



222 Fairview Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98109

NewsRelease

Douglas Thomas elected to Cascade Natural Gas board; Mel Clapp retires

April 23, 2002, Seattle, WA - W. Brian Matsuyama, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer announced the election of Douglas G. Thomas (Doug) to the Company's Board of Directors effective April 17. Thomas is President and Chief Executive Officer of Bellingham Cold Storage Company, a public refrigerated warehouse that provides freezing, storage and handling for seafood, fruit and other perishables. He replaces retiring board member Mel Clapp who has been associated with Cascade since 1956.

On the appointment, Mr. Matsuyama said, "Mr. Thomas' experience as a large commercial natural gas customer is invaluable and we are fortunate to have him join our Board. I am confident that his participation will benefit the Company and that he will contribute to Cascade's future successes."

Thomas joined Allstate Insurance Company in 1987 and was Money Management Division Manager when he left the company in 1992. He joined Bellingham Cold Storage as Special Projects Manager in 1992 and was promoted to Vice President and Chief Operating Officer in 1996. Thomas was elected President and Chief Executive Officer in 1999.

Thomas is a respected member of numerous community-based organizations including the Northwest Youth Services, where he served as a Board Member and President, the Boys and Girls Club, as a basketball coach, and the Rotary Club, as a board member. Professionally, he is the International Vice President for the World Food Logistics Organization and a member of the board for the National Fisheries Institute.

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Thomas graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science - Agricultural Economics with an option in Business Finance. He was born in Hillsboro, Oregon and was raised in Burlington, Washington. He and his wife Sandy have a daughter, Lauren.

Retiring board member Mel Clapp started with Cascade 45 years ago as Laborer and has made an indelible impression on the Company. He served on Cascade's board since 1981, and was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from 1988 through 1995, when he retired from the Company.

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, a natural gas distribution company, serves more than 200,000 residential, commercial, industrial and transportation customers in 91 communities in Washington and Oregon. The Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:CGC).

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Douglas G. Thomas was elected to Cascade Natural Gas' Board of Directors on April 17, 2002.