

DEC - 3 1999

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	DOCKET NO. UE-991606
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
)	CONFERENCE
AVISTA CORPORATION,)	(December 16, 1999)
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

On October 22, 1999, Avista Corporation filed certain tariff revisions designed to effect a general increase in its rates for electric service. The company's letter of transmittal indicates that the cumulative effect of the tariff filing would be to increase annual revenues by \$26.3 million. By order of the Commission, the operation of the tariff revisions has been suspended pending hearing or hearings concerning such changes and the justness and reasonableness thereof.

Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to Adjudicative Proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.440 , RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW, having legal authority to regulate the rates, services, and practices of electric utilities pursuant to RCW 80.28.060. Statutes involved, in addition to those previously cited, include those within chapters 80.04 and 80.28 RCW relating to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.250, RCW 80.28.010, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.090, and RCW 80.28.100. Rules involved include those within chapters 480-100 and 480-09 WAC. The ultimate issues include whether the proposed tariff revisions are just, fair, reasonable, and sufficient and in the public interest. In accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.04.130 the burden of proof to show that the rates produced by the filing are just and reasonable shall be upon the respondent.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that, in accordance with WAC 480-09-700(1)(a), the Commission has determined that good cause exists for this matter to be heard on shortened notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a prehearing conference will be held on December 16, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 207, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington. The purpose of said prehearing conference is to consider formulating the issues in the proceeding, and to determine other matters to aid in its disposition, as specified in WAC 480-09-460, including whether this docket should be consolidated with Docket No. UG-991607, concerning Avista Corporation's proposal to increase its rates for gas service. The time and place for evidentiary hearings will be set at the prehearing conference or by later written notice. Petitions to intervene should be made in writing prior to that date or made orally at that time. Appearances will be taken.

Please see the form attached to this notice which should be filled out and returned if any party or witness needs an interpreter or other assistance.

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT ANY PARTY WHO FAILS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING SET HEREIN, OR OTHER STAGE OF THIS PROCEEDING, MAY BE HELD IN DEFAULT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF RCW 34.05.440. THE PARTIES ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE SANCTION PROVISIONS OF WAC 480-09-700(4) ARE SPECIFICALLY INVOKED.

The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant:	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Chandler Plaza Building 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160
Representative:	Robert D. Cedarbaum Assistant Attorney General 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P. O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128 (360) 664-1188
Respondent:	Avista Corporation 1411 East Mission Spokane, WA 99220-3727 (509) 489-0500

Representative: Thomas D. Dukich
Avista Corporation
1411 East Mission
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
(509) 489-0500

Public Counsel: Simon ffitch
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900 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2000
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(206) 464-7744

Marjorie Schaer has been designated as the Administrative Law Judge from the Utilities and Transportation Commission's Administrative Law Section, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington 98504-7250, and will preside at the prehearing conference.

The Commission will provide at its offices in Olympia, Washington, current records of the hearing for the use of those who may wish to review them. The Public Counsel Section of the Office of Attorney General has been designated to represent the public. The address of the Commission, show below, may be used for inquiries of public counsel, or public counsel may be contacted directly by writing or calling the address or telephone number listed below.

Notice of any other procedural phase will be given in writing or on the record as the Commission may deem appropriate during the course of this proceeding.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION


CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary

December 3 , 1999

Inquires should be addressed to:

Secretary
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