

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION)	DOCKETS UE-200407 and UG-200408
)	
Complainant,)	
v.)	PETITION OF AVISTA CORPORATION
)	TO AMEND ORDER 01 TO REFLECT
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a)	EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS
AVISTA UTILITIES)	PURSUANT TO ORDER 06 IN DOCKET
Respondent.)	U-200281
.....))	

I. INTRODUCTION

1 In accordance with WAC 480-07-370(3) and WAC 480-07-875, Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities (Avista or the Company), at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, respectfully petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for an Order amending the Commission’s Order 01 in the above-referenced dockets, to reflect the Commission’s extension of the April 1, 2022 date by which Avista was to resume the charging of late fees, reconnection fees and customer deposits. These charges are now suspended until such time that the Commission issues an order adopting rules or otherwise determining the propriety of the fee and deposit rules in Docket U-210800.

2 Please direct all correspondence related to this Petition as follows:

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II. BACKGROUND

3 On October 20, 2020, the Commission issued Order 01 in Docket U-200281, adopting with
modifications a Revised Term Sheet presented by Commission Staff. Included in this Order were
several guiding principles related to COVID-19 deferred accounting for “use in evaluating the
deferred accounting petitions the utilities have filed or intend to file with respect to their recovery
of costs related to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.”¹

4 On May 4, 2020, Avista filed a Petition for an Order Approving Deferral of Costs Associated
with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The Company filed a revised petition on October
21, 2020, consistent with the requirements set out in the Revised Term Sheet (Revised Petition).
In its Revised Petition, Avista sought to defer, among other things, any amount of bad debt incurred
in 2020-2022 above the bad debt baseline, defined as the amount currently being collected from
customers for bad debt, as determined in the Company’s last general rate proceeding (as of October
1, 2020). In its Order 01, the Commission approved the Company’s request to defer bad debt
expense accrued in 2020-2022.

5 On March 29, 2022, the Commission issued Order 06 in Docket U-200281, amending its
previous Order 03 in the Docket and exempting electric and natural gas companies from WACs
480-100-113 and 480-90-113, which authorize electric and gas companies to collect a deposit from
residential customers in certain circumstances. These exemptions were set to continue until 30
days after the Commission issues its final order adopting rules or otherwise determines the
propriety of the fee and deposit rules in Docket U-210800. The Commission’s amendments to
Order 03 were to extend the suspension of fees and deposits, and to extend reporting requirements

¹ *In the Matter of Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic*, Docket U-200281, Order 01 ¶23 (Oct. 20, 2020).

until this same timeframe. Commission Staff's Fourth Revised Term Sheet, provided as Appendix A to Order 06, was reflective of these changes.

6 As a result of the extensions contained within the Commission's Order 06 in Docket U-200281, Avista requests to modify its approved timeframe for bad debt deferral (2020-2022) to now extend to December 31, 2023, as bad debt will likely be affected for a longer duration as a result of the Commission's decision.

III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

7 WHEREFORE, Avista respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order amending the Commission's Order 01 in Dockets UE-200407 and UG-200408, to allow the Company to continue its deferral of bad debt expense accrued through December 31, 2023 pursuant to the extensions made by the Commission in Order 06 of Docket U-200281.

8 DATED this __13th__ day of April 2022.

By: /s/David Meyer
David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for
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