



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Public Utility Commission

201 High St SE Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-3398

Mailing Address: PO Box 1088

Salem, OR 97308-1088

503-373-7394

October 22, 2019



BY EMAIL
NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY,
dba NW NATURAL
Natasha Siores
Natasha.siores@nwnatural.com
efiling@nwnatural.com

RE: Advice No. 19-17

At the public meeting on October 22, 2019, the Commission adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter docketed as ADV 1020. The Staff Report and a receipted copy of the sheet in your advice filing are attached.

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
(503) 378-3098

ITEM NO. CA5

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: October 22, 2019**

REGULAR CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE November 1, 2019

DATE: October 10, 2019

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Brian Fjeldheim

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer and Marianne Gardner **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: NORTHWEST NATURAL: (Docket No. ADV 1020/Advice No. 19-17)
Updates Schedule 167, General Adjustments to Rates.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Northwest Natural Gas Company's (NW Natural or Company) Advice No. 19-17, which is the Company's revisions to Schedule 167 – General Adjustment to Rates, be approved for service rendered on and after November 1, 2019.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve NW Natural's request to update its Schedule 167 - General Adjustments to Rates.

Applicable Rule or Law

ORS 757.205(1) states that 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.

OAR 860-022-0025 requires that new tariff filings include statements showing the new rates, the number of customers affected, the impact on annual revenue, and the reasons supporting the proposed tariff.

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.

The Commission reviews tariffs filed under ORS 757.205 and 757.210 to determine whether they are fair, just, and reasonable.

Analysis

Background

NW Natural submitted this advice filing to the Commission on September 23, 2019, pursuant to ORS 757.205 and OAR 860-022-0025, with a requested effective date of November 1, 2019. With its filing, the Company proposes to revise Schedule 167 - General Adjustments to Rates, to reflect the changes in Company rates resulting from the most recent general rate case in Docket No. UG 344. The Company states this filing will have no impact on customer rates and is intended as a housekeeping adjustment to multiple rate schedules included in Schedule 167.

Schedule 167 is a summary of Company general rate changes by Rate Schedule and illustrates the effects of general rate changes approved by the Commission from the Company's latest rate case.

NW Natural's last general rate case was concluded in two phases. The Commission's adoption of the first all party stipulation and partial rejection of the second all party stipulation resulted in a rate increase that went into effect on November 1, 2018.¹ The Commission later adopted the third all party stipulation, resulting in a rate increase that went into effect on April 1, 2019.²

Upon conclusion of each phase of the latest rate case, the Company submitted revised tariff sheets for Commission review and approval. However, upon concluding the second phase of the latest rate case, the Company omitted an updated Schedule 167 in its subsequent compliance filing.

Staff review

Staff reviewed the contents and accuracy of this filing, the Company workpaper used to derive the rate changes in each customer rate class included in Schedule 167, and the current and superseded tariffs previously filed with the Commission. Staff also communicated with NW Natural by phone and email. Because Staff previously reviewed and recommended approval of the various tariffs associated with the rate increases effective November 1, 2018, and April 1, 2019, Staff did not perform additional review of the individual tariffs. Staff's review in this filing was limited solely to verification of the contents of Schedule 167.

¹ See Docket No. UG 344, Commission Order No. 18-419.

² *Id.*, Commission Order No. 19-105.

Conclusion

Staff verified the accuracy of the proposed revisions to Schedule 167 and agrees with NW Natural that this filing is a housekeeping item that reflects the cumulative effect of rate changes resulting from the latest rate case in Docket No. UG 344, which were previously approved by the Commission. Staff further agrees with the Company that this filing will have no impact on customer rates.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve NW Natural's Advice No. 19-17, which is the Company's revisions to Schedule 167 – General Adjustment to Rates, for service rendered on and after November 1, 2019.

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY

P.U.C. Or. 25

Second Revision of Sheet 167-1
Cancels First Sheet 167-1

SCHEDULE 167 GENERAL ADJUSTMENTS TO RATES

PURPOSE:

To identify adjustments made to the billing rates stated in the Rate Schedules listed below to reflect the effects of general rate changes approved by the Commission under the authority of ORS 757.210

DESCRIPTION:

The general rate changes shown in this Schedule 167 reflect the outcome of a Commission investigation in Docket UG-344 initiated following a Company request to change rates due to increases or decreases in the cost of general utility operations.

APPLICABLE:

To Customers taking service under the following Rate Schedules of this Tariff:

Rate Schedule 2	Rate Schedule 27	Rate Schedule 32
Rate Schedule 3	Rate Schedule 31	Rate Schedule 33

RATE ADJUSTMENTS: Effective: April 1, 2019

The Base Rates stated in the listed Rate Schedules were adjusted as follows:

Schedule/Class	Adjustment Amount		Schedule/Class	Adjustment Amount	
	Customer Charge	Volumetric Charge		Customer Charge	Volumetric Charge
02R	\$0.00	\$0.04301	03 CSF	\$0.00	\$0.03058
27	\$0.00	\$0.03327	03 ISF	\$0.00	\$0.02628

Schedule/Class	Block	Amount	Schedule/Class	Block	Amount	Schedule/Class	Block	Amount
31 CSF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00	32 CSF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00	32 CSI	Cust. Charge	\$0.00
	Block 1	\$0.02469		Block 1	\$0.01752		Block 1	\$0.01117
	Block 2	\$0.02257		Block 2	\$0.01489		Block 2	\$0.00950
31CTF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00		Block 3	\$0.01052		Block 3	\$0.00671
	Block 1	\$0.02343		Block 4	\$0.00613		Block 4	\$0.00391
	Block 2	\$0.02142		Block 5	\$0.00000		Block 5	\$0.00224
31ISF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00		Block 6	\$0.00000		Block 6	\$0.00000
	Block 1	\$0.01783	32 ISF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00	32 ISI	Cust. Charge	\$0.00
	Block 2	\$0.01611		Block 1	\$0.01310		Block 1	\$0.01102
31 ITF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00		Block 2	\$0.01113		Block 2	\$0.00937
	Block 1	\$0.01863		Block 3	\$0.00786		Block 3	\$0.00661
	Block 2	\$0.01684		Block 4	\$0.00459		Block 4	\$0.00386
				Block 5	\$0.00000		Block 5	\$0.00221
				Block 6	\$0.00000		Block 6	\$0.00000
			32 ITF/CTF	Cust. Charge	\$0.00	32 CTI/ITI	Cust. Charge	\$0.00
				Block 1	\$0.01102		Block 1	\$0.00810
				Block 2	\$0.00937		Block 2	\$0.00689
				Block 3	\$0.00661		Block 3	\$0.00487
				Block 4	\$0.00386		Block 4	\$0.00284
				Block 5	\$0.00220		Block 5	\$0.00162
				Block 6	\$0.00110		Block 6	\$0.00081
						33	All	\$0.00000

GENERAL TERMS:

Service under this Rate Schedule is governed by the terms of this Rate Schedule, the General Rules and Regulations contained in this Tariff, any other schedules that by their terms or by the terms of this Schedule apply to service under this Schedule, and by all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, as amended from time to time.

Received by OPUC
Filing Center
09/23/2019

Issued September 23, 2019
NWN OPUC Advice No. 19-17

Effective with service on
and after November 1, 2019