

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a
AVISTA UTILITIES,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-240006 and
UG-240007 (*Consolidated*)

ORDER 04

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR
RELIEF, IN PART

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 18, 2024, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista or Company) filed revisions to its currently effective electric service tariff, Tariff WN U-28 in Docket UE-240006, and revisions to its natural gas service tariff, Tariff WN U-29 in Docket UG-240007, with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission). The purpose of these filings is to increase rates and charges for electric and natural gas service provided to customers in the state of Washington.
- 2 On February 24, 2024, the Commission entered Order 02, Prehearing Conference Order (Order 02). Order 02, among other things, established filing procedures for this matter which include a requirement that parties provide the Commission with “[five] paper copies of all submissions including: testimony, exhibits, and briefs in this case.”
- 3 On March 7, 2024, the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General’s Office (Public Counsel) filed a motion for relief from Order 02 (Motion). In its Motion, Public Counsel requests that the Commission modify Order 02 to require paper copies of *only* testimony, exhibits, and briefs, and to require testimony and exhibits expected to be used in the evidentiary hearing to be due on September 16, 2024. Public Counsel further requests that the Commission exempt databases, spreadsheets, and models from the paper copy requirement if in printed form they exceed five pages.
- 4 The Commission did not receive any responses to the motion.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

5 We grant Public Counsel’s Motion, in part, and agree to limit the paper copy requirement to testimony, exhibits, and briefs. The Commission’s need for paper copies is limited to those documents, and both the economic and environmental burden of printing additional documents outweighs any use the Commission would have for them. We additionally agree with Public Counsel and grant its request to exempt from the requirement any databases, spreadsheets, or models that would independently exceed five pages when printed. However, we deny Public Counsel’s request to alter the deadline as requested. Parties shall provide the required paper copies to the Commission within two business days of the filing deadline for each submission requiring such copies.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 6 (1) Public Counsel’s Motion for Relief is Granted, in part.
- 7 (2) Order 02 is modified as set out in paragraph 5, above.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective March 15, 2024.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ Paige Doyle
PAIGE DOYLE
Administrative Law Judge