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August 3, 2021

## SENT VIA WEB PORTAL

Mark L. Johnson Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop SE Lacey, Washington 98503

Re: WUTC v. Avista Corp., 2020 General Rate Case

Dockets UE-200900 and UG-200901, and UE-200894

Public Counsel Response to Commission Staff's Motion to Strike

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Public Counsel submits the following response to the Motion to Strike ("Motion") filed by Commission Staff on July 27, 2021.

Public Counsel supports Staff's Motion to strike portions of Avista's response to Bench Request 11. Public Counsel agrees with Staff that Avista's new proposals are nonresponsive to the Bench Request. Additionally, Avista's responses directly address the contested issue of how far out past the test year certain costs should be recovered. Public Counsel agrees with Staff that Avista's response inappropriately introduces new testimony regarding the issue in the guise of a bench request response.

Public Counsel also supports Staff's request that, if the Commission declines to strike Avista's nonresponsive proposals, parties should be permitted two additional pages in their briefs to address the proposals.

Sincerely,

NINA SUETAKE, WSBA No. 53574

Assistant Attorney General

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