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December 22, 2015

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Attention: Mr. Steven King, Executive Director and Secretary

RE: Tariff WN U-28 (Schedule 93) – **Less than Statutory Notice**

Attached for electronic filing with the Commission, on Less than Statutory Notice, is the Company's proposed tariff revision:

Eleventh Revision Sheet 93 canceling Tenth Revision Sheet 93
"POWER COST SURCHARGE – WASHINGTON"

Questions regarding this filing should be directed to the following:

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Vice President and Chief Counsel for
Regulatory & Governmental Affairs
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Pursuant to WAC 480-80-122(2), the Company has stated an effective date on the tariff of January 22, 2016, however, Avista requests that the Commission approve the proposed tariff on less than statutory notice at its December 30, 2015 Open Meeting, with a January 1, 2016 effective date.

On December 21, 2015, Judge Friedlander advised the parties in Avista's general rate case, Docket Nos. UE-150204 and UG-150205, that "the Commission will enter an order by the statutory deadline of January 11, 2016", and that rates will not be implemented by January 1, 2016. As discussed by Company witness Mr. Ehrbar on p. 3 of Exhibit No. PDE-8T in these dockets, "as a part of the Settlement Stipulation approved by the Commission in Docket Nos. UE-140188 and UG-140189, Avista is presently rebating to customers approximately \$8.2 million in 2015. That rebate will expire on December 31, 2015." The Company had originally requested a January 1, 2016 effective date for new base rates to be established in Docket Nos.

UE-150204 and UG-150205, in order to coincide with the scheduled December 31, 2015 expiration date of the ERM rebate.

With the expiration of the ERM rebate occurring effective January 1, and then a rate change occurring shortly thereafter related to the general rate case, we believe that two rate changes within a two-week period will be confusing for customers. Therefore, the Company requests that the ERM rebate be extended until such time as new base rates go into effect. That is reflected in the proposed tariff changes.

As of December 1, 2015, the Company had an ERM rebate deferral balance of approximately \$7.2 million, which is more than sufficient to cover the December portion of the 2015 ERM rebate (estimated to be approximately \$800,000 in December) as well as the extension of the rebate into the early part of January 2016.

The Company has communicated with Staff, Public Counsel, the Energy Project and ICNU, and those parties indicated that they do not object to the Company's request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. J. Meyer", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for
Regulatory and Governmental Affairs