

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND |) | |
| TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION |) | DOCKETS UE-190334, UG-190335 |
| |) | and UE-190222 (<i>Consolidated</i>) |
| Complainant, |) | |
| v. |) | |
| |) | PETITION OF AVISTA CORPORATION |
| AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a |) | TO AMEND ORDER 09 TO REFLECT |
| AVISTA UTILITIES |) | MODIFIED STIPULATION |
| Respondent. |) | |
| |) | |

I. INTRODUCTION

1 In accordance with WAC 480-07-370(3) and WAC 480-07-875, Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities (Avista or the Company), at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, respectfully petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for an Order amending the Commission’s Final Order 09 in the above-referenced dockets and approving the Amended Partial Multiparty Settlement Stipulation (“Amended Stipulation”), attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

2 Please direct all correspondence related to this Petition as follows:

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II. BACKGROUND

3 On March 25, 2020, the Commission issued its Final Order 09 in Docket Nos. UE-190334, UG-190335, and UE-190222 (*Consolidated*), through which it approved and adopted the Partial Multiparty Settlement Stipulation (“Stipulation”) as agreed to by Avista, Commission Staff, Public Counsel, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC), The Energy Project, Sierra Club, and NW Energy Coalition (NVEC) (hereafter “the Parties”).¹ Section 14(d) of the Stipulation states:

On-Bill Repayment/Financing Program – Avista will provide a proposal for the Energy Efficiency Advisory Group (EEAG) for on-bill repayment/financing programs for residential and small business customers (Schedules 1, 11, and 101). Avista will incorporate feedback from the EEAG in the final program designs by January 2, 2021. If Avista and the EEAG reach agreement on program terms and design, the Company will file the programs with the Commission such that the programs are implemented by September 30, 2021. Based on the outcome of discussions with the EEAG, the Company may file small business and residential programs together or individually with the Commission. The Company will file a status report with the Commission if agreement is not reached with the EEAG for programs offered to the enumerated customer classes by September 30, 2021. Development costs associated with this program will be recoverable from customers and means of recovery will be addressed in a future GRC. [Emphasis added]

4 While Avista has made progress in developing an On-Bill Repayment/Financing Program (OBR), including relaying the results of its OBR research to its EEAG on October 2, 2020, the challenges of 2020 have prolonged the timeframe needed to fully develop the desired OBR offering. The Company anticipates no issues with the September 30, 2021 deadline for program implementation or the filing of a status report with the Commission if agreement is not reached with the EEAG to offer an OBR program, but the EEAG participants believe that more time is

¹ Public Counsel supported the Stipulation in part, opposing the portion of the Settlement regarding natural gas revenue requirement. This portion of the Stipulation is not impacted by this Petition.

necessary to appropriately incorporate Advisory Group feedback into final program terms and designs.

5 As such, Avista requests that Order 09 be amended by substituting the date of March 3, 2021, for the date of January 2, 2021, appearing in paragraph 14(b) of the previously-approved Stipulation. Accordingly, paragraph 14(b) of the Amended Stipulation now reads:

On-Bill Repayment/Financing Program – Avista will provide a proposal for the Energy Efficiency Advisory Group (EEAG) for on-bill repayment/financing programs for residential and small business customers (Schedules 1, 11, and 101). Avista will incorporate feedback from the EEAG in the final program designs by March 3, 2021. If Avista and the EEAG reach agreement on program terms and design, the Company will file the programs with the Commission such that the programs are implemented by September 30, 2021. Based on the outcome of discussions with the EEAG, the Company may file small business and residential programs together or individually with the Commission. The Company will file a status report with the Commission if agreement is not reached with the EEAG for programs offered to the enumerated customer classes by September 30, 2021. Development costs associated with this program will be recoverable from customers and means of recovery will be addressed in a future GRC.

6 All Parties to the Amended Stipulation agree to support (or not oppose) the filing of a Petition, and its approval, in these dockets, for the purpose of amending Final Order 09.

III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

7 WHEREFORE, Avista, on behalf of the Parties, respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order amending the Commission's Final Order 09 in the above-referenced dockets and approving the Amended Stipulation, agreed to by all signatories of the original Stipulation, attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

8 DATED this __4th__ day of December 2020.

By: /s/David Meyer
David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for
Regulatory and Governmental Affairs