

# McDowell & Rackner PC



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June 25, 2008

## VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

PUC Filing Center  
Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
PO Box 2148  
Salem, OR 97308-2148

**Re: Docket LC 45 – Integrated Resource Plan**

Enclosed for filing is NW Natural Gas Company's Motion for Approval of Protective Order in the above-referenced proceeding. This document is being filed by electronic mail with the Filing Center.

A copy of this filing has been served on all parties in this proceeding as indicated on the attached certificate of service.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa F. Rackner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Lisa F. Rackner

Enclosure

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day served the foregoing document in OPUC Docket No. UM 1286 by electronic mail and first class mail to the following parties or attorneys of parties:

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Dated June 25, 2008

MCDOWELL & RACKNER PC

  

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Lisa Rackner

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

**LC 45**

In the Matter of Northwest Natural Gas  
Company, dba NW Natural into the  
2008 Integrated Resource Plan

**MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF  
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Pursuant to ORCP 36(C)(7) and OAR 860-12-0035(1)(k), Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural ("NW Natural" or "Company") requests the issuance of a Protective Order in this proceeding. NW Natural believes good cause exists for the issuance of such an order to protect confidential market information and confidential business information, plans and strategies. In support of this Motion, NW Natural states:

1. April 15, 2008, NW Natural filed an Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"). Due to the nature of this docket, it is anticipated that parties in this docket will request detailed and confidential information regarding NW Natural's policies, procedures and models, as well as information regarding contract terms for existing and proposed supply arrangements or negotiations regarding the same.

2. While NW Natural wishes to provide requested information, such information is of significant commercial value, and its public disclosure could be detrimental to the Company and its customers. The potential information may concern studies, modeling or evaluations involving price forecasts or system constraints within NW Natural's distribution system. It may also invoke specific price terms and other contract terms NW Natural has negotiated or is in the process of negotiating. If other parties involved obtained this information, they could use it to the financial harm of NW Natural and its customers. The information is confidential commercial information and/or trade secrets under ORCP 36(C)(7).

1           3.       Moreover, NW Natural is also seeking protection for confidential information  
2 sent to Staff pursuant to informal data requests made after the Company filed its draft IRP.  
3 In March of 2008 Commission Staff served informal data requests on the Company  
4 requesting confidential information related to the Company's draft IRP. The Company  
5 provided responses on two separate occasions. The first was sent by email on March 17,  
6 and the second was sent by letter on April 7. All confidential information provided was  
7 clearly designated as such.

8           4.       The Commission should therefore issue a Protective Order to protect the  
9 confidentiality of that material. The requested order, identical to the one that the  
10 Commission customarily issues, is attached.

11          5.       In addition, the Company requests that the Commission order that the  
12 confidential information previously provided in response to Commission Staff's informal data  
13 request discussed in paragraph 3 above be deemed covered by the terms of the Protective  
14 Order issued in this docket

15          For the reasons stated above, NW Natural requests that a protective order be issued  
16 in this proceeding.

17          DATED this 25th day of June 2008.

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Respectfully submitted,  
MCDOWELL & RACKNER PC

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Lisa F. Rackner

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Of Attorneys for NW Natural

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**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

DOCKET NO. LC 45

**Scope of this Order-**

1. This order governs the acquisition and use of "Confidential Information" in this proceeding.

**Definitions-**

2. "Confidential Information" is information that falls within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(7) ("a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information").

3. A "qualified person" is an individual who is:

- a. An author(s), addressee(s), or originator(s) of the Confidential Information;
- b. A Commissioner or Commission staff;
- c. Counsel of record for a party;
- d. A person employed directly by counsel of record; or
- e. A person qualified pursuant to paragraph 10. This includes parties and their employees.

**Designation of Confidential Information-**

4. A party providing Confidential Information shall inform other parties that the material has been designated confidential by placing the following legend on the information:

CONFIDENTIAL  
SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

To the extent practicable, the party shall designate as confidential only those portions of the document that fall within ORCP 36(C)(7).

5. A party may designate as confidential any information previously provided by giving written notice to the other parties. Parties in possession of newly designated Confidential Information shall, when feasible, ensure that all copies of the information bear the above legend to the extent requested by the party desiring confidentiality.

**Information Given to the Commission-**

6. Confidential Information that is: (a) filed with the Commission or its staff; (b) made an exhibit; (c) incorporated into a transcript; or (d) incorporated into a pleading, brief, or other document, shall be printed on yellow paper, separately bound and placed in a sealed envelope or other appropriate container. An original and five copies each separately sealed shall be provided to the Commission. **Only the portions of a document that fall within ORCP 36(C)(7) shall be placed in the envelope/container.** The envelope/container shall bear the legend:

THIS ENVELOPE IS SEALED PURSUANT TO ORDER  
NO. \_\_\_\_\_ AND CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION. THE INFORMATION MAY BE SHOWN  
ONLY TO QUALIFIED PERSONS AS DEFINED IN THE  
ORDER.

7. The Commission's Administrative Hearings Division shall store the Confidential Information in a locked cabinet dedicated to the storage of Confidential Information.

**Disclosure of Confidential Information-**

8. Parties desiring receipt of Confidential Information shall sign the Consent to be Bound Form attached as Appendix B. This requirement does not apply to the Commission staff. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed to any person other than a "qualified person," as defined in paragraph 3. When feasible, Confidential Information shall be delivered to counsel. In the alternative, Confidential Information may be made available for inspection and review by qualified persons in a place and time agreeable to the parties or as directed by the Administrative Law Judge.

9. Qualified persons may disclose Confidential Information to any other qualified person, unless the party desiring confidentiality protests as provided in Section 11.

10. To become a qualified person under paragraph 3(e), a person must:
- a. Read a copy of this Protective Order;
  - b. Execute a statement acknowledging that the order has been read and agreeing to be bound by the terms of the order;
  - c. Date the statement;

- d. Provide a name, address, employer, and job title; and
- e. If the person is a consultant or advisor for a party, provide a description of the nature of the person's consulting or advising practice, including the identity of his/her current, past, and expected clients.

Counsel shall deliver a copy of the signed statement including the information in (d) and (e) above to the party desiring confidentiality and to all parties of record. Such notification may be made via e-mail or facsimile. A person qualified under paragraph 3(e) shall not have access to Confidential Information sooner than five (5) business days after receipt of a copy of the signed statement including the information in (d) and (e) above by the party desiring confidentiality.

11. All qualified persons shall have access to Confidential Information, unless the party desiring confidentiality protests as provided in this paragraph. The party desiring to restrict the qualified person(s) from accessing specific Confidential Information must provide written notice to the qualified person(s) and counsel for the party associated with the qualified person(s) as soon as the party becomes aware of reasons to restrict access. The parties must promptly confer and attempt to resolve any dispute over access to Confidential Information on an informal basis before filing a motion with the Administrative Law Judge. If the dispute cannot be resolved informally, either party may file a motion with the Administrative Law Judge for resolution. Either party may also file a motion if the other party does not respond within five days to a request to resolve the dispute. A motion must describe in detail the intermediate measures, including selected redaction, explored by the parties and explain why such measures do not resolve the dispute. After receipt of the written notice as required in this paragraph, the specific Confidential Information shall not be disclosed to the qualified person(s) until the issue is resolved.

**Preservation of Confidentiality-**

12. All persons who are given access to any Confidential Information by reason of this order shall not use or disclose the Confidential Information for any purpose other than the purposes of preparation for and conduct of this proceeding, and shall take all reasonable precautions to keep the Confidential Information secure. Disclosure of Confidential Information for purposes of business competition is strictly prohibited.

Qualified persons may copy, microfilm, microfiche, or otherwise reproduce Confidential Information to the extent necessary for the preparation and conduct of this proceeding. Qualified persons may disclose Confidential Information only to other qualified persons associated with the same party.

**Duration of Protection-**

13. The Commission shall preserve the confidentiality of Confidential Information for a period of five years from the date of the final order in this docket, unless extended by the Commission at the request of the party desiring confidentiality. The Commission shall notify the party desiring confidentiality at least two weeks prior to the release of confidential information.

**Destruction After Proceeding-**

14. Counsel of record may retain memoranda, pleadings, testimony, discovery, or other documents containing Confidential Information to the extent reasonably necessary to maintain a file of this proceeding or to comply with requirements imposed by another governmental agency or court order. The information retained may not be disclosed to any person. Any other person retaining Confidential Information or documents containing such Confidential Information must destroy or return it to the party desiring confidentiality within 90 days after final resolution of this proceeding unless the party desiring confidentiality consents, in writing, to retention of the Confidential Information or documents containing such Confidential Information. This paragraph does not apply to the Commission or its Staff.

**Appeal to the Presiding Officer-**

15. If a party disagrees with the designation of information as confidential, the party shall contact the designating party and attempt to resolve the dispute on an informal basis. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute, the party desiring to use the information may move for exclusion of the information from the protection conferred by this order. The motion shall:

- a. Specifically identify the contested information, and
- b. Assert that the information does not fall within ORCP 36(C)(7) and state the reasons therefore.

The party resisting disclosure has the burden of showing that the challenged information falls within ORCP 36(C)(7). If the party resisting disclosure does not respond to the motion within ten (10) calendar days, the challenged information shall be removed from the protection of this order.

The information shall not be disclosed pending a ruling by the Administrative Law Judge on the motion.



**Additional Protection-**

16. The party desiring additional protection may move for any of the remedies set forth in ORCP 36(C). The motion shall state:

- a. The parties and persons involved;
- b. The exact nature of the information involved;
- c. The exact nature of the relief requested;
- d. The specific reasons the requested relief is necessary; and
- e. A detailed description of the intermediate measures, including selected redaction, explored by the parties and why such measures do not resolve the dispute.

The information need not be released and, if released, shall not be disclosed pending the Commission's ruling on the motion.

**SIGNATORY PAGE**

DOCKET NO. LC 45

**I. Consent to be Bound-**

This Protective Order governs the use of "Confidential Information in this proceeding. \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to be bound by the terms of this Protective Order,

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Printed Date

**II Persons Qualified pursuant to Paragraphs 3(a) through 3(d)**

\_\_\_\_\_ identifies the following person(s) automatically qualified under paragraph 3(a) through (d):

_____	_____
Printed	Date
_____	_____
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_____	_____
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ORDER NO.

**III. Persons Qualified pursuant to Paragraph 3(e) and Paragraph 10.**

I have read the Protective Order, agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the order, and will provide the information identified in paragraph 10.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Printed Date

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Printed Date

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Signature & Printed Date

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