

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

*Cascade Natural Gas Corporation proposes an overall average 0.56 percent decrease in natural gas rates.*

In September 2020, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade) will file the following requests with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) proposing an overall average 0.56 percent decrease for all customer groups with natural gas service. The changes are proposed to become effective November 1, 2020:

- **Cost Recovery Mechanism for Pipeline Replacement (CRM):** Cascade asked for an overall average increase to rates of 0.39 percent to recover costs incurred for the replacement of aging natural gas pipes from November 1, 2019, through October 31, 2020. The CRM helps Cascade continue to provide customers with safe and reliable gas service. The typical residential customer using 56 therms per month will see a bill increase of \$0.22 cents more per month or 0.40 percent for the CRM costs alone.
- **Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA):** Cascade requested an increase to rates to recover the cost of natural gas. Gas costs are a straight pass through of costs, where Cascade does not earn a profit on these costs. For gas costs alone, the average residential customer using 56 therms per month will see a bill increase of \$0.58 more per month or 1.01 percent.
- **Decoupling Mechanism Adjustment:** Cascade requested to charge customers the difference between authorized revenue and actual billed revenue consistent with natural gas tariff Rule 21, Decoupling Mechanism. For the decoupling mechanism adjustment, the average residential customer using 56 therms per month will see a bill decrease of \$1.29 more per month or 2.31 percent less.
- **Conservation:** Cascade's collection of actual conservation costs from the previous twelve-month period will reflect an ever so slight decrease, which will essentially keep conservation rates flat for the typical residential customer using 56 therms per month.

The following two items are related to the Tax Cut and Jobs Acts (TCJA) that reduced the federal income tax rate effective January 1, 2018.

- **Unprotected Excess Deferred Income Tax:** the average residential customer using 56 therms per month will see a bill decrease of \$0.04 cents more per month or 0.08 percent.
- **Protected-Plus Excess Deferred Income Tax:** the average residential customer using 56 therms per month will see a bill increase of \$0.05 cents less per month or 0.09 percent.

The WUTC will review each of these filings and has the authority to set final rates that may vary from Cascade's requests, either higher or lower, depending on the results of its investigation.

If the WUTC approves all proposals, the total decrease for a typical residential customer using 56 therms per month will be 0.85 percent or \$0.48 less per month, bringing the total average monthly Cascade bill to \$56.24 from \$56.72.

The combined proposed rate changes for residential, commercial, and industrial customers are:

Type of Service	Current Rate**	Current Average Bill*	Proposed Rate**	Proposed Average Bill*	Dollar Change in Bill	Percent Change in Bill
Residential, Schedule 503	\$0.92030	\$56.72	\$0.91171	\$56.24	(\$0.48)	(0.85%)
Commercial, Schedule 504	\$0.85625	\$261.00	\$0.84440	\$257.57	(\$3.43)	(1.32%)
Industrial Firm, Schedule 505	\$0.77768	\$1,762.15	\$0.78238	\$1,772.83	\$10.68	0.61%
Com-Ind Dual Service, Schedule 511	\$0.72342	\$10,400.59	\$0.73593	\$10,580.18	\$179.59	1.73%
Industrial Interruptible, Schedule 570	\$0.67876	\$16,665.43	\$0.68482	\$16,812.77	\$147.34	0.88%
Transport, Schedule 663	\$0.05961	\$10,793.73	\$0.05994	\$10,890.61	\$96.88	0.90%

\* The average bill includes the monthly basic charge which has not changed with this filing.

\*\* Due to tiered rate structures based on individual customer consumption, Rate Schedules 505, 511, 570, and 663 reflect average rates.

For additional information on the proposed rate changes, conservation tips, energy efficiency programs, energy assistance programs, and bill payment plans, visit Cascade Natural Gas’s website at [www.cngc.com](http://www.cngc.com); call 1-888-522-1130; or write to c/o Cascade Regulatory Department, 8113 W Grandridge Blvd, Kennewick WA 99336-7166.

You can contact the WUTC to submit questions or to be notified of the scheduled open meeting, at which time the proposal will be considered by the commission:

- On the WUTC website at [www.utc.wa.gov](http://www.utc.wa.gov), and click on Submit a Comment
- By email to: [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)
- By phone at: 1-888-333-9882
- In writing:  
WUTC  
P.O. BOX 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Please include your name and mailing address, reference the name of company (Cascade Natural Gas Corporation) and Advice Nos. CNG/W20-05-02, CNG/W20-09-01, CNG/W20-09-02, CNG/ W20-09-03, and CNG/W20-09-04.

The WUTC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to participants with disabilities: Contact WUTC at 360-664-1132, 306-664-1243 or email [humanresources@utc.wa.gov](mailto:humanresources@utc.wa.gov).



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