



**Avista Corp.**

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September 21, 2021

Mark L. Johnson  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Docket No. UE-210553 – Comments of Avista Utilities

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities (Avista or the Company), submits the following comments in accordance with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission's (Commission) Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments (Notice) issued in Docket UE-210553 on September 13, 2021 relating to the Commission's Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit a qualified consultant to support the Commission's examination of energy decarbonization impacts and pathways for electric and gas utilities to meet state emissions targets as described in RCW 70A.45.020.

The Company has reviewed the draft RFP and does not have any comments to offer on the RFP itself. Selecting a qualified consultant is important as it will hopefully provide support and expertise to the Commission's examination. We would ask that the Commission entertain public participation element to the selection of the consultant. First, Avista recommends the Commission make all non-confidential bid and proposal information available for stakeholder review via posting to the docket. Second, the Commission should provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide comment on the potential consultants. Given the significance of the Commission's examination, allowing stakeholder input in all facets of the examination is crucial.

Please direct any questions regarding these comments to me at 509-495-2782 or [shawn.bonfield@avistacorp.com](mailto:shawn.bonfield@avistacorp.com).

Sincerely,

U-210553

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UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

*/s/ Shawn Bonfield*

Shawn Bonfield  
Sr. Manager of Regulatory Policy & Strategy