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Commission approves decrease in natural gas rates for Cascade Natural Gas

KENNEWICK, WASH. – Oct. 28, 2010 – The Washington Utility and Transportation Commission approved a Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) filed by Cascade Natural Gas Corp. that calls for a decrease in the wholesale price of natural gas. The filing calls for a 9.6 percent decrease for residential customers and a 10.7 percent decrease for small commercial customers.

The rate changes are effective Nov. 1.

“We continue to see wholesale natural gas prices remain low, and that allows us to pass along a significant decrease to our Washington customers,” said Frank Morehouse, executive vice president and general manager for Cascade. “While we are pleased to provide a very economical fuel source, our priority, as always, is to provide safe and reliable service.”

The cost of gas, which makes up the largest part of a customer’s bill, is a straight pass through to the customer; the utility cannot make a profit on the cost of gas.

A typical residential customer using 53 therms a month can expect a reduction of \$5.94 on their monthly bill, or \$71.28 in savings for usage over a 12-month period. A commercial customer using an average of 266 therms a month can expect a decrease of \$31.31 on their monthly bill, or \$375.72 in savings for usage over a 12-month period.

A PGA is a mechanism designed to pass the actual costs of gas supplies to customers.

Cascade Natural Gas is a natural gas distribution company serving approximately 257,000 residential, commercial, industrial and transportation customers in 93 communities in Washington and Oregon. Cascade is a subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc., a multidimensional natural resources enterprise traded on the New York Stock Exchange as “MDU.” For more information about MDU Resources, visit the company’s Web site at www.mdu.com. For more information about Cascade, visit www.cngc.com.

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