

November 15, 2017

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RE: Supplemental Comments to Docket UE-161036

Commissioners,

Thank you again for holding the public hearing on Avista Corporation's Integrated Resource Plan on November 8th in Spokane. In response to comments made by Avista staff members during that hearing I would like to offer the following supplemental comments.

When responding to a commissioner posed question, a member of Avista's staff implied that the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's latest regional plan found that new thermal generation resources would be needed in the near future to meet the region's capacity needs. This is incorrect.

In fact the council's Seventh Northwest Power Plan states, "In more than 90 percent of future conditions, cost-effective efficiency met *all* electricity load growth through 2030 and in more than half of the futures all load growth for the next 20 years. It's not only the single largest contributor to meeting the region's future electricity needs; it's also the single largest source of new peaking capacity."¹ (emphasis original)

The council goes on to note, "Acquiring this energy efficiency is the primary action for the next six years. The plan's second priority is to develop the capability to deploy demand response resources or rely on increased market imports to meet system capacity needs under critical water and weather conditions."²

The entire plan can be reviewed here:

<https://www.nwcouncil.org/energy/powerplan/7/plan>

Thank you.

¹ Page 1-1, https://www.nwcouncil.org/media/7149937/7thplanfinal_chap01_execsummary.pdf

² Id.