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The Energy Project works with Community Action Agencies that provide rate assistance and energy efficiency programs to both electric and gas low income customers of AVISTA. The Energy Project also works with utilities to develop and expand rate assistance, energy efficiency programs for low income customers. The Energy Project is a frequent party in general rate cases and other dockets when energy affordability and customer service policies are at issue. The Energy Project which advocates for the interest of low income customers of AVISTA is concerned about the effect a 7.6% increase in billed rates in electric service and a 2.8% increase in billed gas service will have on low income customers.

The Energy Project has a substantial interest in the proposed transaction and will be the only party to focus its inquiry solely on the interests of low income customers. The Energy Project's intervention in this docket will not unreasonably broaden the issues, or delay the proceeding. It is in the public interest to grant this petition of The Energy Project.

The Energy Project respectfully requests the Commission to allow our petition to intervene in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,



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Service by email and US Mail to WUTC Record Center, Pat Oshie, Brett Shearer, Jennifer Cameron-Rulkowski Assistant Attorney General, David Meyer, VP and Chief Counsel for AVISTA , Simon ffitch, Assistant Attorney General, Public Counsel Section, Steven King, Executive Director and Secretary WUTC, Tommy Brooks, Chad Stokes for NWIGU, Jesse Gorsuch, Jesse Cowell, Davison Van Cleve for ICNU.