

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a
AVISTA UTILITIES,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-260007 and
UG-240008 (*Consolidated*)

ORDER 01

COMPLAINT AND ORDER
SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS;
ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 16, 2026, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions in Docket UE-260007 to its currently effective electric service tariff, Tariff WN U-28, and in Docket UG-260008 to its natural gas service tariff, Tariff WN U-29, as listed in the appendix attached to this Order. The purpose of these filings is to increase rates and charges for electric and natural gas service provided to customers in the state of Washington.
- 2 In this filing, Avista proposes a Four-Year Rate Plan, which would begin with new base rates effective January 1, 2027 (Rate Year 1), January 1, 2028 (Rate Year 2), January 1, 2029 (Rate Year 3), and January 1, 2030 (Rate Year 4).
- 3 Avista proposes electric and natural gas rate increases based on a proposed rate of return of 7.50 percent (with 48.5 percent equity and a 10.20 percent return on equity for Rate Years 1 and 2). Avista further proposes electric and natural gas rate increases based on a proposed rate of return of 7.67 percent (with 48.5 percent equity and a 10.50 percent return on equity for Rate Years 3 and 4).
- 4 For Rate Year 1, Avista proposes an increase to electric base revenue of \$111.046 million, or 16.5 percent, and an overall increase to natural gas base revenue of \$12.434 million, or 8.9 percent. For Rate Year 2, Avista proposes an increase to electric base revenue of \$42.470 million, or 5.4 percent, and an overall increase to natural gas base revenue of \$6.503 million, or 4.3 percent. For Rate Year 3, Avista proposes an

increase to electric base revenue of \$33.464 million, or 4.1 percent, and an overall increase to natural gas base revenue of \$5.928 million, or 3.7 percent. For Rate Year 4, Avista proposes an increase to electric base revenue of \$27.915 million, or 3.3 percent, and an overall increase to natural gas base revenue of \$3.114 million, or 1.9 percent.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 5 The Commission may, in its discretion, consolidate two or more proceedings in which the facts or principles of law are related. Here, the matters in the two dockets appear to involve related facts and principles of law. It is therefore appropriate that they be consolidated for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.
- 6 Avista's requested rate increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public, and Avista has not demonstrated that the increases would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. In addition, Avista has requested that the Commission "immediately suspend the operation of the general tariff revisions" proposed by the Company and set the matter for hearing.¹ The Commission, therefore, suspends the tariff filings and will hold public hearings, if necessary, to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property, and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric and natural gas companies.
- 8 (2) Avista is an electric and natural gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 9 (3) The Commission may consolidate proceedings that involve related facts and principles of law.
- 10 (4) The matters in Dockets UE-260007 and UG-260008 involve related facts and principles of law, and the dockets should, therefore, be consolidated for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.

¹ Avista Cover Letter dated January 16, 2026, at 2 (emphasis from original).

- 11 (5) The tariff revisions Avista filed on January 16, 2026, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Avista and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 12 (6) Avista has requested that the Commission suspend the tariff revisions and set the matters for hearing.
- 13 (7) Avista has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 14 (8) Avista's rates and charges for electric or natural gas services shown on any tariffs that Avista does not propose to revise may also be investigated to determine if they are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 15 (9) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission finds it is necessary to investigate Avista's books, accounts, practices, and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Avista's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Avista's operations.
- 16 (10) The Commission finds that this docket meets the criteria of WAC 480-07-400(2)(b)(i) and that the parties may conduct discovery pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 17 (11) As required by RCW 80.04.130(4), Avista bears the burden to prove that the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 18 (12) Avista may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation, consistent with Chapter 80.20 RCW.

ORDER

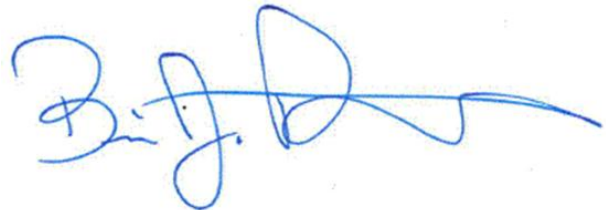
THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 19 (1) Dockets UE-260007 and UG-260008 are consolidated for hearing and determination under WAC 480-07-320.
- 20 (2) The tariff revisions Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities filed on January 16, 2026, are suspended.

- 21 (3) The Commission shall hold hearings at such times and places as may be required. Such hearings may also examine Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities' rates and charges for electric or natural gas service shown on any tariffs that Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities does not propose to revise.
- 22 (4) Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities shall not change or alter the tariffs filed in these dockets during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 23 (5) The Commission shall institute an investigation of Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities' books, accounts, practices, activities, property, and operations as described above.
- 24 (6) Discovery shall be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 25 (7) Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation, consistent with Chapter 80.20 RCW.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective February 2, 2026.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



BRIAN J. RYBARIK, Chairman



ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner



MILTON H. DOUMIT, Commissioner

Appendix

Proposed Tariff Revisions Effective Rate Year 1

Proposed Tariff Revisions Effective Rate Year 2

Proposed Tariff Revisions Effective Rate Year 3

Proposed Tariff Revisions Effective Rate Year 4

Rate Year 1 Electric		
21st Revision Sheet 1	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 1
3rd Revision Sheet 7	Canceling	2nd Sheet 7
3rd Revision Sheet 8	Canceling	2nd Sheet 8
21st Revision Sheet 11	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 11
6th Revision Sheet 13	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 13
4th Revision Sheet 17	Canceling	3rd Revision Sheet 17
4th Revision Sheet 18	Canceling	3rd Revision Sheet 18
21st Revision Sheet 21	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 21
6th Revision Sheet 23	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 23
21st Revision Sheet 25	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 25
17th Revision Sheet 25A	Canceling	16th Revision Sheet 25A
21st Revision Sheet 31	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 31
20th Revision Sheet 42	Canceling	19th Revision Sheet 42

14th Revision Sheet 42A	Canceling	13th Revision Sheet 42A
20th Revision Sheet 44	Canceling	19th Revision Sheet 44
21st Revision Sheet 45	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 45
21st Revision Sheet 46	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 46
7th Revision Sheet 46A	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 46A
20th Revision Sheet 47	Canceling	19th Revision Sheet 47
21st Revision Sheet 47A	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 47A
7th Revision Sheet 47B	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 47B
7th Revision Sheet 75D	Canceling	Sub. 6th Revision Sheet 75D
4th Revision Sheet 75E	Canceling	Sub. 3rd Revision Sheet 75E
Rate Year 2 Electric		
22nd Revision Sheet 1	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 1
4th Revision Sheet 7	Canceling	3rd Revision Sheet 7
4th Revision Sheet 8	Canceling	3rd Revision Sheet 8
22nd Revision Sheet 11	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 11
7th Revision Sheet 13	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 13
5th Revision Sheet 17	Canceling	4th Revision Sheet 17

5th Revision Sheet 18	Canceling	4th Revision Sheet 18
22nd Revision Sheet 21	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 21
7th Revision Sheet 23	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 23
22nd Revision Sheet 25	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 25
18th Revision Sheet 25A	Canceling	17th Revision Sheet 25A
22nd Revision Sheet 31	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 31
21st Revision Sheet 42	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 42
15th Revision Sheet 42A	Canceling	14th Revision Sheet 42A
21st Revision Sheet 44	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 44
22nd Revision Sheet 45	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 45
22nd Revision Sheet 46	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 46
8th Revision Sheet 46A	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 46A
21st Revision Sheet 47	Canceling	20th Revision Sheet 47
22nd Revision Sheet 47A	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 47A
Rate Year 3 Electric		
23rd Revision Sheet 1	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 1
5th Revision Sheet 7	Canceling	4th Revision Sheet 7

5th Revision Sheet 8	Canceling	4th Revision Sheet 8
23rd Revision Sheet 11	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 11
8th Revision Sheet 13	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 13
6th Revision Sheet 17	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 17
6th Revision Sheet 18	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 18
23rd Revision Sheet 21	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 21
8th Revision Sheet 23	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 23
23rd Revision Sheet 25	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 25
19th Revision Sheet 25A	Canceling	18th Revision Sheet 25A
23rd Revision Sheet 31	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 31
22nd Revision Sheet 42	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 42
16th Revision Sheet 42A	Canceling	15th Revision Sheet 42A
22nd Revision Sheet 44	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 44
23rd Revision Sheet 45	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 45
23rd Revision Sheet 46	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 46
9th Revision Sheet 46A	Canceling	8th Revision Sheet 46A
22nd Revision Sheet 47	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 47

23rd Revision Sheet 47A	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 47A
8th Revision Sheet 47B	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 47B
8th Revision Sheet 75D	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 75D
Rate Year 4 Electric		
24th Revision Sheet 1	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 1
6th Revision Sheet 7	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 7
6th Revision Sheet 8	Canceling	5th Revision Sheet 8
24th Revision Sheet 11	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 11
9th Revision Sheet 13	Canceling	8th Revision Sheet 13
7th Revision Sheet 17	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 17
7th Revision Sheet 18	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 18
24th Revision Sheet 21	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 21
9th Revision Sheet 23	Canceling	8th Revision Sheet 23
24th Revision Sheet 25	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 25
20th Revision Sheet 25A	Canceling	19th Revision Sheet 25A
24th Revision Sheet 31	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 31
23rd Revision Sheet 42	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 42

17th Revision Sheet 42A	Canceling	16th Revision Sheet 42A
23rd Revision Sheet 44	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 44
24th Revision Sheet 45	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 45
24th Revision Sheet 46	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 46
10th Revision Sheet 46A	Canceling	9th Revision Sheet 46A
23rd Revision Sheet 47	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 47
24th Revision Sheet 47A	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 47A
Rate Year 1 Natural Gas		
22nd Revision Sheet 101	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 101
22nd Revision Sheet 111	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 111
22nd Revision Sheet 112	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 112
7th Revision Sheet 116	Canceling	6th Revision Sheet 116
22nd Revision Sheet 131	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 131
12th Revision Sheet 131A	Canceling	11th Revision Sheet 131A
22nd Revision Sheet 132	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 132
12th Revision Sheet 132A	Canceling	11th Revision Sheet 132A
22nd Revision Sheet 146	Canceling	21st Revision Sheet 146

7th Revision Sheet 175D	Canceling	Substitute 6th Revision Sheet 175D
4th Revision Sheet 175E	Canceling	Substitute 3rd Revision Sheet 175E
Rate Year 2 Natural Gas		
23rd Revision Sheet 101	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 101
23rd Revision Sheet 111	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 111
23rd Revision Sheet 112	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 112
8th Revision Sheet 116	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 116
23rd Revision Sheet 131	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 131
13th Revision Sheet 131A	Canceling	12th Revision Sheet 131A
23rd Revision Sheet 132	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 132
13th Revision Sheet 132A	Canceling	12th Revision Sheet 132A
23rd Revision Sheet 146	Canceling	22nd Revision Sheet 146
Rate Year 3 Natural Gas		
24th Revision Sheet 101	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 101
24th Revision Sheet 111	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 111
24th Revision Sheet 112	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 112

9th Revision Sheet 116	Canceling	8th Revision Sheet 116
24th Revision Sheet 131	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 131
14th Revision Sheet 131A	Canceling	13th Revision Sheet 131A
24th Revision Sheet 132	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 132
14th Revision Sheet 132A	Canceling	13th Revision Sheet 132A
24th Revision Sheet 146	Canceling	23rd Revision Sheet 146
8th Revision Sheet 175D	Canceling	7th Revision Sheet 175D
Rate Year 4 Natural Gas		
25th Revision Sheet 101	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 101
25th Revision Sheet 111	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 111
25th Revision Sheet 112	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 112
10th Revision Sheet 116	Canceling	9th Revision Sheet 116
25th Revision Sheet 131	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 131
15th Revision Sheet 131A	Canceling	14th Revision Sheet 131A
25th Revision Sheet 132	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 132
15th Revision Sheet 132A	Canceling	14th Revision Sheet 132A
25th Revision Sheet 146	Canceling	24th Revision Sheet 146