

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION.)	DOCKET NO. UE-080416
)	and
)	DOCKET NO. UG-080417
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	JOINT MOTION OF
)	STIPULATING PARTIES
AVISTA CORPORATION, D/B/A AVISTA UTILITIES,)	FOR MODIFICATION OF
)	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

Come now, the Avista Corporation (the “Company”), the Staff of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (“Staff”), the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”), and The Energy Project, (hereinafter collectively “Stipulating Parties”), and respectfully move the Commission for an Order modifying the procedural schedule established by Order No. 02 in the above-captioned dockets. This Joint Motion is based on the following:

1. On September 16, 2008, the Stipulating Parties filed with the Commission a Multiparty Settlement Stipulation (attached as an appendix to this Joint Motion). This Settlement Stipulation, if approved, would resolve all issues in these proceedings.

2. Integral to the Settlement, as a negotiated element, is a proposed effective date for revised tariffs of January 1, 2009.

3. While this Settlement Stipulation enjoys support from a variety of different parties with varied interests (e.g., the Company, Staff, NWIGU, and the Energy Project),

it is not joined in, thusfar, by the Office of Public Counsel or the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, who are the remaining parties in these dockets.

4. So that all parties will have been given an opportunity to be heard with respect to their views on the issue of whether this Settlement Stipulation should be approved, as filed, the Stipulating Parties propose the following modifications to the procedural schedule established by Order No. 02 in these dockets:

September 19, 2008:	Intervenor Testimony Due (as originally scheduled)
September 23, 2008:	Joint Testimony in Support of Stipulation
October 10, 2008:	Reply to Joint Testimony by Those Opposing Stipulation
October 27, 2008:	Rebuttal Testimony of Settling Parties
November 10, 2008:	Hearings
December 2, 2008:	Briefs
December 29, 2008:	Target Date for Decision
January 1, 2009:	*Proposed Implementation of Settlement Rates

5. No party will be prejudiced in the preparation of their cases, or deprived of an adequate opportunity to prepare for hearings. The originally scheduled date for the filing of intervenor testimony of September 19, 2008, will remain intact. Those opposing the Stipulation will also have an additional opportunity to file testimony in reply to the joint testimony of those supporting the Stipulation. The Stipulating Parties are requesting, however, that the Commission expeditiously act upon the proposed Settlement Stipulation, so that revised rates, if approved, may be implemented on January 1, 2009. The sole issue before the Commission at the evidentiary hearing would be whether to approve or reject the Settlement Stipulation. The Stipulating Parties believe that one day of hearings (i.e., November 10, 2008) will suffice for purposes of presenting the Stipulation.

6. In the event that the Commission should reject the Settlement Stipulation, or modify it in ways unacceptable to the Stipulating Parties, a prehearing conference could be immediately convened to establish a schedule for the litigation of unresolved matters in these dockets.

7. The Stipulating Parties are prepared to participate in a prehearing conference (telephonic would be acceptable) at the Commission's earliest convenience, in order to further discuss matters addressed in this Joint Motion.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of September, ~~2009~~²⁰⁰⁸.

Company:

By: 
David J. Meyer
VP, Chief Counsel for Regulatory and
Governmental Affairs

Staff:

By: _____
Gregory J. Trautman
Assistant Attorney General
Counsel For Commission Staff

NWIGU:

By: _____
Chad Stokes
Cable Huston Benedict
Haagensen & Lloyd LLP

Energy Project:

By: _____
Ronald L. Roseman
Attorney at Law

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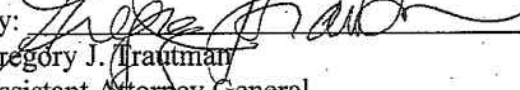
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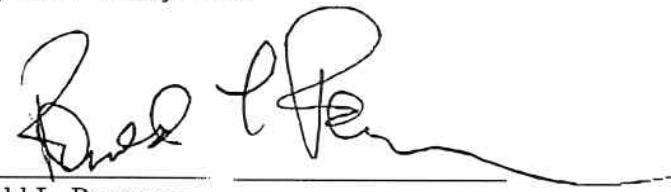
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