

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: May 30, 2017**

REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE June 2, 2017

DATE: May 5, 2017

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Kathy Zarate *KZ*

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer and Marc Hellman *JH*

SUBJECT: NW Natural: (Docket No. ADV 553/Advice No.17-02) Requests housekeeping revisions to Revision to Rule 16 - Voluntary Termination of Gas Service Account.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The Public Utility Commission (Commission) should approve the request by Northwest Natural Gas Company (NW Natural or Company) to revise its Tariff, P.U.C. Or. 25 (Tariff), to become effective with service on and after June 2, 2017.

**DISCUSSION:**

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve the Company's housekeeping amendments to its tariff sheets that reflect recent Commission-approved changes to other schedules and a typographical error.

Applicable Law

The Company's filing involves tariff sheets that are governed by ORS 757.205 and OAR 860-022-0025. Under ORS 757.205(1), a public utility must file schedules showing all rates, tolls, and charges for service that have been established and are in force at the time. Tariff revisions or corrections may be made by filing revised sheets with the information required under the Commission's administrative rules, including OAR 860-022-0005 and OAR 860-022-0025. Filings that make any change in rates, tolls, charges, rules, or regulations must be filed with the Commission at least 30 days before the effective date of the changes.

### Discussion and Analysis

On April 21, NW Natural submitted this housekeeping filing is to clarify the language as it relates to the voluntary termination of gas service for Residential, Rate Schedule 3, and Rate Schedule 27 customers. This filing is a housekeeping filing that corrects language errors. NW Natural originally submitted its filing on April 21, 2017. The Company then amended its filing on the same day. The Company states that the purpose of its filing is to clarify the language as it relates to the voluntary termination of gas service in Rate Schedule 3 and Rate Schedule 27 under Rule 16.

The Company is not proposing to change the entire rule at this time only to clarify the language in Paragraph 1 and insert one word in paragraph 3. A summary of the proposed changes are as follows:

1. Rule 16 Title Change – “By Customer” was deleted and “Voluntary” was added to the beginning of the title.
2. Paragraph 1 / end of Line 1 – “Rates Schedule 27” was added
3. Paragraph 1 / Line 4 - “Business Day” replaced “Calendar Day”
4. Paragraph 3 / Line 2 – “voluntarily” was added to be consistent with the updated title.

### Conclusion

After review, Staff concludes that the revisions filed by NW Natural are appropriate. By their housekeeping nature, none of the revisions affect customers' rates or tariff eligibilities. Staff reviewed the proposed schedule changes to ensure that they were consistent with the rates approved by the Commission. Staff also reviewed the entire tariff file to ensure no other schedules were affected by the recent changes. Staff identified no issues or errors with the filing and recommends the Commission approve the tariff changes as filed, allowing the housekeeping revisions to go into effect for service on and after June 2, 2017. No requests for information were sent to the Company as the filing was self-explanatory and included the necessary documentation.

The Company was provided a draft copy of this memo and has no concerns.

### **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Approve NW Natural's Advice No.17-02 for service effective on and after June 2, 2017.