

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED: January 5, 2018
DOCKET: UE-170485/UG-170486
REQUESTER: The Energy Project

WITNESS: Jennifer E. Snyder
RESPONDER: Jennifer E. Snyder
TELEPHONE: (360) 664-1311

REQUEST NO. 4:

Re: Testimony of Jennifer E. Snyder, Exh. JES-1T at 24:7-9.

Jennifer Snyder states in her testimony that “Staff sees no reason not to allow these [Community Action Partnership (CAP)] agencies to fund low-income fuel conversion in cases when it is in the best interest of the low-income customer.” If Staff is proposing that low-income fuel conversion should be funded under the LIRAP tariff, Schedule 92/192 (LIRAP tariff rider):

- a. Please state whether it is Staff’s view that fuel conversion is a permissible use of rider funds under the current version of the LIRAP tariff, or whether the LIRAP tariff would have to be amended.
- b. Please state whether Staff has prepared or has in its possession any analysis, study, report, or other calculation of the amount of funding needed from LIRAP funds to support the low-income fuel conversion program.
- c. Does Staff support an increase in LIRAP funding levels to cover low-income fuel conversion programs, such that low-income fuel conversion funding would be additional to any LIRAP bill assistance funding, including funding levels established by the LIRAP Five -Year Plan and thereafter, and would not reduce such bill assistance funding?

RESPONSE:

- a. To fund fuel conversion through the LIRAP tariff on a regular basis, Staff believes the current tariff would need to be amended. For transparency, a program description and general parameters should be included.
- b. In Appendix A of Avista’s 2018-2019 biennial conservation plan, the company budgets \$296,672 for low-income conversions over the two years.
- c. Without a complete proposal to consider, Staff does not have an opinion on any funding increase for low-income electric to natural gas fuel conversion.