264            | 227            | 223            | 371            | 6,719              |
| Corrects Order Info From CSR      | 38             | 36             | 34             | 28             | 30             | 41             | 35             | 33             | 25             | 23             | 34             | 55             | 412                |
| Corrects Payment Plan             | 1              | 2              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 1              | 1              | 5                  |
| Corrects Pmt Application          | 1              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 1                  |
| Corrects Prior Estimated Read     | 339            | 104            | 99             | 122            | 157            | 123            | 81             | 85             | 36             | 40             | 43             | 45             | 1,274              |
| Corrects Prorated Meter Read      | 1              | 2              | 3              | 3              | 1              | 6              | 2              | 1              | 0              | 1              | 1              | 0              | 21                 |
| Customer Provided Incorr Read     | 10             | 3              | 12             | 7              | 14             | 10             | 7              | 5              | 9              | 5              | 2              | 5              | 89                 |
| Deposit Proc'd Incorrectly        | 28             | 20             | 27             | 31             | 15             | 25             | 19             | 24             | 51             | 58             | 46             | 12             | 356                |
| Other                             | 28             | 49             | 45             | 21             | 25             | 20             | 16             | 14             | 15             | 13             | 37             | 23             | 306                |
| Prior High Est Read (Auto)        | 645            | 177            | 69             | 128            | 150            | 127            | 76             | 149            | 36             | 41             | 42             | 39             | 1,679              |
| Reverse Deposit - Credit Estab    | 10             | 10             | 9              | 4              | 6              | 9              | 10             | 10             | 5              | 8              | 11             | 6              | 98                 |
| WARM Opt-Out; Not Proc'd Timely   | 3              | 1              | 3              | 1              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 2              | 10                 |
| WARM Tariff Apprvd Opt-Out Chg    | 2              | 1              | 0              | 1              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 4                  |
| SubTotal Other                    | 3,034          | 2,509          | 2,442          | 2,214          | 2,380          | 2,309          | 2,365          | 2,197          | 1,539          | 1,500          | 1,488          | 1,428          | 25,405             |
| BSQM & Other Bill Corrrections    |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                    |
| Total Bill Corrections - Oregon   | 3,034          | 2,509          | 2,442          | 2,214          | 2,380          | 2,309          | 2,365          | 2,197          | 1,539          | 1,500          | 1,488          | 1,428          | 25,405             |
| % of Total Bills Issued           | 0.52%          | 0.43%          | 0.42%          | 0.38%          | 0.41%          | 0.40%          | 0.41%          | 0.38%          | 0.26%          | 0.26%          | 0.25%          | 0.24%          | 0.36%              |
| , t t. Total Billo localou        |                | 0.40/0         | J. 7≛ /U       | 0.00/0         | Q. T1/0        | 3.40/0         | Q. T 1 / U     | 0.00/0         | J. 10/0        | U.20/0         | 0.20/0         | J.2-7/0        | 3.00/0             |
| % of Total Bills Issued Correctly | 99.48%         | 99.57%         | 99.58%         | 99.62%         | 99.59%         | 99.60%         | 99.59%         | 99.62%         | 99.74%         | 99.74%         | 99.75%         | 99.76%         | 99.64%             |