

September 6, 2024

NWN WUTC Advice No. 24-06A

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jeff Killip, Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

**Re: UG-240625 – Schedule J – Gas Residential Energy Assistance Tariff (GREAT) and
Schedule L – Residential Bill Discount Program – Optional for Qualifying Customers –
Replacement Tariff Sheet – DO NOT REDOCKET**

On August 20, 2024, Northwest Natural Gas Company, dba NW Natural (NW Natural or Company), filed tariff revisions in this docket related to its Gas Residential Energy Assistance Tariff (GREAT) and Residential Bill Discount programs, proposed with effective date of October 1, 2024.

Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to provide a replacement page for tariff Schedule L, Sheet L.1 to remove a sentence that was inadvertently included, which was discovered during discussions with NW Natural's GREAT Advisory Group. All other tariff pages and workpapers from the original filing remain unchanged.

Conclusion

NW Natural respectfully requests that the replacement tariff sheet filed herewith be approved to become effective October 1, 2024.

In accordance with WAC 480-90-193 and WAC 480-90-195(3), copies of this letter and the attached filing are available in the Company's main office in Portland, Oregon, and on its website at www.nwnatural.com.

As requested by WAC 480-80-103(4)(a), I certify that I have authority to issue tariff revisions on behalf of NW Natural.

Please address correspondence on this matter to Amy Schulties at (503) 610-7546 or amy.schulties@nwnatural.com, with a copy to the following:

eFiling
NW Natural Rates & Regulatory Affairs
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Fax: (503) 220-2579
Telephone: (503) 610-7330
eFiling@nwnatural.com

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Natasha Siores

Natasha Siores
Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs
NW Natural
250 SW Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
(503) 610-7074
natasha.siores@nwnatural.com

Attachment:

240625-NWN-WUTC-Advice-24-06A-Trf-Sheet-L-R-Pg-1-09-06-24

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY

WN U-6

First Revision of Sheet L.1

Cancels Original Sheet L.1

SCHEDULE L RESIDENTIAL BILL DISCOUNT PROGRAM – OPTIONAL FOR QUALIFYING CUSTOMERS

APPLICABLE:

The purpose of this schedule is to implement an optional bill discount program for income-qualifying residential customers.

AVAILABLE:

To all income-qualified Residential Customers. Income qualified is defined as Customers with gross household income, inclusive of deductions in alignment with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), at or below 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) or 80% Area Median Income (AMI), whichever is greater.

DESCRIPTION:

Participating income-qualified Customers will receive the following credit on their monthly bill, designed to lower a household's energy burden to 6% or less of annual household income

	Household Income Qualifying	Bill Discount Percentage
Tier 0	0-60% FPL	80%
Tier 1	61-120% FPL	40%
Tier 2	121%-150% FPL	20%
Tier 3	The greater of 151%-200% FPL or 80% AMI	15%

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

1. An Applicant for this bill assistance program must be the account holder and is required to provide an application that includes a self-declaration of household size and income. Household size reflects all permanent residents in the home, including adults and children. Qualifying income refers to total gross annual income with deductions in alignment with LIHEAP, from all sources for all persons in the applicant's household.
2. Renewal of a Customer's enrollment is required every two years. The Company may allow senior, disabled, and other fixed income eligibility for a four-year period. (N)
3. NW Natural may also auto-enroll eligible customers that have received energy assistance or have participated in a qualifying low-income program. Auto-enrolled customers must re-enroll every two years, or every four years if fixed income. (N)
4. Participants that were not auto-enrolled may be subject to post-enrollment income verification sampling, which may include a showing of proof of household size and income. Bill discounts may be suspended for Customers found to be ineligible or non-responsive during post-enrollment verification. NW Natural will not retroactively bill a customer for any discounts provided under this schedule. Customers found to be ineligible or non-responsive during post-enrollment verification may re-apply for this program upon providing verification of eligibility.

(continue to Sheet L.2)

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Effective with service on
and after October 1, 2024