

ORDER NO. 01-1024

ENTERED DEC 03 2001

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**  
**OF OREGON**

AR 420

In the Matter of a proposed rulemaking )  
opened as a result of AR 395 (Triennial ) ORDER  
Rules Review) to amend Oregon )  
Administrative Rule 860-021-0050. )

**DISPOSITION: RULE AMENDED**

At its August 7, 2001, Public Meeting, the Public Utility Commission (PUC) opened docket AR 420, a rulemaking proceeding to revise Oregon Administrative Rule 860-021-0050. During the PUC's triennial rules review (AR 395), Northwest Natural proposed that each gas utility develop, with the Commission's approval, a uniform policy governing the amount of main extension that will be made free of charge to connect a new customer. Northwest Natural's proposal would extend the principle and policy of a "prudent investment for the projected revenue" to the determination of individual service line allowances.

The Commission filed Notice of the Proposed Rulemaking with the Secretary of State on September 6, 2001, and subsequently provided notice to all interested persons on the Commission's rule changes list. The notice set out the amendments proposed by Commission Staff, and included a Statement of Need, Statutory Authority, Principal Documents Relied Upon, and Fiscal and Economic Impact. The notice was published in the October 1, 2001, *Oregon Bulletin*.

No written comments were filed and no request was made for a public hearing as a result of the notice.

At its December 3, 2001, Public Meeting, the Commission approved Staff's recommendation to adopt the proposed rule as set forth in Appendix A.

**ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Oregon Administrative Rule 860-021-0050, as set forth in Appendix A, is adopted.
2. The amended rule shall be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Made, entered, and effective \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Roy Hemmingway**  
Chairman

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**Lee Beyer**  
Commissioner

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**Joan H. Smith**  
Commissioner

A person may petition the Commission for the amendment or repeal of a rule pursuant to ORS 183.390. A person may petition the Court of Appeals to determine the validity of a rule pursuant to ORS 183.400.

**860-021-0050**

**Installation of Gas Service**

(1) ~~Except as otherwise provided in OAR 860-021-0051, each~~ Each gas utility shall furnish, ~~free of charge,~~ a gas service from the gas main adjacent to the customer's premises to and including the meter. ~~However, the customer may be required to pay the installed cost of any length of service in excess of 40 feet beyond the property line bounding the street or right-of-way in which the main is situated.~~ Each gas utility shall develop, with the Commission's approval, a uniform policy governing the amount of service extension that will be made free to connect a new customer. This policy should be related to the investment that can prudently be made for the probable revenue.

(2) Each gas utility shall furnish, own, operate, maintain, and replace the service connections when needed.

(3) The gas utility will not be required to make more than one connection to its main to furnish service to the premises of any customer and will not be required to install or maintain pipes for the distribution of gas beyond a single point of delivery to points of use upon the customer's premises.

(4) Each gas utility shall not be responsible for the condition or maintenance of the piping or appliances installed by the customer.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 183 & 756

Stat. Implemented: ORS 756.040

Hist.: PUC 164, f. 4-18-74, ef. 5-11-74 (Order No. 74-307); PUC 11-1998, f. & ef. 5-7-98 (Order No. 98-188)