**Description of Avista Utilities:**

Avista Utilities provides electric and natural gas service within a 26,000 square mile area of eastern Washington and northern Idaho[[1]](#footnote-1). Of the Company’s 374,962 electric and 334,732 natural gas customers (as of December 31, 2015), 246,435 and 155,972, respectively, were Washington customers. The Company, headquartered in Spokane, also provides natural gas distribution service in southwestern and northeastern Oregon. A map showing Avista’s electric and natural gas service areas is provided in Exhibit No.\_\_\_(SLM-3).

As of December 31, 2015, Avista Utilities had total assets (electric and natural gas) of approximately $4.4 billion (on a system basis), with electric retail revenues of $763 million (system) and natural gas retail revenues of $297 million (system). As of December 2015, the Utility had 1,736 employees.

1. Avista also serves approximately 25 retail electric customers in western Montana. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)