

[Service Date May 3, 2007]

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET UE-070804
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION	)	and
	)	DOCKET UG-070805
Complainant,	)	(consolidated)
	)	
v.	)	
	)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a	)	CONFERENCE
AVISTA UTILITIES,	)	(Set for May 23, 2007, 3:00 p.m.)
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	
.....	)	
	)	
In the Matter of the Petition of	)	DOCKET UE-070311
	)	
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a	)	
AVISTA UTILITIES,	)	ORDER 02
	)	
For an Accounting Order Regarding the	)	
Appropriate Treatment of the Net Costs	)	ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION
Associated With the Repurchase of	)	
Debt	)	
.....	)	

- 1 On April 26, 2007, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) certain tariff revisions designed to effect general rate increases in its rates for electric service (Docket UE-070804) and gas service (Docket UG-070805) in this state. The proposed revisions provide for general rate increases of 15.8 percent for the electric tariffs and 2.3 percent for the gas tariffs. The Commission, by order, has suspended the operation of the general tariff revisions and has consolidated the dockets pending hearing or hearings concerning all such changes and the whether the proposed revisions are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.

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- 2 On February 14, 2007, Avista filed with the Commission a petition seeking an Accounting Order under WAC 480-07-370(b)(i) requesting retroactive approval to account for certain debt repurchase costs in a manner that deviated from the Commission's rules (Docket UE-070311). On April 11, 2007, the Commission entered an order setting the matter for hearing at a date to be determined by further order.
- 3 The matters in the three dockets appear to involve related facts and principles of law. It is appropriate that Docket UE-070311 be consolidated with Dockets UE-070804 and UG-070805 for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.
- 4 Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of RCW 34.05 pertaining to adjudicative proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.431, 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 and gas utilities. Statutes involved, in addition to those previously cited, include those within RCW 80.01, RCW 80.04 and RCW 80.28 relating to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.020 RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.030, RCW 80.28.070, RCW 80.28.090, and RCW 80.28.100. Rules involved include those within WAC 480-07, WAC 480-90, and WAC 480-100.
- 5 The ultimate issues include whether the proposed tariff revisions are just, fair, reasonable, sufficient, and in the public interest. These issues may include consideration of alternative rate design or structure. In accordance with the provisions of RCW 80.04.130, Avista bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed tariff revisions are just and reasonable.
- 6 **NOTICE IS GIVEN That a prehearing conference in this matter will be held at 3:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**
- 7 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to take interventions, consider any pending motions, establish dates for distribution of evidence and workpapers and

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other scheduling matters, consider formulating the issues in the proceeding and to determine other matters to aid in its disposition, as specified in WAC 480-07.

8 Petitions to intervene should be made in writing prior to the hearing date or made orally at the hearing. The Commission prefers written petitions. Appearances will be taken at the prehearing conference. If any party or witness needs an interpreter or other assistance, please fill out the form attached to this notice and return it to the Commission. The time and place for the evidentiary hearings will be set at the prehearing conference or by later written notice.

9 **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN That any party who fails to attend or participate in the hearing set by this notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default in accordance with RCW 34.05.440. The parties are further advised that the sanction provisions of WAC 480-07-450 are specifically invoked.**

10 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.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

Representative: Greg Trautman
Assistant Attorney General
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 40128
Olympia, WA 98504-0128
(360) 664-1187
gtrautma@wutc.wa.gov

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Respondent: Kelly O. Norwood
VP, State & Federal Regulation
Avista Corporation
P.O. Box 3727
1411 E. Mission Ave, MSC-7
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
(509) 495-4267
kelly.norwood@avistacorp.com

Representative: David J. Meyer, Esq.
VP and Chief Counsel for
Regulatory and Governmental Affairs
Avista Corporation
P.O. Box 3727
1411 E. Mission Ave, MSC-13
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
(509) 495-4316
david.meyer@avistacorp.com

Public Counsel: Simon J. ffitich
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 389-2055
simonf@atg.wa.gov

- 11 The Commissioners of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington 98504-7250, will preside during this proceeding.
- 12 The Public Counsel section of the Office of the Attorney General has been designated by the Attorney General to represent the public. The Commission's address, shown 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.

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- 13 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.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 3, 2007.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary

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Inquiries may be address to:

Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Chandler Plaza Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

- or - Public Counsel Section
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 464-7744

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NOTICE

PLEASE NOTE: The hearing facilities are accessible to interested people with disabilities; that smoking is prohibited; and if limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

The information needed to provide an appropriate interpreter or other assistance should be stated below and returned to Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Attention: Carole J. Washburn, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, P. O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250. (PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket No.: _____

Case Name: _____

Hearing Date: _____ Hearing Location: _____

Primary
Language: _____

Hearing Impaired (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:

Visual _____ Tactile _____

Other type of assistance needed: _____

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: (____) _____

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