

NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO  
 Form 3  
 September 30, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * Å Saathoff MardiLyn (Last) (First) (Middle)  220 NW SECOND AVENUE (Street)  PORTLAND, Å OR Å 97209 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 09/25/2008	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS CO [NWN]	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) CGO & Corporate Secretary	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
No Non-Derivative Securities are beneficially owned	0	D	Å

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)  Title	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option to Buy	Â (1)	09/29/2018	Common Stock	5,000	\$ 51.09	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Saathoff MardiLyn 220 NW SECOND AVENUE PORTLAND,Â ORÂ 97209	Â	Â	Â CGO & Corporate Secretary	Â

## Signatures

Shawn M. Filippi,  
Attorney-in-Fact

09/30/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Option was granted for 5,000 shares pursuant to the Northwest Natural Gas Company Restated Stock Option Plan. The option will become exercisable as to 1,250 shares on each of September 22, 2009, January 1, 2010, January 1, 2011 and January 1, 2012.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.