Records Management

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January 21, 2019

VIA - Commission Web-Portal

Mark L. Johnson Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Attached for filing with the Commission is an electronic copy of Avista Corporation's dba Avista Utilities ("Avista" or "the Company") proposed modifications to its Tariff Schedule 80 "Meter Reading and Billing Practices." The proposed additions are included in the following tariff sheets, WN U-28:

First Revision Sheet 80a Canceling Substitute Original Sheet 80a First Revision Sheet 80c Canceling Original Sheet 80c

I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this filing is to clarify in the tariff that a net meter customer is not eligible for opt out of a non-communicating meter. Net metering is a billing mechanism that credits distributed energy system owners for the electricity they add to the grid. For example, if a residential customer has a PV system on the home's rooftop, it may generate more electricity than the home uses during daylight hours. If the home is net-metered, the electricity meter will run backwards to provide a credit against what electricity is consumed at night or other periods where the home's electricity use exceeds the system's output. Customers are billed for their "net" energy

use on a monthly basis. Avista's opt-out, however, provides for a manual meter read on a quarterly basis. This difference in meter reading schedules is on its face problematic, and therefore we have modified our tariff to reflect that net meter customers are not eligible to receive a non-communicating meter.

Avista requests the tariff conditions proposed herein become effective March 1, 2019. Please direct any questions regarding this filing to me at 509-495-4975. Sincerely,

/S/Linda Gervais

Sr. Manager, Regulatory Policy Regulatory Affairs <u>linda.gervais@avistacorp.com</u> 509-495-4975 Avista Utilities