



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503
P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

July 8, 2021

**NOTICE OF BENCH REQUESTS
(Due by July 12, 14, 16, and August 13, 2021)**

RE: *Wash. Utils. & Transp. Comm'n v. Avista Corp., d/b/a Avista Utils., Dockets UE-200900 & UG-200901 (Consolidated)*
In the Matter of the Petition of Avista Corp., d/b/a Avista Utils., for an Accounting Order Authorizing Accounting and Ratemaking Treatment of Costs Associated with the Company's Wildfire Resiliency Plan, Docket UE-200894 (Consolidated)

Bench Requests Nos. 3 and 4 are directed to the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office (Public Counsel).

BENCH REQUEST NO. 3:

Please file with the Commission all written public comments received by Public Counsel and the Commission that regard these consolidated proceedings no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 2021.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 4:

Please file with the Commission updated revenue requirement models and associated exhibits from Public Counsel witness Crane, as discussed at hearing on July 7, 2021, no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 2021.

Bench Request No. 5 is directed to the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (AWEC).

BENCH REQUEST NO. 5:

In response to Administrative Law Judge Andrew J. O'Connell's request that AWEC provide the revenue requirement impact of its voluntary striking of testimony in Mullins, Exh. BGM-1T, and associated adjustments, AWEC filed with the Commission a letter explaining

its request to strike along with updated revenue requirement models on June 30, 2021, and a clarifying letter on July 2, 2021. The Commission finds that the updated revenue requirement models will aid its decision-making in these consolidated proceedings. Therefore, the Commission determines the models should be received into evidence. All parties are provided the opportunity to object to its admission into the record pursuant to WAC 480-07-405(7)(b). Any objection must be filed with the Commission no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, July 12, 2021.

Bench Requests Nos. 6 through 9 are directed to Avista Corp., d/b/a Avista Utilities, (Avista or the Company) in the Avista General Rate Case.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 6:

Please file with the Commission in these consolidated dockets (UE-200900, UG-200901, & UE-200894) the Cover Letter and 2020 Wildfire Resiliency Plan filed by Avista with the Commission in Docket U-210254 on July 1, 2021, no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 7:

Please update actual advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) cost data through July 2021. Response must be filed with the Commission no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, August 13, 2021.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 8:

Avista witnesses Rosentrater, La Bolle, and DiLuciano testified regarding the loading of transformers and feeders that were the subject of protective outages during the heating event experienced in Avista's service territory during the week of June 27 – July 3, 2021, citing loading statistics and data comparing those transformers and feeders with their performance during 2018, 2019, and 2020. Please file a document with the Commission by July 14, 2021, illustrating the loading statistics and data comparing the performance of these transformers and feeders during the week of June 27 – July 3, 2021, with their performance during peak summer loading events in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

BENCH REQUEST NO. 9:

Avista witnesses Rosentrater, La Bolle, and DiLuciano testified to the progress Avista has made towards completing the roll out of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) in its service territory. Please file a response to this request with the Commission by July 14, 2021. Responses to the subparts of this request may be presented within a single document.

- a. Please provide the total number of Avista customers who have opted out of having an AMI meter and the portions of the total number who are gas-only customers, electric-only, and combined electric and gas customers.

- b. Please provide the number of encoded receiver transmitter meters (ERTs) that have been installed for those gas-only customers who have opted-out of AMI.
- c. Please provide the number of advanced meter reading (AMR) meters in use, or that have been installed to replace older meters, and the number of AMR meters assigned to opt-out customers, if different, and separately identify the number of gas-only, electric-only, and combined electric and gas customers. Please clarify the numbers if there are any AMR meters in use that are not assigned to an opt-out customer.
- d. Please provide the percent of total customers, electric-only and combined electric and gas customers, who currently have AMI versus those who currently have AMR and those who have older, non-AMI or -AMR meters.
- e. If known, please provide Avista's total annual costs and the per opt-out customer annual costs to read the meters of customers who have opted out of AMI (for all customers, gas-only, electric-only, and combined electric and gas).
- f. If known, please also provide a breakdown identifying the annual costs for reading ERTs for gas-only customers, non-AMI meters for electric-only customers, and non-AMI combined electric and gas customers. Please explain if there is any difference between the annual costs for reading the different kinds of non-AMI meters.

Please respond to the above bench requests according to the deadlines, below, by electronic filing with the Commission's Records Center. Please provide courtesy copies by email to Judge O'Connell at andrew.j.oconnell@utc.wa.gov.

Bench Request No. 3: **no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 4: **no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 5: Response has been submitted; any objection is due **no later than 5 p.m. on July 12, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 6: **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 7: **no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, August 13, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 8: **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.**

Bench Request No. 9: **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2021.**

If you have any questions concerning these requests, please contact Judge O'Connell via e-mail.

/s/ *Andrew J. O'Connell*

ANDREW J. O'CONNELL
Administrative Law Judge

cc: All Parties