



UE-220053

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## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

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July 29, 2024

**SENT VIA E-SERVICE**

Jeff Killip  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98503-7250

Re: ***Wash. Utils. And Transp. Comm'n v. Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista Utils.,***  
**Dockets UE-220053, UG-220054 & UE-210854, Comments of Public Counsel**

Dear Mr. Killip:

On December 12, 2022, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered Order 10/04 in the above-referenced docket. Order 10/04 required Avista Corporation (Avista) to file an annual report detailing property provisionally included in rates placed into service during each year of the rate plan approved by the order. On March 29, 2024, Avista submitted its 2023 Washington Annual Provisional Capital Report.

Public Counsel reviewed the compliance filing. At this time, Public Counsel takes no position regarding the inclusion of the provisional capital projects from the 2022 GRC. Public Counsel reserves the right to challenge the prudence of any capital projects in future filings. Public Counsel identified some procedural issues for the Commission to address in future filings. Chief among these issues is over-spending on growth-related investment that is used to mask, or offset, under-spending in non-growth-related assets. The Commission should decide whether and to what extent growth-related investment should be included in a projected rate year. Public Counsel also recommends that the Commission provide additional guidance as to what extent Avista needs to support changes made to its business cases.

Sincerely,

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