

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

DATE: December 19, 2022

TO: Caroline Moore

FROM: Madison Bolton

SUBJECT: **Cascade Natural Gas Corporation:** 2023 Tariff has been updated. Cascade’s Compliance filing at Advice No. O22-12-01 for Interest Accrued on Customer Deposits and Late Payment Charge.

On December 2, 2022, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (“Cascade” or “Company”) proposed revisions to the following tariff sheets, P.U.C. OR. No. 10:

<u>Oregon PUC Sheet No.</u>	<u>Canceling Oregon PUC Sheet No.</u>
9 th Revision Sheet No. 200.1	8 th Revision Sheet No. 200.1

Lori A. Blattner, Director of Regulatory Affairs, requests to replace Oregon PUC Tariff Sheet No. 10, the 8th Revision Tariff Sheet No. 200.1 with the 9th Revision Tariff Sheet No. 200.1.

In compliance with Commission Order No. 22-459 in Docket No. UM 779, Public Utility Commission of Oregon Determination of Late-Payment Rate and Interest Accrued on Customer Deposits, Cascade has made the tariff changes to reflect the late payment rate of 2.2 percent which utilities are allowed to collect on late payments and to reflect the annual interest rate of 4.5 percent on customer deposits for calendar year 2023.

Staff’s review included verifying the following requirements for compliance with Commission Order No. 22-459:

- The late payment fee of 2.2% of unpaid balance, effective for service on and after January 1, 2023.
- The interest rate of 4.5% on customer deposits held during January 1 through December 31, 2023.
- Attachments: Cascade's Tariff Sheets for Late Payment charge and interest rate.

Staff verified Cascade’s Advice No. O22-12-01 and found that the new rates have been properly applied and the Company is in full compliance with the Commission order. Staff recommends that an acknowledgement letter be sent.

Cc: Mark Brown

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

Ninth Revision of Sheet No. 200.1

P.U.C. OR. No. 10

Canceling

Eighth Revision of Sheet No. 200.1

SCHEDULE 200
VARIOUS MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

APPLICABILITY

This schedule sets forth the provisions for various charges throughout these rules and regulations. The name and amount of the charges are listed below. The rules or rate schedules to which each charge applies are in parenthesis.

- (D)
- I. Customer Deposit Interest Rate (Rule 4) 4.5% (C)
- II. Reconnection Charge (Rule 5)
- a. Standard, 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays \$32.00
 - b. After Hours between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., Monday through Friday \$50.00
 - c. Same Business Day or on a Saturday, Sunday or holidays \$100.00
- A reconnection charge will be required for reestablishment of service at the same address for the same person taking service, if service was disconnected at the customer's request or if it was disconnected involuntarily for reasons other than for Company initiated safety or maintenance.
- III. Deposit for Meter Test - (Rule 8) \$50.00
- IV. Field Visit Charge- (Rule 5) \$20.00
- A field visit charge may be assessed whenever Cascade visits a customer's address for the purpose of disconnecting service or reconnecting service and due to the customer's action is unable to complete the disconnection or reconnection.
- V. Late Payment Charge – (Rule 5) 2.2% (C)
- A late payment charge at a rate determined by the Commission based upon a survey of prevailing market rates may be assessed to the customer's current bill when the customer has a prior balance owing of \$200 or more.
- VI. Returned Payment Charge - (Rule 6) \$25.00
- A returned check fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) may apply for any payment returned unpaid.
- VI. Modifying an Existing Service Line – (Rule 9)
- a. Time of Construction Crew
 - An Individual Employee \$70.00 per hour
 - Construction Crew up to \$220.00 per hour
 - b. Cost of Materials required to open and close service connection trench, including asphalt replacement, if any.

CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION ~~Eighth-Ninth~~ Revision of Sheet No. 200.1
 P.U.C. OR. No. 10 ~~Seventh-Eighth~~ Revision of Sheet No. 200.1
 Canceling

SCHEDULE 200
 VARIOUS MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

APPLICABILITY

This schedule sets forth the provisions for various charges throughout these rules and regulations. The name and amount of the charges are listed below. The rules or rate schedules to which each charge applies are in parenthesis. ~~Both Reconnection and Late Payment Charges listed below are waived for residential customers until October 1, 2022, per Order 20-401.~~ (D)

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|--|-------------------------|-----|
| I. <u>Customer Deposit Interest Rate (Rule 4)</u> | 04.15% | (C) |
| II. <u>Reconnection Charge (Rule 5)</u> | | |
| a. Standard, 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays | \$32.00 | |
| b. After Hours between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., Monday through Friday | \$50.00 | |
| c. Same Business Day or on a Saturday, Sunday or holidays | \$100.00 | |
| <p>A reconnection charge will be required for reestablishment of service at the same address for the same person taking service, if service was disconnected at the customer's request or if it was disconnected involuntarily for reasons other than for Company initiated safety or maintenance.</p> | | |
| III. <u>Deposit for Meter Test - (Rule 8)</u> | \$50.00 | |
| IV. <u>Field Visit Charge- (Rule 5)</u> | | |
| <p>A field visit charge may be assessed whenever Cascade visits a customer's address for the purpose of disconnecting service or reconnecting service and due to the customer's action is unable to complete the disconnection or reconnection.</p> | | |
| V. <u>Late Payment Charge -- (Rule 5)</u> | 2.02% | (C) |
| <p>A late payment charge at a rate determined by the Commission based upon a survey of prevailing market rates may be assessed to the customer's current bill when the customer has a prior balance owing of \$200 or more.</p> | | |
| VI. <u>Returned Payment Charge - (Rule 6)</u> | \$25.00 | |
| <p>A returned check fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) may apply for any payment returned unpaid.</p> | | |
| VI. <u>Modifying an Existing Service Line -- (Rule 9)</u> | | |
| a. Time of Construction Crew | | |
| • An Individual Employee | \$70.00 per hour | |
| • Construction Crew | up to \$220.00 per hour | |
| b. Cost of Materials required to open and close service connection trench, including asphalt replacement, if any. | | |

CNG/O202-12-01 Effective for Service on and after
 Issued December 42, 20202 January 1, 20213