

Avista Corp.
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Spokane, Washington 99220-3727
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Toll Free 800-727-9170



August 18, 2003

Carole Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: Docket No. UG-021584 – Natural Gas Benchmark Mechanism

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are fourteen copies of the Company's prepared rebuttal testimony and exhibits in the above-cited case. This testimony is in support of Avista Corporation's (dba Avista Utilities) proposed tariff revisions to modify and extend its "Natural Gas Benchmark Mechanism."

This has been provided to the Commission by telefacsimile with the original concurrently placed in overnight mail. Separately, an electronic version has been transmitted. A copy of this testimony has been provided to Public Counsel.

Questions regarding this filing should be directed to Liz Andrews at (509) 495-8601 or Brian Hirschhorn at (509) 495-4723.

Sincerely,


Kelly Norwood
Vice President of State & Federal Regulation

Enclosures

c: Attached service list

VERIFICATION

STATE OF WASHINGTON)

:ss

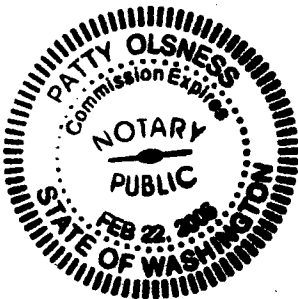
County of Spokane)

I, Kelly Norwood, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says: That he is the Vice President – Rates and Regulation, at phone number (509) 495-4267, for Avista Corporation and makes this verification for and on its behalf of said corporation, being thereto duly authorized;

That he has read the foregoing testimony, knows the contents thereof, and believes the same to be true.

Kelly Norwood

SIGNED AND SWORN to before me this 18th day of August, 2003, by Kelly Norwood



Patty Olsness
NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of

Washington, residing at Spokane.

Commission Expires: 2/22/06

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have served Avista Corporation's Rebuttal Testimony in Docket No. UG-021584, regarding Avista's Natural Gas Benchmark Mechanism, by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid to the following:

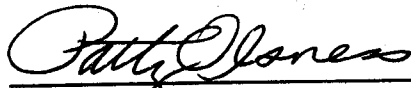
Carole Washburn
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

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Catherine Elder
Executive Consultant
R.W. Beck
2710 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95833-3502

Dated at Spokane, Washington this 18th day of August 2003.



Patty Olsness
Rates Coordinator