

**AVISTA UTILITIES
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

JURISDICTION: Washington
DOCKET NO: UE-991606
 UG-991607
REQUESTER: WUTC
TYPE: Data Request
DUE DATE: 3/15/00
REQUEST NO.: 263

DATE PREPARED: 3/13/00
WITNESS: Edward Turner
 Don Falkner
RESPONDER: Don Falkner
DEPT: Rates
TELEPHONE: (509) 495-4326

REQUEST:

Please provide a list of corporate memberships posted to utility operations accounts in 1998. Itemize the organization, the dates and amounts of payments, the account to which payment was posted, and a brief statement on the mission of the organization.

REQUEST:

Please see the attached list of memberships charged to Account 930.25 (Misc. General Expenses Dues-General) included as Attachment A. Also refer to Attachment B for discussion regarding the missions of individual organizations. As was noted for donations on the response to Staff Request No. 262, Company support of civic/cultural/charitable/educational/economic activities is an expected and necessary aspect of "good corporate citizenship" and is part of the cost of doing business in the communities where we operate.

WUTC		
DOCKET NO. <u>UE-991606</u>		
EXHIBIT # <u>29</u>		
ADMIT	W/D	REJECT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Avista Utilities Corporate Memberships

Ut Acct	Line	Amount	Year/Month	Vendor Name	Purpose	In Total	Direct Charged to Washington Then Charged or Alloc. to WA EI to WA Gas	Direct Chrg ID/WPNG	Alloc. To (by Note 4)	Total WA Electric	Total WA Gas
0	93025	98	4,453.75	199801	Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee	Attach B No. 1	2,849.20	63.973%	1,604.55	2,849.20	-
0	93025	98	4,453.75	199806	Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee	Attach B No. 1	2,849.20	68.426%	3,049.95	2,849.20	-
0	93025	98	4,453.25	199812	Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee	Attach B No. 1	2,848.88	63.973%	1,600.12	2,848.88	-
0	93025	98	4,453.25	199807	Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee	Attach B No. 1	2,848.88	68.426%	3,048.76	2,848.88	-
0	93025	0	17,814.00						11,396.16		
0	93025	0	430.00	Less than \$1000		25.00	25.00		284.09		
0	93025	0	18,244.00	Total		25.00	25.00		11,680.25		
1	93025	1	1,153.67	Less than \$1000				789.41			789.41
1	93025	1	1,153.67	Total							
2	93025	2	6,000.00	WPNG Greater than \$1000			6,000.00				
2	93025	2	7,557.00	Less than \$1000			7,557.00				
2	93025	2	13,557.00	Total			13,557.00				
7	93025	99	29,500.00	199811	The Corporate Strategy Board	Attach B No. 2	13,900.39		3,494.95	13,900.39	3,494.95
7	93025	99	18,767.00	199810	Western Electric Power Institute	Attach B No. 3	8,843.00		2,223.38	8,843.00	2,223.38
7	93025	99	15,735.00	199801	Western Electric Power Institute	Attach B No. 3	7,414.32		1,864.17	7,414.32	1,864.17
7	93025	99	17,500.00	199805	CSC Index Research & Advisory Services	Attach B No. 4	8,245.99		2,073.27	8,245.99	2,073.27
7	93025	99	10,000.00	199802	Downtown Spokane Partnership	Attach B No. 5	4,712.00		1,184.73	4,712.00	1,184.73
7	93025	99	5,000.00	199805	Downtown Spokane Partnership	Attach B No. 5	2,356.00		592.36	2,356.00	592.36
7	93025	99	8,000.00	199805	Northwest Energy Coalition	Attach B No. 6	3,769.60		947.78	3,769.60	947.78
7	93025	99	6,500.00	199812	Association of Washington Business	Attach B No. 7	3,062.80		770.07	3,062.80	770.07
7	93025	99	6,400.00	199809	United Telecom Council (UTC)	Attach B No. 8	3,015.67		758.23	3,015.67	758.23
7	93025	99	5,556.00	199803	Washington Roundtable	Attach B No. 9	2,617.99		658.24	2,617.99	658.24
7	93025	99	5,556.00	199806	Washington Roundtable	Attach B No. 9	2,617.99		658.24	2,617.99	658.24
7	93025	99	3,685.00	199812	Montana Tax Foundation	Attach B No. 10	1,736.37		436.57	1,736.37	436.57
7	93025	99	3,500.00	199812	Washington State Research Council	Attach B No. 11	1,649.20		414.65	1,649.20	414.65
7	93025	99	3,000.00	199801	International Trade Alliance	Attach B No. 12	1,413.60		355.42	1,413.60	355.42
7	93025	99	1,500.00	199806	Nature Conservancy	Attach B No. 13	706.80		177.71	706.80	177.71
7	93025	99	1,500.00	199809	Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 14	706.80		177.71	706.80	177.71
7	93025	99	1,500.00	199801	Western Environmental Trade Association	Attach B No. 15	706.80		177.71	706.80	177.71
7	93025	99	1,000.00	199801	Boston College Ctr for Corp Community Relations	Attach B No. 16	471.20		118.47	471.20	118.47
7	93025	99	1,000.00	199801	Public Affairs Council	Attach B No. 16	471.20		118.47	471.20	118.47
7	93025	99	1,000.00	199802	The Leadership Council	Attach B No. 17	471.20		118.47	471.20	118.47
7	93025	0	146,199.00						68,888.92		17,320.60
7	93025	0	4,479.00	Less than \$1000					2,110.50		530.63
7	93025	0	150,678.00	Total			70,999.42	17,851.23	70,999.42	17,851.23	530.63
8	93025	99	11,902.00	199803	Pacific Coast Gas Association	Attach B No. 18			5,394.22		5,394.22
8	93025	99	11,826.50	199812	Pacific Coast Gas Association	Attach B No. 18			5,360.00		5,360.00
8	93025	0	23,728.50						10,754.22		10,754.22
8	93025	0	0.00	Less than \$1000							
8	93025	0	23,728.50	Total					10,754.22		10,754.22
9	93025	28	10,604.00	199810	Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 19	10,604.00		8,692.63	8,692.63	1,911.37
9	93025	28	10,396.00	199801	Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 19	10,396.00		8,522.12	8,522.12	1,873.88
9	93025	28	10,396.00	199808	Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 19	10,396.00		8,522.12	8,522.12	1,873.88
9	93025	28	10,396.00	199804	Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 19	10,396.00		8,522.12	8,522.12	1,873.88
9	93025	98	10,250.00	199802	National Hydropower Association	Attach B No. 20			5,451.86	1,282.22	1,282.22
9	93025	98	8,000.00	199802	Inland Northwest HVAC Association	Attach B No. 21			5,375.29	1,264.21	1,264.21
9	93025	98	2,940.00	199811	Spokane Area Convention & Visitor's Center	Attach B No. 22	2,940.00		986.70	2,940.00	986.70
9	93025	28	1,600.00	199801	Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce	Attach B No. 23	1,600.00		1,311.60	1,311.60	288.40
9	93025	28	1,590.00	199801	Better Business Bureau	Attach B No. 24	1,590.00		1,303.40	1,303.40	286.60
9	93025	98	1,020.00	199812	Greater St. Joe Development	Attach B No. 25			534.91		534.91
9	93025	38	4,047.55	199812	Idaho Greater Than \$1000				125.80		125.80
9	93025	0	71,239.55						4,047.55		
9	93025	0	14,111.88	Less than \$1000					3,658.93		46,319.35
9	93025	0	85,351.43	Total				8,001.55	3,981.48	6,084.72	1,398.87
9	93025	0	292,712.60	Grand Total			40,116.71	21,558.55	33,200.78	135,083.74	40,427.31

* Note that once charged to the Washington Location code, 028, Utility Code 0 charges are assigned to Electric-Washington, while Utility Code 1 charges are assigned to Gas-Washington. Utility Code 9 charges being allocated between Washington Gas and Washington Electric using Allocation Note 9 of 18.025% and 81.975%, respectively. Utility Code 7 charges are first allocated by Allocation Note 7 to Electric 73.656%, WWP Gas 17.314% and WPNG 9.030% (this allocation does not appear above) before they are allocated above. Utility Code 8 charges are first split between WWP 66.235% and WPNG 33.765% using Allocation Note 8 before they are allocated above.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
No 1	The Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee provides a forum for dialogue and technical analysis on electric industry policy issues of regional importance.
No 2	This membership would be better described as “prepaid research” or syndicated research. A “membership” in the Corporate Strategy Board entitles the “member” to research services and access to data and studies in the area of corporate strategy.
No 3	The Western Electric Power Institute facilitates the exchange of information, develops members’ skills and promotes the progress of the electric industry so that the public and its members are better served.
No 4	This membership would be better described as “prepaid training” as it entitles a member to send 2 people to each seminar offered by CSC Index Research & Advisory Services. CSC’s corporate purpose is to be preeminent in the solution of client problems in information systems technology.
No 5	The Downtown Spokane Partnership is dedicated to planning and policies supportive of the quality and vitality of Downtown Spokane. The Company’s participation in this organization is driven by its significant utility infrastructure invested in the Central Business District. (See also No 19 below.)
No 6	Membership in the Northwest Energy Coalition (NVEC) gives the Company immediate access to information exchange with stakeholders such as environmental, conservation and low-income groups. NVEC promotes energy conservation and renewable energy resources, consumer and low-income protection and fish and wildlife restoration.
No 7	The Association of Washington Business works to streamline regulation and reduce taxes and paperwork.
No 8	The United Telecom Council (UTC) assists electric and gas utilities, water companies and energy pipelines who provide critical telecommunications and IT systems in support of their core business – all united in their commitment to ensuring the best, most reliable systems and networks critical to their core business and the customers they serve
No 9	Washington Roundtable is a statewide CEO-level organization focusing on key issues affecting the economic well being of business and citizens (including our customers) across the state. The group focuses primarily on education, economic climate and fiscal policy issues.
No 10	The Montana Tax Foundation is a private non-partisan, non-profit organization directed and financed by citizens and business in Montana. It provides the Company with current, concise and accurate information regarding taxation issues. This is of particular value due to our generation plant in Colstrip and Noxon.
No 11	The Washington Research Council is a private nonprofit organization providing its members, the media, government leaders and the public with independent information on state and local government.
No 12	The International Trade Alliance, an affiliate of the Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce (See also No 19 below), is an information clearinghouse and contact point for the community and is host to the Department of Commerce, International Trade division.
No 13	The Nature Conservancy works collaboratively with citizens, communities and businesses to protect Washington’s environment.
No 14	The Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA) updates the Company on natural ecology and economic issues in the state of Montana.
No 15	The Boston College Center for Corporate Community Relations provides the Company with best practices in corporate community relations, benchmarking, measurement and evaluation, surveys and professional development.
No 16	The Public Affairs Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization of corporate public affairs officers. It provides the Company with information and resources keeping Avista Utilities current with trends in public affairs.
No 17	The Leadership Council, a lobbying organization, was mistakenly charged to dues and should have been charged to account 426.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
No 18	The Pacific Coast Gas Association (PCGA) provides services and support activities designed to improve individual and corporate performance in the transmission, distribution and marketing of natural gas service. PCGA offers workshops and conferences that facilitate the exchange of information and technical expertise.
No 19	The Company's membership in the Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce (and similar organizations) gives our customers a voice in determining the quality of economic growth and development in the region. Responsible business growth provides the utility with the opportunity to efficiently utilize its existing infrastructure and to spread its costs over a broader customer base. As Avista is one of the largest businesses based in Spokane, our leaderships sets the tone and contributes to mutually beneficial outcomes.
No 20	The National Hydropower Association (NHA), a non-profit national association, champions hydropower as a responsible use of the nation's waters while serving a broad range of public interests. Our membership provides the Company with legal/regulatory support and research for relicensing and mitigation issues and access to educational materials and networking opportunities in the areas of dam safety, recreation liability and hydro upgrades.
No 21	The Inland Northwest Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning Association (INHVAC) is a non-profit industry organization of heating/air conditioning contractors, distributors, and code officials. Our membership dues support development and enforcement of safety codes, specialized training and access to a contract labor pool for emergency gas re-lights.
No 22	Spokane Area Convention and Visitor's Center – See No 19 above.
No 23	The Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce – See No 19 above.
No 24	The Better Business Bureau's mission is to promote and foster the highest ethical relationship between business and the public through voluntary self-regulation, consumer and business education and service excellence.
No 25	The Company's membership in Greater St. Joe Development should have been entirely to our Idaho jurisdiction.