

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, Complainant, v. AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a AVISTA UTILITIES, Respondent.	DOCKETS UE-220053, UG-220054, UE-210854 (<i>Consolidated</i>) ORDER 07 / 01 GRANTING MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE
In the Matter of the Electric Service Reliability Reporting Plan of AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a AVISTA UTILITIES.	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On November 11, 2021, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) its Electric Service Reliability Reporting Plan pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-100-393, modifying its previous plan.
- 2 On January 21, 2022, Avista filed with the Commission revisions in Docket UE-220053 to its currently effective electric service tariff, Tariff WN U-28, and in Docket UG-220054 to its natural gas service tariff, Tariff WN U-29 (Avista's 2022 GRC).
- 3 On January 27, 2022, the Commission entered Order 01, consolidating Dockets UE-220053 and UG-220054, suspending the tariff revisions, and setting the matters for adjudication.

- 4 On February 14, 2022, the Commission convened a virtual prehearing conference, and on February 16, issued Order 03, Prehearing Conference Order and Notice of Hearing (Order 03).
- 5 On February 28, 2022, the Commission convened a second virtual prehearing conference and on March 1, 2022, issued Order 04, Second Prehearing Conference Order.
- 6 On May 16, 2022, Commission staff (Staff) filed with the Commission a Motion to Consolidate Avista's Electric Service Reliability Report Plan with Avista's 2022 GRC (Motion). Staff argues that Avista's Electric Service Reliability Report Plan contains matters that are related to the GRC and can be addressed most efficiently by consolidating the reliability filing into the GRC. No party opposes Staff's Motion. No modification to the procedural schedule for Avista's 2022 GRC is requested.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 7 A party to a proceeding may request that the Commission consolidate matters before it.¹ The Commission has discretion to consolidate two or more proceedings in which the facts or principles of law are related.²
- 8 Staff believes the Electric Service Reliability Report Plan can be efficiently integrated into Avista's 2022 GRC, reasoning:

WAC 480-100-393 requires electric utilities subject to Commission jurisdiction to have a plan on file for monitoring and reporting electric service reliability information. The rule further requires utilities to file any modification to the plan before the modification is implemented. Avista's November 2021 filing in Docket UE-210854 is a proposed modification to Avista's existing electric reliability plan.

In Avista's pending GRC, the Company testifies to the numerous issues it already reports on to the Commission and lists electric reliability reporting pursuant to the electric reliability plan as one of those issues. In

¹ WAC 480-07-320.

² *Id.*

addition, Avista proposes performance measures for its proposed multiyear rate plan (MYRP), which include electric reliability measures.³

9 We agree. Accordingly, we find that the facts and principles of law are related and determine that that Staff's motion to consolidate the dockets for adjudication should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION:

- 10 (1) GRANTS Commission staff's motion to consolidate Docket UE-210854 with Dockets UE-220053 and UG-220054 (*Consolidated*) pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.
- 11 (2) CONSOLIDATES Dockets UE-220053, UG-220054, and UE-210854 for hearing and determination under WAC 480-07-320.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective May 27, 2022.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ *Andrew J. O'Connell*
ANDREW J. O'CONNELL
Administrative Law Judge

³ Motion at 2, ¶¶ 3-4.