

Dear Commissioners, On behalf of the Coordinating Committee for Third Act Oregon, an Oregon non-profit of over 300 seniors working to support Democracy and fight climate change, we ask that you reject NW Natural's deeply flawed rate hike request. This misguided proposal will only serve to increase fossil fuel use, and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions that pose an imminent threat to our climate. By rejecting NW Natural's proposal to increase its ratepayer-funded subsidies for new gas connections, and ordering it to end these outdated, expensive, climate-damaging subsidies you will be helping to protect Oregon's environment for current and future generations. This rejection will build on the clear direction you provided in response to NW Natural's Integrated Resource Plan, to appropriately consider and incorporate electrification into the utility's decarbonization strategy. In light of the danger posed by fossil fuel emissions, the only feasible and cost-effective pathway for gas utilities like NW Natural to comply with the State's climate goals is to quickly decarbonize the fossil gas system by increased investments in electrification. Instead of allowing the utility to continue to prop up its business model with expensive and ineffective investments in out-of-state factory farms and other sources of RNG, we ask that you listen to ratepayers and local governments calling for a managed transition to all-electric homes and buildings. Thank you. Thor Hinckley Coordination Committee Member Third Act Oregon