BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. UE-17\_\_\_\_\_\_

# ATTORNEY’S CLAIM OF CONFIDENTIALITY RELATING TO INFORMATION PROVIDED AS PART OF AVISTA'S ANNUAL FILING TO REVIEW ERM DEFERRALS

DAVID J. MEYER

VICE PRESIDENT and CHIEF COUNSEL FOR

REGULATORY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

REPRESENTING AVISTA CORPORATION

I, David J. Meyer, represent Avista Corporation. I am Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory and Governmental Affairs for Avista Corporation (“Avista” or “Company”) and I am appearing on its behalf in this proceeding.

I make this claim of confidentiality pursuant to WAC 480-07-160 (3)(a) because Avista, through its Direct Testimony, Exhibits and supporting workpapers, is disclosing certain information that is CONFIDENTIAL and constitutes VALUABLE COMMERCIAL INFORMATION as defined by WAC 480-07-160 (2) and protected under WAC 480-07-160 and RCW 80-04-095.

Any printed information Avista provides will, as required under WAC 480-07-160 and WAC 480-07-423, be marked as CONFIDENTIAL, submitted on yellow or canary paper, and will be provided under separate cover. The electronic information Avista provides will be reproduced separately on a compact disk (CD) and will also be marked as CONFIDENTIAL.

The confidential information that Avista is disclosing can be classified into four basic categories: 1) information pertaining to contract prices, terms and conditions, 2) certain results providing detailed information on the Company's load and resource positions by month, 3) Risk Management Policies which contain general policies, guidelines, and position limits, and 4) plant operational data related to the Colstrip plant.

Avista herein asserts that the aforementioned information is confidential in that: 1) the contract information is prohibited, by the contract terms, from public disclosure, 2) making the load and resource information public will give entities access to competitive information on future operating plans and market purchase requirements and Avista believes the information could be used to disadvantage its customers, 3) the Risk Management Policies, if shared with competitors, could also be used to disadvantage Avista's customers, and 4) the operational data on Colstrip comprises valuable commercial information.

I am of the opinion, therefore, that this information is “CONFIDENTIAL,” as defined by WAC 480-07-160, and should be protected from public inspection, examination and copying, and should be utilized only in accordance with the terms of the Protective Agreement between Avista Corporation and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, in Docket No. UE-011595.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of March 2017

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 David J. Meyer

 Vice President and Chief Counsel for

 Regulatory and Governmental Affairs

 Avista Corporation