

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of)	
)	DOCKET UG-010319
AVISTA UTILITIES)	
)	
To Amend its Certificate of Public)	ORDER GRANTING
Convenience and Necessity to Operate a)	APPLICATION
Gas Plant for Hire in the General Area of)	
Lincoln County.)	

BACKGROUND

1 On March 2, 2001, Avista Utilities (Avista), a Washington corporation, filed an application to amend its present Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire, to include an additional area in Lincoln County. (Appendix A-17).

DISCUSSION

2 Avista is presently certificated for and is now providing gas service in Lincoln County. Avista is requesting a certificate to expand the service area south of the city of Odessa, Washington. The additional area requested is contiguous to the existing certificated area. (See Attachment 1 for the legal description.)

3 This filing requests no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to service this addition to Avista's service area, and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with the treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Avista's results of operation for ratemaking purposes.

4 It appears that Avista Utilities is best suited to serve the requested service territory economically, therefore, the application herein should be granted to satisfy the public convenience and necessity.

5 This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on April 25, 2001. The Commissioners, having been fully advised in the matter, and having determined the following order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter the following order and related provisions.

FINDINGS OF FACT

6 1. Avista Utilities, a Washington corporation, operates gas plant for hire in this state and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

7 2. Avista Utilities has previously been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire as amended.

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8 3. Avista Utilities has filed an application to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, to include an additional area in Lincoln County that is contiguous to its presently certificated area in Lincoln County.

9 4. The operation of a gas plant for hire in the additional area requested is or
will be required by the public convenience and necessity.

10 The Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant
for Hire presently held by Avista Utilities, should be further amended to
include the additional area applied for herein.

ORDER

11 1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED That the application of Avista Utilities to
amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas
Plant for Hire within the certificated area in Lincoln County, is hereby
approved and said Certificate shall be in accordance with attached Appendix
A-17.

12 2. This Order makes no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of
the gas pipeline facility to serve this addition to Avista's service area, and
recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services
and expenditures, together with the treatment of same, in any formal
proceeding before the Commission dealing with Avista's results of operation
for ratemaking purposes.

13 3. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That jurisdiction over this Order is retained
to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 25th day of April, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary