

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION D/B/A/ AVISTA UTILITIES

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-220053, UG-220054, and UE-210854 (Consolidated)

**AARON TAM
ON BEHALF OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
PUBLIC COUNSEL UNIT**

EXHIBIT AT-18

Avista's Response to Public Counsel Data Request No. 283

July 29, 2022

AVISTA CORP.
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

JURISDICTION:	WASHINGTON	DATE PREPARED:	05/13/2022
CASE NO.:	UE-220053 & UG-220054	WITNESS:	David Howell
REQUESTER:	Public Counsel	RESPONDER:	David James
TYPE:	Data Request	DEPT:	Wildfire Resiliency
REQUEST NO.:	PC – 283	TELEPHONE:	(509) 495-4185
		EMAIL:	dave.james@avistacorp.com

SUBJECT: Performance Metrics, refer to Avista’s Response to Public Counsel Data Request No. 139.

REQUEST:

Please identify the name, date, and location for all wildfire incidents within the Company’s service territory for each of the past five years that resulted in injury, death, or property damage.

RESPONSE:

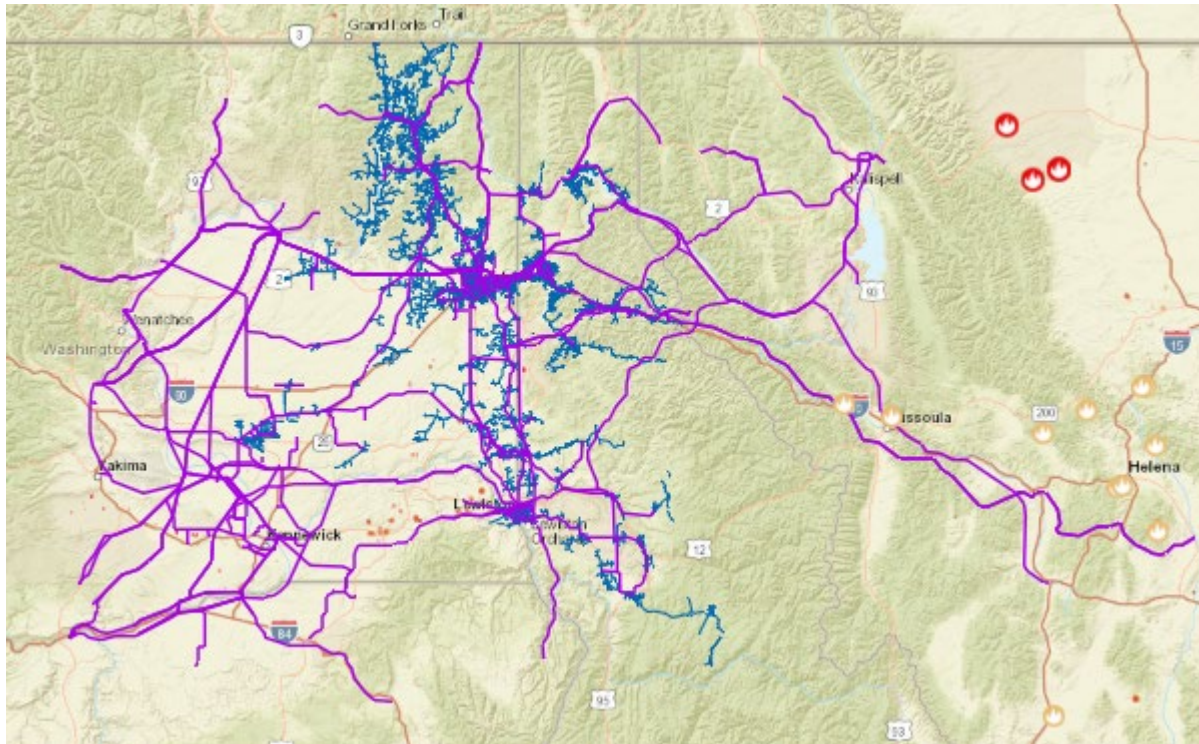
The Company does not have an enterprise level system to track the impact or consequence of all wildfires within our service territory, especially those which do not directly impact our facilities. The Claims Department tracks fires where a claim for damages has been filed, or it is believed the fire may result in claims for damages. Below (Table 1) is a list of wildfires in Washington between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2021, of which the Avista Claims Department has a record, but this is by no means a comprehensive list of wildfires within the Company’s service territory. However, there are well established state and federal sources responsible for collecting this information and it is publicly available:

National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC, Boise Idaho) – This website provides information on current fires (cause, size, impact, resources, containment) along with fire statistics for several western U.S. States including Washington. <https://www.nifc.gov/>

Incident Information System (InciWeb) – This website is map-based and shows current fires across the United States. Both wildfires and prescribed burns are indicated. Similar to NIFC, the user can monitor fire size, behavior, damage to structures, percent containment, and assigned resources. This information is also available via a phone application. <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>

The Washington Department of Natural Resources also has a fire webpage. It includes information on fire prevention as well as staying safe during an event. The page contains a direct link to InciWeb. <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Wildfires>

As noted, the Company has developed a Fire-Weather Dashboard which combines the National Weather Service 7-day forecast with historical performance of electric distribution facilities to render a fire risk potential for all overhead powerlines. That site also includes a fire map (see below) that is compiled by the ESRI company. Avista uses the ESRI Geographical Information System (GIS) platform to map and monitor electric distribution facilities.



Example of the ESRI Fire Map as included in Avista Fire Weather

Table 1 Wildfire-Related Claims for the Past Five Years

Fire	Location	Date	Cause
1 Brush Fire	W Bernhill Rd., Spokane, WA	08/29/2021	Caused by breakdown of electric service facilities
2 Deep Lake Fire	Colville, WA	07/28/2021	Caused by tree outside of utility corridor that failed
3 Rambo Road Fire	Nine Mile Falls, WA	06/05/2021	Caused by tree outside of utility corridor that failed during wind event
4 Babbs Malden Fire	Malden, WA	09/07/2020	Caused by tree outside of utility corridor that failed during wind event
5 Colfax Fire	Colfax, WA	09/07/2020	Cause not determined
6 Brush Fire	Hwy 25 at Evans Cutoff Rd., Evans, WA	08/29/2020	Cause not determined, believed that wind event caused breakdown of or damage to overhead service facilities
7 Bartholomew Rd. Fire	S Bartholomew Rd., Medical Lake, WA	08/27/2020	Cause undetermined
8 Brush Fire	N Campbell Rd., Otis Orchards, WA	07/21/2020	Cause undetermined, believed to have been caused by pole fire
9 Reardon/Road 11 Fire	Road 11, Davenport, WA	07/11/2020	Cause undetermined, believed that wind event caused breakdown of or damage to overhead service facilities
10 Brush Fire	314 Silcott Rd., Clarkston, WA	07/05/2019	Caused by wind event that damaged utility poles
11 Narcisse Creek Road Fire	Colville, WA	08/22/2018	Cause not determined
12 Boyds Fire	Kettle Falls, WA	08/14/2018	Cause unknown and disputed
13 Brush Fire	SE Qtr NW Qtr, Damon S, Othello, WA	08/09/2018	Caused by animal (bird) that made contact with overhead service facilities
14 Gold Creek Loop Fire	Gold Creek Loop Rd., Colville, WA	08/08/2017	Cause undetermined
15 Barstow Fire	Kettle River Rd., Colville, WA	08/07/2017	Caused by tree outside of utility corridor that failed
16 Brush Fire	Hunters, WA	08/03/2017	Cause undetermined
17 Le Clerc Fire	Newport, WA	07/16/2017	Cause unknown