

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of  
  
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a  
AVISTA UTILITIES,  
  
Petitioner,  
  
Seeking Exemption from the Provisions  
of WAC 480-107-017 Relating to RFP  
Filing

DOCKET UE-210486  
  
ORDER 01  
  
ORDER GRANTING  
EXEMPTION FROM RULE

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On June 29, 2021, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition (Petition) requesting an exemption from WAC 480-107-017(1) and seeking to extend the deadline for filing the Company's Request for Proposals (RFP) until November 1, 2021.
- 2 WAC 480-107-017(1) requires electric companies RFPs and accompanying documentation with the Commission no later than 120 days after the utility files its final integrated resource plan (IRP). Avista filed its 2021 Electric IRP in docket UE-200301 on April 1, 2021, showing a resource need in 2025.
- 3 Avista submits that extending the timeline of the RFP will allow both the Company and bidders to have a greater understanding of the ability of certain resources to provide reliable capacity based on regional resource adequacy metrics. An extension would also allow additional time for the independent evaluator to assist in design of the RFP.<sup>1</sup>
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) has reviewed the Petition and recommends granting Avista's request for exemption, allowing the Company and the independent evaluator additional time to evaluate the use of regional resource adequacy metrics.

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<sup>1</sup> Avista has filed a request for approval of their selected independent evaluator with the Commission in Docket UE-210545, as required by WAC 480-107-023. This request is scheduled to be heard at the August 12, 2021, open meeting.

## DISCUSSION

5 We grant Avista's request for an exemption from WAC 480-107-017(1) and require the  
Company to file its RFP on or before November 1, 2021. We agree with Staff that  
Avista's request is reasonable to ensure that the Company's RFP is designed with a  
greater understanding of regional resource adequacy metrics. Accordingly, we find that  
granting the Company's request for an exemption is in the public interest and consistent  
with both the purposes underlying the rule and applicable statutes.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the  
authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities,  
transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including  
electric companies.
- 7 (2) Avista is engaged in the business of providing electric services within the state of  
Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) Avista is subject to WAC 480-107-017(1), which requires electric companies to  
file an RFP and accompanying documentation with the commission no later than  
120 days after the utility files its final IRP.
- 9 (4) Under WAC 480-100-008, the Commission may grant an exemption from the  
provisions of any rule in WAC 480-100, if consistent with the public interest, the  
purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. See also WAC 480-07-110.
- 10 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on July  
29, 2021.
- 11 (6) After review of the Petition filed in Docket UE-210486 by Avista on June 29,  
2021, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause  
shown, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest and is  
consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and  
should be granted.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 12 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities is granted an exemption from WAC 480-107-017(1) and is required to file its request for proposals on or before November 1, 2021.
- 13 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective July 29, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON  
Executive Director and Secretary