

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a
AVISTA UTILITIES,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-200900, UG-200901,
UE-200894 (*Consolidated*)

ORDER 05 / 02

GRANTING MOTION FOR LEAVE

In the Matter of the Petition of

AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a
AVISTA UTILITIES,

For an Accounting Order Authorizing
Accounting and Ratemaking Treatment
of Costs Associated with the Company's
Wildfire Resiliency Plan

BACKGROUND

- 1 On October 30, 2020, Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities, (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective electric and natural gas service tariffs, Tariffs WN U-28 and WN U-29, in Dockets UE-200900 and UG-200901 that are designed to effect a general rate increase for its electric and natural gas services (general rate case, or GRC), and also an accounting petition in Docket UE-200894 for costs associated with its wildfire resiliency plan (Petition). On December 23, 2020, the Commission entered Order 04/01, consolidating the three dockets.

- 2 Avista filed with the Commission a Motion for Leave to File Revised Exhibits on Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) on March 5, 2021, as amended by Avista's amended motion on March 10, 2021 (Motion).

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 3 Avista's Motion requests that the Commission permit the Company to revise testimony and exhibits for witnesses Vermillion, Rosentrater, DeLuciano, and Andrews. The revised testimony and exhibits pertain to the cost recovery associated with Avista's AMI program. No party opposes Avista's Motion.

- 4 In its Motion, Avista describes the reason for its request:

Avista has become aware of the need to update and revise the foregoing exhibits to reflect more recent information and to correct for certain errors, to make sure that the Commission has the best information available to it when making its AMI cost-recovery determination. The corrections or updates serve to primarily impact the calculation of net benefits associated with the AMI project (increasing net benefits from \$50.3 million to \$56.3 million, over the life of the project). As it relates to changes in the Company's overall revenue requirement, Avista's electric request decreases by approximately \$0.5 million, and natural gas decreases by \$0.3 million.¹

- 5 Avista argues that the case is still in an early stage of discovery and that no material harm will result to the parties from granting its Motion.² We agree. No party opposes Avista's Motion, and we find good cause to allow Avista to revise the testimonies and exhibits pertaining to AMI as requested. Accordingly, the Commission determines that Avista's Motion should be granted.

¹ Motion at 1-2, ¶ 3.

² See Motion at 4-5, ¶ 7.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 6 Avista Corporation's, d/b/a Avista Utilities, motion for leave to file revised exhibits on AMI, as amended, is GRANTED.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective March 16, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ Andrew J. O'Connell
ANDREW J. O'CONNELL
Administrative Law Judge