

March 15, 2004

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND
(by Monday, March 22 and Friday, March 26, 2004)**

Re: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Avista
Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities, Docket No. UG-021584

TO ALL PARTIES:

On March 15, 2004, Avista made a compliance filing as required by the Commission's Sixth Supplemental Order in this case. In the compliance filing, Avista proposes that the Benchmark Mechanism Tariff No. 163 be extended until April 30, 2004, when it will be allowed to expire. Avista also proposes that the company will move the mechanism functions back to Avista Utilities from Avista Energy over the period May 1, 2004 until March 31, 2005.

Avista indicates that it circulated the compliance proposal to the parties, but does not state whether the parties agree with the proposal.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that Commission Staff and Public Counsel may respond to the proposal on or before Monday, March 22, 2004. They may file their responses electronically with hard copies to follow. Avista may reply on Friday, March 26, 2004 by noon. Avista may file its reply electronically with hard copy to follow. All parties should provide courtesy electronic service to each other of their responses and replies.

Sincerely,

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law judge