

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UG 490

In the Matter of

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS  
COMPANY, dba NW Natural,

Request for a General Rate Revision.

RULING

**DISPOSITION: MOTION TO STRIKE GRANTED ON EXPEDITED BASIS**

On September 3, 2024, Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural, filed a motion to strike portions of briefs filed by the Coalition<sup>1</sup> and the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC). NW Natural requested expedited consideration and represented that the other parties to the proceeding did not object to the request for expedited consideration. NW Natural proposed an expedited schedule for consideration.

On September 4, 2024, I issued a ruling adopting the schedule proposed by NW Natural. In accordance with this schedule, the Coalition and AWEC filed responses to NW Natural's motion on September 9, 2024, and NW Natural filed a reply on September 10, 2024.

In its motion, NW Natural alleges that both the Coalition and AWEC relied on evidence outside the record in their briefs, which would unfairly prejudice the company and deprive it of due process. NW Natural argues that the Coalition referenced and relied on an article published on August 13, 2024, in footnote 192 on pages 41-42 of its opening and page 28 of its closing briefs. NW Natural argues that AWEC raised new evidence regarding the Willamette Falls Paper Company and Columbia Steel Casting Company on page 7 of AWEC's closing brief.

The Coalition maintains that the article referenced in a footnote was for example purposes only but states that in the interest of resolving the dispute ahead of the oral argument, it does not object to the motion to strike. AWEC maintains that it used two real world examples of industrial plant closures while discussing the concept of rate shock but states that it does not object to striking the language identified by NW Natural.

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<sup>1</sup>

The Coalition consists of the following entities: the Coalition of Communities of Color, Climate Solutions, Verde, Columbia Riverkeeper, Oregon Environmental Council, Community Energy Project, and Sierra Club.

Because both the Coalition and AWEC stated that they did not object to striking the language in the interest of resolving the matter ahead of oral argument, I grant the motion to strike. The passages identified by NW Natural in Attachment A to its motion are stricken. Nonetheless, I note that the passages in question appear to be instances of illustrative examples included as part of a legal argument rather than the offering of additional evidence in this proceeding.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2024.



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Sarah Spruce  
Administrative Law Judge