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September 15, 2023

Kathy Hunter
Acting Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Advice No. W23-09-05, CNGC Washington Energy Assistance Fund (WEAF) and Big Heart Cost Recovery

Dear Director Hunter:

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation ("Cascade" or "Company") files revisions to the following sheets in its Tariff WN U-3, stated to become effective November 1, 2023:

Twenty-Seventh Revision of Sheet No. 2-A
Seventh Revision of Sheet No. 593

The Company withdraws the following sheet in its entirety:

First Revision of Sheet No. 304

The purpose of this filing is to revise the rates in Schedule 593, Washington Energy Assistance Fund ("WEAF") Program Cost Recovery, to recover the uncollected 2022-2023 final WEAF program year costs as well as the temporary COVID-19 Big Heart grants offered per Schedule 304, Temporary COVID-19 Residential Bill Assistance Program as approved in UG-210801.

Unlike prior years' filings, this filing does not include a cost projection for serving customers in the 2023-2024 program year because as of October 1, 2023, the WEAF program will be replaced by the Cascade Arrearage Relief Energy Savings ("CARES") Program offered per Cascade's Rule 20 and Schedule 302 and with CARES Cost Recovery established in Schedule 592, as approved in UG-230551.

This rate change proposed for Schedule 593 will result in an overall increase in revenue by \$2,752,481 or 0.727%. An average residential customer using 54 therms per month will see a bill increase of \$0.51 per month or 0.67%. The rate impact for each customer class is shown in the table below.

| Service | Sch. No. | Proposed Rate | Bill Difference | Percent Change |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Residential | 503 | \$0.01350 | \$0.51 | 0.68% |
| Commercial | 504 | \$0.01091 | \$2.07 | 0.58% |
| Industrial | 505 | \$0.00675 | \$9.40 | 0.41% |
| Industrial Lg Vol | 511 | \$0.00572 | \$66.56 | 0.42% |
| Interruptible | 570 | \$0.00203 | \$32.99 | 0.14% |
| Transportation | 663 | \$0.00123 | \$245.86 | 2.04% |

The proposed change will affect all of Cascade's Washington customers. Cascade serves approximately 202,519 residential, 27,445 commercial, 492 industrial, 100 large volume, and seven industrial interruptible customers in the state of Washington.

Workpaper 1 provides the WEAFF Program Year collections and expenditures; workpaper 2 shows the derivation of the proposed rates; and workpaper 3 demonstrates the impact the rate change has on revenues and on customer bills.

In compliance with WAC 480-90-194(3), the Company will mail customers a bill insert notifying them of the proposed rate increase. The issuance of bill inserts to customers will begin on September 15. In addition, Cascade will publish on its webpage the anticipated rate increase, provide copies of the notice to Community Action agencies and organizations within its service territory, and provide notice to the news media. The Company has provided a copy of the bill insert in Advice No. W23-09-01.

Schedule 304, Temporary COVID-19 Residential Bill Assistance Program was established in April 2021 to help residential customers experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and corresponding global economic recession. As the program was temporary and the funding has been expended, the Company now seeks to remove Schedule 304 from its tariff and to revise its Table of Contents accordingly.

This filing is comprised of the following files:

NEW-CNGC-Advice-No.-W23-09-05-CLtr-09-15-23.pdf
 NEW-CNGC-Advice-No.-W23-09-05 -Trfs-09-15-23.pdf
 NEW-CNGC-Advice-No.-W23-09-05 -WP-1-09-15-23.xlsx
 NEW-CNGC-Advice-No.-W23-09-05 -WP-2-09.15.23.xlsx
 NEW-CNGC-Advice-No.-W23-09-05 -WP-3-09.15.23.xlsx

Please direct any questions regarding this filing to me at (208) 377-6015 or Chris Mickelson at (509) 734-4549.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lori Blattner

Lori Blattner
Director, Regulatory Affairs
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Attachments

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(D)

**WASHINGTON ENERGY ASSISTANCE FUND (WEAF) PROGRAM COST RECOVERY
SCHEDULE 593****PURPOSE:**

This adjustment schedule collects funding necessary for Cascade's Washington Energy Assistance Fund (WEAF) Program as established in Schedule 303.

APPLICABILITY:

This adjustment applies to the following rate schedules:
503, 504, 505, 511, 570, and 663

ADJUSTMENT TO RATE:

The Company will file to change this adjustment schedule annually so that forecast collections under this Schedule are estimated to collect no more than the maximum program year budget less any carryover. The program year budget is established in Schedule 303.

The amount to be collected over a 12-month timeframe will be amortized to all rate schedules on an equal percent of margin basis.

ADJUSTMENT RATE:

This following adjustment rate will apply on a per therm basis for each rate schedule as listed in the table below:

| RATE SCHEDULE | PER THERM RATE |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 503 | \$0.01350 |
| 504 | \$0.01091 |
| 505 | \$0.00675 |
| 511 | \$0.00572 |
| 570 | \$0.00203 |
| 663 | \$0.00123 |

GENERAL TERMS:

Service under this adjustment schedule is governed by the terms of this schedule, the Rules contained in this Tariff, any other schedules that by their terms or by the terms of this adjustment schedule apply to service under this schedule, and by all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, as amended from time to time.

CNG/W23-09-05

Issued September 15, 2023

Effective for Service on and after

November 1, 2023

Issued by CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATIONBy:  Lori A. Blattner

Director, Regulatory Affairs