



Avista Corp.

1411 East Mission P.O. Box 3727
Spokane, Washington 99220-0500
Telephone 509-489-0500
Toll Free 800-727-9170

June 19, 2019

Via: UTC Web Portal

Mark L. Johnson
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Sq. Loop SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

Re: Docket No. UE-171091 – Report on 2018 Washington State Investor Owned Utility Energy Efficiency Joint Advisory Group Activities and Outcomes

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Consistent with Commission requirements outlined in Avista Corporation’s, dba Avista Utilities (“Avista” or “the Company”) 2018-2019 Biennial Conservation Plan (“BCP”) Order 01 in Docket UE-171091, Avista hereby submits the attached Report on 2018 Washington State Investor Owned Utility Energy Efficiency Joint Advisory Group Activities and Outcomes (the “Report”). The Company requests that the Report be filed into its BCP Docket.

In Order 01 of the 2018-2019 BCP Docket, the Commission discussed the need for the creation of a statewide, special advisory group to address the issue of how biennial savings, as reported by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (“NEEA”). Specifically:

We nevertheless conclude that a special joint advisory group is the most appropriate forum to address these issues in a comprehensive and collaborative manner. Based on the parties’ representations, advisory group discussions related to NEEA savings have waned. Whether the conversation has stalled due to disagreement or miscommunication, it is evident that a broader, more in-depth discussion that includes all stakeholders is warranted. By way of guidance for the parties, those discussions should address whether to include the various subsets of NEEA savings, whether the EIA requires that NEEA savings be included in target calculations, consistency with target setting requirements for consumer-owned utilities, and the degree of control the Companies have over NEEA’s execution of its programs.

Received
Records Management
06/19/19 14:20
State Of WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

We expect those conversations to occur in calendar year 2018. We reserve judgment related to the issue of whether NEEA savings should be included in conservation targets in subsequent biennia pending the joint advisory group's submission of its findings and recommendations.

The Report satisfies the Commission requirements discussed in the Order. The Report summarizes discussions that the Statewide Advisory Group ("SWAG") conducted over the course of several meetings in 2018. These meetings addressed the various attributes of how NEEA calculates its electric conservation savings, the influence that investor-owned utilities ("IOUs") have on NEEA initiatives, and whether or not NEEA savings should be included in the IOUs' respective BCP conservation penalty targets. The Report's included Appendices also provide summaries of additional discussions affecting the IOUs and suggested by Commission Staff, including the potential for utility performance incentives and updated cost-effectiveness calculation methodologies.

Consistent with WAC 480-109-110(3), an electronic version of the Report workbook was provided to SWAG members on May 9, 2019.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Dan Johnson, Director of Energy Efficiency at 509-495-2807 or myself at 509-495-4975.

Sincerely,

/s/Linda Gervais/

Senior Manager, Regulatory Policy & Strategy
Avista Utilities
509-495-4975
linda.gervais@avistacorp.com

cc : Advisory Group

Enclosures