

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

LC 51

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS  
COMPANY, dba NW NATURAL,

2011 Integrated Resource Plan.

RULING

DISPOSITION: MOTION GRANTED; SCHEDULE SUSPENDED

On April 7, 2011, Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural or Company), filed a Motion to Suspend Schedule (Motion) in this proceeding. NW Natural asserts that a suspension is warranted “to allow the Company time to complete modifications to its Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) in light of certain changed circumstances.” (Motion at 1).

In support of its Motion, the Company notes that, separate from the proceedings in this case, a number of parties, including the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Staff), became aware that a filing by Palomar Gas Transmission LLC (Palomar) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), may require the NW Natural to update the assumptions it modeled in its 2011 IRP. The Company contends that it needs to reassess available future capacity and gas supplies, including supplies it is currently seeking Commission approval to acquire.<sup>1</sup>

NW Natural states that it has discussed the matter with all parties and, “through those discussions, the parties and the Company have determined that it would make sense to suspend the current schedule, while the Company works with the parties to determine appropriate modifications to its IRP.” (*Id.* at 2). NW Natural believes that it will have been able to begin the necessary changes to its models and assumptions so that it can present the Commission with an updated 2011 IRP for review in a timely manner. It therefore proposes to work with the other parties and report to the Administrative Law Judge no later than April 30, 2011, with a revised schedule to govern these proceedings.

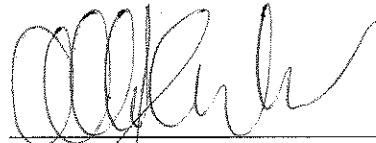
---

<sup>1</sup>Motion at 1-2. The March 23, 2011 filing notified the FERC that Palomar was withdrawing its application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the project identified in the IRP as Palomar East.

**RULING**

The Motion of NW Natural, having shown good cause for the schedule of this docket to be suspended, is hereby granted. The Company shall file a written report no later than April 30, 2011 advising the Commission as to the status of its efforts to update the 2011 IRP and a proposed schedule for the remainder of this proceeding.

Dated this 11th day of April, 2011, at Salem, Oregon.



---

Allan J. Arlow  
Administrative Law Judge

LC 51 Ruling Suspending Schedule 4-11-11