

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
 Form 4  
 August 19, 2008

**FORM 4**

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 DODSON MARK S

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
 [NWN]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 220 NW SECOND AVENUE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 08/18/2008

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chief Executive Officer

PORTLAND, OR 97209-3991

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (D)  | Price   |
| Common Stock                    | 08/18/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 2,500   | A  | \$ 31.34  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 53,507.849  |
| Common Stock                    | 08/18/2008                           |  | S                              |   | 2,500   | D  | \$ 47.7497  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | (1)   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 501.7262  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   | I  | See footnote (2)                                      |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option to Buy               | \$ 31.34   | 08/18/2008                           |  | M                              | 2,500   | <sup>(3)</sup> 03/04/2014                                | Common Stock  | 2,500                         |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| DODSON MARK S<br>220 NW SECOND AVENUE<br>PORTLAND, OR 97209-3991 | X             |           | Chief Executive Officer |       |

## Signatures

Shawn M. Filippi,  
Attorney-in-Fact

08/19/2008

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The sale of Northwest Natural Gas Company stock took place in 13 separate broker transactions occurring on 08/18/2008. The price in column 4 represents the weighted average sale price for the transactions reported on this line. The range of prices for these transactions was \$47.62 to \$47.92. Northwest Natural Gas Company will provide upon request by the Commission staff or a security holder of Northwest Natural Gas Company full information regarding the number of shares purchased or sold at each separate price.
- (2) Shares were held in the reporting person's account under Northwest Natural Gas Company's Retirement K Savings Plan as of July 31, 2008.
- (3) Option was granted for 30,000 shares pursuant to Northwest Natural Gas Company's Restated Stock Option Plan. The option fully vested on January 1, 2007.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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