

**Docket Nos. UE-180167 and UG-180168 (Consolidated) -
Vol. II**

**In the Matter of: Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista
Utilities**

February 13, 2019



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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition) Docket Nos. UE-180167 and
of) UG-180168 (Consolidated)
))
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a))
AVISTA UTILITIES))
))
For an Order Authorizing the))
Company to Revise its Electric))
Book Depreciation Rates and))
Authorizing Deferred Accounting))
Treatment for the Difference))
in Depreciation Expense))
))

TELEPHONIC PREHEARING CONFERENCE, VOLUME II

Pages 14-21

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE ANDREW O'CONNELL

February 13, 2019

11:00 A.M.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
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Page 15

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Page 17

1 OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON; FEBRUARY 13, 2019

2 11:00 A.M.

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4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5

6 JUDGE O'CONNELL: Let's be on the record.

7 Good morning. We're here today for a telephonic
8 prehearing conference regarding consolidated Dockets
9 UE-180167 and UG-180168. The time is 11:00 a.m. on
10 February 3rd, 2019. Sorry, February 13th, 2019.

11 My name is Andrew O'Connell. I'm an
12 administrative law judge with the Washington Utilities
13 and Transportation Commission. I am joined in the
14 Commission's hearing room today by a court reporter and
15 by representatives for Staff. All other parties are
16 appearing telephonically.

17 We are here today to discuss what process is
18 necessary for consideration of the settlement agreement
19 filed by all parties on February 12th, 2019.

20 Let's take appearances beginning with
21 Avista.

22 MR. MEYER: Thank you, Your Honor, and thank
23 you as well for scheduling this telephonic prehearing.
24 David Meyer for Avista.

25 JUDGE O'CONNELL: And let's start with the

1 telephone, Public Counsel?

2 MS. SUETAKE: This is Nina Suetake for
3 Public Counsel.

4 JUDGE O'CONNELL: And the Alliance of
5 Western Energy Consumers?

6 MR. PEPPLER: Good morning. Tyler Pepple for
7 the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers.

8 JUDGE O'CONNELL: And Sierra Club?

9 MR. GERHART: Good morning. This is Matt
10 Gerhart for Sierra Club.

11 MS. DARBY: And this is Marta Darby for
12 Sierra Club.

13 JUDGE O'CONNELL: And Staff?

14 MR. CALLAGHAN: Yes, and Nash Callaghan
15 representing Commission Staff in this matter.

16 JUDGE O'CONNELL: So I set this prehearing
17 conference when it was unclear whether all parties were
18 included in the settlement. I see, however, from the
19 filing of the settlement agreement that all parties are
20 included and it is a full settlement proposing to
21 resolve all issues in dispute.

22 I have also reviewed the joint motion by the
23 parties, which requests several procedural actions with
24 the Commission. First, parties ask to file testimony in
25 support of the settlement on or before

Page 19

1 February 15, 2019; second, the parties ask that the
2 testimony they file be received into evidence to form
3 the basis for the Commission's decision; third, the
4 parties ask that the consideration of the proposed
5 settlement be made on a paper record without a hearing
6 on the settlement; last, the parties ask for expedited
7 consideration to allow for a proposed effective date of
8 April 1st, 2019.

9 I am inclined to grant the parties' joint
10 motion. There is a recent hearing or proceeding that
11 I'm aware of where a full settlement has been addressed
12 on the paper record without a settlement hearing. But
13 before I make a ruling on that request, I am going to
14 confer with the Commissioners who have been out of the
15 office and in a conference for this week. So I will
16 confer with them and issue a decision shortly by either
17 tomorrow or Friday at the latest; however, the parties
18 should file their testimony supporting the settlement by
19 February 15, 2019, as proposed in the joint motion.

20 So I believe this prehearing conference was
21 made much simpler because the settlement does propose as
22 an all-party settlement that resolves all of the issues
23 in dispute. So with that, I'd like to ask the parties
24 if there's something else that we should address at this
25 telephonic conference.

1 MR. CALLAGHAN: I don't believe so, Your
2 Honor.

3 JUDGE O'CONNELL: And --

4 MR. MEYER: Nothing from Avista's
5 standpoint.

6 MS. SUETAKE: Nothing from Public Counsel.

7 MR. PEPPE: Nothing from AWEC either.

8 JUDGE O'CONNELL: Okay.

9 MR. GERHART: Same for Sierra Club, there's
10 nothing else we wanted to address.

11 JUDGE O'CONNELL: Thank you all very much.
12 I will issue a short order within the coming days. And
13 with that, we will be adjourned. Thank you.

14 (Adjourned at 11:04 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF THURSTON

I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.



Tayler Garlinghouse

Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358