

**Avista Corp.**  
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February 1, 2008

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

RE: Docket No. UG-060518 (Avista Response to Public Counsel's Letter of  
January 31, 2008 Regarding Decoupling)

Dear Ms. Washburn:

This is in response to Public Counsel's letter dated January 31, 2008, regarding the need for settling parties in the above-referenced docket to file a draft evaluation plan for the Avista's decoupling pilot program prior to December 31, 2007.

The Company understands the importance of an evaluation plan for the Decoupling Mechanism, especially as it concerns any request to continue or modify the mechanism at the end of the pilot term in mid-2009. The Company has been working to create a "draft" of an evaluation plan for discussion purposes at the collaborative to be held with all interested parties, as soon as schedules will permit. To that end, Staff has already offered some preliminary comments on a discussion draft. (Mr. Hirschorn, from the Company, will be contacting all parties in the next several days to arrange for such a meeting.) In the meantime, the Company apologizes for the delay, and will redouble its efforts to arrive at a draft evaluation plan satisfactory to all parties.

The Company, within thirty (30) days, will either file a copy of the final evaluation plan or a progress report concerning the status of the plan.

If you have any further questions regarding this issue, please direct them to Brian Hirschorn at 509-495-4723.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Gervais".

Linda Gervais  
Senior Regulatory Analyst  
State and Federal Regulation  
509-495-4975  
[linda.gervais@avistacorp.com](mailto:linda.gervais@avistacorp.com)

cc: Service List in Docket No. UG-060518

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that I have this day served Avista Utilities', a division of Avista Corp, Proposed Natural Gas Decoupling Rate Adjustment, upon the parties listed below by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid and by electronic mail or CD.

Nancy Hirsh  
The Northwest Energy Coalition  
219 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, Suite 100  
Seattle, WA 98104

Ms. Paula Pyron  
Executive Director  
Northwest Industrial Gas Users  
4113 Wolfberry Court  
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Simon ffitch  
Office of the Attorney General  
Public Counsel Section  
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Doug Kilpatrick  
Washington Utilities & Trans. Comm.  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Spokane, Washington this 1st day of February 2008.



Linda Gervais  
Senior Regulatory Analyst