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January 24, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: PUC Filing Center
201 High Street SE, Suite 101
Post Office Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

**Re: UG 344 – NW Natural’s Request for General Rate Revision
Affidavits of Publication and Tear Sheets**

Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (“NW Natural” or the “Company”) files herewith as required by OAR 860-022-0017(4), an affidavit attesting that notice has been given of the above referenced filing, dated December 29, 2017. Affidavits of Publication and tear sheets from the major newspapers¹ in the Company’s Oregon service territory are attached hereto.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 503.226.4211 ext. 3589.

Respectfully,

/s/ Erica Lee

Erica Lee
Staff Assistant 3
NW Natural

Attachments

cc: Phil Boyle, OPUC Consumer Services

¹ *The Oregonian* (Portland); *Statesman Journal* (Salem); *The Register-Guard* (Eugene); and *The World* (Coos Bay).



NW Natural

AFFIDAVIT

I, Erica Lee, do hereby attest notice has been given that NW Natural has filed for general rate revision in UG 344 dated December 29, 2017.

Attached to this affidavit are the tear sheets of the notice as published by the four major newspapers in the Company's Oregon service territory, with accompanying Affidavits of Publication from each; said notice, titled "NW Natural Files General Rate Case in Oregon," being duly published in *The Oregonian* on January 10, 2018, the *Statesman Journal* on January 8, 2018, *The Register-Guard* on January 8, 2018, and *The World* on January 8, 2018.

DATED at Portland, Oregon, this 24th day of January 2018.

Erica Lee
Staff Assistant 3
NW Natural
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97209-3991

State of Oregon

County of MULTNOMAH

This instrument was acknowledged before me on January 24, 2018 by Erica Lee.

Donna Ceruti, Notary Public – State of Oregon



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

In The Matter Of: NW Natural ad

Advertisement for - NW Natural

This is to certify that the above advertising for NW Natural appeared in

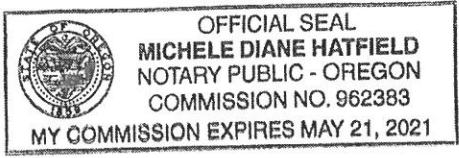
Newspaper name The Register-Guard

On (Dates) January 8, 2018

Tom Chadwick
Signature

Sworn to before me this eight day of January 2018.

Michele Hatfield
Notary Public



Kushner's financial ties to Israel continue to deepen

With his diplomatic role in the Middle East, recent business dealings raise some concern

By JESSE DEWICKER
The New York Times

Last May, Jared Kushner accompanied President Trump, his father-in-law, on the pair's first diplomatic trip to Israel, part of Kushner's White House assignment to achieve peace in the Middle East. Shortly before, his family real estate company received a \$30 million investment from Menora Mivtachim, an insurer that is one of Israel's largest financial institutions, according to a Menora executive. The deal, which was not made public, pumped significant new equity into 10 Maryland apartment complexes controlled by Kush-

ner's firm. While Kushner has sold parts of his business since taking a White House job last year, he still has stakes in most of the family empire — including the apartment buildings in and around Baltimore. The Menora transaction is the latest financial arrangement that has surfaced between Kushner's family business and Israeli partners, including one of the country's wealthiest families and a large Israeli bank that is the subject of a U.S. criminal investigation. The business dealings don't appear to violate federal ethics laws, which require Kushner to recuse himself only from narrow government decisions that



Jared Kushner

would have a "direct and predictable effect" on his financial interests. And no evidence has emerged that Kushner was personally involved in brokering the deal. But the deal last spring illustrates how the Kushner Cos.' extensive financial ties to Israel continue to deepen, even with his prominent diplomatic role in the Middle East. The arrangement could undermine the ability of the United States to be seen as an independent broker in the region. The Trump administration already inflamed tensions there when it said last month that it recognized Jerusalem as

the capital of Israel and would move the U.S. Embassy there from Tel Aviv. "I think it's reasonable for people to ask whether his business interests are somehow affecting his judgment," said Matthew Sanderson, a lawyer at Caplin & Drysdale in Washington who specializes in government ethics. Raj Shah, a deputy White House press secretary, said the Trump administration has "tremendous confidence in the job Jared is doing leading our peace efforts, and he takes the ethics rules very seriously and would never compromise himself or the administration."

Christine Taylor, a spokeswoman for Kushner Cos., said it has partners around the world. "It does no business," she

said, "with foreign sovereigns or governments, and is not precluded from doing business with any foreign company simply because Jared is working in the government."

Menora, which also is Israel's largest manager of pension funds, has done numerous other real estate deals, including several in the United States, said Ran Markman, Menora's head of real estate. He said he had never met Kushner. In negotiating the deal, Markman said, he worked with Laurent Morali, the firm's president.

The deal was "not done because of the so-called connections of Jared Kushner or Donald Trump," Markman said. "The connection to the president was not an issue." Kushner resigned as

chief executive of Kushner Cos. when he joined the White House last January. But he remains the beneficiary of a series of trusts that own stakes in Kushner properties and other investments. Those are worth as much as \$761 million, according to government ethics filings, and most likely much more. The estimate nets out the significant debt accumulated by the firm, which has done about \$7 billion of deals in the past decade.

One issue, said Robert Weissman of Public Citizen, a nonprofit government ethics group, is that "the ethics laws were not crafted by people who had the foresight to imagine a Donald Trump or a Jared Kushner. No one could ever imagine this scale of ongoing business interests."

U.S. joins search for 32 missing after crash

An oil tanker that collided with a freighter at sea is at risk of exploding, officials say

By GERRY SHIH
The Associated Press

BEIJING — An Iranian oil tanker that caught fire after colliding with a freighter off China's east coast is at risk of exploding and sinking, Chinese state media reported Monday as authorities from three countries struggled to find its 32 missing crew members and contain oil spewing from the blazing wreck.

State broadcaster China Central Television, citing Chinese officials, said none of the 30 Iranians and two Bangladeshis who have been missing since the collision late Saturday had been found as of 8 a.m. Monday. Meanwhile, search and cleanup efforts have been hampered by fierce fires and poisonous gases that have consumed the tanker and surrounding waters, CCTV reported.

The Panama-registered tanker Sanchi was sailing from Iran to South Korea when it collided late Saturday with the Hong Kong-registered freighter CP Crystal in the East China Sea, 160 miles off



Korea Coast Guard via The Associated Press

Panama-registered tanker Sanchi is seen ablaze after a collision late Saturday with a Hong Kong-registered freighter off China's eastern coast.

the coast of Shanghai, China's Ministry of Transport said.

China, South Korea and the United States have sent ships and planes to search for Sanchi's crew, all of whom remain missing. The U.S. Navy, which sent a P-8A aircraft from Okinawa, Japan, to aid the search, said late Sunday that none of the missing crew had been found.

All 21 crew members of the Crystal, which was carrying grain from the United States to China, were rescued, the Chinese ministry said. The Crystal's crew members were all Chinese nationals. It wasn't immediately clear what caused the collision.

The Sanchi was carrying 150,000 tons of condensate, a type of ultra-light oil.

Zika retreats widely, but health concerns remain

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ST. LOUIS — Two years ago, the world was gripped in Zika panic as the mosquito-borne virus infected millions and spread across 80 countries. Officials declared a global health emergency, and tourists canceled their tropical vacations. Thousands of babies were born with devastating birth defects after their mothers were infected in pregnancy.

Today, public health priorities have shifted as the virus fades. In hard-hit Brazil, where some athletes skipped the 2016 Summer Olympics out of Zika fears, confirmed cases dropped from 206,000 that year to fewer than 14,000 in 2017, all before April. Cases of the virus in the United States dropped from 5,102 in 2016 to 385 last year — all but three

acquired while traveling to tropical areas.

Last month, the Missouri health department said it will stop testing most pregnant women who have traveled to Zika-affected areas. Clinical trials of a Zika vaccine at St. Louis University will not move into a second phase of testing after a drug-maker pulled funding. Most likely, a high enough percentage of people were infected across central and South America that a "herd immunity" developed, making it hard for the virus to continue its spread.

Still, "we are not finished with Zika," said Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "Even though when you look at the number of infections, it's dramatically down, it doesn't mean they're going to stay down."

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

In The Matter Of: NW Natural ad

Advertisement for - NW Natural

This is to certify that the above advertising for NW Natural appeared in

Newspaper name THE WORLD.

On (Dates) 1. 8. 18.

[Handwritten Signature]

Signature

D. Smith

Sworn to before me this 9th day of JANUARY 2018.

Deborah M. Mattair

Notary Public 07.05.2021



NATION & WORLD



KATHY WILLENS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARCTIC BLAST BREAKS MORE RECORDS, BUT RELIEF ON THE WAY

Katherine Rozenbert and her granddaughter Rebecca, both of Paris, are bundled up against severely cold weather as they take a walk Sunday in Battery Park City in New York. The blast of arctic air that engulfed portions of the East Coast broke cold temperature records from Maine to West Virginia and stunned sea turtles in Florida — although a warm-up is coming today, with temperatures in the region expected to rise throughout the week.

CHINA | SEA COLLISION

Ship's entire crew missing

All 32 on Iranian oil tanker not found after crash with freighter

GERRY SHIN
Associated Press

BEIJING — The U.S. Navy has joined the search for 32 crew members missing from an Iranian oil tanker that caught fire after colliding with a bulk freighter off China's east coast.

China, South Korea and the U.S. sent ships and planes to search for the 30 Iranians and two Bangladeshis who have been missing since the collision late Saturday. The U.S. Navy, which sent a P-8A aircraft from Okinawa, Japan, to

aid the search, said late Sunday that none of the missing crew had been found. The Panama-registered tanker Sanchi was sailing from Iran to South Korea when it collided Saturday with the Hong Kong-registered freighter CF Crystal in the East China Sea, 160 miles off the coast of Shanghai, China's Ministry of Transport said.

All 21 crew members of the Crystal, which was carrying grain from the United States, were rescued, the ministry said. The Crystal's crew members were all Chinese nationals. It wasn't immediately clear what caused the collision.

State-run China Central Television reported Sunday evening that the tanker was still floating and burning, and that oil was visible

in the water. Photos distributed by the South Korean government showed the tanker on fire and shrouded in thick black smoke.

Chinese authorities dispatched three ships to clean the oil spill. It was not clear, however, whether the tanker was still spilling oil as of today and the size of the oil slick caused by the accident also was not known.

The Sanchi was carrying 150,000 tons, or nearly 1 million barrels, of condensate, a type of ultra-light oil, according to Chinese authorities.

By comparison, the Exxon Valdez was carrying 1.26 million barrels of crude oil when it spilled 260,000 barrels into Prince William Sound off Alaska in 1989.

DIGEST

Car bomb leaves 23 dead in Syria

BEIRUT — A large car bombing in Syria's largest rebel-held city of Idlib killed at least 23 people Sunday evening, activists reported.

The blast ignited fires, damaged buildings and overturned several cars along a wide avenue in the city, according to photos and video posted by the activist-run Thaisa News Agency and Haladi News Agencies. Ambulances and fire brigades were seen rushing to the scene.

Armed clashes kill 11 in Mexico

ACAPULCO, Mexico — Violent clashes involving gunmen, a community police force and state police killed 11 people in the troubled southern state of Guerrero on Sunday, while a separate series of shootouts the previous night left seven dead in the northern Mexico beach resort of San Jose del Cabo.

Guerrero state security spokesman Roberto Alvarez said eight people were initially killed when gunmen ambushed community police before dawn in the town of La Concepcion. Two of the dead were from the community force.

Later in the morning, state police arrived to disarm the local agents, and another shootout erupted in which three people were killed.

BRIEFLY
ISRAEL BOYCOTT: Israel on Sunday identified 20 activist groups from around the world whose members will be banned from entering the country over their calls to boycott the Jewish state, stepping up its fight against a movement it views as a serious threat. Israel last year enacted a law that would ban any activist who "knowingly issues a public call for boycotting Israel."

RANCHER TRIAL: A U.S. judge who declared a mistrial last month could end the much-watched criminal prosecution of a Nevada rancher accused of leading an armed uprising against federal

authorities. Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro's decision today is sure to echo among states' rights advocates in Western states where the federal government controls vast expanses that some people want to remain protected.

IRAN PROTESTS: Iran's Revolutionary Guard said Sunday that the nation and its security forces have ended the wave of unrest linked to anti-government protests that erupted last month. In a statement on its website, the force blamed the unrest on the United States, Israel and Saudi Arabia, as well as an exiled opposition group known as the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq, and supporters of the monarchy that was overthrown in the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

LOTTERY JACKPOT: It's been a billion-dollar lottery weekend after a lone Powerball ticket sold in New Hampshire matched all six numbers Saturday and will claim a \$559.7 million jackpot, one day after another single ticket sold in Florida nabbed a \$450 million Mega Millions grand prize.

STOCKHOLM EXPLOSION: A man in Stockholm picked up a suspected hand grenade from the ground and it detonated in his hand Sunday, killing him and injuring his companion, Swedish police said. The blast took place about 11 a.m. just outside the Varby Gard subway station in Huddinge, a residential district in greater Stockholm, said regional police spokesman Sven-Erik Olsson.

YEMEN: Saudi Arabia's Royal Air Force said two of its pilots whose fighter jet crashed during an operation in Yemen on Sunday have been rescued. An official statement blamed the crash on a "technical failure" but the Yemeni rebel-run al-Masirah television said the British-made Tornado fighter jet was hit while flying in Yemeni airspace over the northern province of Saada, which borders Saudi Arabia.

— Associated Press

California legal pot to test supply pipeline

MICHAEL B. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Most Californians with an urge to smoke a joint will enter the state's legal marijuana marketplace through a single doorway — at a retail shop.

But out of view of those day-to-day sales, the state is ushering in a sprawling, untested system to move pot from place to place that also will serve as a collection point for taxes, a gateway for testing and a packaging center for the plant's fragrant buds.

The so-called marijuana distributor is a kind of skeleton connecting the state's emerging industry of growers, sellers and manufacturers. It's envisioned as a vast back office where the grunt work of keeping track of cannabis and getting it from farms to store shelves will take place.

But just days after legal sales began, there are concerns that not enough companies are licensed and ready to transport pot. Some predict that within weeks, cannabis could be marooned at fields and warehouses while dispensary shelves go barren.

"There's going to be a huge bottleneck in the distribution network in California at some point," said Terry Blevins, CEO of a security firm and a part-owner of a marijuana distribution company in Southern California.

Billions of dollars of pot will need to move through the market in 2018, and "I don't believe there are enough businesses to handle it," he said.

California's new market was rattled Thursday when the Trump administration signaled a more aggressive approach to marijuana prosecutions, lifting an Obama-era policy that kept federal authorities from cracking down on the pot trade in states where the drug is legal.

The impact of Attorney General Jeff Sessions' decision is uncertain. But some predict it could discourage

businesses from entering the distribution system, while making those in it extremely cautious about what growers and sellers they work with, narrowing the pipeline for moving goods.

Flow Kana CEO Michael Steinmetz, whose company distributes cannabis products from small, outdoor farmers, said a slow rollout of licenses has resulted in a limited pool of distributors.

A patchwork of rules has emerged so far, with some cities allowing legal sales and others banning all commercial pot activity. Los Angeles — the state's biggest market — has yet to authorize any licenses, though the first could be issued next week.

Kana Flow, which is developing a new distribution center on the site of a former Mendocino County winery, transports cannabis for about 100 local producers.

While many retailers stocked up in advance of legal sales, "I do think we are going to see a big reduction in supply," Steinmetz predicted.

A crimp in the supply chain, if it happens, would reprise what occurred in Nevada last year, when the start of legal sales saw a surge in demand with too few licenses to distribute it.

Pot distribution in California has long been an informal and largely hidden business, with arrangements made between growers and sellers. The move to the new system will be a major transformation: Under California law, pot can be transported only by companies holding a distributor license.

In the past, "it was all trust and handshakes," Los Angeles dispensary owner Jerred Kiloh said. "Growers would drive it down in their Toyota Tacomas."

California's top pot regulator, Lori Ajax, said in an interview last month that a decision to make distributor licenses broadly available should help keep pot moving from farms to storefronts.

Under a 2015 law for medicinal pot, the distributor was envisioned as an independent entity that could not hold licenses in other categories, such as growing or selling.

But that changed in later legislation for the new market, and now pot distributors can be stand-alone companies or part of another one. That means a grower could also become a distributor, providing proper licenses are issued.

"I'm feeling pretty good that we are going to be OK," Ajax said.

The uncertainty surrounding the distribution pipeline is just one question mark as California attempts to transform its longstanding medicinal and illegal marijuana markets into a multibillion-dollar regulated system.

It will take many months, if not years, for the market estimated to reach \$7 billion to evolve.

Legal sales began Jan. 1 without a vast computer system for businesses track plants from seed to sale. State licenses issued so far are temporary and will have to be reissued later this year.

Few banks want to do business with pot companies since the drug remains illegal federally, forcing many growers and sellers to operate in cash. And consumers are complaining about hefty new taxes.

Industry experts say California's distribution model — part of its effort to keep a tight clamp on regulation — is unusual in the U.S.

Along with transporting pot, a distributor has a range of responsibilities, including collecting state excise taxes from any retailers they supply and cultivation taxes from growers whose product they move.

Distributors also arrange for laboratory testing to make sure the pot isn't tainted, and may package and label pot for sale.

It's the "traffic light on the industry," cannabis attorney Robert Raich said.

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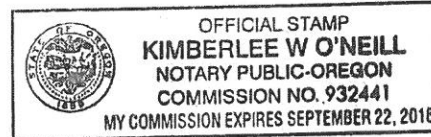
State of Oregon,) ss
County of Multnomah)

Justin Eubanks being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of Oregonian Media Group; that The Oregonian is a public newspaper published in the city of Portland, with general circulation in Oregon, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):

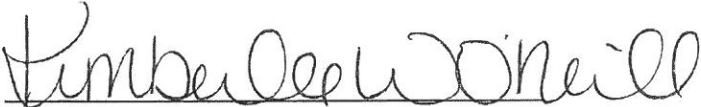
The Oregonian 01/10/2018



Principal Clerk of the Publisher



Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of January 2018



Notary Public

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NW Natural®

01/18

OS486974-01

Interior changes mind, bans oil drilling off the coast of Florida

Gary Fineout and Matthew Daly
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, FLA. — The Trump administration said Tuesday it would not allow oil drilling off the coast of Florida, abruptly reversing course under pressure from Republican Gov. Rick Scott.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said after a brief meeting with Scott at the Tallahassee airport that drilling would be "off the table" when it comes to waters in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean off Florida.

Zinke announced plans last week to greatly expand offshore oil drilling from the

Atlantic to the Arctic and Pacific oceans, including several possible drilling operations off Florida, where drilling is now blocked. The plan was immediately met with bipartisan opposition on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Scott, who is expected to run for Senate later this year, came out against the Trump administration plan when it was first announced, saying his top priority is to ensure that Florida's natural resources are protected.

Other Republican governors also oppose the plan, including Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster and Massachusetts Gov. Charles Baker.

Inslee unveils his carbon tax plan

OLYMPIA — Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee on Tuesday unveiled details of his latest effort to get legislative approval on a new tax on carbon emissions from fossil fuels.

Under bills introduced in the House and Senate, a proposed tax of \$20 per metric ton of carbon emissions would start on July 1, 2019 and increase annually by 3.5 percent over inflation.

The tax would raise about \$1.5 billion over the first two years and an estimated \$3.3 billion over the next four years. Half of the money from the tax — which would be paid by power

plants and fuel importers but would ultimately affect consumers — would go into efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as programs to expand opportunities for renewable energy at both homes and utilities, and research of clean energy technology. An additional 35 percent would go into flood management and storm water infrastructure, and would also be used to reduce risks of wildfires.

Some money would offset taxes to eligible business and help low-income families.

— Associated Press

CARBON

FROM A1

In fact, opponents contend the legislation is so complicated that it can't possibly be adequately vetted in a 35-day session and should wait for next year's regular legislative session.

But proponents — Gov. Kate Brown among them — contend Oregon has already spent a decade dithering over limits on carbon dioxide emissions, including the entire 2017 session and the subsequent interim period in which a set of work groups met to refine last year's proposal. Bottom line, they say, the effects of climate change are already here, and it's time for Oregon to clean up its own house and get in front of what is sure to be national carbon regulation, notwithstanding the Trump administration's intransigence on the issue.

The bills would initiate a process of planning, program design and rulemaking lasting two to three years, so advocates insist it's important to get moving now to ensure a program is up and running by 2021.

"The longer we wait, the steeper the declines in the cap have to be," said Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland, the chief sponsor of the Senate bill. "We have to get to a certain point by 2050, and this program provides some discipline to have slow incremental declines."

Politically, this may be advocates' best chance, as the 2019 Legislative session could see another budget nightmare, with little appetite for complicated and potentially expensive climate bills amid increasing public pension and health care costs and efforts to raise new taxes.

Political and business opponents are already bashing the bills, calling the underlying policy an energy sales tax, a slush fund for the governor's cronies, and a job killer. They maintain that carbon pricing poses excessive economic burdens — a potential cost of \$700 million a year — with little environmental benefit, as Oregon accounts for such a minuscule fraction of global greenhouse emissions. For their part, utilities say they're already spending heavily to meet the state's emissions goals and don't want their customers charged twice.

"Oregon families want lower class sizes

and more opportunities for their children," Mark Johnson, president of the state's largest business association, Oregon Business & Industry, said in a statement. "They are not asking lawmakers to adopt a California-style cap-and-trade system that will increase the cost of living for Oregonians and drive jobs and new investment away from our state." Environmental advocates came armed with their own studies suggesting that the much-needed policies will have little overall impact on Oregon's economy, and that it could in fact be positive given the intended investments in green energy, efficiency, job training and other adaptation strategies. Indeed, they have dubbed the policies the "Clean Energy Jobs bill."

"The 2018 legislative session is an historic opportunity to establish Oregon's legacy as a clean energy leader," said Meredith Connolly, Oregon director of Climate Solutions. "The Clean Energy Jobs bill limits our rising climate pollution and accelerates Oregon's transition to 100 percent clean energy. It was developed with extensive input, and is tailored to strengthen Oregon's economy and protect rural and urban communities across Oregon."

The legislation, according to the Department of Environmental Quality, would only apply to the 100 or so entities that emit more than 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents a year. They fall into three main buckets: transportation, electric utilities and industrial companies.

Dembrow, the chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee, and Rep. Ken Helm, the Washington County Democrat who heads the House Energy and Environment Committee, will hold a joint meeting of their committees today to review the bills.

Dembrow says the interim work groups already backers to build in additional clarity on governance, directions to the Department of Environmental Quality, legislative oversight, and how the bill would benefit rural Oregon. He says there's enough time in the short session to reach consensus on a good bill.

"There's some tough negotiation and compromise to be done," he said. "We need to accommodate the needs of business, and I think we have because we don't want this to be overly burdensome. But we can't water it down to the point where we're passing a bill for the sake of passing a bill."

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NW NATURAL FILES GENERAL RATE CASE IN OREGON

NW Natural filed its first general rate increase in six years with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC) on December 29, 2017. The general rate request reflects a proposed overall net revenue increase for NW Natural of about 6% after an adjustment for the conservation tariff deferral, or about 8% without consideration of that tariff.

In total, the Company is requesting an additional \$52.4 million from base rates that would result in a net revenue increase of \$40.4 million for NW Natural.

The proposed increase will cover costs associated with operating and maintaining the Company's natural gas distribution system, and continuing to provide safe and reliable service to customers.

The filing will not affect customer bills this winter and does not include the impact of the newly passed federal tax legislation.

HOW MUCH WILL MY GAS BILL CHANGE?
If the current request is approved as filed, residential customers using an average of 53 therms per month would see a monthly bill increase of about \$5.


WHY IS THE COMPANY MAKING THIS REQUEST?
The request is a necessary step in NW Natural's regulatory process to recover the costs of the investments we've made to strengthen our system, and provide greater reliability and resiliency for our customers and the communities we serve.

The requested rate change is subject to review by the PUC, and is not binding on the Commission.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS FILING?
Copies of the filing are available for inspection at the NW Natural's main office and at www.nwnatural.com.

For more information about the filing, or notice of the time and place of any hearing, contact NW Natural or the Commission at:

NW Natural Main Office 220 NW Second Avenue Portland, Oregon 97209-3991 800-422-4012, ext. 3589 503-226-4211, ext. 3589	Public Utility Commission of Oregon 201 High Street SE, Suite 100 PO Box 1088 Salem, Oregon 97308-1088 800-522-2404 503-378-6600
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On (Dates) 1-8-18

Melinda Hautala
Signature

Sworn to before me this 24th day of January 2018.

Lisa Michelle Nash
Notary Public



Deaths

Continued from Page 1A

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 8,076

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 198.1

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 213.0

2. Heart disease

Heart disease-related deaths often are results of tobacco use and high cholesterol. Hedberg said obesity, poor diet and lack of physical activity are behaviors that contribute to heart disease.

Heart disease can be genetic, but Hedberg said lifestyle behavior is a major factor.

“We can’t change our genes, but we can change our behavior,” Hedberg said.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 6,972

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 171.0

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 229.7

3. Unintentional injury

The most common factors contributing to unintentional injury-related deaths are motor vehicle crashes and drug overdose deaths.

Oregon ranks among the states with the best transportation safety laws, but fatal auto crashes are on the rise. In 2016, 495 people died on Oregon’s roads, a 58 percent increase from the 313 deaths in 2013.

Roughly 779 people died from overdoses between 2014 and 2016. That’s significantly more than between 1999 and 2001 when 257 people died, according to the Oregon Health Authority.

“Driving under the influence of drugs or even distracted driving by texting while driving are both big problems that contribute to these deaths,” Hedberg said.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 2,108

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 51.7

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 40.8

4. Chronic lower respiratory heart disease

These types of diseases include chronic bronchitis and emphysema and are typically related to smoking. While Hedberg said smoking tobacco is the



To stay healthy, exercise regularly, eat well, limit alcohol consumption and avoid smoking and illicit drugs.

JONATHAN BACH/STATESMAN JOURNAL

main cause of these diseases, smoking marijuana is still dangerous to lung health.

“Inhaling any particulate matter is not good for you,” Hedberg said. “Lung disease is caused by particulate matter lodging in the lungs.”

Hedberg said tobacco use typically leads to these diseases because cigarettes often carry more carcinogens than other types of smoking products.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 2,081

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 51.1

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 53.3

5. Stroke

Many of the risk factors for stroke are similar to heart disease. Poor diet, lack of physical activity and high blood pressure all contribute to strokes. Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, according to the CDC.

Hedberg said preventative care can help reduce the risk of stroke, including changing any unhealthy behaviors and taking a baby aspirin at the first sign of stroke and calling 911. Roughly 795,000 people in the United States have a stroke each year.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 1,944

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 47.7

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 84.3

6: Alzheimer’s disease

Hedberg said the climbing number of Alzheimer’s-related deaths may be explained by people living longer. The brain disease is the fifth leading cause

American Medical Association’s tips for healthy lifestyle

1. Avoid sugary drinks
2. Know your risk for type 2 diabetes
3. Exercise regularly
4. Avoid processed food and added sodium
5. If you drink alcohol, do so in moderation
6. Talk with your doctor about tobacco use and quit
7. Make your home and car smoke-free
8. Manage stress

of death among people ages 65 years and older in the United States, according to the CDC.

Death rates from Alzheimer’s disease increased 55 percent between 1999 and 2014, according to the CDC.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 1,786

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 43.8

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 22.3

7. Diabetes

The rise in diabetes deaths directly parallels the obesity epidemic, Hedberg said. Diabetes is a chronic disease that affects the body from creating insulin or doesn’t produce it as well as it should, according to the CDC.

Roughly 30.3 million adults in the United States have diabetes, according to the CDC. It is the seventh leading cause of the death in the nation. The number of adults diagnosed with diabetes has tripled in the past 20 years.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 1,240

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 30.4

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 25.9

8. Alcohol-related

Chronic alcohol use can lead to chronic liver disease, fatal injuries from impaired driving and alcohol poisoning. Hedberg said chronic alcohol use also can cause brain disease.

Alcohol consumption led to roughly 88,000 deaths each year in the United States between 2006 and 2010, according to the CDC.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 829

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 20.3

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 11.9

9. Suicide

Suicide is one of the leading causes of premature death in Oregon. Suicide rates in Oregon have been consistently higher than the United States’ average for the past 30 years, according to the Oregon Health Authority. Eighty percent of firearm deaths in Oregon are from suicide, Hedberg said.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 771

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 18.9

Deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 16.8

10. High blood pressure

High blood pressure refers to when the pressure of blood in blood vessels is higher than it should be, according to the CDC. Hedberg said high blood pressure is associated with obesity and increases the risk of heart disease and stroke. Roughly one in three adults in the United States has high blood pressure, and only 54 percent of those have it under control.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 557

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 13.7

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 7.9

11. Firearms

Firearm deaths refer to suicide by gun, unintentional shooting and homicide. Roughly 80 percent of firearm deaths are from suicide, according to the Oregon Health Authority. From 2010 to 2014, 2,280 Oregon residents died from firearm injuries.

Hedberg said Senate Bill 719, which allows a court to issue an “extreme risk protection order” and remove firearms from people who are considered at risk of committing suicide or hurting another person, could help curb the number of firearm deaths.

Total deaths in Oregon in 2016: 510

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 2016: 12.5

Total deaths per 100,000 people in Oregon in 1997: 13.3

Information provided by the Oregon Health Authority and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Email Lauren Hernandez at leher-nande@statesmanjournal.com, call 503-399-6743 or follow on Twitter @LaurenPorFavor

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220 NW Second Avenue
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Lifeline discounts include a transfer restriction (port freeze). This means that you are unable to obtain the Lifeline discount on service with another provider for a period of time. The length of time depends on the services you purchase – 60 days for voice telephone service, 12 months for qualifying broadband service. Certain exceptions to the transfer restrictions may apply. See <http://www.lifelinesupport.org/l/change-my-company.aspx> for more information.

A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone or broadband service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-888-833-9522 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.