

**NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY**

WN U-6

Third Revision of Sheet J.1

Cancels Second Revision of Sheet J.1

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**SCHEDULE J**  
**GAS RESIDENTIAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE TARIFF (GREAT)**

**APPLICABLE:**

To Residential Customers (“Households”) that take service under Rate Schedule 1 or Rate Schedule 2 of this Tariff and that have qualified for bill payment assistance through a NW Natural authorized Delivery Agent.

**PROGRAM YEAR:**

Funds will be made available under this program on a continuous twelve-month basis. For accounting and ratemaking purposes, the program year will extend from October 1 through September 30 (“Program Year”).

**PROGRAM FUNDING:**

Total Program Funds (where Total Program Funds are equal to customer grants plus administrative and delivery costs) are subject to a combined program year cap of \$500,000. This cap may be exceeded as need upon discussion and consensus of the GREAT Advisory Group.

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A surcharge will apply to the regular monthly bills of all Sales Service Class Customers that take service under Rate Schedules 1, 2, 3, 41 and 42. The surcharge will be designed to amortize the actual amount of Total Program Funds accumulated for the Program Year on an equal percent of margin basis, adjusted for revenue sensitive effects. The surcharge calculation will be included with the Company’s Annual Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment filing, and will be effective November 1 of each year. The surcharge amount for the respective Rate Schedules will be set forth in Schedule 230 of this Tariff.

**PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND DELIVERY:**

This program will be administered through designated agencies (“Delivery Agents”) that: (a) meet the criteria for a “Qualifying Organization” as defined in RCW 82.16.0497; (b) the Company determines is capable of meeting performance obligations under this program; and (c) executes a contract with the Company that is consistent with the terms of this Schedule.

Each Delivery Agent will have sole responsibility to screen and approve bill payment assistance applicants for eligibility. Each Agent shall follow the established protocols for the qualification of and disbursement to eligible participants in accordance with the guidelines established by the Washington Department of Commerce for disbursement of federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds. Except that, for purposes of this program, income-eligibility will be allowed up to 200% of federal poverty guidelines. The GREAT Program will be available to eligible participants regardless of citizenship status.

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BY AUTH. OR ORDER OF WASH. UTILITIES &amp; TRANSPORTATION COMM. DOCKET NO.UG-230614

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# NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY

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Original Sheet J.2

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## SCHEDULE J GAS RESIDENTIAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE TARIFF (GREAT) (continued)

### **PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND DELIVERY (continued):**

Total annual administrative and delivery costs are as follows:

Delivery Agent Administrative Costs:	Up to 5% of total funds disbursed
Delivery Agent Program Delivery Costs:	Up to 15% of total funds disbursed

In no event will the combination of administrative and direct program delivery costs exceed 20 percent of the total GREAT funds actually disbursed in a Program Year.

For purposes of this program, the following definitions shall apply:

**“Delivery Agent Administrative Costs.”** Indirect costs that (i) arise from management functions that do not directly support a specific project or service, (ii) are incurred for common objectives benefiting multiple programs administered by the Agency, and (iii) are not readily assignable to a particular program funding stream (e.g., executive director functions, accounting, budgeting, personnel, procurement, and legal services).

**“Delivery Agent Program Delivery Costs.”** Direct costs that are specifically identified with and expressly relate to the delivery by the Agent of the GREAT Program, which may include screening, assessments, planning, data entry, case management, training, and technical assistance.

### **CUSTOMER GRANTS:**

Nothing will prohibit a customer from receiving bill payment assistance grants through LIHEAP or any other available program, and from this program simultaneously. The Delivery Agent will be responsible to determine the appropriate allocation between all available fund sources.

The Delivery Agent will have the discretion to authorize more than one grant under this program per Program Year, up to a total per Household, per Program Year cap equal to the LIHEAP cap (currently \$1,000). However, the Delivery Agent will make every effort to minimize the number of grants authorized per Household per Program Year. In most cases, the per Household grant will be a single grant in an amount equal to the amount estimated to be necessary to keep the account current and active for the period of need, as determined by the Delivery Agent based upon the Customer's 12-month gas usage history. If applicable, the grant amount will include any required deposit and reconnection charges.

Customers that receive a grant that is not based upon the expected need for an entire heating season will be encouraged to sign up for the Company's Equal Pay Plan.

(continue to sheet J.3)

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# NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY

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Original Sheet J.3

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## SCHEDULE J GAS RESIDENTIAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE TARIFF (GREAT) (continued)

### **CUSTOMER GRANTS (continued):**

The Delivery Agent will be responsible to report authorized Customer grants to NW Natural through an electronic voucher reporting system. NW Natural will directly apply the grant amount to the customer's utility account. In the event a customer voluntarily closes their account, any credit amounts directly related to a grant made under this program will be returned to the program for redistribution.

### **GENERAL TERMS:**

This Schedule is governed by the terms of this Rate Schedule, the General Rules and Regulations contained in this Tariff and by all rules and regulations prescribed by regulatory authorities, as amended from time to time.

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