

1                                   **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
2   **OF OREGON**  
3   **UG 163**

4  
5   In the Matter of  
6   NORTHWEST NATURAL  
7   Investigation Regarding Possible Continuation  
   of Distribution Margin Normalization Tariff.

MOTION TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL  
SCHEDULE

8           Pursuant to OAR 860-013-0031, staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
9 (“staff”) requests that the administrative law judge issue an order suspending the procedural  
10 schedule in the above-captioned docket. All but two of the parties to the docket have reached an  
11 agreement in concept resolving all issues in the docket. The two parties that did not enter into  
12 the stipulation, Avista Corporation and Cascade Natural Gas, did not actively participate in the  
13 settlement discussions and do not anticipate opposing the stipulation. Accordingly, the current  
14 procedural schedule, which contemplates an additional two rounds of testimony, a hearing and  
15 briefs, should not be necessary. Instead, the parties anticipate that the Commission may finally  
16 resolve all the issues in this docket with no further filings from the parties, other than the filing  
17 of the stipulation and supporting testimony.

18           The parties to the agreement are finalizing the written stipulation and drafting supporting  
19 testimony. The parties to the stipulation anticipate the stipulation and testimony will be filed  
20 with the Commission in mid-August 2005. Staff has consulted with all the parties to this docket,  
21 including those that did not stipulate, and all are agreeable to the Commission taking this docket  
22 under advisement after the stipulation and joint testimony have been filed and the time for  
23 comment has passed, with no further proceedings.

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1 **CONCLUSION**

2 For the foregoing reasons, staff asks that the administrative law judge issue an order  
3 suspending the current procedural schedule in anticipation of an uncontested stipulation  
4 resolving all issues in this docket.

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6 DATED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2005.

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8 Respectfully submitted,

9 **HARDY MYERS**  
10 **Attorney General**

11 /s/Stephanie S. Andrus  
12 **Stephanie S. Andrus, #92512**  
13 **Assistant Attorney General**  
14 **Of Attorneys for staff of the Public**  
15 **Utility Commission of Oregon**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on August 2, 2005, I served the foregoing UG 163 Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule upon the parties hereto by sending a true, exact and full copy by regular mail, postage prepaid and by electronic mail to:

NW ENERGY COALITION 219 FIRST ST STE 100 SEATTLE WA 98104	JIM ABRAHAMSON COMMUNITY ACTION DIRECTORS OF OREGON 4035 12TH ST CUTOFF SE STE 110 SALEM OR 97302 jim@cado-oregon.org
KATHERINE BARNARD CASCADE NATURAL GAS PO BOX 24464 SEATTLE WA 98124 kbarnard@cngc.com	PHIL CARVER OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 625 MARION ST NE STE 1 SALEM OR 97301-3742 philip.h.carver@state.or.us
RALPH CAVANAGH NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL 111 SUTTER ST FL 20 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94104 rcavanagh@nrdc.org	JOAN COTE OREGON ENERGY COORDINATORS ASSOCIATION 2585 STATE ST NE SALEM OR 97301 cotej@mwwcaa.org
JASON EISDORFER CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF OREGON 610 SW BROADWAY STE 308 PORTLAND OR 97205 jason@oregoncub.org	MICHAEL FIELDMAN COMMUNITY ACTION DIRECTORS OF OREGON 2448 W. HARVARD BLVD ROSEBURG OR 97470
EDWARD A FINKLEA CABLE HUSTON BENEDICT HAAGENSEN & LLOYD 1001 SW 5TH, SUITE 2000 PORTLAND OR 97204 efinklea@chbh.com	BRIAN HIRSCHKORN AVISTA UTILITIES PO BOX 3727 SPOKANE WA 99220-3727 brian.hirschhorn@avistacorp.com
ROBERT JENKS CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF OREGON 610 SW BROADWAY STE 308 PORTLAND OR 97205 bob@oregoncub.org	DAVID J MEYER AVISTA CORPORATION PO BOX 3727 SPOKANE WA 99220-3727 david.meyer@avistacorp.com
C ALEX MILLER NORTHWEST NATURAL 220 NW 2ND AVE PORTLAND OR 97209 alex.miller@nwnatural.com	JANET L PREWITT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301-4096 janet.prewitt@doj.state.or.us

1	PAULA E PYRON NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS 4113 WOLF BERRY COURT LAKE OSWEGO OR 97035-1827 ppyron@nwigu.org	JOE ROSS NORTHWEST NATURAL 220 NW 2ND AVE PORTLAND OR 97209 joe.ross@nwnatural.com
2		
3	JON T STOLTZ CASCADE NATURAL GAS PO BOX 24464 SEATTLE WA 98124 jstoltz@cngc.com	JAMES M VAN NOSTRAND STOEL RIVES LLP 900 SW FIFTH AVE, STE 2600 PORTLAND OR 97204-1268 jmvannostrand@stoel.com
4		
5	STEVEN WEISS NORTHWEST ENERGY COALITION 4422 OREGON TRAIL CT NE SALEM OR 97305 steve@nwenergy.org	
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Legal Secretary  
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