

July 5, 2017

UTC

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW

PO BOX 47250

Olympia, WA 98504-7250

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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

To Whom It May Concern;

I am writing in regards to the most recent Rate Adjustment (effective 9/1/17 from Avista). I am a single mother of 2 who works part time due to my youngest being disabled. I struggle to make the bills every month, but we make them. While the raise of 3% may not seem like a lot in a month where the bills is only \$80 – what about winter when I need to keep my kids warm? I can't help but wonder why when Avista posts profits being up 11% in 2016 would they need to increase costs to their customer 2.9%? The news recently stated that in 2016 Avista made a profit of \$14 million. And now they are asking it's consumers for an additional 15 million.

Unfortunately, I do not get rate increases in my job two times per year, and upon research I see that Avista requested 2 rate increases in 2016. While I understand there are costs to operating power companies, I do not understand why power companies can make profits off the community. I don't get to choose which power company I use. Avista has a monopoly on Spokane and the outlying areas. If this rate increase is approved, the winter in my household will be a lot harder than it should. Another rate increase would be a huge financial hardship on my household.

Thank you,



Steffanie Shaw

whitelyghtning@hotmail.com

5520 N. G. St.

Spokane, WA 99205