



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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September 11, 2020

**NOTICE MODIFYING DATE FOR ENTRY OF DECLARATORY ORDER**

**and**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO REVISED PETITION**

**(By Friday, October 30, 2020)**

RE: *In the Matter of the Petition of Avista Corporation for a Declaratory Order Approving the Avoided Cost Methodology for Power Purchases from Large Qualified Facilities per WAC 480-106-050(5), Docket UE-200455*

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On June 26, 2020, Avista Corporation (Avista or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a Petition for Declaratory Order (Petition) in Docket UE-200455. The Petition requests that the Commission approve Avista's proposed avoided cost rate methodology for power purchases from large qualified facilities of greater than five megawatts pursuant to WAC 480-106-050(5). On June 26, 2020, the Commission issued a notice inviting interested persons to respond to the Petition by July 20, 2020.

On August 6, 2020, Avista filed a revised Petition. Because the revised Petition contains substantive changes to Avista's proposed avoided cost rate methodology, the Commission construed it as a new petition for the purposes of calculating the timeframe for filing responses and establishing a date by which the Commission must take action. On August 20, 2020, the Commission issued a Notice Modifying Date for Entry of Declaratory Order and Notice of Opportunity to Respond to Revised Petition by September 11, 2020.

On September 11, 2020, Staff filed with the Commission a letter requesting to extend the deadline for filing a response until October 31, 2020.<sup>1</sup> In its letter, Staff explains that the Commission is expected to resolve issues related to Avista's standard contract for large qualifying facilities in Docket UE-190663 at its regularly scheduled open meeting on September 24, 2020. Staff asserts that Avista's avoided cost rate methodology for power purchases from large qualified facilities, as presented in Avista's Revised Exhibit A to its Petition, appears to differ materially and substantially from the Schedule 62 avoided cost tariff the Commission will consider in Docket UE-190663.

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-07-930(6) provides that the Commission may extend the 90-day deadline for issuing a declaratory order for good cause. We find that Staff's request for additional time to evaluate the Company's Petition following the Commission's consideration of the Company's standard contract under its avoided cost tariff on September 24, 2020, is reasonable. Due to workload issues and mandatory furloughs, the length of Staff's requested extension is also reasonable. In addition, affording Staff adequate time to conduct its analysis will aid the Commission in resolving the Petition. For these reasons, the Commission finds good cause to extend the deadline for interested persons to respond to the Petition and for the Commission to issue a declaratory order.

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-930(3), any person may respond to a petition for declaratory order by filing a response within 20 days after the petition is filed or at such other time as the Commission may establish by notice. By this Notice, the Commission establishes a deadline of Friday, October 30, 2020, for interested persons to file a response.

By this Notice, the Commission also modifies the date by which it will enter a declaratory order.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that any interested person may file a response to Avista Corporation's revised Petition for Declaratory Order by Friday, October 30, 2020.**

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that it will enter a declaratory order in response to Avista Corporation's revised Petition no later than December 30, 2020, at 5 p.m.**

*/s/ Rayne Pearson*

RAYNE PEARSON

Director, Administrative Law Division

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<sup>1</sup> Because October 31, 2020, falls on a Saturday, we require interested persons to file any response by Friday, October 30, 2020.