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March 6, 2019

The Honorable James Manning, Co-Chair,
The Honorable David Gomberg, Co-Chair,
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic
Development

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 68 – Support for OPUC Annual Fee Assessment

Dear Senator Manning and Representative Gomberg:

Northwest Natural Gas Company (“NW Natural”) is pleased to support SB 68.

The fee changes outlined in SB 68 will enable the Public Utility Commission to continue its mission and service to the public and ensure the Commission’s ability to attract and retain skilled regulatory professionals that are equipped to address the increasing volume and complexity of issues at play in the regulatory environment. Through its strategic planning process, the Commission has demonstrated a clear need for additional resources to respond to a utility industry that is rapidly changing to keep pace with advancements in technology, seismic resiliency, and climate policy. While NW Natural is sensitive to customer impacts of increased fees, we believe the proposed change in fees is necessary, appropriate and will ultimately benefit our customers.

NW Natural appreciates the opportunity to support SB 68.

/s/ Zachary D. Kravitz

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NW Natural