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AVISTA CORPORATION dba Avista Utilities

## SCHEDULE 92

## LOW-INCOME RATE ASSISTANCE PROGAM

#### APPLICABLE:

To Customers in the State of Washington where the Company has electric service available. The rate adjustment assessed for the Low-Income Rate Assistance Program (LIRAP) shall be applicable to all retail customers for charges for electric energy sold and to the flat rate charges for Company-owned or Customerowned Street Lighting and Area Lighting Service. This rate adjustment is designed to recover costs incurred by the Company associated with providing bill assistance to low-income customers.

### MONTHLY RATE:

The energy charges of the individual rate schedules are to be increased by the following amounts:

Schedule 1 & 2 Schedule 11 & 12 Schedule 21 & 22 Schedule 25 First 500,000 kWh Schedule 25 Next 5,500,000 kWh Schedule 25 All Over 6,000,000 kWh Schedule 31 & 32 Schedules 41-48 \$0.00141 per kWh \$0.00205 per kWh \$0.00147 per kWh \$0.00093 per kWh \$0.00093 per kWh \$0.00000 per kWh \$0.00128 per kWh 1.66% of base rates

ANNUAL TRUE-UP:

On or before August 1, every year, the Company will file to adjust rates collected for the necessary program revenue with an effective date of October 1.

### SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Service under this schedule is subject to the Rules and Regulations contained in this tariff.

The above Rate is subject to increases as set forth in Tax Adjustment Schedule 58.

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Patrick Ehrbar, Director of Regulatory Affairs

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# LOW-INCOME RATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Continued

LIRAP provides bill assistance to eligible customers. Program eligibility and benefit determination are conducted by Community Action Agencies. LIRAP is comprised of eight components:

- <u>LIRAP Heat</u>: For clients receiving "regular" energy assistance (i.e., LIRAP Heat), the eligibility similar to the Federal Low Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) and is available to customers with incomes at or below 150% Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Similar to LIHEAP, the benefit amount is based on (i) household size, income, energy costs (all electric or natural gas costs, used for space heating or base load), and (ii) housing type (single family, multifamily, etc.), then calculated using the mechanism approved by the Department of Commerce.
- <u>LIRAP Emergency Share</u>: For customers receiving "emergency" assistance (i.e., LIRAP Emergency Share) or small benefit amounts, the process is similar to that used for the donation-based Project Share program. The amount of emergency assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis not to exceed \$350. Emergency assistance qualification criteria include imminent danger of disconnection. All energy costs resulting from electric or natural gas usage are eligible (including kWh and therm consumption, applicable taxes, and arrearages).
- <u>LIRAP Senior/Disabled Outreach</u>: A grant-based program for senior and/or individuals with disability with incomes 151 to 200 percent FPL. This program is set to conclude on September 30, 2021.
- <u>Senior/Disabled Rate Discount</u>: A rate discount program designed to help mitigate the impact of energy costs on senior and/or individuals with disability who have variable incomes between 151-200 percent FPL.
- <u>Temporary COVID-19 Hardship Assistance</u>: A one-time grant for customers experiencing financial hardship due to the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic. Mimics "emergency" assistance (i.e. LIRAP Emergency Share or Project Share) processes. The amount of this emergency assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis, not to exceed \$350.

(K) material transferred to Original Sheet 92B

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LOW-INCOME RATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Continued

- <u>Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)</u>: Available to customers with income at 0-50 percent FPL, this program provides a fixed percentage discount that reduces the customer's bill to 6% of their income. Customers at 0% income will receive a 94% bill discount. This program will begin on October 1, 2021.
- <u>Past Due Payoff (PDP)</u>: Available to PIPP or LIHEAP recipients with income at 0-50 percent FPL. Provides forgiveness for the full unpaid, past-due balance on a customer's account, not to exceed \$2,500 and only to be provided once per account history.
- <u>Arrearage Management Plan (AMP)</u>: Available to customers with income at 51-200 percent FPL, this program reduces customer arrearages owed over a 12-month period by providing an incentive for regular, on-time payment of these balances. Available twice within a 7 year period.

In addition, the agencies may use up to 6% of direct service funding to purchase energy saving items to disburse to individuals either at the time of their appointment or through other conservation education means.

(M) material transferred from Fifth Revision Sheet 92A

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