

**Avista Corporation**  
1411 East Mission P.O. Box 3727  
Spokane, Washington 99220-3727  
Telephone 509-489-0500  
Toll Free 800-727-9170



March 30, 2001

Carole Washburn, Executive Secretary  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W.  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

RE: Compliance with Docket Nos. UE-990473 and UG-990294;  
Electric and Natural Gas Rulemakings

Dear Ms. Washburn:

On March 14, 2001 the Commission directed the Staff to prepare a Rule Adoption Order in matters specific to the above-cited dockets. Avista has initiated the internal process of changing computer code, billing systems and procedures to be in compliance with the pending rules. It appears that the new rules will be adopted and effective prior to the conclusion of the Company completing its computer reprogramming. The Company estimates that this change-over process will take approximately four months. The Company is making a "best effort" to comply with the new rules.

No action is requested at this time. However, Avista wishes to reiterate its comments made at the March 14 meeting that the Company may, upon codification of the new rules, request a temporary waiver of several rules.

Please direct any questions on this matter to Bruce Folsom at (509) 495-8706 or Renee Webb at (509) 495-7987.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas D. Dukich". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Thomas D. Dukich  
Manager, Rates and Tariff Administration

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RECEIVED  
STAFF