BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a AVISTA UTILITIES,

Respondent.

Docket Nos. UE-240006 and UG-240007

PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE OF WALMART, INC.

1. Pursuant to WAC § 480-07-355, Walmart, Inc. ("Walmart") hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC" or "Commission") for leave to intervene in the above-referenced docket as intervenors with full party status, as described in WAC

§ 480-07-340. The business address of Walmart is:

Walmart Stores, Inc. 2608 Southeast J Street Bentonville, Arkansas 72716-0550

2. Walmart will be represented in this proceeding by Parsons Behle & Latimer. All documents relating to this proceeding should be served on Walmart's attorney and business representatives at the following addresses:

Justina A. Caviglia, Esq. WSBA No. 52402 Parsons Behle & Latimer 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 750 Reno, Nevada 89501 jcaviglia@parsonsbehle.com Telephone: 775.323.1601 Facsimile: 775.348.7250 Eric Austin Senior Manager, Energy Services Walmart Stores, Inc. 2608 Southeast J Street Bentonville, Arkansas 72712-0550 Eric.Austin@walmart.com Telephone: 575.616.1635 Roni Shaffer Legal Assistant Parsons Behle & Latimer 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 750 Reno, Nevada 89501 rshaffer@parsonsbehle.com Telephone: 775.323.1601 Facsimile: 775.348.7250

3. The administrative rules at issue are WAC § 480-07-340, -355.

4. As shown on Walmart's website, Walmart operates 64 retail units, two distribution centers, and employs over 23,000 associates in Washington. In fiscal year ending 2023, Walmart purchased \$2.8 billion worth of goods and services from Washington-based suppliers, supporting over 34,000 jobs.¹ Walmart is a large retail customer of Avista Corporation, d/b/a/ Avista Utilities ("Avista"), owning and operating seven stores in Avista's Washington service territory. Collectively, these facilities consume over 21.7 million kWh on an annual basis, primarily on the Large General Service rate class.

5. Walmart has a direct, immediate, and substantial interest in Avista's proposed new rates and this proceeding as a customer of Avista. The interests of Walmart will not be adequately represented by any other party to this proceeding.

6. The rates Walmart pays for electric service from Avista in Washington will be affected by a Commission decision in this proceeding.

7. Walmart has not yet determined the extent of its participation or the precise nature of the relief it will request but anticipates participating in this matter to the extent necessary to ensure its interests in Washington are protected. The interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of this proceeding will not be impaired by the grant of Walmart's Petition to Intervene.

¹ https://corporate.walmart.com/about/washington

Neither will Walmart's participation unnecessarily broaden the issues or burden the record in this proceeding. Thus, it is in the public interest to allow Walmart to intervene in this proceeding.

8. WHEREFORE, Walmart respectfully requests that the Commission enter an Order granting Walmart permission to intervene in this docket and to participate to the full extent allowed by the law so that it may appropriately represent its interests as circumstances warrant in this proceeding.

DATED this 15th day of February, 2024.

PARSONS BEHLE & LATIMER

/s/ Justina A. Caviglia

JUSTINA A. CAVIGLIA WSBA No. 52402 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 750 Reno, Nevada 89501 Telephone: 775.323.1601 jcaviglia@parsonsbehle.com

Attorneys for Walmart, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Docket No. UE-240006 and UG-240007

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of February, 2024, I caused a true and correct copy of

the foregoing document, PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE OF WALMART, INC.,

to be served via electronic mail, to the following:

<u>Commission Staff</u> Jeff Roberson: jeff.roberson@utc.wa.gov Nash I. Callaghan: <u>nash.callaghan@utc.wa.gov</u> Josephine Strauss: josephine.strauss@atg.wa.gov Liam D. Weiland: <u>liam.weiland@atg.wa.gov</u> Colin O'Brien: <u>colin.obrien@atg.wa.gov</u> Lisa Gafken: <u>lisa.gafken@atg.wa.gov</u>

<u>Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities</u> Patrick Ehrbar: <u>pat.ehrbar@avistacorp.com</u> David Meyer: <u>david.meyer@avistacorp.com</u> <u>avistadockets@avistacorp.com</u>

<u>Public Counsel</u> Tad O'Neill: <u>tad.oneill@atg.wa.gov</u> <u>PCCSeaEF@atg.wa.gov</u>

<u>The Energy Project</u> Yochanan Zakai: <u>yzakai@smwlaw.com</u> Sara Breckenridge: <u>breckenridge@smwlaw.com</u>

<u>Alliance of Western Energy Consumers</u> Tyler C. Pepple: <u>tcp@dvclaw.com</u> Sommer J. Moser: <u>sjm@dvclaw.com</u> Lance D. Kaufman: <u>lance@westerncon.com</u> Bradley G. Mullins: <u>brmullins@mwanalytics.com</u> Jesse O. Gorsuch: <u>jog@dvclaw.com</u>

> <u>/s/ Roni L. Shaffer</u> Employee of Parsons Behle & Latimer