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December 22, 2003

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING &
OVERNIGHT MAIL DELIVERY**

Carole Washburn,
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: Docket No. UG-021584 – Natural Gas Benchmark Mechanism

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are an original and four copies of Avista's
"REDACTED" "NON-CONFIDENTIAL" Initial Brief for filing in the above-cited case.

A separate CONFIDENTIAL, "NON-REDACTED" version has also been provided.

This has been provided to the Commission by an electronic version with the original concurrently
placed in overnight mail.

Questions regarding this filing should be directed to Liz Andrews at (509) 495-8601.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Norwood".

Kelly Norwood
Vice President of State & Federal Regulation

Enclosures

c: Attached service list

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

In re the Matter of	)	
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET NO. UG-021584
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a AVISTA	)	
UTILITIES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

POST-HEARING BRIEF OF AVISTA CORPORATION

AVISTA CORPORATION
David J. Meyer
Senior Vice President & General Counsel
Avista Corporation
1411 E. Mission Avenue
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Spokane, WA 99220

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the Post-Hearing Brief of Avista Corporation upon all parties of record in Docket UG-021584, by commercial parcel delivery company properly tendered with fees prepaid.

Ms. Carole Washburn
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Washington Utilities & Trans. Commission
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Dated at Spokane, Washington, this 22nd day of December 2003.


Patty Olsness