

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UG 173/ UM 1283

In the Matters of	)	
	)	
THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF	)	
OREGON	)	RULING
	)	
Staff Investigation into the Earnings of	)	
Cascade Natural Gas Corporation UG 173,	)	
	)	
and	)	
	)	
MDU RESOURCES GROUP, INC.,	)	
	)	
Application for Authorization to Acquire	)	
Cascade Natural Gas Corporation UM 1283.	)	

**DISPOSITION: TIME FOR OBJECTIONS SHORTENED**

On May 1, 2007, stipulations were entered in dockets UG 173 and UM 1283, without supporting testimony. Letters accompanying the stipulations stated that testimony would arrive in two weeks. On May 18, 2007, testimony related to the stipulations was filed with the Commission. The stipulations request a decision by June 5, 2007.

OAR 860-014-0085 governs submission of settlements and stipulations. Subsection (4) requires “an explanatory brief or written testimony filed and served concurrently” with the stipulation. Subsection (5) allows any party to file written objections to the stipulation. Although the testimony states that all parties either signed the stipulations or have agreed not to object, a period for objections must be observed.

OAR 860-011-0000(2) allows Administrative Law Judges to adopt special rules for particular proceedings. In keeping with that rule, any objection to either stipulation must be filed by the close of business, Tuesday, May 29, 2007.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 22nd day of May, 2007.

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Patrick Power  
Administrative Law Judge

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Christina M. Hayes  
Administrative Law Judge