

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. UE-15_____

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

SCOTT J. KINNEY

REPRESENTING AVISTA CORPORATION

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I. INTRODUCTION

Q. Please state your name, employer and business address.

A. My name is Scott J. Kinney. I am employed as the Director of Power Supply at Avista Corporation, located at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

Q. Would you briefly describe your educational and professional background?

A. Yes. I graduated from Gonzaga University in 1991 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and I am a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Washington. I joined the Company in 1999 after spending eight years with the Bonneville Power Administration. I have held several different positions at Avista in the Transmission Department, beginning as a Senior Transmission Planning Engineer. In 2002, I moved to the System Operations Department as a Supervisor and Support Engineer. In 2004, I was appointed as the Chief Engineer, System Operations and as the Director of Transmission Operations in June 2008. I became the Director of Power Supply in January 2013, where my primary responsibilities involve management and oversight of short- and long-term planning and acquisition of power resources.

Q. What is the scope of your testimony in this proceeding?

A. My testimony provides an overview of Avista’s resource planning and power supply operations. This includes summaries of the Company’s generation resources, the current and future load and resource position, and future resource plans. As part of an overview of the Company’s risk management policy, I will provide an update on the Company’s hedging practices. I will address hydroelectric and thermal project upgrades, followed by an update on recent developments regarding hydro licensing.

1 As explained by Company witness Ms. Andrews, the Company is basing its electric
 2 revenue increase requested in this case based on its electric Attrition Study. However, as a
 3 “cross check” to the Company’s request based on the electric Attrition Study, Ms. Smith has
 4 also prepared an electric Pro Forma Cross Check Study, which incorporate Washington’s
 5 share of the capital additions described in my testimony.

6 A table of contents for my testimony is as follows:

7	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
8	I. Introduction	1
9	II. Resource Planning and Power Operations	2
10	III. Generation Capital Projects	11
11	IV. Hydro Relicensing	15

12
 13 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits?**

14 A. Yes. Exhibit No.____(SJK-2) includes Avista’s 2013 Electric Integrated
 15 Resource Plan and Appendices, Exhibit No.____(SJK-3) provides the 2013 IRP forecast of
 16 the Company’s load and resource positions from 2014 through 2033. Confidential Exhibit
 17 No.____(SJK-4C) includes Avista’s Energy Resources Risk Policy.

18
 19 **II. RESOURCE PLANNING AND POWER OPERATIONS**

20 **Q. Would you please provide a brief overview of Avista’s owned-generating**
 21 **resources?**

22 A. Yes. Avista’s owned generating resource portfolio includes hydroelectric
 23 generation projects, base-load coal and base-load natural gas-fired thermal generation
 24 facilities, waste wood-fired generation, and natural gas-fired peaking generation. Avista-

1 owned generation facilities have a total capability of 1,851 MW, which includes 58%
 2 hydroelectric and 42% thermal resources.

3 Illustration Nos. 1 and 2 summarize the present net capability of Avista's
 4 hydroelectric and thermal generation resources:

5 **Illustration No. 1: Avista-Owned Hydroelectric Generation**

Project Name	River System	Nameplate Capacity (MW)	Maximum Capability (MW)	Expected Energy (aMW)
Monroe Street	Spokane	14.8	15.0	11.6
Post Falls	Spokane	14.8	18.0	10.0
Nine Mile	Spokane	26.0	17.5	12.5
Little Falls	Spokane	32.0	35.2	22.1
Long Lake	Spokane	81.6	89.0	53.4
Upper Falls	Spokane	10.0	10.2	7.5
Cabinet Gorge	Clark Fork	265.2	270.5	124.8
Noxon Rapids	Clark Fork	518.0	610.0	198.3
Total Hydroelectric		962.4	1,065.4	440.2

Illustration No. 2: Avista-Owned Thermal Generation

Project Name	Fuel Type	Start Date	Winter Maximum Capacity (MW)	Sumer Maximum Capacity (MW)	Nameplate Capacity (MW)
Colstrip 3 (15%)	Coal	1984	111.0	111.0	123.5
Colstrip 4 (15%)	Coal	1986	111.0	111.0	123.5
Rathdrum	Gas	1995	178.0	126.0	166.5
Northeast	Gas	1978	68.0	42.0	61.2
Boulder Park	Gas	2002	24.6	24.6	24.6
Coyote Springs 2	Gas	2003	312.0	251.0	290.0
Kettle Falls	Wood	1983	47.0	47.0	50.7
Kettle Falls CT	Gas	2002	11.0	8.0	7.5
Total			862.6	720.6	847.5

Q. Would you please provide a brief overview of Avista's major generation contracts?

A. Yes. Avista's contracted-for generation resource portfolio consists of Mid-Columbia hydroelectric, PURPA, a tolling agreement for a natural gas-fired combined cycle generator, and a contract with a wind generation facility.

The Company currently has long-term contractual rights for resources owned and operated by the Public Utility Districts of Chelan, Douglas and Grant counties. Illustration No. 3 provides details about the Mid-Columbia hydroelectric contracts. The Rocky Reach and Rock Island contracts with Chelan PUD expired in December 2014, but the Company is currently in discussions with Chelan regarding new contracts for energy and capacity from these plants, and expect a new agreement in the first half of 2015, as described in witness Mr. Johnson's testimony. Illustration No. 4 provides details about other contracts.

Avista also has a long-term power purchase agreement (PPA) in place through 2026 entitling the Company to dispatch, purchase fuel for, and receive the power output from, the

1 Lancaster combined-cycle combustion turbine project located in Rathdrum, Idaho. In 2011,
 2 the Company executed a 30-year power purchase agreement to purchase the output (105
 3 MW peak) and all environmental attributes from the Palouse Wind, LLC wind generation
 4 project that began commercial operation in December 2012. The Company's contract with
 5 the Stateline Wind facility terminated in March 2014, and the contract with the Sacramento
 6 Municipal Utility District ended in December 2014.

7 **Illustration No. 3: Mid-Columbia Hydroelectric Capacity and Energy Contracts**

8 Counter Party – 9 Hydroelectric Project	Share (%)	¹ Start Date	End Date	Estimated On-Peak Capacity (MW)	Annual Energy (aMW)
Grant PUD – Priest Rapids	3.7	12/2001	12/2052	28.2	16.7
Grant PUD – Wanapum	3.7	12/2001	12/2052	31.0	17.9
Chelan PUD – Rocky Reach	4.0	1/2015	12/2015	46.5	14.7
Chelan PUD – Rock Island	4.0	1/2015	12/2015	16.1	20.5
Douglas PUD - Wells	3.3	2/1965	8/2018	27.9	14.7
Canadian Entitlement ¹				-8.1	-4.6
2015 Total Net Contracted Capacity and Energy				141.6	79.9

14 **Illustration No. 4: Other Contractual Rights and Obligations**

15 Contract	Type	Fuel Source	End Date	Winter Capacity (MW)	Summer Capacity (MW)	Annual Energy (aMW)
16 Energy America, LLC	Sale	Various	12/2017	-35	-35	-35
17 PGE Capacity Exchange	Exchange	System	12/2016	-150	-150	0
18 Douglas Settlement	Purchase	Hydro	9/2018	2	2	3
19 WNP-3	Purchase	System	6/2019	82	0	42
20 Lancaster	Purchase	Gas	10/2026	290	249	222
21 Palouse Wind	Purchase	Wind	12/2042	0	0	40
Nichols Pumping	Sale	System	10/2018	-6.8	-6.8	-6.8
PURPA Contracts	Purchase	Varies	Varies	47.6	47.6	28.8
Total				229.8	106.8	294

¹ Under the Columbia River Treaty signed in 1961 and the Pacific Northwest Coordination Agreement (PCNA) signed in 1964, Canada receives return energy (Canadian Entitlement) related to storage water in upstream reservoirs for coordinated flood control and power generation optimization.

1 **Q. Would you please provide a summary of Avista's power supply**
2 **operations and acquisition of new resources?**

3 A. Yes. Avista uses a combination of owned and contracted-for resources to
4 serve its load requirements. The Power Supply Department is responsible for dispatch
5 decisions related to those resources for which the Company has dispatch rights. The
6 Department monitors and routinely studies capacity and energy resource needs. Short- and
7 medium-term wholesale transactions are used to economically balance resources with load
8 requirements. The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) generally guides longer-term resource
9 decisions such as the acquisition of new generation resources, upgrades to existing
10 resources, demand-side management (DSM), and long-term contract purchases. Resource
11 acquisitions typically include a Request for Proposals (RFP) and/or other market due
12 diligence processes.

13 **Q. Please summarize Avista's load and resource position.**

14 A. Avista's 2013 IRP shows forecasted annual energy deficits beginning in
15 2026, and sustained annual capacity deficits beginning in 2020.² These capacity and energy
16 load/resource positions are shown on pages 2-39 through 2-41 of Exhibit No.____(SJK-2).
17 Exhibit No.____(SJK-3) shows the 2013 IRP load and resource projection. Avista's IRP
18 projection shows an annual energy deficit beginning in 2026 of about 19 aMW, and
19 increasing to a 284 aMW deficit in 2033. The Company's January capacity resource
20 position, based on an 18-hour peak event (6 hours per day and over 3 days), is projected to
21 be surplus through 2019. Sustained annual capacity deficiencies, based on a January peak,

² The Company has a 150 MW capacity exchange agreement with Portland General Electric that ends in December 2016 and Avista has short-term annual capacity deficits in 2015 and 2016. Sustained annual capacity deficits begin in 2020.

1 begin at 42 MW in 2020 and increase to a 551 MW deficit in 2033. The Company's August
2 capacity resource position, based on an 18-hour peak event, is projected to be surplus
3 through 2023. Sustained annual capacity deficiencies, based on an August peak, begin at 2
4 MW in 2024 and increase to a 361 MW deficit in 2033.

5 **Q. How does Avista plan to meet future energy and capacity needs?**

6 A. The Company is currently guided by the 2013 Preferred Resource Strategy
7 (PRS). The current PRS is described in the 2013 Electric IRP, which is attached as Exhibit
8 No.____(SJK-2). The IRP provides details about future resource needs, specific resource
9 costs, resource-operating characteristics, and the scenarios used for evaluating the mix of
10 resources for the PRS. The Commission acknowledged the 2013 Electric IRP in Docket No.
11 UE-121421 on March 24, 2014. The IRP represents the preferred plan at a point in time;
12 however, Avista continues evaluating different resource options to meet future load
13 requirements and is currently working on its next IRP, which will be filed in August 2015.
14 The Company has held three of six scheduled TAC meetings and is currently finalizing the
15 base case assumptions and scenarios used to develop the 2015 PRS.

16 Avista's 2013 PRS includes less than one MW of distribution efficiencies, 221 MWs
17 of cumulative energy efficiency, 19 MWs of demand response, 6 MWs of upgrades to
18 existing thermal plants, and 569 MWs of natural gas-fired plants (299 MWs of simple cycle
19 combustion turbines (SCCT) and 270 MWs of combined-cycle combustion turbine
20 (CCCT)). The timing and type of these resources as published in the 2013 IRP is provided
21 in Illustration No. 5. At this time, the Company does not anticipate the results of the 2015
22 IRP will show a significant change to the 2013 PRS.

1 **Illustration No. 5: 2013 Electric IRP Preferred Resource Strategy**

2

Resource Type	By the End of Year	Nameplate (MW)	Energy (aMW)
SCCT	2019	83	76
SCCT	2023	83	76
CCCT	2026	270	248
SCCT	2027	83	76
Rathdrum CT Upgrade	2028	6	5
SCCT	2032	50	46
Total		575	529
Efficiency Improvements	By the End of Year	Peak Reduction (MW)	Energy (aMW)
Energy Efficiency	2014-2033	221	164
Demand Response	2022-2027	19	0
Distribution Efficiencies	2014-2017	<1	<1
Total Efficiency		240	164

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10 **Q. Would you please provide a high-level summary of Avista's risk**
 11 **management program for energy resources?**

12 A. Yes. Avista Utilities uses several techniques to manage the risks associated
 13 with serving load and managing Company-owned and controlled resources. The Energy
 14 Resources Risk Policy, which is attached as Confidential Exhibit No.____(SJK-4C), provides
 15 general guidance to manage the Company's energy risk exposure relating to electric power
 16 and natural gas resources over the long-term (more than 41 months), the short-term
 17 (monthly and quarterly periods up to approximately 41 months), and the immediate term
 18 (present month).

19 The Energy Resources Risk Policy is not a specific procurement plan for buying or
 20 selling power or natural gas at any particular time, but is a guideline used by management
 21 when making procurement decisions for electric power and natural gas fuel for generation.
 22 The policy considers several factors, including the variability associated with loads,

1 hydroelectric generation, planned outages, and electric power and natural gas prices in the
2 decision-making process.

3 Avista aims to develop or acquire long-term energy resources based on the IRP's
4 PRS, while taking advantage of competitive opportunities to satisfy electric resource supply
5 needs in the long-term period. Electric power and natural gas fuel transactions in the
6 immediate term are driven by a combination of factors that incorporate both economics and
7 operations, including near-term market conditions (price and liquidity), generation
8 economics, project license requirements, load and generation variability, reliability
9 considerations, and other near-term operational factors.

10 For the short-term timeframe, which falls between the long-term and immediate term
11 periods, the Company's Energy Resources Risk Policy guides its approach to hedging
12 financially open forward positions. A financially open forward period position may be the
13 result of either a short position situation, for which the Company has not yet purchased the
14 fixed-price fuel to generate, or alternatively purchased fixed-price electric power from the
15 market, to meet projected average load for the forward period. Or it may be a long position,
16 for which the Company has generation above its expected average load needs, and has not
17 yet made a fixed-price sale of that surplus to the market in order to balance resources and
18 loads.

19 The Company employs an Electric Hedging Plan to guide power supply position
20 management in the short-term period. The Risk Policy Electric Hedging Plan is essentially a
21 price diversification approach employing a layering strategy for forward purchases and sales
22 of either natural gas fuel for generation or electric power in order to approach a generally
23 balanced position against expected load as forward periods draw nearer.

1 **Q. What is the status of Avista’s plans to meet the renewable portfolio**
 2 **standard (RPS) in Washington?**

3 A. The Energy Independence Act, RCW Chapter 19.285, resulting from
 4 Initiative 937, requires utilities with more than 25,000 customers to comply with a
 5 renewable portfolio standard by meeting 3% of their load by 2012, 9% by 2016, and 15% by
 6 2020 with qualified renewable energy generation or renewable energy credits (RECs).

7 Avista plans to meet its RPS obligations with qualified hydroelectric upgrades,
 8 purchased RECs, wind generation, and qualifying biomass generation starting in 2016.
 9 Illustration No. 6 shows Avista’s projected net REC position from 2015 through 2020 before
 10 applying the rollover provision. The Company is currently positioned to meet its projected
 11 net RPS requirement beyond 2020. RECs associated with the Palouse Wind project include
 12 the apprenticeship credit. The Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council
 13 approved the apprenticeship credit certification on October 23, 2013. The sale of excess
 14 RECs is addressed in witness Mr. Johnson’s testimony.

15 **Illustration No. 6: Washington Renewable Portfolio Standard Requirements (aMW)**

16

Year	Percentage of Washington Load	Total Projected Need	REC Position in Excess of Need
2015	3%	19.3	53.6
2016	9%	57.8	44.5
2017	9%	58.1	43.8
2018	9%	58.5	43.3
2019	9%	59.0	43.3
2020	15%	99.0	3.1

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1 **III. GENERATION CAPITAL PROJECTS**

2 **Q. Would you please provide a brief description of the generation-related**
 3 **capital projects that occurred in the last quarter of 2014, and those that are planned**
 4 **for 2015 and 2016?**

5 A. Yes. As shown in Table No. 1 below, the total 2014, 2015 and 2016
 6 generation capital projects to be completed total \$20.1 million, \$114.6 million, and \$62
 7 million, respectively, on a system basis. Details about the generation-related capital projects
 8 totaling \$196.8 million are discussed below.

9 **TABLE NO. 1**
Generation / Production Capital Projects (System)

10 Business Case Name	October-December	2015	2016
	2014 \$(000's)	\$(000's)	\$(000's)
11 Hydro - Base Load Hydro	\$ 1,126	\$ 1,149	\$ 1,149
Hydro - Clark Fork Settlement Agreement	8,001	13,988	6,054
12 Hydro - Generation Battery Replacement	100	250	250
Hydro - Hydro Safety Minor Blanket	65	70	75
13 Hydro - Little Falls Plant Upgrade		14,300	9,000
Hydro - Nine Mile Rehab	5,175	51,323	9,871
14 Hydro - Regulating Hydro	3,027	4,136	3,533
Hydro - Spokane River License Implementation	(9)	462	16,898
15 Other - Base Load Thermal Plant	201	2,200	2,200
Other - Peaking Generation		500	500
Thermal - Kettle Falls Water Supply	1,000		
16 Thermal - Colstrip Thermal Capital	1,459	2,497	10,480
Other - Coyote Springs LTSA			2,000
17 Hydro - Noxon Spare Coils		1,350	
Hydro - Post Falls South Channel Replacement		11,008	
18 Hydro - Cabinet Gorge Unit 1 Refurbishment		11,400	
Kettle Falls Generating Station Ash Collector	19		
	\$ 20,164	\$ 114,633	\$ 62,010

19

20
 21 **Base Load Hydro: 2014: \$1,126,000; 2015: \$1,149,000; 2016: \$1,149,000**

22 This program covers the capital maintenance expenditures required to keep Avista's Upper
 23 Spokane River hydroelectric plants operating within 90% of their current performance,
 24 assuming some degradation of performance over time. The plants covered in this program
 25 include Post Falls, Upper Falls, Monroe Street, and Nine Mile. The program focuses on
 26 ways to maintain compliance and reduce overall operations and maintenance expenses while

1 maintaining a reasonable unit availability through a programmatic approach, rather than
 2 reacting to problems as they develop. The historical availability for the base load hydro
 3 plants has been declining over the past decade due to deteriorating equipment and a need to
 4 replace some equipment and systems that are as much as 100 years old.

5
 6 **Clark Fork Settlement Agreement – 2014: \$8,001,000; 2015: \$13,988,000; 2016:
 7 \$6,054,000**

8 These capital costs are required for the facilitation of the Clark Fork Protection, Mitigation
 9 and Enhancement (PM&E) measures. The implementation of programs is done through the
 10 License issued to Avista Corporation for a period of 45 years, effective March 1, 2001, to
 11 operate and maintain the Clark Fork Project No. 2058. The License includes hundreds of
 12 specific legal requirements, many of which are reflected in License Articles 404-430. These
 13 Articles derived from a comprehensive settlement agreement between Avista and 27 other
 14 parties, including the States of Idaho and Montana, various federal agencies, five Native
 15 American tribes, and numerous Non Governmental Organizations. Avista is required to
 16 develop, in consultation with the Management Committee, a yearly work plan and report,
 17 addressing all PM&E measures of the License. In addition, implementation of these
 18 measures is intended to address ongoing compliance with Montana and Idaho Clean Water
 19 Act requirements, the Endangered Species Act (fish passage), and state, federal and tribal
 20 water quality standards as applicable. License articles also describe our operational
 21 requirements for items such as minimum flows, ramping rates and reservoir levels, as well
 22 as dam safety and public safety requirements.

23
 24 **Generation Battery Replacement – 2014: \$100,000; 2015: \$250,000; 2016: \$250,000**

25 This program is based on an asset management plan for the station batteries in all generating
 26 stations. This item will also have some minor fluctuations as the number and size of
 27 batteries in any particular year can change.

28
 29 **Hydro Safety Minor Blanket – 2014: \$65,000; 2015: \$70,000; 2016: \$75,000**

30 This item funds periodic capital purchases and projects to ensure public safety at hydro
 31 facilities, on and off water, in the context of FERC regulatory and license requirements.

32 **Little Falls Powerhouse Redevelopment – 2015: \$14,300,000; 2016: 9,000,000**

33 The existing Little Falls equipment ranges in age from 60 to more than 100 years old.
 34 Forced outages at Little Falls because of equipment failures have significantly increased
 35 over the past six years, from about 20 hours in 2004 to several hundred hours in the past
 36 three to four years. This project will replace nearly all of the older, unreliable equipment
 37 with new equipment. This project includes replacing two of the turbines, all four generators,
 38 all generator breakers, three of the four governors, all of the automatic voltage regulators,
 39 removing all four generator exciters, replacing the unit controls, changing the switchyard
 40 configuration, replacing the unit protection system, and replacing and modernizing the
 41 station service.

1 **Nine Mile Redevelopment – 2014: \$5,175,000; 2015: \$51,323,000;2016: \$9,871,000**

2 This capital program is necessary to rehabilitate and modernize the four unit Nine Mile
3 HED. The program includes projects to replace the existing 3 MW Units 1 and 2, which are
4 more than 100 years old and worn out, with two new 8 MW generators/turbines. The new
5 units will add 1.4 aMW of energy beyond the original configuration and 6.4 MW of capacity
6 above current generation levels. In addition to these capacity upgrades, the Nine Mile
7 facility will receive upgrades to the following:

- 8 • hydraulic governors;
- 9 • static excitation system;
- 10 • switchgear;
- 11 • station service;
- 12 • control and protection packages;
- 13 • ventilation upgrades;
- 14 • rehabilitation of intake gates and sediment bypass system;
- 15 • a new warehouse will be constructed;
- 16 • new tail race gate system will be added;
- 17 • new grounding and communications will be added;
- 18 • a barge landing will be added;
- 19 • a cottage will be removed and another remodeled;
- 20 • a new panel room will be added;
- 21 • Units 3 and 4 will be overhauled and modernized;
- 22 • the powerhouse will be restored;
- 23 • new access gates and controls will be added; and
- 24 • other improvements will be made.

25
26 **Regulating Hydro – 2014: \$3,046,000; 2015: \$4,136,000; 2016: \$3,533,000**

27 This program covers the capital maintenance expenditures required to keep the Long Lake,
28 Little Falls, Noxon Rapids and Cabinet Gorge plants operating at their current performance
29 levels. The program will work to improve the reliability of these plants so that their value
30 can be maximized in both the energy and ancillary markets.

31
32 **Spokane River Implementation PM&E – 2014: \$-9,000; 2015: \$462,000; 2016:**
33 **\$16,898,000**

34 This category covers the implementation of Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement
35 (PM&E) programs related to the FERC License for the Spokane River. This includes items
36 enforceable by FERC, mandatory conditioning agencies, and through settlement agreements.
37 Additional details concerning the PM&E measures for the Spokane River license are
38 included in the hydro relicensing section that follows.

1 Base Load Thermal Plant – 2014: \$201,000; 2015: \$2,200,000; 2016: \$2,200,000

2 This program is necessary to sustain or improve the existing operating costs of base load
3 thermal generating stations, including Coyote Springs 2, Colstrip, Kettle Falls, and
4 Lancaster. Capital projects include replacement of items identified through asset
5 management decisions and programs necessary to maintain reliable and low operating costs
6 of these plants. As this program proceeds, it is expected that forced outage rates and forced
7 deratings of these facilities will decrease to a level one standard deviation less than the
8 current average, resulting in more economic benefits of the project.

9 Peaking Generation – 2015: \$500,000; 2016: \$500,000

10 This program covers the capital maintenance expenditures required to keep the natural gas-
11 fired peaking units (Boulder Park, Rathdrum CT, and Northeast CT) operating at or above
12 their current performance levels. The program focuses on maximizing the ability of these
13 units to start and run when demanded (starting reliability).

14 Kettle Falls Water Supply – 2014: \$1,000,000

15 The Kettle Falls Generation Plant receives its water from the City of Kettle Falls from an
16 agreement that dates back to the construction of the plant in the early 1980s. This effort is to
17 secure necessary water rights and a long term water supply for the plant that is controlled by
18 the company.

19 Colstrip Capital Additions – 2014: \$1,459,000; 2015: \$2,497,000; 2016: \$10,480,000

20 This program includes ongoing capital expenditures associated with normal outage activities
21 on Units 3 & 4 at Colstrip. Every two out of three years, there are planned outages at
22 Colstrip with higher capital program activities. For non-outage years, the program activities
23 are reduced. Avista votes its 15% share of Units 3 & 4 and its approximate 10% share of
24 common facilities to approve or disapprove of the budget proposed by Pacific Power Light
25 Montana (PPLM) on behalf of all the owners.

26 Coyote Springs 2 LTSA – 2016: \$2,000,000

27 This program covers the capital accruals required to execute our Long Term Service
28 Agreement (LTSA) with General Electric for Coyote Springs Unit 2. This program will
29 have fluctuations to account for the variable operating hours and operating conditions that
30 feed into the LTSA formula.

31 Noxon Spare Coils – 2014: \$1,350,000

32 This project is to replace the spare coils that were used last spring to repair the stator
33 winding that failed for Unit 4. This item will procure 100 spare coils. These spares cover
34 Units 1 through 4 (Unit 5 uses different coils). Because Avista had spares available, Unit 4
35 was able to return to normal service within 11 weeks. Without these spares, the unit would
36 have been out for nine months or more. Prices for coils supplied under emergency
37 conditions would likely carry a 30 percent cost premium. This project does not include any
38 installation, only the replacement of previously held stock.

1 **Post Falls South Channel Gate Replacement – 2015: \$11,008,000**

2 Avista is in the process of refurbishing the south channel gates to comply with FERC Dam
3 Safety directives. The project entails removing most of the existing concrete structure and
4 replacing it with a new concrete structure, new spillway gates, and new hoist systems to
5 automate gate operation.

6
7 **Cabinet Gorge Refurbishment – 2015: \$11,400,000**

8 This is the capital portion of a major overhaul project planned for Cabinet Gorge Unit #1.
9 The runner hub has significant mechanical issues and needs to be replaced to allow for
10 frequent cycling associated with the integration of intermittent renewable resources. The
11 present automatic voltage regulator provides a relatively slow response due to its hybrid
12 design and has no limiters for generator protection. A new system will provide faster
13 response and add limiters. The machine monitoring is to allow for better analysis of
14 machine condition for this important unit. Rehabilitation of this unit will also allow
15 flexibility around minimum flow for fish habitat.

16
17 **Kettle Falls Generating Station Ash Collector – 2014: \$19,000**

18 This project replaced the ash collector at the Kettle Falls Generating Station. The old unit
19 required frequent repair of metal surfaces due to ash abrasion, which required plant outages.

20
21 **IV. HYDRO RELICENSING**

22 **Q. Would you please provide an update on work being done under the**
23 **existing FERC operating license for the Company’s Clark Fork River generation**
24 **projects?**

25 **A.** Yes. Avista received a new 45-year FERC operating license for its Cabinet
26 Gorge and Noxon Rapids hydroelectric generating facilities on the Clark Fork River on
27 March 1, 2001. The Company has continued to work with the 27 Clark Fork Settlement
28 Agreement signatories to meet the goals, terms, and conditions of the Protection, Mitigation
29 and Enhancement (PM&E) measures under the license. The implementation program, in
30 coordination with the Management Committee which oversees the collaborative effort, has
31 resulted in the protection of approximately 80,000 acres of bull trout, wetlands, uplands, and
32 riparian habitat. More than 37 individual stream habitat restoration projects have occurred

1 on 23 different tributaries within our project area. Avista has collected data on almost
2 19,000 individual bull trout within the project area. The upstream fish passage program,
3 using electrofishing, trapping and hook-and-line capture efforts, has reestablished bull trout
4 connectivity between Lake Pend Oreille and the Clark Fork River tributaries above Cabinet
5 Gorge and Noxon Rapids Dams through the upstream transport of 498 adult bull trout, with
6 over 160 of these radio tagged and their movements studied. Avista has worked with the
7 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop and test two experimental fish passage facilities.
8 Avista, in consultation with key state and federal agencies, is currently developing designs
9 for a permanent upstream adult fishway for Cabinet Gorge and Noxon Rapids. In 2013,
10 designs for the Cabinet Gorge Fishway Fish Handling and Holding Facility were completed
11 and construction began in 2013. A permanent tributary trap on Graves Creek (an important
12 bull trout spawning tributary) was constructed in 2012 and testing began 2013. A three-year
13 evaluation process is ongoing to determine if future permanent tributary traps are warranted.

14 Recreation facility improvements have been made to over 28 sites along the
15 reservoirs. Avista also owns and manages over 100 miles of shoreline that includes 3,500
16 acres of property to meet FERC required natural resource goals, while allowing for public
17 use of these lands where appropriate.

18 Finally, tribal members continue to monitor known cultural and historic resources
19 located within the project boundary to ensure that these sites are appropriately protected and
20 are working to develop interpretive sites within the project.

21 **Q. Would you please provide an update on the current status of managing**
22 **total dissolved gas issues at Cabinet Gorge dam?**

1 A. Yes. How best to deal with total dissolved gas (TDG) levels occurring
2 during spill periods at Cabinet Gorge Dam was unresolved when the current Clark Fork
3 license was received. The license provided time to study the actual biological impacts of
4 dissolved gas and to subsequently develop a dissolved gas mitigation plan. Stakeholders,
5 through the Management Committee, ultimately concluded that dissolved gas levels should
6 be mitigated, in accordance with federal and state laws. A plan to reduce dissolved gas
7 levels was developed with all stakeholders, including the Idaho Department of
8 Environmental Quality. The original plan called for the modification of two existing
9 diversion tunnels, which could redirect stream flows exceeding turbine capacity away from
10 the spillway.

11 The 2006 Preliminary Design Development Report for the Cabinet Gorge Bypass
12 Tunnels Project indicated that the preferred tunnel configuration did not meet the
13 performance, cost and schedule criteria established in the approved Gas Supersaturation
14 Control Plan (GSCP). This led the Gas Supersaturation Subcommittee to determine that the
15 Cabinet Gorge Bypass Tunnels Project was not a viable alternative to meet the GSCP. The
16 subcommittee then developed an addendum to the original GSCP to evaluate alternative
17 approaches to the Tunnel Project.

18 In September 2009, the Management Committee (MC) agreed with the proposed
19 addendum, which replaces the Tunnel Project with a series of smaller TDG reduction
20 efforts, combined with mitigation efforts during the time design and construction of
21 abatement solutions take place.

22 FERC approved the GSCP addendum in February 2010 and in April 2010 the Gas
23 Supersaturation Subcommittee (a subcommittee of the MC) chose five TDG abatement

1 alternatives for feasibility studies. Feasibility studies and preliminary design were
2 completed on two of the alternatives in 2012. Final design, construction, and testing of the
3 spillway crest modification prototype was completed in 2013. Test results indicated over all
4 TDG performance was positive, however, additional modifications were required to address
5 cavitation issues. Modification of the spillway crest prototype and retesting were completed
6 in 2014. It is anticipated that up to seven additional spillway crests will be modified by
7 2018.

8 **Q. Would you please give a brief update on the status of the work being**
9 **done under the new Spokane River Hydroelectric Project's license?**

10 A. Yes. The Company received a new 50-year license for the Spokane River
11 Project on June 18, 2009. The License incorporated key agreements with the Department of
12 Interior and other key parties in both Idaho and Washington. Implementation of the new
13 license began immediately, with the development of over 40 work plans prepared, reviewed
14 and approved, as required, by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Washington
15 Department of Ecology, the U.S. Department of Interior, and FERC. The work plans pertain
16 not only to license requirements, but also to meeting requirements under Clean Water Act
17 401 certifications by both Idaho and Washington and other mandatory conditions issued by
18 the U.S. Department of Interior.

19 Since 2011, Avista has implemented water quality, fisheries, recreation, cultural,
20 erosion, wetland, aquatic weed management, aesthetic, operational and related conditions
21 across all five hydro developments under the Protection Mitigation and Enhancement
22 (PM&E) measures. The majority of the PM&E measures are on-going in nature, however a
23 number are one-time improvements, such as the Upper Falls aesthetic spill project located in

1 downtown Spokane. Six hundred and fifty six acres of wetland mitigation properties were
2 acquired in 2011 and 2012 on Upper Hangman Creek in Idaho for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe
3 through the Coeur d'Alene Reservation Trust Resources Restoration Fund that Avista
4 established in 2009. The Company developed wetland restoration plans for approximately
5 500 of the required 1,368 replacement acres of wetland and riparian habitat and are waiting
6 for approval by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs to continue
7 implementing the plans. The U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and
8 FERC approved revisions, requested by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, to the Coeur d'Alene
9 Reservation Erosion Control Implementation Plan. The revisions allow Avista and the Tribe
10 to acquire, restore, manage, and monitor 56 acres of land consistent with the requirements of
11 the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Plan, mentioned above, in lieu of implementing shoreline
12 stabilization along 63,130 feet of the Lower St. Joe River. The new total for all replacement
13 lands is now 1,424 acres. In 2014, the Company monitored the vegetation on the recently
14 completed 124-acre wetland mitigation project along the St. Joe River and will be
15 responsible for maintaining approximately half of it, which lies on Avista's property, for the
16 License term.

17 Avista continued work with the various local, state, and federal agencies to complete
18 more of the required recreation projects in Idaho, such as trail and interpretive sign
19 improvements in Post Falls, and public recreation improvements along the St. Maries River.
20 In Washington, the Company completed the ten boat-in-only campsites on Lake Spokane, a
21 new carry-in-only boat launch at Nine Mile Falls, and renovated Huntington Park at the
22 Monroe Street HED. The Company developed and is implementing the management plan
23 for the recently purchased 109 acre Sacheen Springs Wetland Complex located along the

1 Little Spokane River. In 2015, Avista will continue to develop and implement local, state,
2 and federally required work plans to fulfill License conditions.

3 A number of the approved work plans required the Company to conduct extensive
4 studies to determine appropriate measures to mitigate resource impacts. The more
5 significant studies and mitigation measures include those for total dissolved gas (TDG)
6 downstream of Long Lake Dam. Avista modeled several different types of spillway
7 modifications between 2011 and 2013 and completed the design for the desired deflector
8 configurations in 2014. Following the design, Avista requested a one-year setback in the
9 construction schedule to allow completing of the construction process in 2016-2017 instead
10 of 2015-2016. The new schedule will allow the Company to complete work on the dam's
11 spillway gate seals and the rigorous permitting processes prior to constructing the new
12 deflectors. The Company completed the proposed dissolved oxygen (DO) measure in the
13 tailrace below Long Lake Dam and is continuing to monitor its effectiveness in addressing
14 low DO in the river below the dam. Avista is also continuing to evaluate potential measures
15 to improve DO in Lake Spokane, the reservoir created by the Long Lake Dam. Cost
16 estimates to construct the TDG spillway deflectors range between \$8.0 and \$10.0 million,
17 and between \$2.5 and \$8.0 million to address DO in Lake Spokane. These estimates will be
18 refined as the evaluations and studies are completed.

19 **Q. Does this conclude your pre-filed direct testimony?**

20 A. Yes it does.