BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of)	
Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities,)	Docket No. UE-24
For a five-year exemption from WAC 480-109-210(2)(B) and (E) pertaining to Renewable Portfolio Standard Reporting)))	PETITION OF AVISTA CORPORATION

I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with WAC 480-109-210, Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities ("Avista" or "the Company"), at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") for an order authorizing a five-year exemption from WAC 480-109-210 (B) and (E), which requires the Company to use its most recent Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) acknowledged by the Commission to determine eligible resource capacity value and noneligible levelized energy costs.

Avista is a utility that provides service to approximately 406,000 retail electric customers and 373,000 retail natural gas customers in a 30,000 square-mile service territory covering portions of Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. The largest community served by Avista is Spokane, Washington, which is the location of its corporate headquarters.

The Company requests that all correspondence related to this Petition be sent to the following:

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Rules and statutes that may be brought at issue in this Petition include RCW 80.01.040 and

WAC 480-109-210.

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II. BACKGROUND

The Energy Independence Act (EIA), also known as Initiative Measure No. 937 or I-937,

requires utilities with more than 25,000 customers to obtain fifteen percent of their electricity

from eligible renewable resources, such as wind and solar generation, by 2020 and undertake

cost-effective energy conservation. Per WAC Chapter 480-109-210, "On or before every June

1st, each utility must file an annual renewable portfolio standard (RPS) report with the

commission and the Department of Commerce detailing the resources the utility has acquired

or contracted to acquire to meet its renewable resource obligation for the target year."

On July 25, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Change to the Electric IRP Process

(Notice) stating, "As part of the Commission's effort to reduce unnecessary administrative burden

and duplicative processes, we are discontinuing our practice of issuing acknowledgment letters for

electric IRPs in all cases."

WAC 480-109-210(B) and (E) requires the Company to use its most recent IRP

acknowledged by the Commission to determine eligible resource capacity value and noneligible

levelized energy costs.

As a result of the discontinuance of IRP acknowledgement letters, the Company is

asking the Commission for a five-year exemption from WAC 480-109-210(B) and (E). In

lieu of the Company's most recent acknowledged IRP, Avista will use its most recently filed IRP to calculate the eligible resource capacity value and noneligible levelized energy costs components of the RPS report.

III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Avista respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order authorizing the Company a five-year exemption from WAC 480-109-210 (B) and (E).

DATED this 6th day of February 2024.

By: <u>/s/Shawn Bonfield</u>

Shawn Bonfield

Sr. Manager of Regulatory Policy and Strategy

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