BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET UE-080182
AVISTA CORPORATION,)	ORDER 02
Petitioner,)	
For an Order Establishing Compliance with the Provisions of RCW 80.08.040, with Respect to its Proposal to issue up to \$550,000,000 of First Mortgage Bonds))))	ORDER ESTABLISHING COMPLIANCE WITH RCW 80.08.040, SECURITIES
)	

BACKGROUND

- On January 20, 2008, pursuant to RCW 80.01.040, Avista Corporation (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) its notice of a planned securities issuance, and it requested an order affirming compliance with the requirements of RCW 80.08.040. At that time, Avista proposed to issue and sell up to \$350,000,000 of new First Mortgage Bonds with a maximum coupon rate of 7.00% with a maturity date ranging between 10 and 31 years. On October 9, 2008 the Company filed a revised notice stating that an increase in the amount of debt it plans to sell is necessary under this authority in order to fund its ongoing capital requirements. This amended notice seeks to increase the amount Avista plans to issue and sell up to \$550,000,000. The amended notice also provides the Company's revised expectations for pricing the new securities given the recent volatility in today's capital market. At this time Avista expects to sell the securities at a maximum coupon rate not to exceed 8.5% with a maturity ranging from 10-31 years.
- According to Avista's amended notice and supporting documents, it states the proceeds of the financing are for one or more of the purposes allowed by RCW 80.08.030. The revised notice also describes the terms and conditions the Company expects to obtain in the sale of the securities. Finally, the initial notice contains the statement of an officer explaining why the Company's decision to issue this particular security is in the public interest.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric and natural gas companies. *RCW* 80.01.040, *RCW* 80.04, *RCW* 80.08, *RCW* 80.12, *RCW* 80.16 and *RCW* 80.28.
- 4 (2) Avista is engaged in the business of providing electric and natural gas service within the state of Washington. As a public service company, it is subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 5 (3) The application Avista filed meets the requirements of *RCW* 80.08 which govern the issuance of securities by public service companies.
- 6 (4) The information Avista filed in this docket contains: (a) a certification by an authorized officer that the proceeds will be used for one or more purposes allowed by RCW 80.08.030; (b) a description of the proposed issuance, including the terms of financing, and (c) a statement as to why the proposed transaction is in the public interest. See WAC 480-100-242 & WAC-480-90-242.
- 7 (5) After reviewing the revised information Avista filed in Docket UE-080812 on October 9, 2008, the Commission finds that Avista is in compliance with the filing requirements of RCW 80.08.040.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 8 (1) Avista is in compliance with the requirements of RCW 80.08.040 with respect to the proposal in its notice to issue and sell up to \$550,000,000 of First Mortgage Bonds.
- 9 (2) Avista will file a Report of Securities Issued as required by WAC 480-100-262 and WAC 480-90-262. Avista is also required to file verified copies of any agreement entered into in connection with any transaction pursuant to this Order. Finally, Avista shall file a verified statement setting forth in reasonable detail the disposition of the proceeds of each offering made pursuant to this Order.
- 10 (3) This Order shall in no way affect the authority of the Commission over rates, services, accounts, valuations, estimates, or determination of costs, or any matters that may come before it. Nor shall anything in this Order be construed as an agreement to any estimate or determination of costs, or any valuation of property claimed or asserted.

The Executive Secretary finding this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 80.08 enters this Order pursuant to WAC 480-07-904(1)(f).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 9, 2008.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary