

**AVISTA CORP.  
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

JURISDICTION:	Washington	DATE PREPARED:	7/27/2007
CASE NO:	UE-070804 & UG-070805	WITNESS:	Heather Cummins
REQUESTER:	Public Counsel	RESPONDER:	Heather Cummins
TYPE:	Data Request	DEPT:	Distribution Engineering
REQUEST NO.:	PC - 55	TELEPHONE:	(509) 495-4430

**REQUEST:**

Re: Testimony of Heather Cummins, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HLC-2):

Please provide the following information regarding Avista's estimates of its meter program costs presented on page 2 of Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (HLC-2):

- a. Please identify the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase I.
- b. Please identify the \$/meter loaded estimate for electric meters in phase I.
- c. Does the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase I require corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems and, if so, what are those costs and are they included in the estimated of \$/meter loaded.
- d. Please identify the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for gas meters in phase I.
- e. Please identify the \$/meter loaded estimate for gas meters in phase.
- f. Does the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for gas meters in phase I require corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems and, if so, what are those costs and are they included in the estimated of \$/meter loaded.
- g. Does the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase I require corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems and, if so, are those costs included in the estimated of \$/meter loaded.
- h. Please identify the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II low case.
- i. Does the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II low case require corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems and, if so, what are those costs and are they included in the estimated of \$/meter loaded.
- j. Please identify the \$/meter loaded estimate for electric meters in phase II high case.
- k. Please identify the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II high case.

1. Does the type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II high case require corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems and, if so, what are those costs and are they included in the estimated of \$/meter loaded.

**RESPONSE:**

- a. The type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase I is digital meters with Power Line Carrier modules. Phase I covers meter installations in the rural areas.
- b. The loaded estimate for electric meters in phase I is \$236/meter.
- c. There are no incremental costs required to modify the billing systems to accept monthly billing information for electric meters in phase I. However, to implement Time Of Use (TOU) billing capabilities, the meter technology will require corresponding incremental costs to modify the billing system. The corresponding incremental costs to modify the billing system for TOU are not included in the estimated \$/meter loaded value. These costs are being evaluated separately and have not yet been determined.
- d. The gas meters will not be changed out; they will have a one-way radio-based communication module installed on them.
- e. The loaded estimate for gas meter upgrades in phase I is \$75/meter.
- f. There are no incremental costs required to modify the billing systems to accept monthly billing information for gas meters in phase I.
- g. Please see response to c.
- h. The type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II low case is digital meters with one-way radio-based communication technology. Phase II covers meter installations in the urban areas.
- i. Yes, the meter technology will require corresponding incremental costs to modify the billing systems to enable monthly billing or TOU billing. The corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems are not included in the estimated \$/meter loaded value. These costs are being evaluated separately and have not been determined yet.
- j. The loaded estimate for electric meters in phase II high case is \$200/meter.
- k. The type of meter technology underlying the estimate for electric meters in phase II high case is digital meters with two-way radio-based communication technology. Phase II covers meter installations in the urban areas.
- l. Yes, the meter technology will require corresponding incremental costs to modify the billing systems to enable monthly billing or TOU billing. The corresponding incremental costs to modify billing systems are not included in the estimated \$/meter loaded value. These costs are being evaluated separately and have not been determined yet.