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March 21, 2025

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

**Director Killip** 

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation ("Cascade" or "Company") submits to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") the following revisions to its Tariff WN U-3, stated to become effective with service on and after May 9, 2025:

Twenty-Ninth Revision of Sheet No. 2-A
Eighteenth Revision of Sheet No. 12
Second Revision of Sheet No. 20
Fifty-Ninth Revision of Sheet No. 500-A
First Revision of Sheet No. 555
First Revision of Sheet No. 556
Eighth Revision of Sheet No. 582
Second Revision of Sheet No. 592
Fourteenth Revision of Sheet No. 663-A
First Revision of Sheet No. 900-1
First Revision of Sheet No. 900-2
First Revision of Sheet No. 900-3

Cascade also seeks to withdraw the following sheets in their entirety:

Eighth Revision of Sheet No. 593 Forty-Sixth Revision of Sheet No. 595

Cascade submits this housekeeping filing to make the following revisions:

<u>Sheet No. 2-A.</u> The Table of Contents is revised to add Schedule 555, Commission Adjustment Fee and Schedule 556, COVID-19 Cost Recovery Adjustment, both of which were approved in Commission Order No. 05, issued in Docket UG-240008, Cascade's most

recent Multi-Year Rate Plan ("MYRP"). Reference to Schedule 705, Voluntary Renewable Natural Gas Program is also added as this schedule was adopted in UG-240140. Also, reference to Schedule 595 (formerly, Temporary Technical Adjustment) is removed as the content was consolidated into Schedule 590, Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, in Docket UG-230274.

**Sheet No. 12.** Rule 8 was revised as part of Cascade's filing which was made to conform its tariff sheets to Order No. 05 issued in UG-240008. In that compliance filing, Cascade inadvertently put its requested rate of return of 7.894% rather than the final approved rate of return of 7.185% in Rule 8. This filing corrects this mistake.

**Sheet No. 20.** Rule 20, Cascade Arrearage Relief Energy Savings (CARES) Program is revised to remove Lower Columbia Community Action Program from the list of Community Action Agencies administering CARES. Lower Columbia Community Action Program has not executed a contract for CARES program delivery for either program year 2023-2024 or program year 2024-2025, stating that it does not wish to administer CARES.

**Sheet No. 500-A.** Schedule 500, Municipal Taxes is revised to correct a typographical error. The third bulleted tax limitation for Lynden stated that a 0.5% tax applies to billing over \$5,000; this taxation tier is correctly applied to billings over \$50,000.

Sheet Nos. 555, 556, 582, and 592. Schedule 555, Commission Adjustment Fee and Schedule 556, COVID-19 Cost Recovery Adjustment, which were added in Cascade's MYRP (UG-240008), are revised to include reference to Schedule 900, Biomethane Receipt Services. Schedule 900 was approved by the Commission in Docket UG-240754 after Cascade filed its MYRP. As discussed and approved in UG-240753, Schedule 900 billing rates mirror the rates for Schedule 663, Distribution System Transportation Service.

<u>Sheet No. 593.</u> Cascade seeks to remove Schedule 593, Washington Energy Assistance Fund (WEAF) Program Cost Recovery because it is no longer an active cost recovery mechanism. The WEAF program was replaced by the Cascade Arrearage Relief and Energy Savings (CARES) program in Docket UG-230551, and Schedule 593 rates were set to zero in Docket UG-240695.

**Sheet No. 595**. Schedule 595, formally titled, Temporary Technical Adjustment, is withdrawn from the Tariff as the content was removed from Sheet No. 595 and added to Schedule 590, Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, in Docket No. 230274.

Sheet No. 663-A and Sheet No. 900.3. Schedule 663, Distribution System Transportation Service and Schedule 900, Biomethane Receipt Service are both revised to remove language stating that service under either schedule is subject to specific adjustment schedules. This language is unnecessary and is not found on any other service schedule (e.g.: Schedules 503, 503, 511, and 570).

<u>Schedule 900.1</u>. Language was added to the Purpose section of Schedule 900 for added clarity.

Sheet Nos. 900.2 and 900.3. The per therm rates are changed in Schedule 900, Biomethane Receipt Services to reflect the rates approved for Schedule 663, Distribution System Transportation. The Basic Service Charge is unchanged as it includes the facilities maintenance costs unique to Schedule 900 service which were approved by the Commission in UG-240754. Service in Cascade's recently approved per Commission Order No. 05 issued in UG-240008, Cascade's MYRP. Schedule 900 rates mirror Schedule 663 rates; however, Schedule 900 was not included in Cascade MYRP as it was approved by the Commission in Docket UG-240754, which was initiated after Cascade's initial MYRP filing. The changes made herein, do not impact revenues as Cascade does not currently have any customers being served on Schedule 900.

This electronic filing is comprised of the following files.

- NEW-CNGC-Adv-No-W25-03-01-Housekeeping-CLtr-03-21-2025.pdf
- NEW-CNGC-Adv-No-W25-03-01-Housekeeping-Trf-03-21-2025.pdf

Please direct any questions regarding this filing to me at (208) 377-6015 or Jennifer Gross at jennifer.gross@cngc.com or (509) 975-9473

Sincerely,

/s/ Lori Blattner

Lori Blattner
Director, Regulatory Affairs
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Attachment

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556	COVID-19 Cost Recovery Adjustment556	(N)
582	Unprotected Excess Deferred Income Tax (EDIT) Reversals 582	
590	Gas Cost Amortization590	
592	Cascade Arrearage Relief Energy Savings (CARES) Cost Recovery 592	
593	Washington Energy Assistance Fund (WEAF) Program Cost Recovery 593	
594	Decoupling Mechanism Adjustment594	(D)
596	Conservation Program Adjustment596	
597	Cost Recovery Mechanism (CRM)597	
700	Temporary Climate Commitment Act (CCA) Rate Adjustment	
OPTION	IAL SERVICES	(N)

Voluntary Renewable Natural Gas Program

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(N)

# RULE 8 EXTENSION OF DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

#### **EXTENSIONS OF DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES**

If, in the Company's sole opinion, no significant barriers exist, the Company will install, own, and maintain distribution facilities necessary to provide gas service to an applicant who meets the requirements to become a customer and complies with the requirements established in this Rule.

Distribution facilities enabling the provision of gas service to a customer include the Company's gas main and other facilities located in the street or right-of-way and the service line, which is the underground pipe running from the Company's main to a Company installed meter that abuts the customer's dwelling or facility. The path of the service line and main to the location of the meter shall be at the Company's sole discretion.

#### LINE EXTENSION COSTS ATTRIBUTED TO CUSTOMER

Line extension costs are the sum of all estimated costs of furnishing and installing the distribution facilities necessary to provide gas service or additional gas supply to a qualified gas customer.

#### MARGIN ALLOWANCE TOWARD COST OF DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

The Company will provide a margin allowance toward the cost of distribution facilities to a qualifying new or modified line extension project as described in this rule. In no instance will a Customer be credited a Margin Allowance that exceeds the line extension costs to install the necessary distribution facilities. Specific margin allowance cap limits for each customer class are stated below, but, in general, the maximum potential margin allowance per service installed is the net present value (NPV) of the margin Cascade forecasts it will receive from the customer over a set number of years as set forth in the following calculation:

#### Where:

$$ALLOWANCE = \sum_{t=1}^{7} \frac{R_t}{(1+i)^t}$$

R<sub>t</sub> = estimated annual margin during year t. i = Company's approved rate of return, 7.185%. t=years of margin; See Table 1 below

Table 1 - Years of Margin

Dates	Schedules	Years of Margin for t in formula above
Indefinite	505, 511, 570, 663	Seven (7)
March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026	503 and 504	Two (2)
March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027	503 and 504	One (1)
After March 1, 2027	503 and 504	Zero (0)

(continued)

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Issued by CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

By: Clai AB latter Lori A. Blattner

(C)

### **RULE 20** CASCADE ARREARAGE RELIEF ENERGY SAVINGS (CARES) PROGRAM

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this rule is to define the parameters for applying an energy burden discount on a qualifying customer's monthly gas bill and a one-time, up-front arrearage relief discount on a customer's outstanding balance, if applicable.

#### **AVAILABILITY**

This rule applies to residential customers or household members of a dwelling served on Schedule 503, Residential Service Rate, who have declared that their household is low-income.

#### **LOW-INCOME DEFINITION**

A customer is considered low-income if their gross cumulative household income inclusive of deductions in alignment with the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), for a specific timeframe within the last twelve months, extrapolated for twelve months, does not exceed 80% of the county's area median income (AMI) or 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a household with the same number of occupants.

#### **PROGRAM DELIVERY**

The program will be administered by both the Company and the designated Agencies listed in the table below that already administer LIHEAP funds to Cascade's customers and have executed agreements for program delivery with the Company.

Agencies			
Blue Mountain Action Council	Kitsap Community Resources		
Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council	Northwest Community Action Program		
Coastal Community Action Council	Opportunities Industrialization Center of WA		
Community Action Connections	Opportunity Council		
Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason &	Snohomish County Human Services Department		
Thurston Counties			
Community Action of Skagit County			

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May 9, 2025

(D)



By: Clai AB latt Lori A. Blattner

### SCHEDULE 500 MUNICIPAL TAXES

### **MUNICIPAL TAX RATE (continued):**

Municipality	Ordinance	Tax Rate on gas	Limitations	
pay	No.	service		
Kalama	779	6%	Not applied to billing portion >\$1,000 where	
			gas is used for manufacturing	
Kelso <sup>(1)</sup>	3020	6.383%	None	
Kennewick <sup>(1)</sup>	2806,3303,	9.289%	None	
	3612			
La Conner	712	6%	None	
Longview	2227	6%	Not applied to billing portion >\$1,000 where gas is used for manufacturing	
Lynden	1177	6%	• 6% applied to first \$5,000 billed per	
		1%	month, per customer	
		0.5%	• 1% applied to portion billed per month,	
			per customer between \$5,000 and	
			\$50,000	
			• 0.5% applied to portion >\$50,000 billed	
			per month, per customer	
Marysville	1975	5%	None	
McCleary	563	6%	None	
Montesano	942	6%	None	
Moses Lake <sup>(1)</sup>	1930	6.383%	Does not apply to portion billed per	
			customer, per year >\$100,00	
Mount Vernon	3240	6%	Higher rate applied to portion billed per	
		4%	customer, per month, up to \$5,000	
			Lower rate applied to portion billed, per	
			customer, per month >\$5,000	
Moxee	438	6%	Applied to first \$3,000 billed, per customer, per month	
Nooksack <sup>(1)</sup>	291, 365	6.383%	None	
Othello	1099	6%	None	
Oak Harbor	792, 967	6%	None	
Pasco	2707	8.5%	None	

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By: Clai AB latter Lori Blattner

(T)

# SCHEDULE 555 COMMISSION FEE ADJUSTMENT

#### **PURPOSE**

This adjustment schedule collects the 0.02 percent increase in Commission Fee as adopted by Senate Bill 5634, which was signed into law on March 24, 2022, and became effective January 1, 2023. These costs are deferred in accordance with Order 01 issued in UG-220912.

#### **APPLICABILITY**

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

#### **TERM**

This adjustment rate will expire after February 28, 2027.

#### **ADJUSTMENT RATE**

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

RATE SCHEDULE	ADJUSTMENT RATE (PER THERM)
503	\$0.00329
504	\$0.00208
505	\$0.00143
511	\$0.00106
570	\$0.00058
663	\$0.00024
900	\$0.00024

(N)

#### **GENERAL TERMS**

Service under this adjustment schedule is governed by the terms and conditions outlined in this schedule, the Rules contained in this Tariff, any other applicable schedules, and all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, subject to amendments from time to time.

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Issued by CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

By: Clai AB latter
Lori A. Blattner

Director, Regulatory Affairs

# SCHEDULE 556 COVID-19 COST RECOVERY ADJUSTMENT

#### **PURPOSE**

This adjustment schedule collects the costs incurred due to the moratoriums on disconnections and late fees imposed by Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-23.2 and the Commissions COVID-19 Response Term Sheet, as approved and modified in Order 01 through Order 06 in U-200281. The costs collected in this schedule are deferred in accordance with Orders 01, 02, and 03 issued in UG-2000479.

#### **APPLICABILITY**

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

#### **TERM**

This adjustment rate will expire after February 28, 2027.

#### **ADJUSTMENT RATE**

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

RATE SCHEDULE	ADJUSTMENT RATE (PER THERM)
503	\$0.00237
504	\$0.00055
505	\$0.00054
511	\$0.00005
570	\$0.00003
663	\$0.00000
900	\$0.00000

(N)

#### **GENERAL TERMS**

Service under this adjustment schedule is governed by the terms and conditions outlined in this schedule, the Rules contained in this Tariff, any other applicable schedules, and all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, subject to amendments from time to time.

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Director, Regulatory Affairs

# SCHEDULE 582 UNPROTECTED EXCESS DEFERRED INCOME TAX (EDIT) REVERSALS RATE ADJUSTMENT SCHEDULE

#### **PURPOSE:**

The Tax Cut and Jobs Act (the Act), signed into law by President Trump on December 22, 2017, reduced the federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2017. This rate adjustment schedule annually returns to customers the unprotected excess deferred income tax (EDIT) amortizations in accordance with the terms and conditions established in the Partial Joint Settlement Agreement filed in UG-170929.

#### **APPLICABLE:**

This rate adjustment schedule is applicable to Schedules 503, 504, 505, 511, 570, and 663.

#### **RATES:**

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 Charge
503	(\$0.00274)
504	(\$0.00209)
505	(\$0.00133)
511	(\$0.00110)
570	(\$0.00040)
663	(\$0.00023)
900	(\$0.00023)

(N)

#### **SPECIAL CONDITION:**

This adjustment schedule shall be updated annually, effective November 1.

Lori A. Blattner

#### TERM:

This rate schedule adjustment shall be effective for a term of ten years, ending October 31, 2028.

#### **TAX ADDITIONS:**

Adjustment charges are subject to increases as set forth in Schedule 500, Municipal Taxes.

#### **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 schedule apply to service under this schedule, and by all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, as amended from time to time.

CNG/W25-03-01

Effective for Service on and after May 9, 2025

Issued March 21, 2025

Issued by CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

By: Clai AB latt

Director, Regulatory Affairs

# SCHEDULE 592 CASCADE ARREARAGE RELIEF ENERGY SAVINGS (CARES) PROGRAM COST RECOVERY

#### **PURPOSE**

This adjustment schedule collects or refunds the CARES Program deferral balance, authorized per UG-230243, in accordance with the parameters established in Rule 20 and Schedule 302.

#### **APPLICABILITY**

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

#### **ADJUSTMENT TO RATE**

The Company will file for an annual adjustment to this schedule to ensure that forecast collections do not exceed forecast program year expenditures, taking into account carryover funds.

#### **ADJUSTMENT RATE**

The following adjustment rates will apply on a per therm basis for each rate schedule, effective on November 1, 2024, as listed in the table below:

Rate Schedule	Forecasted CARES Cost Recovery Rate	Amortized Balance Cost Recovery Rate	Total Billing Rate
503	\$0.02045	(\$0.00450)	\$0.01595
504	\$0.01503	(\$0.00331)	\$0.01172
505	\$0.01044	(\$0.00230)	\$0.00814
511	\$0.00691	(\$0.00152)	\$0.00539
570	\$0.00373	(\$0.00082)	\$0.00291
663	\$0.00122	(\$0.00027)	\$0.00095
900	\$0.00122	(\$0.00027)	\$0.00095

(N)

#### **GENERAL TERMS**

Service under this adjustment schedule is governed by the terms and conditions outlined in this schedule, the Rules contained in this Tariff, any other applicable schedules, and all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, subject to amendments from time to time.

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# SCHEDULE 663 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

### Rates (continued):

#### Fuel Use Requirements:

Customers served on Schedule 663 shall provide Company with in-kind fuel for lost and unaccounted for gas on Company's distribution system. The fuel use factor is 0.3237%.

All other terms and conditions of service shall be pursuant to the rules and regulations set forth in this Tariff.

TAX ADDITIONS: (D)

The rates named herein are subject to increases as set forth in Schedule 500, Municipal Taxes.

(continued) (D)

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By: Clai AR latter
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## SCHEDULE 900 BIOMETHANE RECEIPT SERVICES

#### **PURPOSE**

This schedule establishes terms and conditions whereby qualifying producers of Biomethane (Producer) may request either a newly constructed interconnection to the Company's distribution system or increased capacity at an existing interconnection point, and associated extension of distribution system and related facilities (Project Facilities) for the purpose of injecting and/or transporting qualifying Producer-supplied Biomethane on the Company's distribution system. Service under this schedule does not pertain to the receipt of Company-produced Biomethane or to situations where the Company will purchase or own the environmental attributes associated with the Biomethane.

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#### **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this schedule, the following definitions apply:

<u>Biogas</u> means a gas mixture of methane, carbon dioxide and other non-hydrocarbon gases and trace compounds that is produced through an anaerobic digestion process.

<u>Biomethane</u> means the physical purified Biogas meeting all of Cascade's gas quality specifications, excluding the Environmental Benefits associated with such gas.

<u>Environmental Attributes</u> are the environmental characteristics of energy generated from renewable resources which can be decoupled from the renewable energy and sold separately through fungible instruments such as renewable thermal credits (RTCs).

#### **APPLICABILITY**

Service under this schedule is available on a case-by-case basis at the Company's discretion if the Company has determined that the requested injection of biomethane will not jeopardize or interfere with normal operation of the Company's distribution system, its provision of gas service to its customers, and its ability to comply with all legal and regulatory requirements which includes prioritizing biomethane projects that have the greatest benefit to existing customers. Biomethane Producer must also meet all of the following conditions:

- 1) The Producer has requested that the Company transport biomethane on its distribution system;
- The biomethane Producer must meet the credit screening criteria as established for nonresidential customers in Rule 4, Customer Deposits and Other Security;
- The biomethane must be from one or a mix of the following feedstocks: a) agricultural byproducts; b) wastewater; c) landfill waste; or d) food and beverage waste; or e) other cellulosic materials;

(continued)

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Lori Blattner Director, Regulatory Affairs

# SCHEDULE 900 BIOMETHANE RECEIPT SERVICES

### **APPLICABILITY** (continued)

- 4) The Company has determined that Company's distribution system has the capacity to accept the biomethane and/or the Project Facilities capable of enabling the acceptance of the biomethane can be designed, constructed, and operated in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal requirements;
- 5) Prior to the Company's building an interconnection, the Producer must demonstrate to the Company's satisfaction that it has secured end user(s) either on the Company's system or outside of the Company's system who agrees to purchase or move off the system all the estimated biomethane production. If the end user is outside of the Company's system, the Producer must demonstrate to the Company that it has secured the appropriate transmission rights to move the biomethane off the Company's system. The Company reserves the right to terminate biomethane receipt services until the Producer has met this requirement; and
- 6) The Producer has agreed to provide a tangible benefit to the Company's customers. Tangible benefits may be, but are not limited to, an agreement that the Company could separately purchase some of the Environmental Attributes or the Biomethane at a discounted price.

#### **MONTHLY CHARGES**

A Producer receiving service under this schedule shall receive the following monthly charges:

	Effective March 1, 2025	Effective March 1, 2026
Basic Service Charge <sup>1</sup>	\$5,135 per month	\$5,135 per month
Contract Demand <sup>2</sup>	\$0.40 per CD per day	\$0.45 per CD per day
System Balancing Charge	\$0.00110 per therm	\$0.00110 per therm
Odorant	\$0.00021 per therm	\$0.00021 per therm
Delivery Charge		
i) First 100,00 therms	\$0.05150 per therm	\$0.05029 per therm
ii) Next 200,000 therms	\$0.02092 per therm	\$0.02043 per therm
iii) Next 200,000 therms	\$0.01403 per therm	\$0.01370 per therm
iv) Over 500,000 therms	\$0.00842 per therm	\$0.00822 per therm

**A.** <u>Basic Service Charge:</u> Customers receiving service under this schedule will be charged a monthly basic service charge for each single-metered facility.

#### B. Contract Demand (CD) Charge:

Contract Demand is the number of therms per day of distribution capacity the Producer reserves on the Company's distribution system for delivery of the Producer-supplied biomethane. The Company will determine each Producer's CD which will be stated in the service agreement. Each monthly bill will include a charge that will be no less than the CD times the CD charge. The Producer may be forced to curtail injection of its biomethane than its CD rate if a curtailment per Rule 17, Order of Priority or entitlement as defined in this schedule is necessary, or Force Majeure circumstances per Rule 15 are experienced.

(continued)

(M) refers to language previously found on Sheet No. 900-2

(N)

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Lori Blattner

By: Clai AB latt

Director, Regulatory Affairs

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## SCHEDULE 900 BIOMETHANE RECEIPT SERVICES

#### PREREQUISITES TO RNG RECEIPT SERVICES

(K)(D)

Preceding the receipt of biomethane, service under this Schedule requires an interconnection capacity study and an engineering study, as needed.

#### **RECEIPT SERVICES PROVIDED**

The Company will provide a qualifying Producer with a Company-owned, operated, and maintained point of interconnection to enable receipt of qualifying biomethane into the Company's distribution system.

#### **MINIMUM RNG QUALITY STANDARDS**

Service under this schedule requires continual compliance with the Company's gas quality standards and reporting requirement.

#### **CURTAILMENT OF RNG RECEIPT SERVICES**

The Company may curtail receipt services without notice for reasons that may include but are not limited to Force Majeure, safety, failure for RNG to meet the minimum gas quality standards, insufficient capacity on Company's distribution system, or inability of the Company's distribution system to accept any or all of the biomethane produced and scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. The Company will not be liable for damages occasioned by partial or total curtailment of biomethane receipt service under this Schedule.

Also, any failure by the Producer to comply with the terms and condition of service may result in curtailment of services.

(continued)

(K) refers to content that was moved to Sheet No. 900.2

(N)

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