



# News Release

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An electronic (B&W photo) file of Mr. Patton is available.

## Cascade Natural Gas Promotes Ernie Patton as Eastern Region Director

December 27, 2000 -- Seattle, WA -- Cascade Natural Gas Corporation is pleased to announce the appointment of Ernie Patton to the newly created position of Director – Eastern Region. Mr. Patton is responsible for all operations in the Tri-Cities, Walla Walla, and Pendleton districts. Will Odell, Vice President – Districts commented, “We are continually striving to improve services to our customers through better practices and operating efficiencies. Mr. Patton’s appointment reinforces that dedication to improving services.”

Mr. Patton joined the company in August 1968 as a Laborer in Baker City, Oregon and became Yakima Assistant Manager in April 1988. In October 1988, he transferred to Sunnyside as District Superintendent and he was promoted to Sunnyside District Manager in 1996. Mr. Odell added, “Ernie has contributed enormously to the company’s past successes. I congratulate him on his achievements and I know he will excel in his new position.”

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation is a local distribution company that provides natural gas service to more than 189,000 customers in 90 communities in Washington and Oregon. In his new position, Mr. Patton is responsible for the Walla Walla, Pendleton, and Tri-Cities Districts. The Walla Walla District includes Walla Walla and College Place; Pendleton District includes Pendleton, Hermiston, Stanfield, Boardman, Irrigon, Pilot Rock, Mission, Weston, Milton-Freewater, and Athena; and Kennewick District includes Kennewick, Richland, Pasco, Burbank, Finley, Plymouth, and Patterson.

Cascade’s common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) with the symbol CGC.

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