

ORDER NO. 13 450

ENTERED NOV 26 2013

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1631

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

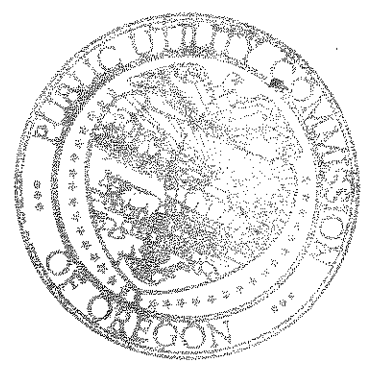
Request for Waiver of OAR 860-027-0005,
and 860-027-0015.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its public meeting on November 26, 2013, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

BY THE COMMISSION:



Becky L. Beier

Becky L. Beier
Commission Secretary

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480 through 183.484.

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ITEM NO. CA20

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: November 26, 2013**

REGULAR _____ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE _____ Not applicable

DATE: November 12, 2013

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Paul Rossow ^{PR}_E *MAGWD*

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Maury Galbraith, and Aster Adams

SUBJECT: NORTHWEST NATURAL: (Docket No. UM 1631) Request waiver of OAR 860-027-0005 and 860-027-0015.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission approve Northwest Natural's (Company) request to waive the first day of November Budget of Expenditures Report filing date in OAR 860-027-0005 and the December 31 New Construction Report filing date in OAR 860-027-0015.

DISCUSSION:

Budget of Expenditures Report

On October 21, 2013, Northwest Natural filed a request for a three and a half month extension of the filing date for its Budget of Expenditure Report. OAR 860-027-0005 states that "Each energy utility operating within Oregon and having gross operating revenues of \$50,000 or more per annum is required to file with the Commission on or before the first day of November of each year, a copy of its proposed Budget of Expenditures, on forms approved by the Commission."

New Construction Budget Report

In addition, the Company is requesting a one and a half month extension of the filing date for its New Construction Budget Report. OAR 860-027-0015 states "Each energy utility operating within Oregon is required to file annually on or before December 31 on forms approved by the Commission information on new construction, extensions, and additions to the utility's property."

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The Company's fiscal year is based on a calendar year. As such, the data is not available to the Company until after the specified due dates, November 1, and December 31, respectively.

Staff has no concerns granting the Company's waiver request such that the Company files its 2014 Budget of Expenditures and 2014 New Construction Budget by February 15, 2014. While the extension for the 2014 Budget of Expenditures should have been approved prior to November 1, 2013, Staff has been in direct contact with the utility on this matter. In addition, approving this waiver request will not impact the Company or its customers.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Northwest Natural's request for a waiver of OAR 860-027-0005 and 860-027-0015 be granted.

UM 1631 NW Natural Waiver