

**Avista Corporation**  
**(d.b.a. Avista Utilities)**  
**NOTICE OF TARIFF CHANGE**

May 16, 2011  
(Electric Service and Natural Gas)

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**Important Notice for Washington Customers**

*Avista proposes 8.7 percent increase in billed electric rates  
and 4.0 percent increase in billed natural gas retail rates*

On May 16, 2011, Avista filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a request to increase electric billed rates to customers by an average of 8.7 percent, or \$38.3 million annually, and natural gas billed rates by an average of 4.0 percent, or \$6.2 million annually.

This filing is a general rate request to recover increased costs associated with operating and maintaining Avista's electric and natural gas systems. In addition to increases in power supply costs, the Company continues to experience increasing costs from additional compliance requirements, and the need to replace aging infrastructure.

The Commission will investigate the Company's filing and can take up to 11 months to issue its ruling. The Commission has the authority to set final rates which may be different from the requested increase(s) based on the results of their investigation.

***Proposed Electric Price Increase***

The average proposed electric increase in billed rates by customer class and rate schedule are as follows:

	Schedule <u>No.</u>	Proposed <u>Increase</u>
Residential	1	9.1%
General Service (small commercial)	11&12	8.4%
Lg. General Service (commercial/sm. industrial)	21&22	8.7%
Ex. Lg. General Service (large industrial)	25	7.5%
Pumping Service	31&32	9.1%
Street & Area Lights	41-48	8.6%

The proposed monthly increase for a residential customer using an average of 977 kilowatt-hours (kwhs) per month is \$7.13, or 9.3%. The present bill for 977 kwhs is \$77.01 and the bill with the proposed increase would be \$84.14. The present and proposed billing rates for Residential Service are as follows:

	<u>Present Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
Basic Charge	\$6.00/month	\$3.00/month	\$9.00/month
1 <sup>st</sup> 600 kwhs/month	6.627¢/kwh	0.398¢/kwh	7.025¢/kwh
Next 700 kwhs/month	7.710¢/kwh	0.463¢/kwh	8.173¢/kwh
Over 1,300 kwhs/month	9.037¢/kwh	0.542¢/kwh	9.579¢/kwh

***Proposed Natural Gas Price Increase***

The average proposed natural gas increase in billed rates by customer class and rate schedule are as follows:

	<u>Schedule No.</u>	<u>Original Prop. Change</u>
Residential & Sm. Commercial (less than 200 therms/mo)	101	5.1%
Commercial & Industrial (over 200 therms/mo)	111	1.1%
Lg. Commercial & Industrial (over 60,000 therms/yr)	121	1.5%
Lg. Interruptible Service. (over 250,000 therms/yr)	131	1.9%
Lg. Transportation Service. (over 250,000 therms/yr)	146	4.4% *

\*increase does not include natural gas cost

The proposed monthly increase for a residential customer using an average of 67 therms per month is \$3.26 or 5.1%. The present bill for 67 therms is \$63.45 and the bill with the proposed increase would be \$66.71. The present and proposed billing rates for residential and small commercial customers are as follows:

	<u>Present Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Increase</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
Basic Charge	\$6.00/month	\$3.00/month	\$9.00/month
Usage Charge	\$0.86979/therm	\$0.00393/therm	\$0.87372/therm

***Avista has a number of customer assistance programs, as well as energy efficiency programs that provide rebates and incentives for the installation of certain energy conservation measures. For information on these programs and other ways to save on your energy bill, visit our website at [www.avistautilities.com](http://www.avistautilities.com) or call us at (800)227-9187.***

If you would like to comment on this filing or have questions about the rate making process, you can contact the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission at the following address: UTC, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250. Or you can contact the Commission by phone at (800)562-6150, by fax at (360)664-4291, or by e-mail at [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov). Please leave your name, complete mailing address, the company's name (Avista), and a description of the proposal you are interested in.

**If you have questions about the proposed filing, call Avista at (800)227-9187.**

**If you would like to be added to the Commission's mailing list to be notified of the open (public) meeting dates, or if you have questions about the ratemaking process, please call (800)562-6150 and leave your name, complete mailing address, the company's name (Avista), and a description of the proposal you are interested in.**

A copy of the proposed tariff changes is available for review in any of the local business offices or can be obtained by calling (509) 495-4067 or (800) 227-9187, or writing:

Avista Utilities  
Attention: P. Olsness, MSC-27  
PO Box 3727  
1411 E. Mission  
Spokane, WA 99220

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Issue Date: May 16, 2011  
Keep Posted Until: July 1, 2011