



June 4, 2023

Chair Decker and members of the Commission,

I am a NW Natural customer based in West Linn and am the Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter. As a mother and grandmother, I am concerned about the future of my family, of all our families.

We are in a climate emergency driven in part by the explosive increase of methane, which is over 80 times more potent a climate driver than carbon dioxide. We need our gas utilities to downsize, not allow for continued, business-as-usual growth. I am concerned about the continuing misleading statements of NWN, especially given the unprecedented circumstances we face.

Additionally, I am concerned that NWN continues to promote unrealistic and misleading claims about the availability and benefits of so-called **renewable natural gas and hydrogen**. It is critical that the PUC follow through with the IRP guidance that is discussed in the final *Future of Gas Report* and be extra skeptical of RNG investments and continued growth of the gas system.

Another important consideration is the seismic stability of the CEI Hub and the risk of NWN's planned investments in this area. I urge the PUC to **not** acknowledge the cold box investment in particular, or at least to defer consideration until after more research and mitigation efforts.

As a NWN customer, a concerned climate activist, and a member of this community, I urge you to dramatically reduce the use of gas. Customers do not want to be on the hook for decades to come to pay off risky investments in continued fossil fuel use and expensive and unproven gas alternatives.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Karen Harrington

Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter  
Legislative Committee, Chair

About The Climate Reality Project

The Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led group affiliated with the international non-profit The Climate Reality Project founded by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every sector of society. With a global movement more than 5 million strong and a grassroots network of trained Climate Reality Leader activists, we're spreading the truth about the climate crisis and building popular support for clean energy solutions.

For more information, visit the Portland Chapter at <https://climaterealitypdx.com/>, and the Climate Reality Project at [www.climaterealityproject.org](http://www.climaterealityproject.org) or on Twitter at @ClimateReality.