

February 25, 2016

2015 Windstorm

The November 2015 windstorm was the worst natural disaster in Avista's history. Near hurricane-force winds knocked down trees which brought down power poles, power lines, transformers and other equipment. A portion of this rate request is to recover costs to replace equipment and infrastructure damaged in the storm. You should know storm expenses will not be recovered all at once but rather spread out over many years—similar to how other infrastructure costs are included in rates.

Since Avista is a stock holder, privately owned company, the purpose of private "free" enterprise is to reward those investors if the company is successful and if not, the investors may lose their investment.

As such, the stock holders should bear the expenses, not the taxpayers or, in the case of Avista, the people who have to buy their electricity from Avista.

So, another illusion from my high school civics class destroyed by contemporary U.S. economic culture . . .



Jan Strobeck

Jan Strobeck

7421 W. Johannsen

Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026

RECEIVED
FEB 29 2016
WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

Avista raises dividend on common stock

Avista Corp.'s board of directors has increased the company's quarterly dividend to 34.25 cents per share on common stock, officials announced Friday.

The increase of 1.25 cents per share represents a 3.8 percent increase, for an annual dividend of \$1.37 per share.

Scott Morris, Avista's chairman and CEO, said the Spokane utility's board of directors has raised dividends for 14 consecutive years. The board evaluates quarterly dividends on a regular basis, considering factors such as financial results, business strategy and competition for investors, according to a company news release.