

Total Comments: 67**In Favor: 0****Opposed: 65****Undecided: 2**

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
No			
	Scott Niebel	Web	Avista has filed ANOTHER request for rate a rate increase. How many times are they going to be allowed to increase rates whyle paying senior executives and the CEO HUGE amounts of money for doing nothing. Too many people already have to decided whether to have heat and light or have enough food. This has got to stop! The have a monopoly! I can't choose to go to another electric company because I do not agree with them unlike almost any other service in the country. I can choose to swith cell providers and internet providers without much difficulty, but I can't switch power companies. WHY? How has this monopoly been allowed to happen? How would the power industry look if we were able to choose our providers? Service would be better and rates would be competitive. In a time when most common people already have misgivings about government working for them (the last 20 years or so) maybe you should take a look at the issue from the common persons standpoint instead of Avista's drive for more profit.
	Daniel Bennett	Web	Please do not approve the 2/19/16 Avista Utilities proposed rate increase for 2017 and 2018. Peoples bills have already increased over the last two months, and asking for increased rates due to the November 2015 wind damage just doesn't make sense. Things like that are part of the cost of doing business. Do not just approve a reduced rate, but reject the increase all together. Ask them to decrease their CEO or other executive pay. Thank you for your time and consideration.
	MaiLing Bell	Web	
	Graham Lang	Web	It's insulting to entertain that Avista wants ti increase gas and electric rates. Many people just get by as it is; sure there a low income subsidies, but let's face it, those people don't make up the bulk of Avista's budget. I would suggest that Avista look inside to find the requested funds; maybe start with cutting some executive salaries and unnecessary staff. I don't want to know what monies are wasted on overtime pay. I'll stop now, but the request is nuts. Graham Lang

Case: 160228

Title: Avista Electric GRC

PI Coordinator: Roberts, Andrew

Staff Lead: Joanna Huang

Public Comments by Case

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	Ron Solomon	Web	I am outraged by the annual increases being proposed and approved by the utilities commission. It seems every year for the past 15 years Avista has applied for and been granted a rate increase. These increases are literally causing a hardship for many of the state's residents. I would understand if the increase were on a more reasonable schedule (e.g., 3-5 years), but this is absolutely ridiculous. You should also know the Spokane Neighborhood Assistance Program has experienced statistically significant increases in the number of people applying for emergency assistance. This is a round robin for Avista as they boast community contributions only to refer residents to SNAP so they get all those funds back. Please consider declining any rate increase request from Avista for the next 3 years.
	Tracy bounous	Web	Asking for a rate increase is insane. They are making millions in profit. That profit needs to go to pay for wind damage. I am still paying for wind damage to my home. As for them, its a cost of doing business! They had 111 million in profit in 2014. That should cover damage! This is ridiculous. Rate increase every year!
	Tim	Web	Avista has a monopoly here in Spokane, and it seems like they get what ever they want when it comes to money! They seem to have rate hikes every year and sometimes twice a year! They charge twice as much as Inland Power and Light, Vera Water and Power, and Modern Electric. Avista is ten times there size, if anything they should be charging less, because of the amount of money they bring in. My bill has doubled since last year. Where in the hell is that money going??
	Kye Pederson	Web	Avista continually asks for rate increases. If it's not every year, it is every other year. In most cases, with the exception of one year's request, you have authorized these increases. Yet, the upper management, CEO, receive their millions in salary, and continually receive millions in higher yearly bonuses. These "bonuses" are on the backs of the consumers. We financially cannot take any more rate hikes. We are having to choose whether to turn the heat up a little, sit in the dark, or feed our families. Enough is enough! Please stop the greed.

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	Eric Patton	Web	As Avista keeps raising our rates, they are making more and more profit according the Spokesman Review and KHQ News. Let them suck up the cost of fixing their equipment after the severe weather from November storms. Avista wines and you give them a blank check with our money on it. This company is a monopoly as I would not be with them otherwise. I would be on Inland Power if I had a choice. NO RATE HIKES FOR AVISTA!
	Kat McGunagle	Web	Avista has requested an increase in rates. I strongly disagree with the need for this increase and ask the Commission to deny Avista this request. Sincerely, Kat McGunagle
	Albert Giglio	Web	Avista has raised rates on the last three bills and you have allowed them. Both electric, gas and basic charges have been increased. Natural gas prices overall have gone down in the last year with increased production yet Avista has had increases. Is there a way that you can get them to use more solar panels and wind turbines then is required. This is a good investment for the future. My bill has double in the last year with us conserving more. You are forcing us to get off the grid. Thank you
	Doris Sampson	Web	I am a senior and I don't get much money, and I'm sure there are many many more. A whole lot of people in Spokane cannot afford another raise. It's either food or paying utilities with Avista.
	william mcgunagle	Web	No increases for Avista.
	Dawn Dennison	E-mail	I received notice that Avista requested ANOTHER rate increase today, February 19,2016. I am flabbergasted that they have the nerve to ask for more money than the exorbitantly high amount they already charge! They need to stop worrying about their raises and profits and stop gouging their customers!!!

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	Kelli and Ryan Pardee-Heath	E-mail	<p>I am not an Avista customer, but find it very concerning that a company that pays such high salaries to it's upper echelon and has it's name plastered on everything from parks to baseball stadiums would attempt to raise its rate.</p> <p>THERE IS PLENTY OF MONEY GOING AROUND AT AVISTA! IF YOU NEED TO TAKE MONEY WITH PAY HIKES...TAKE IT FROM THE TOPS POCKETS!</p> <p>This is directed towards avista.</p> <p>Thank you for reviewing my concern.</p>
	Norma Becker	E-mail	<p>I am a retired district Manager and know exactly where their money is spent. They, of course, want to have money for the investors at the expense of the users of electricity and gas. They have many ways that they can decrease the amount of money they spend. I was there, although some years ago, and know their tactics. They should have a budget that has money in it for unforeseen situations. We, the consumer, cannot be expected to pay extra every time there is a wind storm or any other type of problem. They are in the business of supplying electricity and gas and are able to be smart enough to figure out that they need to have a sizeable amount of money set aside for storms or whatever else happens. They have plenty of money to pay executives bonuses on top of high salaries along with paying all employees top dollar. The consumer cannot be their sugar daddy.</p>

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	Carrie Scott	Web	<p>My Avista bill has more than doubled in the last two months. Ever since the power outage my bill has gone up. Now Avista says they're going to raise rates again. My power bill is almost the same as my house payment. There is insurance for power companies to get back their losses, don't take the money from people who can't afford two house payments a month.</p> <p>***Customer submitted comment via the online complaint system as well***</p> <p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 03:12:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. My Avista bill has more than doubled in the last two months. Ever since the power outage my bill has gone up. Now Avista says they're going to raise rates again. My power bill is almost the same as my house payment. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Actually read the meter! There is insurance for power companies to get back their losses, don't take the money from people who can't afford two house payments a month.</p>
	Andrew Mclean	Web	<p>We lost power during the winter storms because Avista did not cut back trees in its right of way. I requested the company compensate me for the generator that I had to use. The company said it would not do that and it referred me to the commission. There are more trees out here that will come down soon unless Avista takes care of them. The company is not doing what it needs to do. The company should not get a rate increase until it takes care of the maintenance issues it is neglecting. I also disagree with the tiered usage rates they implement. I have a different power company for a second property that I own and it is a flat kWh rate no matter how much I use. I hate monopolies.</p>

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	Cassiopeia Day	Web	<p>Please explain your complaint in detail.</p> <p>Avista has once again submitted for a rate increase, claiming it is due to the windstorm. We ALL had damage and extra expense from the wind storm, yet this company expects us to pay for their damage. We already pay high amounts for our heat and electricity, and for them to expect us to pay for their extra costs is outrageous. If this rate increase gets approved, there will be rioting in the streets. People are sick of barely making ends meet while the CEO at Avista fills his pockets with millions of dollars a year. This rate increase will create major problems for a lot of families. Please do not allow the greedy people at Avista to take even more of our hard earned money just so they can continue to get richer.</p> <p>Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No</p> <p>What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Figure out a way to be more financially responsible so they are not demanding we pay them more every few months. Our utilities bill is higher than a brand new car payment would be!</p>
	Robert Harvey	E-mail	<p>Please explain your complaint in detail.</p> <p>Avista just requested yet another rate increase for Electric and Gas. They just got a rate increase on these! Natural Gas is at a near all time low and I don't think we all should have to pay for Avista's new electric car charging stations!</p> <p>Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No</p> <p>If 'Yes', what was the result? I got information on their rate increase request in my last bill.</p> <p>What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Tell Avista to cut down on the waste in their Company and to live within their means for once, just like we have to do! I hope You tell Avista No Rate Increases this time!</p>

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	Billy Elliott	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/20/2016 09:08:00 AM Please explain your complaint in detail. I Billy Elliott want the rate increase for Avista Denied. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? Yes If 'Yes', what was the result? They don't care about their customers, all they care about is putting more money in their pockets What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Stop asking for rate increases, lower the rates and take care of their customers. After all the customer is the one that pays the bills.</p>

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	Nathan Steele	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 10:40:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. Over the past several years Avista Utilites has consistently raised rates on customers. I'm a very hard working citizen that has happily paid for my electricity and gas for several years, but this year it has gotten out of control. My Natural Gas bill has increased from roughly \$60.00 a month to over \$270.00. Avista is making ridiculous claims that it is simply because it is winter, but I know this is untrue. You can look at any news station or avista's very own Facebook page and see VERY clearly that everyone in Spokane has been complaining consistently about their rates and Avista has done nothing to fix it. On top of that, they have now requested to raise rates AGAIN in 2017?!?!? You just approved an 8% price increase on natural gas! That is over 2x inflation and cost of living increases across the country, yet you are approving a rate increase???Avista is abusing thier power and monopoly over the city of Spokane and you need to do something about it! Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? Yes If 'Yes', what was the result? They told me it is winter and I'm wrongLiterally this was their answer. What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? LOWER YOUR RATES! You also need to correctly read meters EVERY MONTH!</p>
	John Williams	Web	Please contact me when public meeting are scheduled.

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	Deidre Johnson	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 10:31:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. Avista wants to raise their rates. ..do not allow it. It isn't reasonable. Pull prices are 75% lower and try need to raise prices? ?? No. Just no. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No</p>
	Robert Dexter	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 04:20:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. I am deeply concerned how Avista Utilities are charging me and all of there other customers in the Inland Northwest. They have a reputation of jacking up their customers utility rates for their employees bonuses and using that money for their own personal expenses! I am outraged by the amount of money that Avista is charging us on our bill since the wind storm hit us last November of 2015. People are paying more than double of that amount since last January. People and their families with low incomes have to choose between paying the electric bill and try to find out where their next meal is going to come from. I am angry at you guys for allowing this to happen!!! Now Avista Utilities have the nerve to request even more higher rates for electricity and natural gas effective on January 2018 to replace their damaged equipment. This is not fair for us! When is this madness going to end?! We can't even afford to eat not alone having to pay these outrageous electric bills every month!!! Now they Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? I want you to step in and shut down Avista Utilities and start building from scratch! YOU CANNOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE!!!</p>

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	Sally Yancey	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 03:17:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. Please do not approve the proposed 2016/2017 Avista rate increases. Avista is already the most expensive utility in our area, by term or KWH. Avista themselves offers lower rates in Idaho. Avista should be lowering rates. Their CEO is among the top-paid executives in the state, which should not happen in a regulated monopolistic industry. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Reduce rates to fall in line with other electricity providers in Adams County.</p>

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	Jessica Rose	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 02:59:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. Avista has just applied for yet another rate increase. Yet over the past two months everyone in the city has been complaining how their bills have increased from \$75 to 200 a month over what it usually is. When the local news contacted them to try to get our community answers, they were all canned answers that didn't truly explain why our bills have all gone up. The current rate increase indicates only a \$9.75 per bill by January 2017, however I am still waiting for an explanation why my bill has increased by \$200 the last two month when I use their provided tools showing me how much electricity I used last year to this year and I am using less and yet paying more? It has gotten to the point that I have to decide between buying groceries or paying my utilities bill and my husband and I make decent money. I strongly urge you to deny Avista's request for another rate increase. They want to charge the citizens to recoup windstorm costs, arent they a privately held company? Shouldnt they have to reach into their own companies pockets and take less of a profit margin to recoup those costs? Not to mention both January and February's bills are double what they normally are!!! How are they able to run a monopoly in our area? We have no choice about who we get our utilities from and are forced to pay the ever higher and higher and higher bills. Something has to change about this situation! Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? They should LOWER their rates, not increase them or even keep them the same. They are to high for our area and economy.</p>

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	Carrie Carson	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 02:42:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. I just received an email that Avista has asked for another rate increase. I pay more to Avista than phone Comcast car and insurance altogether please check into them. This is ridiculous. I can't afford more 600 dollars a month I have kids and live on a low income every month. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? Please look into this business and help get these rate increases denied!</p>
	Lee Ann Suggate	E-mail	<p>Description: User submitted via the web on 02/19/2016 02:38:00 PM Please explain your complaint in detail. Please please do not allow them another rate increase, they are already price gouging and we have no other company to switch too...The rates just went up! They DO NOT need another increase as the CEO just got a pay increase. Tell Avista NO!! When a car pymt is cheaper then the electric there is something wrong. Many have seen higher bills during the time thier electric was off from the windstorm! The company is supposed to put aside funds for this not gouge its customers. People on disability didn't get a raise so prices go up peope will struggle more...and people will have to choose between feeding kids and clothing them or paying electric. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? No What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? NOT RAISE THE RATES AGAIN FOR A 2ND YEAR IN A ROW they should eat it...and take away the ceo raise...</p>

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	Gordon K. Milbrandt	E-mail	<p>Mr. Kouchi,</p> <p>Here we go again one year later. With regard to the expected request for rate increases for Avista, I have the following question. Does the regulator look at and have expectations regarding the amount of capital set aside from earnings to fund these types of requests? In the banking industry they are called capital reserves and allowances for loan losses. On the face of it the amount of earnings influences the dividend rate for corporations, but is balanced by evaluating the adequacy of reserve requirements.</p> <p>I'll given an example. Kinder Morgan Inc. (KMI) recently slashed its payout by 75% because of the adverse effect the price of oil had on its earnings.</p> <p>I certainly hope an option of reducing Avista's dividend rate to shareholders is considered when evaluating their request to increase utility rates to fund their reserves rather than relying solely on these increases.</p> <p>Please let me know has this aspect is evaluated by the Commission.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
	Ed Riederich	E-mail	Please say no to any Avista increase...

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	Cindy Schnell	Web	<p>Please do not allow no rate increases. For as long as I have been an Avista consumer, the company has had extremely high rates. Since the windstorm in November 2015, power bills have doubled, even before rate increases were approved. This is a very concerning matter to Spokane and the surrounding areas who have no other choice but to pay these prices or go without. I don't know how Avista sorts their income as a company, but with better management, these outrageous hikes can be avoided. Seems to be every year or two. Maybe the salaries of the top executive positions and corporate spending need to be assessed as well?
</p> <p>***Second comment received through the online complaint system***</p> <p>Please explain your complaint in detail. Please, please investigate this utility company and allow no rate increases until the findings of the investigation is over. For as long as I have been an Avista consumer, the company has had extremely high rates. Since the windstorm in November 2015, power bills have doubled, even before rate increases were approved. This is a very concerning matter to Spokane and the surrounding areas who have no other choice but to pay these prices or go without. Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? Yes If 'Yes', what was the result? I called about the hike in my power bill. I was told the first time that it was an estimate since the power was off. When I told the representative that my power was never off during the storm, she then could not explain the higher bill. I have not called back, as I read it's happening to all consumers. Hence the reason for this complaint. What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? I don't know how Avista sorts their income as a company, but with better management, these outrageous hikes can be avoided. Seems to be every year or two. Maybe the salaries of the top executive positions and corporate spending need to be assessed as well?</p>

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	Jan Strobeck	Mail	<<Letter saved as attachment under Notes tab>> Customer does not believe rate payers should have to pay for damages from the Nov. 2015 windstorm. She believes stock holders should eat these costs.

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	Deanna Mallet	Web	<p>I've received information from Avista that my rates will go up yet again. I'd like to make an appeal to those who will be approving this rate request to please deny this request.</p> <p>While the information from Avista is confusing from an end-user's standpoint, to say the least, an analysis has been done to determine the percentage of the rate increase for an average person in my neighborhood. This analysis shows that the rate increase from 2015-2016 was 4.61% and from 2016-2017 will be 5.37% and from 2017-2018 2.19% (that's an increase in 3 years of 12.17%!!!!) This increase will put a hardship on those in my community. Many are currently having a hard time making ends meet, especially those on fixed incomes. And there's not much of a chance the average household will see a 12.17% increase in their salary in 3 years!</p> <p>In addition, Avista's rate request makes mention of "to help recover costs that enable us to provide the safe, efficient and reliable energy you expect." While last year's storm was monumental, most people in our community are working hard within their means to recover & replace roofs & fences WITHOUT additional funding so their property tax won't increase. We ask that Avista do the same. All budgets should plan for these types of occurrences. Also, another reason Avista is requesting astronomical rate hikes is because they want to roll out "Smart Meters" to everyone. Our economy isn't ready for this!!! Our jobs aren't increasing at this rate at this time to be able to pay for this, so Avista shouldn't ask for us to pay for them. In addition, Avista has an important responsibility to educate us BEFORE installing them. There is much research out there showing the health dangers of "Smart Meters" (or AMI, Advanced Meter Infrastructure as they like to call it).</p> <p>Please help our household & our neighbor's households be able to pay for things like groceries & healthcare, which we're currently having a hard time affording due to those rate increases. Avista has the ability to make ends meet. We're not ready for "Smart Meters"! And please help Avista do a better job in the future of informing the public in a way that makes COMMON SENSE to all! Without this, we don't have the ability to come together & appeal to those who approve of their huge rate hikes (YOU).</p> <p>Thanks for your time & consideration.</p>

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	Ben Frier	Web	<p>I am requesting that you deny Avista Utilities request for rate increases. Avista has the highest electric rate in Spokane Region and yet they are requesting a rate increase. I would ask that the rates be based on average market rates for consumers in Eastern Washington. Avista is gouging consumers and the following is an example of Avista overcharging consumers. Avista admitted that they are basing their request due to the 2015 windstorm in Eastern Washington. How is it fair for the consumers to pay for damages that Avista sustained during the windstorm. Avista should have insurance or since they are a business they can write off their losses when they file taxes. They know and will write their losses on taxes, and will use the extra money to boost their profits. This is wrong, there are people who can barely afford the rates now. The other issue is a month after the Windstorm everyone's bill increased significantly for that month. I would ask you to please consider this at the hearing with Avista later this month. Avista needs to be more regulated since they are not conducting business ethically. Please make the right decision, people are counting on your decision. Thank you.</p>
	Robert K Flowers	E-mail	<p>Dear Ms. Huang:</p> <p>My comments regarding Avista Corporation's February 2016, filing for yet another rate increase, are listed below.</p> <p>1. Part of the current requests by Avista are essentially the same the UTC investigated and ruled on as filed under Avista's requests in UE-150204 and UG-150205. The Commission's order in these cases was dated January 6, 2016, less than two months ago! The Commission's January 2016, ruling was but one of many past repeat requests made by Avista for additional rate increases in staccato fashion. These repetitive and child-like actions on the part of Avista are clearly designed to wear down both the Commission and the public so that Avista gets what it wants. The review and analysis of these repetitive, rapid-fire filings by Avista should not come at the cost of the rate-paying public or the WA public at large, but should be borne by Avista out of its operating profits.</p>

2. Avista is requesting a rate increase, in part, to cover damages to Avista's distribution system which occurred during the November 17, 2015, windstorm in Spokane. Undoubtedly, there was significant damage to Avista's distribution system as a result of the storm. Many of my neighbors had damage to their homes as a result of this event as well. My neighbors (and I), however; understand that natural catastrophes can happen at any time and my neighbors and I guard against such damage by paying for home insurance. If Avista has not protected itself from catastrophic damage due to natural events, the cost of repairs for such damage should never be allowed to be passed on to the ratepayer. This is simply a poor business practice by Avista and the rate-paying public should not be responsible for a cost Avista failed to plan for.

3. Avista continues to request that the UTC allow them to pass the costs of repairing and replacing the Company's aging and deteriorating natural gas and electric distribution infrastructure directly to the rate-payer. I remember what I learned in Accounting 101, which was that a company should put aside funds to replace capital equipment as it was depreciated through its useful life. Avista, evidently, did not attend class that day and now wants the UTC to give them hundreds of thousands of dollars of rate-payer funds to cover their lack of planning. I ask that you take whatever steps you may to prevent Avista from collecting these funds from the rate-paying public and compel Avista to become responsible and plan for capital equipment replacement. Clearly, the rate-paying public will bear some of this cost as Avista passes on its expenses to the rate-payer. However; Avista should be required to contribute to this replacement by diverting profits from their operations to help cover these costs.

I appreciate you taking the time to review my concerns. I am forced to spend considerable time answering Avista's many and repeated requests for what the UTC has just ruled on. I would like to see some sanity applied to how many times Avista can ask for the same thing and how often they can make that request after the request has just been reviewed and the Commission ruling made. My time and the time of the UTC Commissioners and staff can definitely be better spent and I am certain that the tax dollars of WA residents can be put to better use.

Thank you.

Robert K Flowers
618 E 18th Ave

Spokane, WA 99203

Second Comment received via email 8/25/16, 4:34 pm

Dear Commissioners:

These comments, originally submitted to the UTC on 02 March 2016. HAVE BEEN UPDATED. Please consider my revised comments below.

On 8/17/2016, UTC staff recommended a partial approval of Avista's requested rate increases. "Commission staff determined Avista should increase electric and natural gas revenues during 2017, but only by \$25.6 million, or 5.1 percent for electric service and \$700,000, or 0.8 percent, for natural gas service. Staff's recommendation did not include an additional rate increase for the first six months of 2018 as proposed in the company's original request." Please bear in mind that over this period, inflationary increases in the United States were low, only registering in at approximately 1.5% (Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPI Detailed Report Data for January 2016) and, so, Avista should be held to a similar increase to cover inflationary cost increases for their operations.

In addition, "Commission staff recommend that Avista be allowed the opportunity to earn a 7.3 percent overall rate of return, not the 7.64 percent the company requested." I would be very happy to receive half of this recommendation in overall return from my savings (currently hovering at about 0.05%) and so, I believe Avista should be held to a similar standard regarding this inflated recommendation for the company's overall profit.

My original comments, listed below, remain in full force and effect.

02 March 2016 Comments:

1. Part of the current requests by Avista are essentially the same the UTC investigated and ruled on as filed under Avista's requests in UE-150204 and UG-150205. The Commission's order in these cases was dated January 6, 2016, less than two months ago! The Commission's January 2016, ruling was but one of many past repeat requests made by Avista for additional rate increases in staccato fashion. These repetitive and child-like actions on the part of Avista are clearly

designed to wear down both the Commission and the public so that Avista gets what it wants. The review and analysis of these repetitive, rapid-fire filings by Avista should not come at the cost of the rate-paying public or the WA public at large, but should be borne by Avista out of its operating profits.

2. Avista is requesting a rate increase, in part, to cover damages to Avista's distribution system which occurred during the November 17, 2015, windstorm in Spokane. Undoubtedly, there was significant damage to Avista's distribution system as a result of the storm. Many of my neighbors had damage to their homes as a result of this event as well. My neighbors (and I), however; understand that natural catastrophes can happen at any time and my neighbors and I guard against such damage by paying for home insurance. If Avista has not protected itself from catastrophic damage due to natural events, the cost of repairs for such damage should never be allowed to be passed on to the ratepayer. This is simply a poor business practice by Avista and the rate-paying public should not be responsible for a cost Avista failed to plan for.

3. Avista continues to request that the UTC allow them to pass the costs of repairing and replacing the Company's aging and deteriorating natural gas and electric distribution infrastructure directly to the rate-payer. I remember what I learned in Accounting 101, which was that a company should put aside funds to replace capital equipment as it was depreciated through its useful life. Avista, evidently, did not attend class that day and now wants the UTC to give them hundreds of thousands of dollars of rate-payer funds to cover their lack of planning. I ask that you take whatever steps you may to prevent Avista from collecting these funds from the rate-paying public and compel Avista to become responsible and plan for capital equipment replacement. Clearly, the rate-paying public will bear some of this cost as Avista passes on its expenses to the rate-payer. However; Avista should be required to contribute to this replacement by diverting profits from their operations to help cover these costs.

I appreciate you taking the time to review my concerns. I am forced to spend considerable time answering Avista's many and repeated requests for what the UTC has just ruled on. I would like to see some sanity applied to how many times Avista can ask for the same thing and how often they can make that request after the request has just been reviewed and the Commission ruling made. My time and the time of the UTC Commissioners and staff can definitely be better spent and I am certain that the tax dollars of WA residents can be put to better use.

			<p>Thank you.</p> <p>Robert K Flowers 618 E 18th Ave Spokane, WA 99203</p> <p>***SEE ATTACHMENT - letter received 9/7/16*** ***Correspondence with this customer exceeded the 10,000 character limit for this filed. Please see the attached word document "160228AdditionalCommentsFlowers" for further correspondence.***</p>
	Nancy E Dockter	Web	<p>Avista Rate Increase is so far out of line. There are people in our neighborhood(including this household) who can not afford this Rate Increase. This last storm is being used as an excuse to allow the proposed increase. We Say No.
Thank you for listening.
Nancy & Cliff Dockter</p>
	William McElroy	Web	<p>Not in favor of raising the rate when Avista's upper managements not doing their jobs. Does not agree to raising rates is to cover wind storm. Still paying for CEO that quite. Why should customers pay for Avista employees pay raises?</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Allen Tuckness	Web	<p>"I've received information from Avista that my rates will go up yet again. I'd like to make an appeal to those who will be approving this rate request to please deny this request.

While the information from Avista is confusing from an end-user's standpoint, to say the least, an analysis has been done to determine the percentage of the rate increase for an average person in my neighborhood. This analysis shows that the rate increase from 2015-2016 was 4.61% and from 2016-2017 will be 5.37% and from 2017-2018 2.19% (that's an increase in 3 years of 12.17%!!!!) This increase will put a hardship on those in my community. Many are currently having a hard time making ends meet, especially those on fixed incomes. And there's not much of a chance the average household will see a 12.17% increase in their salary in 3 years!

In addition, Avista's rate request makes mention of "to help recover costs that enable us to provide the safe, efficient and reliable energy you expect." While last year's storm was monumental, most people in our community are working hard within their means to recover & replace roofs, cars & fences, etc. WITHOUT additional funding so their property tax won't increase. We ask that Avista do the same. All budgets should plan for these types of occurrences. Also, another reason Avista is requesting astronomical rate hikes is because they want to roll out "Smart Meters" to everyone. Our economy isn't ready for this!!! Our jobs aren't increasing at this rate at this time to be able to pay for this, so Avista shouldn't ask for us to pay for them. In addition, Avista has an important responsibility to educate us BEFORE installing them. There is much research out there showing the health dangers of "Smart Meters" (or AMI, Advanced Meter Infrastructure as they like to call it).

Please help our household & our neighbor's households be able to pay for things like groceries & healthcare, which we're currently having a hard time affording due to those rate increases. Avista has the ability to make ends meet. We're not ready for "Smart Meters"! And please help Avista do a better job in the future of informing the public in a way that makes COMMON SENSE to all! Without this, we don't have the ability to come together & appeal to those who approve of their huge rate hikes (YOU).

Thanks for your time & consideration.</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Bret Whitesides	Web	These annual request for raising our prices are outdistancing our ability to pay. For the past 3 years we have experienced increases of 10% or more on our power bills. We need a reprieve from the increases to be able to allow our income to catch back up. Thank you for your consideration.
	Steffanie Shaw	Web	<p>Avista continually seeks raises in operating costs, with no regard to city wages are not also rising. The last raise that took effect in January made it so I had to seek energy assistance, I am barely able to pay the bills now. If another raise goes into effect I am not sure what I will do for my family. I also think the the consumer should not pay for storm damage to lines. I can't ask the neighbors to chip in a buck a piece to cover the damage to my property - that is why I have insurance. Avista is asking us to pay for upgrades to their infastructure as well - how many companies ask for you to pay an increase when they want to upgrade their computer systems? All these increase requests while they are posting a profit. It is unfair to the consumer to keep paying higher electric and gas costs, some like myself struggling to do so, while their business is booming.</p> <p>***SEE ATTACHMENT - new comment received 9/8/16***</p>
	Elizabeth Dursh	Mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT - Customer comment***
	Dean A. Curtis	Web	I have both a \$8 basic charge on my home and \$18 basic charge on my shop. I can't afford a increase. I live on a fixed income and don't know what I will do if rates keep going up every year. There has to be a limit or cap.

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Laura Crafton	Web	<p>Hello,
 In regards to the rate increase(s) being requested by Avista filed 2/19/2016, I would like to comment. I disagree with this proposed rate increase. I have asthma, allergies and obstructive sleep apnea. I have to use a humidifier, air conditioning, an air purifier and a CPAP machine. All of these things already increase my electric bill enough without a rate increase.
 Also, I work at home as many people do. Therefore, I believe a rate increase compromises my livelihood.
 Finally, it seems like Avista is constantly asking for and receiving rate increases to the point where many poor people can't even afford to pay their power bill and power is a necessity. People are suffering without heat, air conditioning or ways to cook meals due to very high power rates already. We don't need a rate increase to make it worse.
Thank you,
Laura Crafton</p>
	Gail Baldrige	E-mail	<p>On the subject of the Avista rate increase proposal: percentage wise, I think this needs to be scaled way back. Yes, they do a great job for us, but.....</p> <p>1) This is EASTERN Washington, not the Seattle side. The percentages asked for are probably around 3 times the amount the average middle class person would get for a raise on the job. If any.</p> <p>2) For retirees there hasn't been a Social Security COLA adjustment since 2014, and it appears there won't be one in 2017 either.</p> <p>Maybe they should strongly consider reducing high budget salaries (and perks) for their high budget executives to level out the playing field a bit instead of taking it from people who would struggle even more with this increase.</p> <p>Please get really, really serious when you review this request!</p> <p>Gail Baldrige, Retiree Spokane Valley, WA</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Cheryl Lytle	Web	<p>I appreciate your time to read my comment about the rate increase for Avista Utilities. I am unfortunate enough to be one of their many customers who has endured at most yearly rate increases. I, like many other residence of Washington State, live on Social Security. The constant living expense increase is a burden for many citizens, not only for Senior citizens, but for the Vets, and families. The hourly wage in Washington is not sufficient to cover all living expenses, and many people fall through the cracks who don't qualify for assistance, but still can't make ends meet.
Consider the wage of the Avista Management to the wage of a single mom or dad, or single senior, or Vet, or college student out on his own. We can't make ends meet.
I already keep my heat down to 60 degrees in the winter, I don't use air conditioning, I turn off my lights when I don't use them, but my bill is still ridiculous. There is nothing more that I can do to reduce my bill, especially when there is a yearly increase.
I also find this increase bias towards those who have access to gas. I don't have that option. I live in Spokane, but in an area that is in the county. It is not fair to charge me more for having to use electricity and not have the choice of gas.
I hope that the Attorney General and Commissioners will understand that this increase does not benefit the general population. We need to have choices of other companies, co-ops and services and get away from monopolies.

Thank you for reading my comment.

Cheryl Lytle</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Charles E Mixey	E-mail	<p>I received a notice from AVISTA stating they are requesting an overall 7.6% increase in their electric rates !</p> <p>How can they justify this ? Interest rates remain at all-time lows and we seniors do not get any pay raises, unlike what our government officials get.</p> <p>Let them cut some of their bureaucracy and trim some of the fat from their operations and learn to live with what they have for now, like the rest of us.</p> <p>They also want to raise the basic rate from \$8.50 to \$9.50, That just to have a power line go by my property even if I don't use any electricity. Ridiculous !!</p> <p>I STRONGLY request that you deny all AVISTA rate requests this year.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>CHARLES E MIXEY 5847 Fruitland Valley Rd Fruitland, WA 99129</p>
	Rebecca Madany	E-mail	<p>Avista has not passed on the savings due to lower natural gas prices to its customers. They should use these savings to offset the rate increase. I suspect they are using it to pay their executives even more. Until they lower their compensation packages for their top executives, they should not be asking for rate increases.</p> <p>Rebecca Madany</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor: 0****Opposed: 65****Undecided: 2**

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Claudia Mclean	E-mail	I am not interested in avista rate increase. I have been ask over and over to lower our usage of powerwe have tried to be good customers. Now that we have been here for the past 14 years we have had several cost rate increases. we have supported in the past rate increases..... but we need to the power company to trim the company expences. we have had to make changes in our farm budget to make our ends meet.....please do not let this increase pass.....they have not even said what they plan is may be we will have to go to alternative energyas a farm we have to do more for less.....so we do not need the added increase.....Claudia Mclean Fruitland, Washington
	Phyllis and Loyde Brady	Mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT - customer comments***
	Geri Konen	Mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT - customer comment***
	Craig Keen Sr.	Phone	The customer left a message stating that he was concerned about the proposed electric and natural gas increases, especially since he had received a notice informing him that natural gas rates would be decreasing. The customer also expressed concern that it seemed to him that every time Avista requested a rate increase the company got something.
	Carole Gauche	Web	It seems like every 6 months your are asking for an rate increase on gas and electricity. Enough is enough. Energy prices have been down and stayed down for quite some time. We are doing our best to conserve and you keep raising rates so your stock holders can keep getting their bonus at the end of the year. It is time for you to conserve.....
	Tommy Walen	Mail	***SEE ATTACHED - Customer comment***
	Celina Thomas	Mail	***SEE ATTAHCHEd letter for customer comments***

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Dave Schumaker	Phone	<p>***Customer left voicemail comment***</p> <p>Customer stated that he was calling about the requested 8.2 percent Avista rate increase. Customer stated that he is always against rate increases and that the company should be paying for its new equipment with new customers. Customer states that the company keeps getting rate increases but his wages have not been going up. Customer left a phone number but requested that we do not call him back.</p>
	Darrin T. Sligar	E-mail	<p>I must protest the proposed Avista rate hikes coming up and all future rate hikes. This company should be shut down and turned into a cooperative. We already pay twice the rates of Inland Power. This should be illegal without showing a financial statement detailing every dime they receive and what exactly it is spent on. Then that budget should be public information for all to read, review and make suggestions on how to reduce these costs instead of the constant stream of rate hikes. This is a public utility that we built with our money and was turned over to a private for profit corporation with the sole purpose of making profits to pay exorbitant executive salaries and wasted money that does not benefit the public that use it and they are a monopoly.</p> <p>It is time to change this arrangement as these leaches are bleeding us dry and they will, by corporate law, never stop. Take this utility public once again and get rid of the corruption that is Avista. We are awake now and we know what you are doing to us. Avista is a blight on every recipient of their services, and they will never be able to do as well as they could on their own without strict public review of the costs of this public service they have commandeered. They are a corporation, not a service. Therefore they are driven primarily by higher and higher profits. They cannot serve and do not deserve to manage our public utility and should be abolished immediately as is apparent by the steady and sure constant increases in the rates they produce over the last 30 years.</p> <p>Avista is a farce and we are done. We WANT CHANGE NOW! Fire Avista and reinstate our rights to manage our resources and get corporations out of our government which was established to serve us, not rape us.</p>

If you wish me to approve these rate hikes, I want to see a complete accounting of every penny we are already paying these bandits. I will then provide many scenario's whereby we can reduce the rates instead of the constant procession of increases. I am possitive this would only take 5 minutes of reading these numbers to do so.

Darrin T. Sligar
Spokane, WA.

P.S. And to our representatives who keep passing these rediculous constant rate hikes, WE ARE WATCHING YOU.

email Customer >> Andrew Roberts 8/26/16, 6:18 PM

Hi Andrew,

My question and comments still stand. These public documents are rigged and you know it. Otherwise they would be on the website for all to see w/o any request forms or other mechanism to access. We know these people fund the campaigns, our representatives and judges should the need arise. And they get all that money from us for our power that belongs to we the people. It was a huge, absolutely devastating decision to take the public utilities private. There should be no profits made from resources that we the taxpayers already dreamed up, designed, built and paid for. It is just another version of the private money bank the Federal reserve that charges us and controls the flow of the money we use to run our budget in this country since 1913. We pay these assholes to print our money, control the amount of it we have and collect a fee for the interest on that money we pay for and own so they can make profits and create banking crisis' at will. Wake up.

How much does the CEO of Avista make? How about the chief financial officer. Their only purpose is to make profits off of something I have already paid for in full. These rates sure as hell are not all for the maintenance of the grid we Americans built through the 20th century at tax payer expense are they. They are leaches that, like banks, big ag, virtually all of our commodities and resources are stealing from us and not having to pay a dime and then they turn around and use those profits to buy our senators, presidents, representatives and even judges if need be so they can control every aspect of your life and you don't even know it.

When will we draw the line, when we are all micro-chipped? Why do we have no new electric grid or batteries in over 100 years, and how about all of our children we have sent off to die to protect

			<p>their oil and stop any development of renewables. You know we have had electric vehicles for over 70 years but you can't buy one. You won't be able to buy one until they have extracted every cent they can for the last drop of oil.</p> <p>Big ag has virtually killed 550 million acres of our prime farm land with their antibiotic, boiler scouring pesticide glyphosate. Did you know that with out all that fertilizer, made from oil, and glyphosate. none of those corn or soybean crops would even germinate. WAKE UP and please do not spew your bullshit on me because I and we know better.</p> <p>Read a book or a newspaper and quit getting your information from that worthless boob tube, also owned lock stock and barrel by the Rothschilds and friends, or we are all, and I mean every man, woman, child, animal, bacteria and plant are all going die the same death, slowly.</p> <p>Darrin.</p>
	Troy Dilley	Web	<p>User submitted via the web on 02/29/2016 06:10:00 PM</p> <p>Please explain your complaint in detail.</p> <p>Why is avista keep raising there rates it's getting really bad they are raising there rates every 6 months modern electric in Spokane valley which we live in does not do it like avista does we are low income they want another rate increase because of the wind storm we had here about 2 months ago please tell avista no enough is enough also there is a lot of families who cannot afford avista to keep doing this</p> <p>Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company?</p> <p>No</p> <p>What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint?</p> <p>Do not raise there rates</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Jerry Bishop	Web	<p>User submitted via the web on 03/10/2016 06:45:00 AM Please explain your complaint in detail. Avista raises its rates every year. Scott Morris, avista CEO says they have increased investor dividends every year for 14 years. Last quarter dividends were up by 3.8%. Avista claims they need to raise our prices again this year by x2. It will be negotiated down to x as always. Their news releases claim the increase is necessary due to storm damage costs and the need for infrastructure improvements. They don't mention the yearly dividend increases, they don't mention the millions of dollars in bonuses the executives receive. If I lived across the street from my house I would not be an avista customer and my utility bill would be 1/3 less than it is. I would buy a generator with the savings in order to stay warm. Infrastructure improvements? B.S., my neighbors should be having power outages not me, I pay for a premium service, I should get what I pay for.</p> <p>Did you speak to a supervisor from your utility or transportation company? Yes</p> <p>If 'Yes', what was the result? They sent me emails that described why their costs have to go up, infrastructure improvements etch., no mention of 14 years of increased investor dividends.</p> <p>What do you think the company should do to resolve your complaint? They should lower their prices. The power of their monopoly should be diluted. They should give their monopoly victims a cut of the investor pie. They should cut the BS and just be honest in their press releases about why they keep increasing their prices (even during the recession). Increases pay bigger dividends, and bigger dividends mean bigger executive bonuses.</p>
	Evelyn Creager	Web	<p>CUSTOMER DOES NOT HAVE INTERNET TRANSCRIBED HER REQUEST 4/26/2016 at 10*45 AM. Objects to Avista rate increase of 9.00 per month in her case, is single and use minimal amount of electricity and gas.</p>

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Sharlene Bozanich	Web	For the last several years I have been on comfort billing and no matter how many cost saving things I do, i.e. light bulbs, purchasing wood for more wood fires, it doesn't make any difference. Avista just keeps raising the cost. I'm retired and on fixed income. How can you support these rate increases when the CEO keeps getting outrageous bonuses and the investors are making money when everyone else's investments are going down. Avista always uses some calamity, ice storm, wind storm to justify raising rates, but what about the years that are very mild and no catastrophes. Why don't they put money aside in these good years to pay for disastrous years, instead of putting profits into extreme bonuses and dividends? I hope you take this into account before you approve another increase for Avista so that they can all make more money. Thanks,
	John	Web	I have carefully reviewed Avista's residential electrical rate increase proposal and have concerns. When compared with other utilities in eastern Washington (specifically Tri-Cities) Avista's rates per kWhrs are much higher. For example, current consumption of 2 MegWatt/month plus the base rates is approx. 20% higher for Avista than it is in the Tri-Cities. Plus Avista is a producer of hydro electricity and therefore should be in a better position than other utilities that are not producers to control costs. I believe the proposed rate increases for Avista are unwarranted and cannot be justified. Besides residential, Avista's other service schedules are among the highest in the State of Washington.
	Dan Griffith	Mail	See attached note for copy of customer letter. ***SEE ATTACHMENT - 9-2-16 response to public comment hearing notification***
	Jacob Reynolds	E-mail	I do not approve of the avistas proposal to increase customer bills
	Karin Morris	E-mail	June 14, 2016 via Email, comments@utc.wa.gov

Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Avista Utilities proposed increase, Docket #s UG-160229 & UE-160228 - 2016

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to you to express my opinion against approval of another Avista proposed rate increase. Is it really warranted and absolutely necessary? I don't feel so.

Once again, I do not believe the public has been given enough information to make a comment on this issue; I rely on the newspaper to give me information on the current docket numbers. I have attached a flyer that I received in my current bill for your reference, showing NO docket numbers to be referenced in correspondence.

Sincerely,

Karin Morris
1615 N. Center Road
Spokane Valley, WA 99212

Attachment

email Customer >> Andrew Roberts 8/26/16, 6:55 AM

Thank you, Andrew. I read in our newspaper recently that there weren't too many comments on this rate increase. I really don't think there is enough media/press releases given to the public in order to make comments. Any efforts to improve the communication process would be greatly appreciated. Many people in Spokane live on limited budgets and rate increases every six months severely impacts their budgets.

Karin

Total Comments: 67**In Favor:** 0**Opposed:** 65**Undecided:** 2

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
Undecided			
	Don Barden	Web	I read in today's Spokesman Review that Avista plans to request a rate hike, in part because of the costs associated with repairing the damage from the November 17 windstorm in the Spokane area. I did not read in the article that the shareholders were going to take a hit. As a regulated utility, I understand that profits are limited. However, as a private corporation with a monopoly on a critical utility (electricity), I assume that shareholders still assume a risk, and that their profits are not guaranteed at the expense of the captive customers who suffer when their electricity is cut off by storm damage. It seems fair that the shareholders should shoulder part of the costs. If shareholders want a guaranteed dividend, they should put their money in a federally insured bank.
	Bruce Lockert	Web	My monthly electric billings, on a evened-out "comfort billing" for even monthly billings for family budgeting purposes. My monthly billing was \$115 per month, increased to \$141 per month, a \$26 dollar a month increase. I presume that Sander's presidential issue of citizens being paid \$15 per month, is having early price increases to cover something that has not become a reality. That if all homes have a \$26 per month increase, and there is no infrastructure investment changes, that maybe there will be another electric CEO who will part employment, like the jerk hired by Washington Water Power did, getting paid a golden parachute bailout (I feel was intentional) to change the company name from Washington Water Power to Avista, as his only thingy to do, and then go. I feel that he was one of the "right corporate people" as his only selection criteria, for qualifications. But that is in the past, and yes, his other accomplishment was to raise rates, too, through the WTUC, and that has been done. But if there are no real infrastructure improvements, that I feel that the increase of \$26 per month or \$312 per year, what are we getting for the increase, where the WUTC is supposed to be watching out for the WA State Citizens' collective best interests. I feel that the increase as a "jump", is not warranted; however, increasing the cost of home electricity, is going to have affects at shopping for family groceries, and everything else too, because other businesses are not wanting to be left behind in the round of price increases ... and what is left of family budgets, where family incomes have not increased. Maybe Seattle, WA has a city increase, but not King County wide. Seattle also has a very high

cost of living, as well, something that is not yet in Spokane or Spokane County. That Seattle considers Spokane to be the state capital of retarded citizens, as well, because Spokane wages are way less than what is paid in Seattle, before their recent increase. And yes, we in Spokane have to budget like hell, just to have a roof over our heads, and food to eat. It seems that tourists do all of the out door sports and stuff, more than locals do because of the financial differentials. And as such, with this in consideration, those who are the consumers of Avista, not getting any real infrastructure updates to our homes which has stayed the same for a very, very, very long time, what is really in it for us in exchange for the cost increases? Spokane as well as others affected by energy on the National Electric Grid, were negatively affected by ENRON, and real retroactive getting your money back, was not done. It showed that if Ken Lay died, that he got to keep his illgot money; however, Skilling lived, and still has too much of it still, but some got taken away from him, mostly in lawyer fees. Government gives licenses to businesses, with understanding that they can conduct business in WA State and nationally too, where they hire workers, pay workers, and collectively all pay taxes, and make the industry of that business be of good value ... but government is not really effective at regul ating businesses than businesses are at invading government and putting their boys into political office, and then the problems begin. It is in the news media for a long time, and especially in our SHUTDOWN CONGRESS, not doing their jobs correctly, and honestly with full fiduciary duty, with good faith, using common sense. And without incomes significantly increasing, that the cost of living should remain the same ... especially when in the past we have paid for electric costs, and those infrastructures for distributing electricity remain the same, and can be considered as already paid, where only newer housing building, would come under new infrastructure additions. And I do not feel that the price increase really has much merit, because basically, Avista does put their surplus electricity onto he National Electric Grid.
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The rieval sin of politics is its failure to honestly discuss human over population. That more people, more pollution. More people, more wants for distribution. More people, costs rise, and people go without. That human people over population government policies need to change to bring people pupulation under government control, where the citizens can basically overall agree to some sort of policy that everyone will comply with. Don Juan needs to be gelded, preventing the bastard from becoming a dead beat daddy. And if people want babies so much, just like a new car, a this or that that they get but must pay taxes with it, why not babies too, coming with taxes as part of the policy to regulate human population down to where bamilies can budget better, and that kidsss become loved and wanted, versus just people pollution. The WUTC can bring this human over population issues, as a issue to be discussed, and maybe it will get shoved into the WA State Legislature to have to deal with too. Why should we

wait until asphalt or concrete covers every square inch of farm lands, to act??? ... to do the right things!!! Congress says: bad, bad, bad single mom with kids, but nothing about the Don Juan pecker who knocked her up ... nor about making him into a husband, father, head of house income earner, who has a functional family and is in good community standing in the state and nation. Why is it bad, bad, bad single mom with kids, when it still takes two to make a babies? That Global Warming has happened before, and good evidence now is better understood and explained. That discussing this issue is screwed up by college educated lawyers who also went to law school, and that they cannot and will not talk honestly in an elected political role in WA State Legislature or in Congress. Will Rogers said: "If you want honest laws, then remove all lawyers from law making bodies." He also said: "You do not have to go to law school to be honest." The second quote is most damaging to lawyers, simply because of what they really are!!! ... inside! They just ain't altruistic, at all!!! Lawyers can make stolen money into honest earned lawyer fees, but for the rest of us, it is being in possession of stolen money. They can also become an accessory to their client's crime, knowingly getting a perpetrating criminal, off the hook ... in the book, A TALE OF TWO CITIES, the rotten lawyer put his own butt on the hook, to get his client off the hook, and perhaps in America, this is what lawyers should do, and by attrition, the over population of rotten lawyers can be brought under control ... because there actually is a need for honest lawyers, but the word honest means just that. And for the rest of us citizens too, that we too need to be just as honest in all that we do. Until society can be better, it will have all kinds of troubles caused by others, inflicting what they do, against others. But it has to start somewhere, and this is where government functions need to take leadership in bringing greed and other nasty things like the biggest lie told to the IRS, called GAAP Accounting, brought under control. Maybe, the IRS should be tasked with creating all individual and business, and even for government itself, budgets that they must live by, to stop bankruptcy, and living within our own incomes. And have individuals and businesses honestly pay taxes, too, to insure that government functions, can be run smoothly. And bringing human population under government management, but people control, will be a necessary thing to get accomplished and implemented by society. And gelding is not a vasectomy, and has a tendency to cause a better, more cooperative nature to critters. Maybe some of our criminals and rebels, can rejoin society, this way ... but by their actions, they choose which way.
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In the mean time, I could use the cost increase, in helping my extended family members, where businesses have gone to other states, or China, I am helping them