BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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| WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,  Complainant,  vs.  AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a AVISTA UTILITIES,  Respondent. | )  )  )  )  )  )  )  )  )  )  )  ) | DOCKET NOS. UE-110876  and UG-110877 (*Consolidated)*  NWEC’S PROPOSED HEARING SCHEDULE ON DECOUPLING |

On October 10, 2011, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission held a prehearing conference in the above-captioned matter to address the process and schedule for consideration of the Settlement Stipulation and the status of the remaining issue in the case, full decoupling. At the prehearing conference, the Commission ordered that the consideration of the Settlement and the remaining decoupling issue be bifurcated, and ordered the parties to confer and propose a schedule for the resolution of the remaining decoupling issue. Accordingly, NWEC proposes the below dates for resolution of the decoupling issue.

Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities, the Commission’s regulatory staff, the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Office of Attorney General, and Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities have indicated that these dates are acceptable. NWIGU and The Energy Project have not taken a position on the proposed schedule.

NWEC proposes that discovery for the bifurcated decoupling issue be conducted pursuant to the Commission’s discovery rules, WAC 480-07-400 – 425, with 10 days as the response time for data requests. Public Counsel opposes this proposal and prefers a shorter response time for data requests.

**Proposed Hearing Schedule on Electric Decoupling**

**UE-110876**

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| November 2, 2011 | NWEC Direct Testimony |
| December 21, 2011 | Responsive Testimony of Parties |
| January 5, 2012 | Settlement Conference |
| January 11, 2012 | NWEC Rebuttal/Cross-Answering Testimony of Parties |
| January 26-27, 2012 | Hearings |
| February 23, 2012 | Briefs |
| April 1, 2012 | Anticipated Decision Date |

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of October, 2011.

s/ Amanda Goodin

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