## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

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AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a AVISTA UTILITIES.

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-110876 and UG-110877 (Consolidated)

MOTION FOR PREHEARING CONFERENCE (Expedited treatment requested)

## I. MOVING PARTIES

The parties filing this Motion are Avista Corp., the Staff of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, the Public Counsel Section of the Attorney General's Office, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU), Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU) and The Energy Project (collectively, "Moving Parties").

#### II. FACTS

Pursuant to the Commission's procedural schedule in these dockets, a settlement conference took place in Olympia on September 22 and 23, 2011. All parties participated. Today, a Settlement Agreement was filed, which, if approved by the Commission, would resolve all issues in these dockets as among the settling parties.

The Settlement Agreement is signed by each of the Moving Parties, which are all parties to these dockets except the NW Energy Coalition (Coalition). It is the Moving Parties' understanding that the Coalition does not oppose the Settlement Agreement except to the extent it may affect the Coalition's ability to address the full decoupling issue in

Docket UE-110876.<sup>1</sup> The Coalition has indicated that it supports the request for a prompt prehearing conference and will file a short response to the request within a day after it is filed setting forth NWEC's position in additional detail.

Given the present posture of this case, and the fast-approaching filing deadlines under the current procedural schedule, the Moving Parties ask the Commission to promptly decide this Motion and convene a prehearing conference as soon as practical.

# III. RELIEF SOUGHT

The Moving Parties request the Commission issue an order setting a prehearing conference as soon as practical to address the process and schedule by which the Commission will review the Settlement Agreement, the status of the full decoupling issue in this docket, and related procedural issues.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND WASHINGTON COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ROBERT M. MCKENNA
Attorney General

Maul 9/30/2011

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ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

DONALD T. TROTTER
Assistant Attorney General
Counsel for the Utilities and
Transportation Commission Staff

Sarah A. Shifley Assistant Attorney General Public Counsel Section Office of the Attorney General

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2011

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2011

AVISTA CORPORATION

DAVISON VAN CLEVE, P.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Settlement Agreement makes no change to the existing gas decoupling mechanism for gas operations. We understand the Coalition does not take exception to this; i.e., the Coalition's interest regarding the decoupling issue in this case relates to Docket UE-110876, Avista's rate case for electric operations.

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ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

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Assistant Attorney General
Counsel for the Utilities and
Transportation Commission Staff

Dated: , 2011

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

Sarah A. Shifley

Assistant Attorney General

Public Counsel Section

Office of the Attorney General

Dated: Spenker 30, 2011

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Dated: Sept, 30	, 2011	Dated:	, 2011
THE ENERGY PROJECT		CABLE HUSTON	
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Dated:	, 2011	Dated:	, 2011

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