

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 170(4)

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY,
dba NW NATURAL,

Annual Tax Filings under ORS 757.268.

RULING

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO MODIFY SCHEDULE GRANTED

On January 11, 2011, Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) filed a motion to modify the procedural schedule in this docket. Staff states that the active parties have reached a settlement in principle. Staff further states that no active party opposes its motion to modify the schedule.

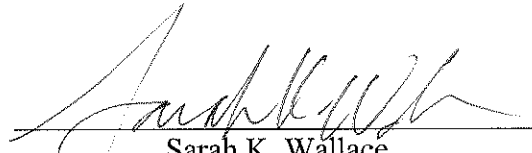
Staff requests that the Commission modify to the procedural schedule to include the following:

EVENT	DATE
Stipulation Due	January 14, 2011
Testimony Supporting Stipulation Due	January 21, 2011
Objections to Stipulation Due	February 7, 2011

Staff's motion is deficient in two respects. First, Staff states that "Staff understands that no active party opposes this motion[.]" but does not describe Staff's efforts to contact the parties or the results of those efforts as required by OAR 860-001-0420(3). Second, Staff does not include the additional information required by OAR 860-001-0420(7) for expedited motions. Given the recent addition of these requirements to the Commission's procedural rules, I will waive the application of OAR 860-001-420(3) and (7) to this motion.

Staff's motion is reasonable and the proposed dates are consistent with OAR 860-001-0350(8). Staff's motion is therefore granted. In addition to the above deadlines, parties must file motions to admit its pre-filed testimony, including witness affidavits, by February 11, 2011.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2011, at Salem, Oregon.



Sarah K. Wallace
Administrative Law Judge