

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
No			
	Bary Leach	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I'm writing express my displeasure of the merger between Hyrdo One and Avista. It seems unbelievable that the utility commission would allow the selling of a resource so important to the Inland Empire to a foreign entity. Avista (or Washington Water Power) has been a long standing community member and should remain independent. To sell out just so a few stock holders and upper management can profit at the expense of the many seems very selfish. I know this is the world we're living in now but to let such an important company go to a foreign corporation seems wrong. Once it's sold, it will never be back.</p> <p>Sincerely, Bary Leach 8326 N Greenwood Ct Spokane, WA 99208 509-981-4179</p>
	Eric Davis	E-mail	<p>Short-term fluctuations in energy supply costs or energy output prices should be borne by the Avista's shareowners, not by the Company's customers. Plenty of hedging instruments are available to management to cover fluctuations and shareowners ultimately have control over management—customers don't. Nor is it appropriate for short-term fluctuations to be included in the rate base where a the allowable rate of return is applied to those fluctuations.</p>

Case: 170970

Title: Avista sale to Hydro One

PI Coordinator: Andrew Roberts

Staff Lead:

Public Comments by Case

Avista's request for these inclusions should be denied.

In any event, given the pending acquisition of Avista (AVA) by Hydro One (HO), consideration of a ROR on Avista's capital should be moot. Hydro One has the apparent ability to downstream capital to Avista in any amount needed, especially after being willing to pay 2 times book value for AVA's common stock while assuming a reported \$1.9B in debt. That implies that a ROE of only about 4% was acceptable to the buyer. Also, the current rate of interest on long-term debt with AVA's Baa1 rating is no more than 4%. Last December, AVA sold \$175M of 35 year 1st mortgage bonds at a rate of 3.54%.

Regarding the UTC's analysis of the pending acquisition, I would urge the Commission to consider Avista's ability to pay Hydro One's cost of the acquisition. Hydro One pays 70-80% of its earnings out in dividends and is funding the equity portion of the Avista acquisition with a combination of \$1.4B in convertible debentures and \$2.0B in other debt (presumably long-term). Its ability to raise funding is dependent on its 49.9% ownership by the Province of Ontario (Moody's Aa2 bond rating). However, unless HO is willing to cover its cost of acquiring Avista, a substantial increase in rates to Avista's customers appears to be needed per the following simplistic, "normalized" estimate:

of '15 & '16)	Avista's internal sources of funds:	Net cash from ops	\$382.9M (ave.
(2016 only)		Dividends	87.2

			\$470.1
	Avista's internal uses of funds:	Capex	400.7 (ave.

			<p>of '15 & '16)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Avista's net internal sources: \$ 69.4</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Less Acquisition Cost to HO: \$1.4B CvD \$ 56.0 (interest only at 4.0%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$2.0B LTD 107.2 (35 year ofs annual payment at 4%)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: right;">\$163.2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Avista's Funding Shortfall: \$ 93.8M (internal net funding sources less acquisition costs) HO</p> <p>This appears to present a significant problem for Avista's customers over time. Press releases by both Companies emphasized that no rate increase were required due to the acquisition. That may be true momentarily but not longer term.</p> <p>Eric Davis Loon Lake, Wa.</p>
	Wayne Robinson	Web	<p>I don t understand why in these times we would allow a company from a foreign Country buy out a us utility company such as Avista and be approved by the utilities Commission putting us in an extremely vulnerable position.</p>

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	Pat Halland	E-mail	<p>I am begging you to deny any and all rate increases to Avista for natural gas and electric...</p> <p>We consumers can not afford these increases... many are on fixed incomes and hardly getting by.. having to decide do they eat, pay rent, buy meds or pay Avista... in a USA such as we have, this is shameful...</p> <p>I also would like to see the UTC change the charges for reading the meters ... I have 3 meters... so you can see, I pay quite a sum for those...no need for that at all....</p> <p>Also,I would like to see our rates go totally to a flat rate, no matter the amount one uses..</p> <p>I would very much like to the UTC to deny the sale of Avista to the Canadian company. from what I have read, they continually raise rate too... I feel we live in the USA and that is where the company that gives us our power should be too..</p> <p>I also feel other electric companies should be allowed to sell us our electricity and natural gas.. Monopolies are not a consumers friend...</p> <p>Pat Halland Colville, WA</p>

Richard Olberding E-mail

AVISTA

SALE

Avista has been a great asset to the communities they serve. In my opinion they are a first class company. It is our purchases of their products and their operations that make this happen. Why is Avista up for sale? Is Avista solvent and making money? If they are not making lots of money then why are they paying out such large dividends? Check the dividends for the past ten years and you will see that they have continuously gone up and their stock has gone up accordingly. As the stocks and dividends continue to rise, so do the requests for rate increases. There is no competition by other companies to provide electricity and natural gas so the consumers are held hostage and have to buy from Avista.

As of August 2017 Avista is asking for a rate increase in Wn. state and a monthly surcharge in Idaho as the result of a warm winter in 2016 that resulted in a less sale of electricity and natural gas.

Why don't they reduce the dividends they and Northwest Natural Gas pay the shareholders? Instead of reducing the dividends both companies increased their dividends. Shouldn't the shareholders help absorb the risk of lower than expected earnings? I can't recall these two companies of ever lowering their dividends. Avista just asks for rate increases through the State Utilities and Transportation Commission who regulates their prices. According to the stock reports in the daily newspaper their dividends are among the highest listed in the stock report.

The plans as announced by Hydro One is to retain the name of Avista for their Spokane office. In keeping the name of Avista they probably are thinking that it will make it more palliative for the communities and customers to lose their local company. It's a matter of identity and name familiarity. Hydro One plans are to have a 9 member board of directors for their Avista operations.

5 members to be appointed by Hydro One and 4 members by Avista with the present CEO as one of 4. Who will appoint the other 3 members? Will they have to approved by Hydro One? The 5 to 4 assures Hydro One controlling the operations of Spokane Avista. Hydro One plans on keeping all Avista employees. It brings up the issue of salary comparison between Hydro One in Canada and their satellite operation in Spokane. What does a lineman make per hour in Spokane and their counterpart in Canada? Could be a real problem for the unions in their contracts. They are doing the same job and the exchange rate in dollars would be a large factor to consider. Hydro

One is also planning to double the amount that Avista is contributing to the communities for philanthropic works. These are all just plans that can be changed at anytime.

By going on the internet one can get an understanding of who Hydro One is, how it came into being, their reputation with their customers, what the Canadian newspapers have to say about the Avista deal, their stock prices and dividends they are paying and a whole lot of other information of interest. A guest article in the Spokesman review on August 6, 2017 alluded to the distinct possibility that Avista customers may have to help pay for the cleanup of the Coldstrip coal generating plant that is scheduled to shut down in the future. Will Hydro One inherit this liability if they purchase Avista?

Most recently Hydro One stock was selling for \$22.36 on the Canadian stock market and shareholders received a 28 cent dividend in May of 2017, down from 35 cents in the same period last year according to a Canadian newspaper article. The Ontario Government is reported as owning about 47 per cent of Hydro One stock.

The purchase price of Avista is reported in our local newspaper as 5.3 billion dollars. In Canadian newspapers they state the price is 4.4 billion in one paper and in another it is quoted as 6.7 billion. In the deal Hydro One is also assuming a 1.9 billion Avista debt. The real question is how much money will Hydro have to borrow in Canadian money to pay cash for this deal? The current exchange rate is in the range of mid to high 20 cents on the dollar. Using 25 cents as a base it would require them to borrow about 6.7 billion Canadian dollars, just what the one newspaper reported. The Avista debt has to be paid off in U.S. dollars. Hydro One is currently paying off their own debt which they say will be paid off this year. Hydro One is currently advertising debenture bonds at 4 per cent interest in Canada.

The Bloomberg report questions the advisability of the purchase price Hydro One is paying per share for Avista stock. Their offer increased the value of Avista stock by 24 per cent. This must have been the incentive for Avista to sell their company. The Spokesman Review projected how much some shareholders would receive for their shares. The CEO is to gain 10 million for his shares.

The top five executives would receive a combined total of 21.57 million dollars. Hydro One stock is not listed on the New York stock exchange.

The Avista customer base remains relatively static. Growth comes slowly and Hydro One must recognize this. What their growth plans are an unknown operational factor.

We the consumers will pay U.S. dollars for our electricity and natural gas. If Hydro One makes a profit in Spokane, I assume that the U.S. dollars will go to Canada where they will be worth whatever the exchange rate is and they could pay off their Canadian debt more quickly with the U.S. dollars. Will Hydro One in Spokane be banking locally?

If this deal goes through, Hydro One will then control the dams and the water level of Coeur D Alene lake and control the flow of the entire length of the Spokane river. They will also control the flow behind their dams in Montana. Will the Spokane Indian Tribe be concerned because the river runs through part of their reservation and the Little Falls dam I believe is located on their reservation. Our aquifer is partially recharged by the Spokane river.

Another question is, will Hydro One buy their equipment and supplies to operate the Spokane operations locally or will they ship them in from Canada?

If Avista is ready to sell their company then it may be an opportune time to create a Public Utilities District which is non-profit and we will be able to control our river and dams. There are about 28 PUD in Wa. State at this time. The States of Idaho and Montana will also be affected by this proposed sale of Avista.

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	David Boleneus	Web	<p>***Please see attachment for referenced PDF file*** ***Customer was at the 5-2-18 public comment hearing and submitted written comments, see attachment*** ***Customer submitted 77 attachments in 5 emails on 5-30-18***</p> <p>I object to acquisition of Avista Corp. by Hydro One</p> <p>Full explanation is found in attached PDF file</p> <p>I object to the acquisition of Avista by Hydro One. Hydro One will not serve the interests of current Avista customers due to Hydro One's relationship with the Province of Ontario, its fiduciary duty to the premier, laws of the Province, its risk of bankruptcy and other reasons outlined in the attachment.</p>
	Don Brockett	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for word document of comment***</p> <p>Before the Avista sale to Hydro One, a Canadian company, is approved several questions should be answered for us, the ratepayers, and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Since Canada is a foreign and socialist country, how will that affect the legislation brought to bear on that corporation and will it have to be implemented throughout the company regardless of where its sub-divisions are located? A progressive country may want to implement policies that are not consistent with those we believe are in our best interest. As just one example, will Avista meet the needs of environmentalists in Canada by imposing company-wide requirements that will affect our energy needs and the cost of providing the energy? 2) According to the post-closing corporate structure documents, there will be a multi-corporate

structure. The Canadian company will have a sub-division, a Delaware corporation, of which the WA corporation will be a part. The question arises: what laws will have to be followed by the corporation? Do legal questions and actions brought by or against Avista need to be filed in WA, Delaware, or Canada?

3) Is it good business for the company (and us, the ratepayers) to move the decisions of the local sub-division to a foreign country? It probably doesn't matter for the company, because it does not have to be competitive, but how will it affect us, its ratepayers? It appears there will still be a CEO and board of directors located here, although the reason is unknown, because the decisions will be made in Canada with the additional problem that the representatives of the local entity will be constantly arguing for an appropriate position with all the other sub-businesses of the parent company. Will our interests be best served by such a structure?

4) What will be the deciding factor for the parent company in requesting increases in rates? Since this is a private corporation, it obviously needs to be profitable and needs to have a dividend satisfactory for its stockholders. The company, since it does not have to be competitive will not have to be concerned for the ratepayers. That concern is theoretically shouldered by an unelected commission (the WUTC) and we have no choice. What effect will that have on the management of the company since the profits will be earned in Canada? Where will the taxes be paid?

An example of how business has been conducted under the current structure is shown by a recent flyer in which Avista noted that "for the seventh consecutive year, Avista has been named to the top 25 corporate philanthropists in the State of Washington". The flyer noted that it had distributed "more than \$2.2 million to charitable organizations in communities where our customers live and work." Will that work of charitable contributions continue as it has in the past?

On the Avista website there is a document detailing the contributions. Some of them are for:

Various food banks located in various places,

Matching gifts for money contributed by employees, i.e., to an ALS chapter in Kent WA,

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg VA, apparently an historical place showcasing the past,

			<p>Move for Hunger Inc. in Neptune NJ, Northwest Harvest in Seattle, Gonzaga University construction of the Hemmingson Univ. Center \$50,000. etc. (To see a list of contributions go to the Avista website, The Avista Foundation, Schedule of Grants Issued in the Community)</p> <p>Avista contends that the shareholders pay for the charitable contributions, not the ratepayers. That argument will not stand scrutiny unless the shareholders actually vote to give some of their dividends to those charitable causes and receive less in dividends as a result.</p> <p>Why has Avista been allowed to make the contributions instead of using those funds to lower the rates we pay for our energy? Why hasn't the Attorney General, who is elected to look out for the interests of the citizens of the state, confronted this issue and allowed a non-competitive company to raise energy rates in order to continue its charitable interests?</p> <p>Economics 101 teaches that in business money must come in before it can go out. So, obviously the company must raise rates (the cost of the sale of its products) in order to have enough to pay business expenses, salaries, etc., before deciding on dividends. When some of the money is used to contribute to the charitable foundation (now the holder of \$8.9 million) for distribution to its chosen charities and invested to have more money available, why is it not used to lower the rates instead of being given to charitable causes of its choosing? By contributions to charity the company pays less in taxes thereby having us pay what it would otherwise pay for the support of government which also takes our money and hands it out to the charitable causes of its choice. When the company needs more money to sustain its "business", including charitable giving, it must raise its rates because the money has to come in before it can go out.</p> <p>The sale should not be approved by the WUTC.</p>
	Doug Jones	E-mail	Please oppose the sale of Avista to the foreign national concern, HydroOne. As a rate payer, I cannot understand the sale of strategic energy assets to a foreign entity. It makes rate payers

subject to influences outside our own borders, — not to mention the possibility of a future sale to another enterprise hostile to our interests. Article opposing the sale is below.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Doug Jones

The Seriousness of the Hydro One Purchase of Avista

By David Boleneus

February 5, 2018

The Avista sale to HydroOne and subjecting Avista customers to HydroOne is wrong for several reasons as I discuss here and could bring severe impacts on Avista customers if cross-border practices are carried into the U.S. from Ontario by Hydro One.

If translated here, the effect will be traumatic, extremely costly, and even life-threatening. The key objection is that HydroOne will bring its practices from Ontario to Avista customers, practices which are unnecessary and have brought serious hardships on HydroOne's customers in Ontario.

FOUR POINTS

FIRST: Impacts on Ontarian's are numerous; with Ontario's expensive electricity, parents must decide whether to heat or eat their homes in the cold of northern Ontario. Hydro One has disconnected 58,000 customers, some as winter approached. The most severe objection is the extraordinary price of electricity imposed on Ontarians.

In 2018 Ontario's HydroOne price is CN 66.2 cents per kilowatt-hour and in 2019 it will increase to CN 83.9 cents. This is not the rate for electricity, or the rate advertised, but is HydroOne's "total" invoice that includes electric use and a global adjustment fee (explained in article) with the latter equal to 75% or more of the invoiced billing. I have added the two costs, for ease of comparison, to equal CN 66.2 cents per kwhr in 2018. HydroOne's electricity cost has increased from 5.1¢ per kwhr in 2010, an increase of 1,298 percent in eight years.

SECOND: Avista does not understand why HydroOne is acquiring Avista. This is a stark statement but in questioning two Avista government affairs officers in a January 2018 meeting

they feel dollars per share received in the sale and HydroOne's higher bond rating to allow more economical financing ability are the only reasons. They are unaware of the Green Energy hoax that has stricken HydroOne's Ontario customers.

No Avista executive has visited Timmons or Echo Bay or rural communities in Ontario to witness first hand. Impacts of electric rate increases to 83.9 cents are only the "tip of the iceberg" of impacts so to speak.

1. Ending the use of coal power plants and increasing the use of wind turbines to generate electricity. This is already underway. It started in 2008 so this practice alone has driven electric rates from 7 cents per kwhr to 66.2 cents today.
2. The second point is cap and trade. Customers will be impacted substantially more as cap and trade operations get fully underway starting in 2018. Cap and trade is an expensive and illusory method to relieve carbon emitters of their carbon dioxide emissions but it harms energy security and low income families. It's a European-style political scheme to gain "credit" by making fuels arbitrarily scarce by trading something "clean" while passing costs on to customers.
3. The third is taxation of carbon dioxide which begins across Canada in 2018. Washington State's Governor hopes to pass a carbon tax into law in 2018. Taxing carbon dioxide is the classical bait-and-switch. Governments promise rhetorical benefits to the environment while forcing customers to pay for "air". It is a tax on air because 69 percent of the tax is levied on the air required to burn the fuel. More will be reported on carbon taxes and cap and trade in later articles.

Is there any benefit in reducing carbon dioxide? Is the benefit large or small, measurable or imaginary?

- Does this benefit justify a cost of \$3200 per month for cap and trade?
- Is there a benefit to justify making electricity available only to the elite class and unavailable to wage-earners?
- Does this benefit justify paying electric rates of 83.9 ¢ per kwhr? Ontario's average electric use is

about 800 to 900 kw-hours per month (its 975 kw-hr/ month in Washington), so a monthly invoice could be \$755 before service charges or about one-half of a wage-earners' income each month.

- ABOUT PLANT HEALTH: If carbon dioxide benefits plants to grow and more of it benefits plants more, then how is it possible that carbon dioxide is dangerous?
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It seems clear that Hydro One is purchasing Avista for CN \$6.8 billion to escape paying US \$8 billion to the California Climate Exchange, a fee due if Hydro cannot find clean energy credits to offset their carbon emissions. Before HydroOne Avista owned 1,024 megawatts of power in their hydroelectric dams. After the sale, the dams will be traded as clean energy credits on the climate exchange in either Ontario or California.

Will the sell-off of Avista's hydro-electric dams impact the cost of customer electric rates?.

- Will HydroOne's ownership of the dams and its claim of "clean" credit on the California Climate Exchange impact Avista's ability to serve customers as we are now accustomed?
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Figure 1. Chart compares electricity cost against installed renewable capacity in cents (US) per kilowatt-hour.

Note the very high cost of electricity of HydroOne at CN66.2¢ (or US53.6 ¢) in 2018 increasing to

CN81¢ per kwhr in 2019 which has climbed to these levels from CN 5.1¢ per kwhr in 2010 to CN29.9 ¢ per kwhr in 2015. HydroOne promised to add \$295 to each customer electric invoice from 2018-2019. Following are high costs also in South Australia, Denmark, and Germany. These very high rates compare to the very low electric costs of 7.8¢ per kwhr for Avista and 11.9¢ average for Washington State in 2017. CN=Canadian currency. 1 CN dollar = 0.81 US dollar. Kwhr = kilowatt-hour

Current Avista customers must consider the impact of electric rates if Avista joins HydroOne. (See Figure 1 to compare electric rates.) Customers must consider if there is a risk that Avista rates will increase from today's 7.8¢ per kwhr to match the HydroOne rate in Ontario of CN66.2¢ per kwhr (same as US 53.6¢ per kwhr) in 2018. HydroOne has already promised a rate increase to CN81¢ per kwhr in 2019. It is also clear from the Figure that a larger percent of installed renewable energy translates to higher cost of electricity.

As a result, the climate change hoax has spawned another victim as Hydro One acquires Avista Corp.

This is only a small sample of the impacts which I explain more fully in the above link, HydroOne is wrong.

The question: Should Avista customers be informed of what is happening in Ontario to judge for themselves on this issue? At this time we can only speculate about translation of Ontario practices to the U.S. With time one should expect Hydro will introduce these policies into Avista territory. As acceptance of Ontario's green energy laws becomes more widespread and as similar laws are being considered in Washington, for example, practices may become more widely acceptable. But impacts of cost and deception of the role of carbon dioxide will also accrue.

I will present a third lecture on the Avista issue in February and have lectured several times about Climate Change: Why it is Not Happening; Why Humans have No Impact. There is no danger from carbon dioxide if climate change caused by humans is not happening. The subject of carbon dioxide in today's hydrosphere was a related topic for my graduate thesis several years ago, so it's a subject with which I am very familiar. On first learning of the Avista acquisition by HydroOne and examining Ontario's climate law, it was immediately clear that joining HydroOne was not in my interest as it may represent a risk of enormous increase in cost of electricity. It's clear that

			Ontario and HydroOne misunderstand the importance of carbon dioxide in the world today.
	Steve Dunham	E-mail	<p>***PLEASE SEE 2-28-18 ATTACHMENT FOR ADDITIONAL CUSTOMER EMAIL AND PDF ATTACHMENT***</p> <p>Please oppose the sale of Avista to a foreign nation who could then sell it to another nation such as China or Russia . As an Avista customer I am shocked you would even consider allowing this sale to go through. Please read the following article. Steve Dunham</p> <p>The Seriousness of the Hydro One Purchase of Avista</p> <p>By David Boleneus February 5, 2018</p> <p>The Avista sale to HydroOne and subjecting Avista customers to HydroOne is wrong for several reasons as I discuss here and could bring severe impacts on Avista customers if cross-border practices are carried into the U.S. from Ontario by Hydro One.</p> <p>If translated here, the effect will be traumatic, extremely costly, and even life-threatening. The key objection is that HydroOne will bring its practices from Ontario to Avista customers, practices which are unnecessary and have brought serious hardships on HydroOne's customers in Ontario.</p> <p>FOUR POINTS</p> <p>FIRST: Impacts on Ontarian's are numerous; with Ontario's expensive electricity, parents must decide whether to heat or eat their homes in the cold of northern Ontario. Hydro One has disconnected 58,000 customers, some as winter approached. The most severe objection is the extraordinary price of electricity imposed on Ontarians.</p> <p>In 2018 Ontario's HydroOne price is CN 66.2 cents per kilowatt-hour and in 2019 it will increase to CN 83.9 cents. This is not the rate for electricity, or the rate advertised, but is HydroOne's "total" invoice that includes electric use and a global adjustment fee (explained in article) with the</p>

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I will present a third lecture on the Avista issue in February and have lectured several times about

			<p>Climate Change: Why it is Not Happening; Why Humans have No Impact. There is no danger from carbon dioxide if climate change caused by humans is not happening. The subject of carbon dioxide in today's hydrosphere was a related topic for my graduate thesis several years ago, so it's a subject with which I am very familiar. On first learning of the Avista acquisition by HydroOne and examining Ontario's climate law, it was immediately clear that joining HydroOne was not in my interest as it may represent a risk of enormous increase in cost of electricity. It's clear that Ontario and HydroOne misunderstand the importance of carbon dioxide in the world today.</p>
	Marvin Newcomb	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for second comment from customer received 5-70-18***</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am OPPOSED to the sale of Avista to ANY foreign companies, countries, or foreign citizens.</p> <p>It is bad enough when I have no input to Avista policies and I live in Spokane. How can I have any say if it is controlled somewhere else? The rates are already too high and who will have the final say about price increases, Canada, WUTC, shareholders, or WHO ? Lots of questions that are NOT being answered.</p> <p>Sincerely, Marvin Newcomb 509-327-5681</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Mark Voorhees	E-mail	<p>To the Washington UTC,</p> <p>I ask the my comments be added to the docket U-170970 as public comment.</p> <p>I'll keep this short and to the point. For the many reasons that have been brought to the attention of this committee and the reasons taht have yet to be brought to the attention of this committee, by individuals with more letters after their names than me, I strongly oppose the sale of Avista Utilities to Hydro One. Thank you for the consideration.</p> <p>Regards, Mark Voorhees Spokane Valley, WA</p>
	Don Mortenson	Mail	<p>***SEE ATTACHED FORM FOR COMMENT*** ***Customer left written comment at public comment hearing***</p>
	William J Pivonka	Mail	<p>***SEE ATTACHED LETTER FOR COMMENT***</p>
	Cindy Zapotocky	E-mail	<p>***Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18. See attachments for additional comments***</p> <p>> Begin forwarded message: I completely agree with this letter that my friend Cindy Zapotocky sent to you . Please STOP this sale. Utility companies should be locally owned and controlled by the rate payers not foreign governments.</p> <p>></p> <p>> To: The Washington State Transportation and Utilities Commission</p> <p>> From: Cindy Zapotocky</p> <p>></p>

> PLEASE STOP THE SALE OF AVISTA UTILITY TO HYDRO ONE
>
> I agree with the Spokesman Review op ed editorial by former Spokane
> Prosecutor Don Brockett. (See below.) I also agree with, and am submitting
> into my testimony, the excellent commentary from geologist Dave Boleneus
> attached.
>
> There are many other reasons to not support the sale of Avista to a
> shadowy "Canadian" company. Most concerning of all to me, is that, although
> we know the provincial government of Ontario claims to own 49% of Hydro One,
> WE RATEPAYERS DO NOT KNOW WHO OWNS THE OTHER 51% !! U.S. laws do not
> allow
> such suspicious secrecy. (Could it be a situation like the scandalous
> URANIUM ONE scandal being scrutinized by the U.S. Attorney General, whereby
> a Canadian company "fronted" for a secret partner to buy American-mined
> yellow cake uranium....FOR RUSSIA?????)
>
> A vast extent of wind turbines stretches across the shorelines of our three
> U.S. Great Lakes that border Ontario and in the lakes as well. Ontario
> residents have expressed great hatred of these great bird chopping monsters
> because the Province has mandated the outlay of the turbines without regard
> of the public. Likely Hydro One will bring more turbines here. Ontario has
> 6,736 wind turbines that cover an area of 1,320,000 acres, more than 2,060
> square miles. This is a very serious matter because, as local hydro geologist
> Dave Boleneus, has said, his research shows that wind turbines cannot
> represent a primary power source. They are not consistent energy producers,
> and need huge areas of land and money to build and operate. The data
> collected by Bonneville Power Administration proves this.
>
> Our state's irreplaceable dams are a treasure to our citizens. Hydropower is
> the safest and cleanest energy producer on the planet Earth. The massive
> reservoirs behind our dams are the most efficient storage systems of
> electricity in existence today, making this energy source efficient,
> dependable and inexpensive. Our sturdy and well managed dams are the envy of

> the world!! Why allow foreign countries to control and manage our system for
> us? This is suicide for our nation and state's protective sovereignty. Could
> not a co-op of the four states take over the management of our electric
> system?
>
> I agree with Boleneus and Brockett and many other citizens. The sale of
> Avista to Hydro One is not in the best interests of U.S. citizens and state
> ratepayers like me. Say no please. This sale would affect four states,
> including Washington. Alternatives need to be found to this sale. Would a
> four-state coop be an option for our utilities?
>
> Thank you, Cindy Zapotocky
> 1728 E Rockwood Blvd.
> Spokane, Wa 99203
> Phone: 509-534-5707
>
> Note can be reached at:
> David Boleneus
> Geologist, LG LHG
> tel. 509-468-9062
>
>

>
> Don Brockett Spokesman Review editorial--February 5, 2018
>
> "Before the Avista sale to Hydro One, a Canadian company, is approved,
> several questions should be answered for us, the ratepayers, and the
> Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission:
>
> 1) Since Canada is a foreign and socialist country, how will that affect
> the legislation brought to bear on that corporation, and will it have to be
> implemented throughout the company regardless of where its subdivisions are
> located? A progressive country may want to implement policies that are not
> consistent with those we believe are in our best interest. As just one

> example, will Avista meet the needs of environmentalists in Canada by
> imposing companywide requirements that will affect our energy needs and the
> cost of providing the energy?
>
> 2) According to the post-closing corporate structure documents, there will
> be a multi-corporate structure. The Canadian company will have a subdivision,
> a Delaware corporation, of which the Washington corporation will be a part.
> The question arises: what laws will have to be followed by the corporation?
> Do legal questions and actions brought by or against Avista need to be filed
> in Washington, Delaware or Canada?
>
> 3) Is it good business for the company (and us, the ratepayers) to move
> the decisions of the local subdivision to a foreign country? It probably
> doesn't matter for the company, because it does not have to be competitive,
> but how will it affect us, its ratepayers? It appears there will still be a
> CEO and board of directors located here, although the reason is unknown,
> because the decisions will be made in Canada with the additional problem that
> the representatives of the local entity will be constantly arguing for an
> appropriate position with all the other sub-businesses of the parent company.
> Will our interests be best served by such a structure?
>
> 4) What will be the deciding factor for the parent company in requesting
> increases in rates? Since this is a private corporation, it obviously needs
> to be profitable and needs to have a dividend satisfactory for its
> stockholders. The company, since it does not have to be competitive will not
> have to be concerned for the ratepayers. That concern is theoretically
> shouldered by an unelected commission (the WUTC) and we have no choice. What
> effect will that have on the management of the company since the profits will
> be earned in Canada? Where will the taxes be paid?
>
> An example of how business has been conducted under the current structure
> is shown by a recent flier in which Avista noted that "for the seventh
> consecutive year, Avista has been named to the top 25 corporate
> philanthropists in the State of Washington." The flier noted that it had

- > distributed “more than \$2.2 million to charitable organizations in
- > communities where our customers live and work.” Will that work of charitable
- > contributions continue as it has in the past?
- >
- > On the Avista website there is a document detailing the contributions.
- > Some of them are for:
- >
- > Various food banks located in various places; matching gifts for money
- > contributed by employees, e.g., to an ALS Association chapter in Kent,
- > Washington; the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, Virginia,
- > apparently an historical place showcasing the past; Move for Hunger Inc. in
- > Neptune, N.J.; Northwest Harvest in Seattle; Gonzaga University’s
- > construction of the Hemmingson Center, \$50,000; etc. (To see a list of
- > contributions go to the Avista website, The Avista Foundation, Schedule of
- > Grants Issued in the Community.)
- >
- > Avista and the WUTC contend that the shareholders pay for the charitable
- > contributions, not the ratepayers. That argument will not stand scrutiny
- > unless the shareholders actually vote to give some of their dividends to
- > those charitable causes and receive less in dividends as a result.
- >
- > Why has the WUTC allowed the contributions to be made instead of using
- > those funds to lower the rates we pay for our energy? Why hasn’t the attorney
- > general, who is elected to look out for the interests of the citizens of the
- > state, confronted this issue and allowed a noncompetitive company to raise
- > energy rates in order to continue its charitable interests?
- >
- > Economics 101 teaches that in business money must come in before it can go
- > out. So, obviously the company must raise rates (the cost of the sale of its
- > products) in order to have enough to pay business expenses, salaries, etc.,
- > before deciding on dividends. When some of the money is used to contribute to
- > the charitable foundation (now the holder of \$8.9 million) for distribution
- > to its chosen charities and invested to have more money available, why is it
- > not used to lower the rates instead of being given to charitable causes of

			<p>> its choosing? By contributing to charity the company pays less in taxes, > thereby having us pay what it would otherwise pay for the support of > government – which also takes our money and hands it out to the charitable > causes of its choice. When the company needs more money to sustain > its “business,” including charitable giving, it must raise its rates because > the money has to come in before it can go out. > > Is it time for a public utility district with elected officials looking > out for our interests in obtaining these necessary commodities? The sale > should not be approved by the WUTC." > > Don Brockett is a former Spokane County prosecutor (1969-1994). > ----- End of Forwarded Message ----- ></p>
	<p>Joseph B. Rivard and Anya Carlson</p>	<p>Mail</p>	<p>***SEE ATTACHED COMMENT***</p>
	<p>John Charleston Northwest Grassroots</p>	<p>E-mail</p>	<p>I urge the Utility Commission to NOT enter an agreement to sell Avista. Many of the reasons are contained within this report:</p> <p>http://gemstatepatriot.com/blog/hydro-one-avista/ --</p> <p>John Charleston Northwest Grassroots 509-238-9468 nwgrassroots@gmail.com</p> <p>Watch: "The Price They Paid"</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Terryl Black	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Please read the following well cited article and DO NOT approve the sale of Avista Utilities. How does it help anyone to sell our power to a foreign entity? This should NEVER be allowed. I urge you to STOP this sale.</p> <p>Terryl Black</p> <p>http://gemstatepatriot.com/blog/hydro-one-avista/</p> <p>Get Outlook for iOS</p>
	Wendy Powell	E-mail	<p>I register my vote against Avista being sold to Hydro One, an out of the country utility that is wrecking havoc on utility rates for their customers in Ontario Canada. The five year window of paybacks to the public will not even be measurable help when our utility rates are raised 400% as per what has happened in Canada. Hydro One is ensuring poverty, even lack of sufficient funds to pay for food, for many of their customers there. Is that what you will authorize for the consumer in our state? Will this promote business or poverty? And what is Avista CEO stand to get from this sale? And his other top employees? They will be taking the proceeds all the way to the bank. I beg you to stop this Trojan horse from taking over the power grid of much of our state, and influencing policy</p> <p>Wendy Powell 3202 E Dupree Ln Valleyford, WA 99036, 509-998-1036</p> <p>Sent from Mail for Windows 10</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	E. C. Stellmon	E-mail	<p>Why is a sale of America's utility company being commenced to a socialist foreign country?</p> <p>Our country's Avista utility company sale to Canada should be illegal and disallowed. Not only is this transaction outrageous but we American customers will be forced to pay America's highest utility rates because Canada will enforce their green laws on us rate-payers.</p> <p>Avista-HydroOne will charge terribly expensive monthly energy rates as well as multiple monthly surcharges for their charitable contributions and various other obscure fees. If we customers have trouble paying for basic energy needs, prepare to endure some very cold indoor winter temperatures, with the attendant pneumonia, flu and colds.</p> <p>Please email your concerns to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission at "comments@utc.wa.gov."</p> <p>Please make every attempt to attend their public hearing meeting April 23, 1-4:30 PM at the Spokane Valley City Council Chambers at 10210 E. Sprague and voice your concerns, as Steve Dunham's letter of April 7 urges us to do.</p> <p>This imminent sale can still be stopped by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. We are being told that the sale is going through, but we can stop it if we only do so.</p> <p>Thank you for your help.</p> <p>E. C. Stellmon ecstellmon@gmail.com</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Rob Leach	E-mail	I do not support the sale of a public utility to a Canadian company. America's energy should not be controlled by non-American entities! Avista needs to stay American owned! Rob Leach Mica WA 509 280 5357
	Scott Willegalle	E-mail	Do Not allow sale of Avista to HydroOne. When a company buys another company the purchased community suffers in the future. I believe after sale Avista will be gutted in Spokane of the office jobs that higher than average wage of Spokane. Higher wages help service industries like retail and food. Spokane needs these higher wages. Don't let these higher than average office wages get taken away from eastern Washington. Avista has always made a profit why do they need to be sold? Scott Willegalle 5094752862 Spokane WA. 99205
	William Foreman	E-mail	Please add my name to those opposing the upcoming sale of Avista to HydroOne. Having another foreign entity owning something as important as an electrical utility in the United States of America is unwise at best. Sincerely, William Foreman Sent from Blue
	Margaret G. Maresca	Mail	***SEE ATTACHED LETTER FOR COMMENT***
	Ms. Catherine Isabel	Mail	***SEE ATTACHED LETTER FOR COMMENT***

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Janetta Michael	E-mail	I strongly object to HydroOne's acquisition of Avista. This is a national security issue with a foreign owned company owning our dams and electric generation and transportation infrastructure. Janetta Michael
	Patty McDonald	E-mail	I object to the merger of Avista and Hydro One. Keep our electric companies American!!! Americans don't want foreign countries to own our Public or private Utilities! Also we don't want higher rates.
	Scott Brigham	E-mail	Aren't the utility rates in north eastern Washington high enough already? This sale will only increase our rates. The sale to Hydro One of Avista is a bad idea on so many levels! Sent from my iPhone
	Gloria Clark	E-mail	I object to the merger of Avista and Hydro One. Cordially, Gloria Clark

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	J Michael Blair	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern.</p> <p>I object to the merger of Avista and Hydro One. I see no benefit for those of us who live with and appreciate the utilities provided by the current Avista operations. A foreign company should not be allowed to acquire Avista. Please do not allow this merger to be carried forward.</p> <p>J Michael Blair 509-869-0778</p>
	Gary Mitchell	E-mail	<p>Please Do NOT sell Avista to Canada. Can't we keep OUR companies in OUR country ???</p> <p>Gary</p>
	R. L. Hoover	E-mail	<p>Please take measures to ensure AVISTA is not sold to foreign investors.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Rick Bayles	E-mail	<p>Good morning, I implore you please prevent the sale of Avista to Canada's HydroOne if this sale goes thru I believe it will put an unrecoverable hardship on the American consumers. in the form of exorbitantly expensive monthly energy, multiple monthly surcharges to support their charitable contributions and other obscure fees added to our energy bills. If this sale is permitted to go thru the number of families here that have to struggle to pay their utilities will swell to a staggering amount that will be forced to decide between heat and lights and food, medical attention etc.the american families should not have to bundle up in sweaters,jackets and blankets in their own homes just to stay warm. So PLEASE PLEASE stop the sale do not allow a bigger burden to be added to our lives. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my plea.</p> <p>RICK Bayles 6062 east Borley Rd. Coeur d'Alene,Idaho 83814</p>
	Kimberly Lee	E-mail	<p>As an Idaho resident and Avista customer, I am adamantly opposed to Avista being sold to Canada's HydroOne. An eastern Canadian corporation will not have our area's best interest in mind and will have a negative impact on our environment. American utilities should stay in America.</p> <p>Kimberly Lee</p>
	Mark Etchieson	Mail	***See attached letter for comments***
	Perry A. Ames	Mail	***See attached letter***

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Tim O'Brien	E-mail	<p>***See attachment - customer submitted second, identical comment on 4-20-18***</p> <p>My bill has already gone up contrary to what Avista has promised re: sale to Canada.</p> <p>STOP!</p>
	Philip J. Mulligan	E-mail	<p>To Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission</p> <p>Thank you if you will prevent this sale from going through because I believe that this is a conflict of interest on several grounds.</p> <p>In the first instance, I don't trust Canada to respect the best interests of rate payers in OUR benefit area, nor even just Canada. For example, I am long aware that Los Angeles would hope for access to water and power from Alaska's Yukon River, if they could buy it, but with the abundant hydropower available, to Canada, in Quebec, why does Canada aspire to have access to ours?</p> <p>Whatever their motives, I doubt their altruism towards OUR best interests.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Philip J. Mulligan</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	James D Tarbert	E-mail	<p>If they do merge, I sincerely hope that we see some improvement in the management of their facilities. We can hardly go two weeks without an outage, sometimes not two days.</p> <p>We lived and worked in California for several years and experienced exactly one outage in thirty years...and that was subsequent to the Lome Prietta Earthquake. The power was down less than an hour.</p> <p>It is my opinion that Avista is the most poorly managed power company who suffers the most power outages in the entire United States. Constant equipment failures...they say.</p> <p>We have friends near here who are served by Inland Power and Light I believe it is, and they say they almost never experience an outage...and if they do, they receive re-imbusement for the inconvenience and to pay for the gasoline needed to run emergency generators etc.</p> <p>Thank you for listening.</p> <p>James D Tarbert 6727 River Way Fruitland, WA 99129-9751 (509) 722-3085 jdjimt@gmail.com</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Duane Statler	E-mail	<p>Good Afternoon Commission Members,</p> <p>I have several concerns about the proposed utility merger. The first being how the cost structure and guaranteed rate of return is currently set-up. I have read in several places that Hydro One's performance is not in our best interest. Guaranteeing a profit regardless of performance is not in anyone's best interest. The UTC should take this opportunity to address this and throw out this standard rate. Second, I am wondering how having a foreign entity in control of our services would effect the creation of a PUD in AVISTA's current footprint. We have been working on possibly taking public control of AVISTA for years now. Third and most important is how there seems to be a huge hurry to push this merger thru. I truly believe that Hydro One could be convinced to increase incentives to customers with more negotiations. Usually these type of situations benefit from taking a step back and reviewing the whole picture. I urge the UTC regulators to error on the side of caution while making this life changing decision. I have no other provider available and will be held victim to a merged monopoly.</p> <p>At this point, I would have to vote against this merger as an AVISTA customer. I believe we as customers could and would benefit from more negotiations. Thanks for asking for our input and looking out for everyone's best interests.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">sincerely, Duane Statler 4808 E. Commerce Ave Spokane, WA 99212 (509)435-7718</p>
	Paul Bennett	E-mail	I do not want hydro one to take over avista utilities.....

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Steve	E-mail	<p>***Second comment from customer received 4-22-18***</p> <p>NO to the sale to a foreign country! Two "no" votes from this household.</p> <p>Deer Park, WA</p> <p>***First comment received 4-19-18***</p> <p>Sale of our power company to a foreign nation is unconscionable and should not be allowed. We are slowly selling our country to foreign powers in the name of greed, and we're told it's for our own good. I guess \$5,000,000 is not enough, per year, for Morris.</p>
	Rob Leach	E-mail	<p>We should not allow a foreign country to be in control of any of our energy vehicles, especially ones we currently own! the sale of Avista to the Canadian owned Hydro One should be stopped.</p> <p>Thanks you</p> <p>Rob Leach Mica WA 99023</p> <p>Sent from Windows Mail</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Pearl Bouchard	E-mail	<p>Remember when utilities were considered "public"? So now that Avista is a "private business" a decision is made to sell off for whose benefit? Of course Canada will run the "business" according to their principles, beliefs, and best for Canadian citizens. I know that the Federal government has intervened in the sale of other "businesses" to foreign countries and if the UTC.WA can't make a decision to the advantage of American citizens, maybe we can get the Feds to pay attention.</p> <p>Pearl Bouchard</p>
	David Paperd	E-mail	<p>***Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18***</p> <p>I myself like some others can not see what benefits will accrue to rate payers and customers of Avista. The purchase of our utility to an out of country firm is not something we would approve or can see is necessary.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>David and Deborah Paperd Liberty Lake, Wa.</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
	Marshall Smith	E-mail	That water belongs to the U.S. That is all

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Debbie Schupp	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing to urge you NOT to sell Avista Utility to Canada's Hydro One. We need to have pride in our country and to do that you need to have the best interest of your customers in mind. Selling to a foreign entity continues to put our Nation at risk of failing to be self sustaining and independent of foreign influence. We need you to find a way to keep what is made in America stay in America. Be a leader in keeping our power ours not Canada's. The people of Spokane and all your customers are counting on you.</p> <p>Debbie Schupp</p>
	Brandon Michaelson	E-mail	<p>The sale of Avista utility to Canada's hydro one is not in the best interest of ratepayers.</p> <p>Please look for alternatives!</p> <p>--</p> <p>Brandon Michaelson (509) 496-2890</p>
	Shilo Michaelson	E-mail	<p>The sale of Avista utility to Canada's hydro one is not in the best interest of ratepayers. Please look for alternatives!</p> <p>--</p> <p>Shilo Michaelson</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Bill Overholser	E-mail	As a US citizen living in Spokane, Washington, why would I think that receiving electrical power from Canada would be in my best interest? I can't think of any positive benefit of that except to the pocketbooks of the decision makers at Avista. I was not happy when the guy from Texas came and changed the name from Washington Water Power to Avista. This transaction should be stopped and those in power who supported it should find work elsewhere. Sincerely, Bill Overholser Spokane, WA
	Gerald Lundt	E-mail	The sale of vista to a Canadian company is not in the best interest of Washinton rate payers nor the interest of the USA. We do no want to be owned nor controlled by an other country. Sent from my iPad
	Charlie Howard	E-mail	Selling Avista to a Canadian company is not in the ratepayers best interest.
	Jerry and Kathy Richardson	E-mail	I'am asking you to not allow the sale of Avista to hydro one. Canada has some of the highest rates in the world do to green laws which are not needed here our rates are high enough without the burden of unnecessary laws from Canada. Their is a good reason Canadians come here for shopping and medical care. Again please do not allow this sale. Sincerely Jerry and Kathy Richardson PO Box 279 Bayview Id 83803

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Susan Scott	E-mail	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>I am opposed to the sale of Avista to HydroOne for the following reasons:</p> <p>We do not need more foreign control of our natural resources and dams.</p> <p>Canada's progressive environmental regulations can only increase the cost of energy to ratepayers.</p> <p>Please stop the sale.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Susan Scott 2312 S. Bolivar Rd. Spokane Valley, WA 99037</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	David J. Scott	E-mail	<p>Commissioners,</p> <p>I am adamantly opposed to the proposed sale of Avista to HydroOne.</p> <p>Our best interests as citizens of Washington state and rate payers of Avista depend on your decision. Foreign control of something as elemental as energy and our dams is not in our best interests on any level.</p> <p>As an Avista customer and citizen of Washington state I ask that you please stop the sale of Avista to HydroOne.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>David J. Scott P.O. Box 183 Veradale, WA 99037</p>

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Marna E. Wilson	E-mail	<p>The sale of Avista to Canada from America puts a huge burden on the Avista patrons having to comply to another country's standards. I have been an Avista customer as long as they have been in business. I am fully opposed to this sale, I think it is un-American, and I pray that this sale will not go through. Please consider all options for stopping this.</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Marna E. Wilson 3811 North Lynden Rd. Otis Orchards, WA 99027</p>
	Ben Harris	E-mail	<p>I have only known about this sale of a US company, Avista, to a Canadian company for a short time but I can't believe that you would allow it to proceed. While I would normally not care if a foreign company owns a US company, I do not believe that a regulated company should be owned by anyone other than someone here in the US. Please do not approve the sale of Avista! Thank you Ben Harris</p> <p>Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Frances Parker	E-mail	<p>To whom this may concern;</p> <p>I am an Avista company who enjoys the service Avista provides! The rate are great, allowing me to live in my own home. I have never had a complaint. Until now.</p> <p>My concern is that the word is that this power company is selling to a foriegn company. I have heard that the service may be dictated overseas, so it will not be the a local administration that looks out for this state. Also brought to my attention is that the cost will rise similar to the costs in Canada which is far more than tripple. If so, this cannot be good for us in Washington. I do realize businesses make trades and sales, as is thier right. Is there not a workable alternitive than to give the rights of our natural rescourecs to another country?</p> <p>Please consider a better way.</p> <p>Sincerely, and I thank you.</p> <p>Frances Parker Spokane, WA 99201</p>

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	J. Gary Post	E-mail	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>We are writing in opposition to the takeover of Avista by Hydro One of Canada. The Canadians we know speak very poorly about that company and it's rates and service. Why on Earth you would want to let a foreign entity/government/company get a grasp on our good and reasonably priced power so that it may be exported anywhere they may choose?</p> <p>Further, all the promises they have made about continuing the HQ, the programs etc are not worth the air it took to utter them.</p> <p>For we U.S. stakeholders/customers of this power company, there is nothing but downside in this transaction. This acquisition should be denied summarily.</p> <p>J. Gary Post Moscow, Idaho</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Connie Scarpelli	E-mail	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>I am writing you to express my deep concern regarding the sale of Avista Corp. to Canada's HydroOne.</p> <p>While many assurances have been expressed regarding HydroOne's concern for our region's rate payers, I am not confident these assurances will be kept.</p> <p>I am concerned that in time if not immediately, our power rates will be dramatically increased. There will be no recourse for rate payers once this sale goes through. What will be the impact of higher rates throughout our economy once the consumer's buying power is drained away by high utility bills? It will mean a lot more than colder homes.</p> <p>I join with many other concerned citizens who do not want the ownership of our power company to pass on to a foreign company whose headquarters are on the opposite side of the continent. I'm afraid that instead of being neighbors and fellow citizens, AVISTA customers will become just a line on HydroOne's stock report.</p> <p>Pleased do not take this risk with the lives and welfare of your fellow citizens. Please reject this sale.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Connie Scarpelli 639 N. Riverpoint Blvd #J307 Spokane, WA 99202</p>

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Don Robson	E-mail	<p>It is almost unbelievable that a sale of Avista to a foreign company is even being considered. Keep our power in our country, controlled and maintained by our country. If necessary make this a public utility but do...not...sell...to...Canada.</p> <p>Don Robson Avista Customer</p>
	Lynette Spangler	E-mail	<p>Commission Members:</p> <p>I write to register my strongest concerns and objections towards the proposed sale of AVISTA to HydroOne . It is inconceivable to me that you would even entertain letting a company which provides critical water/power infrastructure to such a large number of constituents in WA and No. Idaho be sold to a foreign corporation. Our states economic, environmental, resource management and power infrastructure concerns may not align in the near or distant future with those of Canada. It is your duty to insure that these resources are protected for perpetuity by this state.</p> <p>I do not object to HydroOne making a significant investment into AVISTA, provided the leadership, ownership, and operational strategies remain domestically oriented.</p> <p>Your consideration is greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Lynette Spangler 600 E Rainbow Ct Post Falls, ID</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Roger Burrill	E-mail	<p>The proposed sale of Avista to a Canadian Power Company should be denied!</p> <p>The high executives will receive golden parachutes and the share holders will receive a windfall.</p> <p>We who receive Avista power will be left with an empty bag and our energy rates will sky rocket. Our power should not be controlled from Canada!</p> <p>Please vote NO!</p>
	Dennis Reed	E-mail	<p>The sale of AVISTA to a despicable person and company to be controlled the Canadian Parliament sounds like the stupidest move that could be made in the history of the Pacific Northwest. Especially with the new changes our Country is experiencing. There are many better ways to negotiate this deal.</p> <p>PLEASE VOTE NAY!</p> <p>--</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Dennis Reed 509-990-3188</p>
	Ron Devonport	E-mail	<p>The Washington State Transportation and Utilities Commission</p>

Regarding Hydro One's proposed Acquisition of Avista Utilities...

To Whom it may concern,

I'm a concerned Avista Utilities rate-payer living in Spokane, Washington. After discussions with friends living in Ontario, and having seen graphs showing the historic rate rises imposed by Hydro One the residents of Ontario, it's clear that I and my fellow Avista customers will inevitably be subjected to unjustifiable profiteering by this new entity. I'm a multifamily housing provider who already pays a considerable amount to Avista Utilities for electricity and natural gas. The charts showing Hydro One's incremental rate rises in Ontario indicate that my cost increases will be so egregious that I'll have no choice but to pass those costs onto my already stretched renters. Other housing providers will likely do the same.

Latest figures show that 48% of Spokane County renters are rent-burdened, paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs, and 25% of renters are paying more than 50%. We are already experiencing a housing affordability crisis with various causal aspects. This is one of them. Given Hydro One's established pattern of rate rises, it appears this acquisition will be very profitable for those principally involved, but it will adversely affect many of Avista's present customers who are already struggling.

<http://www.communityindicators.ewu.edu/category.cfm?id=6>

Perhaps even more troubling, however, is that (as I understand it) 51% of Hydro One's shareholders are unknown, and unknowable. In light of recent events that expose how Canadian entities have been used as a benign front (think Uranium One) for acquisitions by foreign state or corporate actors that may be hostile towards us, our resources, and/or infrastructure, this too may prove to be an international scandal. At some point, these things become a genuine question of national security.

If this buyout goes ahead, as seems likely, I sincerely hope that key regulators and facilitators will be held publicly and personally accountable for cavalier disregard of constituent interests, up to and including an investigation for any trace of impropriety such as lucrative careers/consultancies or other forms of pay-back, in the event that my aforementioned concerns come to pass.

			<p>I hope you'll forgive my strident tone, but I see this as a grave situation which demands blunt speech.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for considering my objections. Best regards,</p> <p>Ron Devonport</p> <p>2112 North Howard Street #10 Spokane, WA 99205</p> <p>(509) 714 3092</p>
	Pat Mann	E-mail	<p>I oppose the sales of Avista Utility to Canada's Hydro One as it is not in the best interests of rate payers. A five state co-op could be formed to run Avista. Avista should look at alternatives.</p> <p>-- Pat Mann DL 4C</p> <p>Hm: 509-891-2654 Cell:509-608-9822</p>
	Leonard E. Wolf	E-mail	<p>This is not in the best interest of the ratepayers (me).</p> <p>DO NOT SALE TO Canada's Hydro One. This will hurt Washington and its residents.</p> <p>Leonard E. Wolf (888) 817-3174 - Voice/Fax</p>

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Suzanne Harris	E-mail	<p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the sale of Avista Corp. to the Ontario based HydroOne utility.</p> <p>1) I have yet to see a sale or acquisition where the overall operation of the company, be it a hospital, a manufacturer, or any other, remained in the community, even when the initial promises were that it would.</p> <p>2) As this is a sale, rather than a merger, current local shareholders in Avista will no longer have any voice in the decisions that affect our communities. With the corporate headquarters a long distance away and even in another country, there will be no opportunity for the people who are most affected by the services provided to have any say in the operation of the business on which we all depend.</p> <p>3) With foreign ownership, any profits will flow not only out of the region but actually out of the country.</p> <p>4) Business decisions will be based on the good of the parent company more than on the local economy or customers.</p> <p>5) The natural resources of this region will be used to enrich outside interests instead of being utilized to the benefit of the residents.</p> <p>For these, and many other reasons, I urge you to act in the best interests of the residents of Eastern Washington and oppose the Avista sale.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Suzanne Harris 515 E. 24th Spokane, WA 99203</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Linda Bruseth	E-mail	<p>Sirs,</p> <p>Having another country in charge of our utility is not the best interest for the USA.</p> <p>Thank you Linda Bruseth</p> <p>Holistic Physical Therapy 695 N Legacy Ridge Dr #201 Liberty Lake WA 99019</p> <p>509-927-1435</p>
	Gregg Perrenoud	E-mail	<p>I feel that having another country in charge of our utility is not in the best interest for the USA</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Gregg Perrenoud</p>

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Hal Meyer	E-mail	<p>"I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp."</p> <p>..and, here are some of my concerns:</p> <p>Hydro Scam http://hydroscam.com</p> <p>Best,</p> <p>-- Hal Meyer Post Falls, ID</p>
	John Rowe	Phone	I am opposed to the sale of Avista, I would like to see it go back to a publically owned utility, so that profit is not such a concern. I don't want to see the company sold out of the country. Someone back east selling the water rights to our rivers and dams does not seem right. I'm a senior citizen here in Spokane.
	Rick Johnson	Mail	***SEE ATTACHMENT FOR COMMENT***
	John W Miller	Mail	***See attached letter for comment***
	E Rieger	Mail	<p>***See attached letter for comment***</p> <p>Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.</p>

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Glenda Gentry	E-mail	<p>Hello Kate, thank you very much for all of your work to provide such a complete report information regarding the Pudget Sound Energy experience. Kate, I am not writing for anyone (media). I have been highly interested in the Hydro One purchase of Avista. Though I have had a negative opinion of this I am trying to be open minded and looking at all the information I believe will help me to make a meaningful informed comment to the Commissions. The certainty is that this proposed transaction is very good for the officers and directors of Avista (approximately \$32m to be shared amongst them). It is also really rewarding for the institutional investors (stockholders) with the \$10.00 + per share increase in the price of the Avista stock above Market value. This is that part of the sales pitch to the community and Avista customers that has moved it to this point (a decision by the Commissioners). The sales pitch continues with the appearance to us of the well meant generosity of Hydro One via rate credits, charitable giving, same name (Avist), same management and so on. I am one of those who do not believe something like electricity which is absolutely critical to the majority of our citizens (in a real life and death sense) should not be owned outright by any foreign entity. The fact that a precedence was set here with the Pudget Sound Energy and more foreign purchases does not make this anymore right for us or less of a concern to me. I am also concerned about rapid fire growth of Hydro One since the 2015 sale of the 51% owner ship of the stock and the onset of Mr .Mayo Schmit leadershiip. Hydro One is described as a business with \$25B assets to become \$32.2B with the purchase of Avista. No public mention is made of fact Hydro One will have more than \$20B in liabilities after the purchase of Avista. I do not understand how they will manage to pay this debt or why they wish to purchase Avista at this price. Not sure the new is telling us all. I am concerned Hydro One may sell off all of the Avista electric generating assets (water power) to help pay down their debt. Though Hydro One is described as a utility five times larger than Avista, Hydro One presently contributes only \$1M in charitable giving to their 1.3M Toronto customer community. This to me is the true indicator of the generosity of Hydro One and what we should realistically look forward to in the longer run if the acquisition is approved. If and when the proposed sale of Avista to Hydro One is completed I see no turning back and no recourse for the Avista customers if commitments are not met.</p> <p>Kate, thank You again for your help,</p> <p>Dean</p>

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Gary Ogden	E-mail	A great big no to the sellout of Avista to a foreign entity. This is absolutely absurd to give someone from a foreign country control over OUR resources. No, No,No!
	Steve Corker	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Mike Brown	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and 4/24 and left written comment, see attachment.
	Tom Horne	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18. ***Customer submitted electronic comment on 5/21/18 please see attached email*** ***Customer submitted second comment via email on 5/29/18***
	Mary-Ellen Albertson	Phone	This is very important to us, please say no. i know of senior citizens who only get \$500 a month, I know of people who have paid \$700 per month for electricity. Where would those people be if the rates reflected higher Canadian rates. We don't want Avista to give the company to Hydro One. In any good scence this does not make since at all. We know that nothing that is written or said is binding when the company is again sold to someone else. I am not a politician but there are naive people who think this is a good thing. This cannot be a good thing , to have give Avista to another country. I'm not a one world (global) person. Giving Avista to Hydro One is for global purposes. My heart goes out to those in Canada, to those who are kicked off of their electricity. I have never been disconnected, but I don't want to think that someday I may have to face that because some other country owns the power company. Please don't allow the sale of Avista.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	John Archibald	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for second identical comment filed on 5-4-18***</p> <p>I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp.</p> <p>John Archibald</p>
	George McGrath	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Michael Bell	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	D. White	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Gilbert Preuss	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	David B White	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	William Geibel	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Rog Repp	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Larry Snider	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Jewel Zeihen	In person	<p>Customer participated in a public hearing on 4/23/18.</p> <p>Customer submitted written comment on 5-21-18 - see attachment</p>
	Mark & Linda Youngblood	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Valda Pancoast	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Guy Burnell	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Pat Priddy	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Bill Kroll	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Michael Nichols	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Edwin Iverson	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Ken & Candy Barker	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	William Zuehl	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Terri Dahm	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>We are very concerned Spokane County citizens that have lived in the county for 36 years. We have been very thankful for the regional natural water resources and the power that we are able to create for our Northwest people. Our family has had a small business that has been in the land development area for 30 plus years, along with many homes built by the company. We know how important these resources are in our business.</p> <p>Having the water/electricity/natural gas through Avista has given stability for our Eastern WA economy, good jobs in our area, and has protected our natural resources from buyers outside the U.S. We were unable to attend the recent meeting held on a Monday at the Spokane Valley Council Chambers.</p> <p>We are extremely concerned that Avista would desire to sell out to a Canadian company. Avista has been a local company that has provided electricity and natural gas with our natural resources, not Canada's. We don't know all of the details of this possible sale but it is a loser deal for our area and our future needs for power.</p> <p>There are issues that could never be reversed if this buy out happened:</p> <p>-Everyone must see that this possible buyout by HydroOne is big money for the Avista executives,</p>

not for the whole company. Are they ready to retire and cash out?
-This is big money that is taken out of our local economy and going to support Canada's economy.
-The resources we have in this area are rare and abundant so of course, Canada wants to own this power company. They will have access/clout to decisions for our rivers, and dams. Not smart!
-We can not replace these resources or duplicate them....so if we sell Avista to Canada, we are selling our souls to much higher prices and big changes in the future.
-The worst part of selling to Canada is we will be totally dependent on HydroOne to take care of us and our needs for electricity/ natural gas for those in Avista's service area. Why are we trusting HydroOne so much?
-This decision is one that affects our U.S. people as now we do not have any say in what happens to our power needs and prices. Yes, Canada is a friend of the U.S. but they are a for profit company, and they may not always be our ally in the future. Their government is socialist so who knows what could happen? We will be the losers. HydroOne could choose to not sell to the Spokane area and send the electricity to Canada to boost their power needs instead.
-This is a security issue for us-what if HydroOne decides to get greedy and sell to Japan, China, or ??? Now that would be very difficult for us and a huge invasion of our resources. We are already selling huge amounts of lumber to Asia; they would love to own our power companies too. Then we would be out of luck-back to wood stoves and cooking over the fire.

I know that these are possible problems but selling to another country is never a smart choice. We are giving up valuable resource decisions, and letting a socialist country run our power company. It is a win-win for them. I am sure they are offering big money to buy out Avista(money talks over smart reasoning).....HydroOne has much to gain financially from this sale and much power gained.

We hope you are listening to your local customers and local loyalty to American business practices. We are deeply concerned that big money is running this monumental decision which can never be reversed. Please support your local customers and keep the money in our area vs handing it over to a socialist driven country.

Sincerely,

Terri Dahm

			<p>9505 E. Peone Rd. Mead, WA 99021</p>
	<p>Steve Lewey</p>	<p>E-mail</p>	<p>I STRONGLY oppose the Avista Sale to Hydro One.</p> <p>Hydro One would control a large part of the Spokane River and the dams. Priceless in today's environment, green energy when no more dams are being built, green energy that can be "shipped" and sold for 4x's more than what they can sell if for in the Pacific Northwest, which they would do because they are accountable to the shareholders, not the customers.</p> <p>I have lived in Spokane and used to work for Avista. Avista hides behind behind "government regulation." The fact they are only allowed to "earn" so much means they do not care about expenses. They only question ever asked internally was "can we charge it to the ratepayers.?" Not was this a good investment, or is there a business case, but can we make the ratepayers pay for it? When the WUTC did not approve a requested rate hike in 2017, internally Avista was outraged and insulted, they feel entitled. Therefore, they redoubled their efforts to make their case by spending more money, whether needed or not. i.e. new trucks, buildings, offices, hiring expensive consultants. (Which is why their IT department is almost wholly contracted out, so they charge it to the ratepayers and most of those staff make over \$100k.)</p> <p>If purchased by Hydro One they will have a whole other layer to hide behind. Despite what has been promised about continued local control etc., it is not true.</p> <p>I have been through many buy outs, they all say the same thing, then later change it. Why else would Hydro One be willing to spend billions? They will go after corporate efficiencies and that means more jobs at their HQ and less in Spokane. Not too mention more expensive energy. Energy which fuels our businesses, Boeing etc and our economy, which in turn provides tax revenues.</p> <p>Why would we let a foreign company control our rivers, fish, wildlife, and energy?</p> <p>Unfortunately, the government over site agencies do not have enough staff to dig deep enough to see how expensens are "buried" in projects..</p>

			<p>This is a decision that will impact our children's children, please stop the sale for them.</p> <p>Sincerely, Steve Lewey 509-710-8871</p>
	Suzanne Sams	E-mail	<p>I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp.</p> <p>Suzanne Sams Pasco, WA</p>
	Donna Halvorson	E-mail	<p>We do not need to have a Canadian conglomerate to run our business in the United States. Keep Avista Corporation in Washington State!</p> <p>Donna J. Halvorson 509-534-6884 fivehalvies@yahoo.com</p>
	Eugene Guse	E-mail	<p>I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp.</p>
	Avie Aldendorf	E-mail	<p>We, the citizens of Spokane and Washington, urge you to STOP and reconsider the sale of Avista to HydroOne. The future implications of such a sale are not only bad for our energy, but also our city and country. Please think past the initial 10 years and prevent our energy from going to the control of another country. Thank you,</p> <p>A concerned citizen Avie Aldendorf</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	John Charleston	E-mail	<p>Who gave Avista the option to sell America's energy company to Canada's HydroOne and why? Canada can later sell HydroOne to China or any country, due to international trade agreements. Then what?</p> <p>We must disallow any foreign-owned corporation to own or control our energy companies, dams, electrical and natural gas infrastructure.</p> <p>Canada's HydroOne can and will charge American ratepayers higher prices for UN mandated energy laws.</p> <p>HydroOne is switching to unreliable and unaffordably expensive windmills (proven to not pay for themselves) and solar, both requiring labor-intensive maintenance for correct operation. Solar panels require weekly cleaning and regular batteries' replacement. Consequently, America's reliable hydroelectric-generating dams will deteriorate, ending our affordable energy.</p> <p>Despite being told this sale is going through, the Washington and Idaho Public Utilities Commission can stop this imminent sale and we demand the sale be stopped!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>John Charleston Colbert, WA 99005 509-238-9468</p>

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Brian Weitzel	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Who gave Avista the option to sell America's energy company to Canada's HydroOne and why? Canada can later sell HydroOne to China or any country, due to international trade agreements. Then what?</p> <p>It's critically important as American national security concerns that we disallow any foreign-owned corporation to own/control our energy companies, dams, electrical and natural gas infrastructure.</p> <p>Being a member of the U.N.'s Paris Accord on climate change, Canada's HydroOne can and will charge American ratepayers exorbitant prices for their green-mandated energy laws. HydroOne is switching to unreliable and unaffordably expensive windmills and solar, both requiring labor-intensive maintenance for correct operation. Solar panels require weekly cleaning and regular batteries' replacement. Consequently, America's reliable hydroelectric-generating dams will deteriorate, ending our affordable energy.</p> <p>The City of Ellensburg stopped their wind farm project when the grant money in 2009 ran out. Now we want a company that wants customers to pay for Wind Generators when we have affordable hydro power?.</p> <p>This is a bad idea.</p> <p>Brian Weitzel East 13209 12th Spokane Valley, WA 99216</p> <p>I am a Washington state citizen, a taxpayer, and I vote.</p>

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Larry Ziegler	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>Please enter my comments to the Utilities Commission on the above subject:</p> <p>As an Idaho home owner and Avista customer, I FIERCELY OBJECT TO THE SALE OF Avista Utilities of Avista Corp to a foreign company located in Toronto, Canada.</p> <p>HydroOne seems to be subject to foolish green laws that were enacted there -- where wind & solar power investors get paid EVEN WHEN THERE IS NO POWER GENERATED!</p> <p>This has already caused rates to quadruple to \$.36/kw/hr. The proposed rebate to appease customers; back to approximately \$.27/kw/hr while they borrow BILLIONS to cover the difference, is expected only to cause rates to quadruple again when they again have to face the inevitable.</p> <p>One current example was cited where a woman expecting a child stated that her mobile home electric bill went to approximately \$800 a month!</p> <p>Why would it not be obvious that HydroOne probably has been looking to Avista rate payers and the many HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAMS in our country as a solution for their carbon dioxide related foolishness.</p> <p>Is anyone looking at the future affects and the probability that such a sale has the potential to ruin the economies of IDAHO, WASHINGTON, OREGON and possibly others.</p> <p>Disclaimer: I'm paraphrasing the facts and rates given that I've quoted above. The source was a radio program from Spokane Valley, WA. this evening Thursday May 3, 2018, on 106.5 FM.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Larry Ziegler</p>

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	S Kелvera	E-mail	I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp.
	Judy Guse	E-mail	"I object to HydroOne acquiring Avista Corp." Judy Guse Kennewick, WA 99338
	Beth Beck	E-mail	To Whom It May Concern. As a customer of Avista in Idaho, I object to a merger with Hydro One. I object to our utilities in the hands of a foreign country. There is no benefit to the cutomers of Avista and see rate hikes and foreign control of U.S. utilities with foreign rules and regulations. No to Avista merger with Hydro One. Beth Beck 94 Timberock Lane St. Maries ID 83861 Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Deb Moore	E-mail	<p>The sale of Avista Utility to Canada's Hydro One is not in the best interests of ratepayers. I urge Avista to consider other options.</p> <p>Deb Moore, Realtor License #74838</p> <p>Coldwell Banker Tomlinson South 4102 S Regal, Ste 201 Spokane, WA 99223 509-768-4253</p>
	Citizens' Alliance for Property Rights	E-mail	<p>Washington Utilities Commission</p> <p>Citizens' Alliance for Property Rights (CAPR) is opposed to the Avista Sale to Hydro One, questions about the proposed sale agreement have not been adequately answered. Members of CAPR have requested a formal comment on the behalf of members of CAPR, and we request rejection of the March Avista and UTC staff settlement agreement on the proposed merger.</p> <p>Concerns about the sale of the United States company, Avista, to a company in Canada, Hydro One, are related to the masked ownership of Hydro One, and potential high rates due to the policies of Hydro One and Ontario Hydro that exacerbated the energy policies flaws with mismanagement. We can speculate that Hydro might continue the flawed policies and require Avista to pay the bills. This would cause large increased utility rates for United States Avista customers. Some of the settlement positions may also increase rates unnecessarily.</p> <p>Who owns Hydro One? Under Canadian confidentiality laws, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to uncover who Hydro One's major shareholders are. We know that the Provincial government of</p>

Ontario owns about 40% of the company. We also know that Hydro One was created with the 1999 Ontario Hydro restructuring deal. While the parent company Ontario Hydro was 100% owned by the Provincial government, Hydro One was put on the Toronto Stock exchange and is majority owned by private parties. The \$38 Billion debt incurred by Hydro One's parent company, Ontario Hydro, necessitated the restructuring. In view of the debt, and the insecurity of future economic stability of private ownership of Hydro One, in possibly bearing responsibility for this debt, it is not wise to embroil United States rate-payers and possibly all citizens in the repercussions of this debt by selling Avista to the private unknown owners of Hydro One.

There have been numerous settlements which have been made with non-disclosure agreements that are of concern to consumers and citizens. This lack of transparency is not appropriate in that it does not allow for informed comments about the sale, and prevents confidence in the process and results of the sale of Avista. In addition to Avista, Hydro One, and commission energy staff, the Public Counsel Unit of the Attorney General's Office, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, Northwest Industrial Gas Users, The Energy Project, Sierra Club, NW Energy Coalition, Renewable Northwest, Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Washington and Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers signed the settlement agreement. Details of this agreement and the individual settlement language should be published for public consumption, the public is impacted by settlements that they have not been privy to, public decisions are dependent on facts.

It is not made specifically clear what financial burdens or advantages would come from the Avista and Hydro One agreement to set aside \$3 million from shareholders (which shareholders?) to fund community development in Colstrip, Montana, and agreed to engage stakeholders in plans reviewing the future use of transmission lines that currently carry Colstrip's electric load. \$3 million does not seem to be enough money to implement and complete the unspecified plans in this agreement. Who will ultimately pay for unfunded decisions for plans, and where will the money for implementing and accomplishing plans be gotten?

The parties assert that the settlement's financial protections for Avista would help insulate the company from Hydro One financial risks. They include provisions that protect Avista equity, tighten financial requirements for dividends to be paid to Hydro One, and restrict Avista's ability to lend funds to Hydro One. This language expresses an uncertain settlement, to help insulate Avista is not the same as to insulate Avista, and ultimately ratepayers. Restricting the lending of funds is not the same as prohibiting the ability to lend funds.

			<p>The companies’ merger application proposed a credit of approximately \$19 million to Washington ratepayers across 10 years. The proposed settlement increases the amount of credits allocated for Washington ratepayers to \$30.7 million across 5 years. Why is this credit limited to 5 years and what can happen to rates after 5 years? On what basis would this credit be allocated to ratepayers?</p> <p>The settlement also provides additional funding for low-income assistance programs, including a \$4 million increase in weatherization funds and the creation of a mobile home replacement program. Low income assistance programs are laudable, but what is the assistance for specifically, and will the creation of a mobile home replacement program be funded on an on-going basis, and how will ongoing funding for a mobile home replacement program be accomplished. What are the reasons for the replacement of this kind of affordable home, and what are the goals and parameters of this program?</p> <p>The commission has received 144 public comments as of 4/26/2018 on the Avista proposed acquisition by Hydro One—133 opposed, seven in favor, and three undecided. In view of the response to the acquisition, it is clear the overwhelming majority of comments are opposed, the commission should respond by rejecting the agreement and proposed acquisition.</p> <p>Thank you, Cindy Alia Citizens’ Alliance for Property Rights</p>
	<p>Matt and Lisa Dykstra</p>	<p>E-mail</p>	<p>The sale of Avista to Hydro One is not in the best interest of rate payers! Please do not do it! Matt and Lisa Dykstra owners of 7 houses serviced by AVISTA</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Diane Lewis	E-mail	<p>From a concerned citizen in WA state-I do not want the merger of Avista & Hydro One----there is NO reason for this!! Keep PNW water and utility interests tied to the PNW!!!</p> <p>Diane M. Lewis, Enumclaw, WA</p> <p>Sent from Mail for Windows 10</p>
	Jim Wade	Email	Please stop the sale to the Canada company...rates will will go up...Jim wade mead wa
	Sylvia Vitolo	Web	<p>I am very outraged and upset that Avisita is getting all kinds of permission to be sold to HyrdoOne in Canada. I did not get to vote on this. If this sale goes through, we, the Avisita customers will be charged the highest rates in the USA. Not only will we be charged the highest rates in the country, we will also have exorbitantly expensive monthly energy rates and be charges for multiple monthly surcharges for all their charitable contributions (do we as Avisita ex-customers get a say on this?) and all the other various obscure fees. This sale should be illegal and not even allowed. HydroOne has SmartMeters to "spy" on their rate payers. I Do NOT WANT A SMART MATER on my house. The analog meter works, is not broken. Per reading info on their web page, they deem out their rates to their customers different rates thorough out the day. What if you are home from work and are sick, your house is either too cold (winter) or too hot (summer). What if you work from home? HydroOne will "adjust" the temperature of your dwelling for you. That is too much government control on your personal space. Please, please put a stop to this sale.</p>
	James Bolton	E-mail	<p>I object to the merger of Avista with Hydro One. It has no benefits to the communities of Washington, and will only lead to substantially higher rates and loss of jobs. Hydro One has a terrible track record in Canada. Why would we bring them here. Avista has done well for us.</p> <p>Sincerely Mitchel Bolton</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Dennis Paradis	E-mail	<p>Please take a good look at HYDRO ONE'S track record as pertains to the good folks on Ontario, Canada.</p> <p>The rates up there have skyrocketed under HYDO ONE and will no doubt do the same here in the Pacific Northwest if they are allowed to purchase AVISTA.</p> <p>One of the best reasons for living in this area has been the reasonable cost of electricity and we would like it to stay that way.</p> <p>We have done some research on HYDRO ONE'S business practices and it is quite evident they are literally putting it to the good folks in Ontario and the surrounding area.</p> <p>We object to HYDRO ONE acquiring Avista Corp.</p> <p>Dennis and Sylvia Paradis</p> <p>Spokane WA</p>
	David Stapp	E-mail	<p>Please prohibit the sale of Avista to the Ontario group Hydro One. I do not want my electricity bill funding Canadian schools, etc. It is my understanding that the rates that Hydro One charged their customers increased dramatically over a few years not long ago. It's better for US customers to be served by US owned utility customers.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android</p>
	Jack & Deborah Preston	E-mail	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p>

We strongly oppose the sale of one of America's energy companies to a foreign-owned corporation in a foreign country. The ability to own and control our nation's energy companies whether electrical, dams, or natural gas should never be allowed. We stand to lose control and ownership of 12 hydroelectric dams and the loss of reliable, safe thermal power provided by Colstrip 3 & 4 units.

There are a number of troubling reasons why this sale should not be allowed to go forward:

- Lowest rate to highest rate in N. America - Avista customers currently enjoy some of the lowest kwhr rates in the country (approx. 7.89/kwhr) while Ontario's customers are suffering from unbearably high rates – in 2015 Hydro One had the highest electric rates in North America at 29.9/kwhr – a rate that has increased steadily to 52.0/kwhr in 2018. Ontario electricity rates have risen so high that it's driving some customers to go off-grid or close businesses, and some families must choose between eating and heating. In 2016 HydroOne disconnected 60,000 customers for their inability to pay.
- Global Adjustment charge - In addition to Ontario's exorbitant charge for electricity an additional fee is being added on – a fee which goes to shutting down coal plants and adding and building renewables.
- Mismanagement - Hydro One overcharges, is unresponsive to complaints, has deteriorating systems that are the least reliable in Canada, has maintenance shortfalls, and long lasting power outages.
- Controlled by Provincial government – being a socialist progressive country and a member of the U.N.'s Paris Accord on Climate Change, Canada's HydroOne can and will charge American ratepayers exorbitant prices for their "green policies" and green-mandated energy laws.
- Renewables - HydroOne is switching to unaffordable, expensive and unreliable windmills and solar, both requiring labor intensive maintenance for correct operation. Hydro One will likely bring wind turbines here as they have done in Ontario where they are hated. Ontario has 6,736 wind turbines that cover an area of 1,320,000 acres, more than 2,060 square miles. It has been proven that wind turbines cannot be a primary energy producer. They utilize huge areas of land, are expensive to build and maintain, are a major killer of bird and bat populations, negatively

affect property values, and are generally hated by neighbors, many of whom suffer from related health problems. In Ontario 90 townships and counties have already passed resolutions that they are “not willing host communities” for wind turbines. The Province of Ontario has mandated the outlay of the turbines without regard to public opinion – this could happen here next.

- Control – Ontario government will control Avista’s Board of Directors, decision-making and rate-setting. Due to international trade agreements Canada can later sell HydroOne to China or any country. There will be questions of HydroOne stock ownership and control they wield. We will be handing our local control over to Ontario’s progressive, socialist government and be subject to their climate law (CCAP).
- Ontario’s Climate Change Action Plan – Ontario’s 5-year CCAP 2016-2020 includes: raise electric rates, close coal plants and build wind farms. Round 2 begins with cap and trade and raising electric rates even higher. The 5-year plan approved in 2016, along with its 80 regulations and subsidies, was described by the Fraser Institute as “extraordinarily inefficient and expensive strategies to reduce carbon emissions.” The plan calls for customers, including Hydro One, and perhaps Avista customers, to pay from \$18 to \$157 (Canadian dollars) in monthly utility charges starting in 2020 to fight the non-existent climate change.
- Carbon Cap & Trade - Ontario utilities can use carbon credit cap and trade to meet their impossible Carbon reduction standards. That Ontario plan mandates an 80 percent emissions reduction in three decades, which reveals Hydro One’s interest in Avista: that’s Avista’s 887 megawatts at seven hydroelectric generating plants near Spokane. Avista’s hydro is sacrificed to satisfy Hydro One’s 2020 target under Ontario’s CCAP. This should not be allowed – our state’s irreplaceable dams are a treasure to our citizens. Hydropower is the safest and cleanest energy producer on the planet.

The sale of Avista to Hydro One is not in the best interests of U.S. citizens and state ratepayers like us. A progressive country may want to implement policies that are not consistent with those we believe are in our best interest. Say no, please.

This sale would affect four states including Idaho. The sale should not be approved.

Jack & Deborah Preston

			9323 N Government Way Hayden ID 83835
	Randi Obrien	E-mail	To Whom it May Concern. I have lived in Washington state all my life and have strong concerns about the sale of Avista to HydroOne. Once our utilities are sold, especially to another country we will lose all control of what happens over time, including Hydro One selling the company to another entity. Please do not sell our power to an outside interest - I believe it is a grave mistake that we will pay for in the future. It seems vital that we must maintain control over our utilities, especially as power becomes a more important commodity. a Inland Power is a co-op and is actually owned by the utility users. The service seems excellent and the rates seem better than Avista's. We need to explore this option and sell Avista to the utility users so the customers are the owners and maintain local control and personal and public benefit. Has this option been considered? If not, please consider it and do not sell our local power company to a outside interest! Sincerely, Randi O'Brien.
	Dr. Authur Hook	Mail	***See attached clippings for comment***
	Norman R. and Barbara J. Nickerson	Mail	***See attached letter for comment***
	Richard and Carol Goddard	Mail	***See attached letter for comment***
	Alene Lindstrand	E-mail	From: Alene Lindstrand 11305 E Flagstone Ln, Spokane WA 99206 collie_mamma@msn.com 509-869-7657 To: the WUTC panel Below is my letter to the Spokesman Review editor in Spokane. There are many other reasons I could write about NOT selling Avista to HydroOne, but 200 words only goes so far. I have seen impeccable but scary research done on HydroOne and I beg you to deny the sale of Avista -- the negatives far outweigh any benefits (except to stockholders.) Please read carefully the research of those objecting to this sale. Facts are important to consider as well as downline consequences. Avista proponents of this sale have turned a blind eye to severe consequences coming if this sale is approved.

			<p>Thank you and please do the right thing, Alene</p> <p>(My letter to the editor): Avista may sell out to HydroOne in Ontario. Save your shekels, you will need them. What are the pros vs. cons?</p> <p>Pros: 1) Stockholders receive a handsome profit.</p> <p>Cons: 1) Foreign ownership provides zero motivation to invest its profits back into Avista's 4-state local region.</p> <p>2) Avista's customers enjoy the lowest energy costs in North America while HydroOne customers pay the highest rates. (Recent rate decreases occurred only after rates increased 144% in 10 years!)</p> <p>3) HydroOne must adhere to Ontario's Green Energy Act requiring a carbon tax. A \$50/ton tax on a 3-car family means \$1987 tax/year. Australia instituted a carbon tax in 2012 but ended it two years later due to severe unemployment and economic downturns. 4) Our most precious natural resource and hydroelectric dams will be subject to Canadian laws, not American.</p> <p>5) HydroOne expands use of wind and solar power which is often unpredictable and much less efficient than Avista's current energy sources. The EPA found wind turbines killed so many birds (endangered ones, too) that they stopped keeping track of the destruction of this marvelous wildlife.</p> <p>Write WUTC (comments@utc.wa.gov) and tell them not to sell out. Let's keep our energy costs low.</p> <p>Alene Lindstrand collie_mamma@msn.com 509-869-7657</p>
	David Albertson	In person	Customer was at the 5-3-18 public comment hearing
	Anna Burnham	In person	

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Jeanne Robinson	E-mail	<p>For years the WWP/Avista Utilities has been the “jewel” of the Northwest. Why sell a good USA utility company to a foreign country? I, along with other rate payers would, no doubt, suffer higher utility bills from such sale. I implore you to disallow the sale of Avista.</p> <p>Jeanne Robinson 345 South 8th Street St. Maries, ID. 83861</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
	G. R. Mobley	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I and all persons in my community find the sale to Hydro One unethical and some of us consider this illegal selling a public utility to not just a foreign company but a foreign polity a crime. I hope the UTC seriously reconsider this political decision is not in the best interests of those whom you are supposed to serve. I unfortunately just found out about the sale and the sorted details and am asking my legal department to investigate this further. Thank you.</p> <p>G. R. Mobley</p>
	Beverly E Nelson	Mail	See attached letter
	David Christensen	Mail	***See attached letter for comment***

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Dale Cloninger	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for second email from customer***</p> <p>I am not in favor of this proposal. Do not allow this deal, as it would be very bad for Avista customers. Avista is a public utility not a for profit corporation. A Washington public utility being owned and operated by HydraOne (A Canadian for profit company) is bad! This deal is un-American and I oppose it! It would be bad for Avista customers!</p>
	Muriel Tingley	E-mail	<p>To: Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commissioner</p> <p>Re: Sale of Avista to Hydro One</p> <p>There are too many unanswered questions about this sale and the impact it will have on our state. Regardless of our commonalities, we are giving control of our infrastructure to a foreign entity. This is not sound economically, politically or in terms of national security.</p> <p>The terms are effectively a bribe and one of that size implies that the citizens of Washington will be paying the price in the long run.</p> <p>Please do your job and defend us against this takeover.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Muriel Tingley Spokane Valley, WA</p>

David Cebert

E-mail

See attachment for PDF copy of letter

Re: Hydro-One's attempt to acquire Avista Utilities

Dear Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission,

I am writing this letter as a formal protest to the Hydro-One/Avista acquisition and am urging you to reject this transaction.

Understanding that your decision is based on discerning a "net benefit" to the Washington State consumer, my research showed no hard evidence that a "net benefit" would ever exist as there is no written document binding Hydro-One to guarantee the Washington Consumer:

01. That overall power bills will not rise at an accelerated rate, far exceeding median income increases and customers' ability to pay. Billing increases not exceeding the median income increases of the service population is a reasonable regulatory expectation from a Government protected monopoly.
02. That Hydro-One can truly serve two Governmental masters long term, avoiding total political/regulatory control under the Ontario Provincial Government.
03. That Washington rate payers are not transferring Avista's substantial land property tax free status to a foreign entity, causing Washington State taxpayers to directly subsidize a government/private investor entity that does not provide any government services to Washington taxpayers for those tax subsidies.
04. That an aggressive corporate culture will be forced upon Washington rate payers. A culture that mandates the use of less efficient, more expensive energy technologies...dramatically increasing costs.
05. That protects the Washington rate payer in the case of a Hydro-One bankruptcy. Of specific concern is the "Golden Share" clause.

06. That (already announced) Smart Meter rollouts will substantially benefit ratepayers on a strictly financial basis and protect their privacy.

07. That Washington rate payers will not be ceding control of priceless public resources and critical infrastructure to a foreign Government entity...possibly affecting companies supplying essential services contracted by the US Government.

If these guarantees are not documented and in place, how could this acquisition possibly have a “net benefit” to the Washington energy consumer?

Thank you for your service and consideration.

Respectfully,

David Cebert
Spokane Washington

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Elizabeth Dursh	E-mail	<p>This sale is such a travesty! I am so very opposed to this transaction. It is just totally against all that Trump campaigned on, for one thing. He campaigned on putting America First, and this puts America, specifically the Northwest, into GREAT DANGER! this Avista company has never been run like the former Washington Water Power company was run. I have lived under both companies, and Avista has been more interested in raising rates and collecting dollars. the idea of putting in those horrible "smart" meters is just one more thing to make Washington state uninhabitable. the radiation from those things makes people sick. and they do not last. at best they last about 10 years. in Spokane there are mechanical meters that are still working from back in the 1920s. now that is a good long time. the billions of dollars that the installation of those "smart" meters will cost is supposed to be covered by a 30 dollar raise in monthly rate. 30 dollars a month!!!!!!! increase. it is just nuts! there is no other word for it. this has to be part of that deep state stuff, that liberal global agenda stuff that people seem to be trying to foist off on America. some of us DO NOT WANT that and THAT is why Trump is in office.</p> <p>the worst part of giving away America like this is that some foreign company can pull the plug on the power in the Northwest, WA, OR, ID, MT or AK, or all 5 states, and that would cripple the whole US. it is NOT in the interest of America. and it will mean that people will have to leave the Northwest just to survive. just to survive. I am now past 70, and it is harder to pick up and leave. but I already do all that I can to CUT THE COST of electrical use during the winter and there just is not any more that I can do. and if folks start to leave, it will mean a hemorrhaging of economy too. and the Northwest will become a barren wasteland.</p> <p>I have been trying to find people to write to about this and so far I guess I have not gotten to the folks who will fight. but this is WRONG! it is just downright MORALLY WRONG. You don't sell out your country just because you want some dollars. I wish the former folks who ran WWP were able to come back and run the company again. and the people who seem to have some governmental say in this matter, evidently are eager to kill America, as well. Or else there would be no discussion of selling the nation out like this. the sale would not be allowed, period!!!!!!!!!!</p> <p>I AM AGAINST THIS SALE!</p> <p>Elizabeth Dursh</p>

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Pat Priddy	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for second email***</p> <p>To whom it may concern, I am opposed to this purchase.</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p>
	Jackie Murray	E-mail	<p>Please don't let Hydro One buy OUR utility company. Is there no end to the number of people who want to abuse us by soaking us for electricity? We pay enough. We are supporting enough people through our astronomical rates. This is a bad deal, done by greedy corporations, to hold us all hostage to their monopoly over our energy. Please make it stop.</p> <p>Thank you Jackie Murray, helpless and hapless homeowner</p>

Total Comments: 283

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Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Bill Stromberger	E-mail	<p>Greetings,</p> <p>I own stock in Avista and would enjoy some of the gains by selling Avista. I also believe this would be a huge mistake. We are taking back America and making our own country great. This sale does just the opposite.</p> <p>Don't trade away the Pacific Northwest's greatest energy provider!</p> <p>Bill Stromberger 47932 Ida Ave. E. Edwall, WA 99008</p>
	Mike Noder	E-mail	<p>I find no net-benefit to regional citizens, ratepayers and stakeholders under this transfer of critical energy assets and find an astonishing lack of awareness of any benefits among my elected representatives.</p> <p>I have not encountered an elected official at the city, county, state or federal level who understands the ramifications of the Avista/Hydro One merger. However, I have found evidence that a number of elected officials in the Pacific Northwest benefited from the political funding of Avista associated PACs.</p> <p>This deal involves regional assets that were built and paid for many times over by citizen/ratepayers under a quasi-government monopoly.</p> <p>Avista owns property in Spokane County worth \$79 million on the county books and probably worth well North of \$100 million in today's market. Much of it is exempt from property taxes and has been for decades. This property</p>

is going to transfer to a foreign corporation. It is doubtful I can find many elected officials in Spokane County who know if this tax exemption will flow to a foreign for-profit corporation.

Why

should a private sector company in a foreign country benefit from local tax exemptions at the expense of local rate-paying stakeholders who actually paid for the assets?

\$100

million dollars of tax exempt properties in a reported \$5.1 billion dollar deal seems like a rounding error, but this is only in Spokane County. Avista owns thousands of miles of transmission corridors, plants and office space in five states, not just Spokane County where Avista is headquartered.

Avista

dams, power plants and transmissions lines cannot be replaced today for what they cost fifty years ago or more when many of these facilities were originally put in place. Avista & Hydro One management must be valuing this infrastructure at far below replacement cost to convince shareholders they benefit from selling out at this price.

Q.

Who benefits from a deal that on paper is not projected to break even for over 60 Years?

A.

A heavily-leveraged foreign corporation willing to pay over 60 times reported earnings for undervalued assets and a few executives that will benefit from a \$50 million deal sweetener.

The

\$30 million Washington Rate Stabilization fund that is part of this grand deal only works out to a

rounding error for individual ratepayer bills. \$17 million to the CEO of a public monopoly is not a rounding error, but a generous reward for surrendering regional assets at below market to heavily politicized foreign control.

Hydro

One charges its customers one of the highest power rates in North America according to several public testimonies. Canadian news sources indicate government subsidies hold Ontario rates to around 27 cents a kilowatt hour that would otherwise be up around 36 cents a Kwh.

These prices were quoted in Canadian dollars which trade at 30% discount to the U.S. Dollar.

Spokane

reportedly pays roughly 10 to 12 cents a Kwh in U.S. dollars.

Hydro

One wants to wheel NW electricity into high cost markets with no benefit to regional stakeholders while Avista management wants to cash out cheap.

Avista

Stock appears far more valuable and secure than Hydro One stock.

Which

path is more likely to preserve and enhance local regional and shareholder value? Hydro One ownership with highly politicized and changing management or local Avista Management with a mandate to protect regional interests and pursue the vast opportunities well managed energy assets present?

Cheap,

reliable energy is a massive economic advantage that our elected officials do not seem to recognize. There is no benefit to surrendering critical assets along with U.S sovereignty over publicly paid assets and local

			<p>waterways that ratepayers will no doubt be paying lawyers to argue over in the future, if our elected representatives abdicate their duty to be informed and decisive regarding this matter so important to regional economics and energy security.</p> <p>Mike Noder mikeforspokane.com</p>
	Karen Morris	E-mail	<p>May 30, 2018</p> <p>Commissioners Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA, 98504</p> <p>Emailed to: comments@utc.wa.gov</p> <p>RE: Hydro One-Avista Utilities (Merger), Docket UE-170970</p> <p>Dear Commissioners:</p> <p>I have some reservations and questions for you about this proposed/pending sale going through and have taken the time to write in my concerns, as I have done in previous Avista rate increase requests.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why should you all approve this merger? What are the short and long-term effects for the rate payers, both positive and negative? 2. Will the citizens of the Spokane area be burdened with additional increases in our gas/electric rates, should this sale be granted? They are high enough, frankly. I am on the comfort billing plan. Please note, that most of us don't make 6 figures or even come close to it. Consider that the average household makes less than \$50,000 a year. 3. Will the rates go up as much as when Avista sought rate increases just about every six months?

			<p>Rarely was there a decrease proposed.</p> <p>4. What are the unknowns? Has everything been weighed very carefully and has there been enough public comments made before making a decision to approve this? I am quite sure the Average Joe doesn't understand what is all going on here and how the sale will be a benefit to us.</p> <p>5. Why was the public comment hearing held during the daytime hours (when I was working) and just one day in Spokane Valley? Doesn't seem like there was a lot of effort for public comments to be made - just an observation.</p> <p>6. What is the next step in the process?</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I would appreciate a receiving a response, if that is possible. Also, I would like to be included on any news or further information on this subject.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Karin Morris 1615 N. Center Road Spokane Valley, WA 99212</p> <p>Sent from Outlook</p>
	R J Girnus Jr	E-mail	<p>Commission</p> <p>I am 100% against the sale. I do not believe a foreign country / company should own our utilities of any kind.</p> <p>R J Girnus Jr 13115 e Saltese Ave. Spokane Valley, WA 99216</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Dan Chambers	E-mail	<p>Sent from my iPad</p> <p>Begin forwarded message: From: Dan Chambers <dcham21099@gmail.com> Date: May 30, 2018 at 7:19:54 AM PDT To: comments@wtc.wa.gov Subject: Proposed sale of Avista to foreign interests</p> <p>Please consider the overwhelming negative effects of this proposed sale on our four state area. The only beneficiaries are stockholders and the CEO, both of whom are doing well enough without this unjust enrichment at the expense of fixed and low income householders. Some of these ratepayers are on the verge of bankruptcy and loss of their homes now and don't need to be pushed off of the gallows to put a few more dollars into CEO Scott Morris' pocket.</p> <p>Dan Chambers 1624 W 13th Spokane, WA 99204 509-747-4207</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Don Swanstrom	E-mail	<p>As an Idaho Avista customer, I've already made my concerns known to the Idaho PUC....am forwarding them you your agency as well...this proposed sale is a "lose/lose" proposition for Avista customers....and my referenced sale of Montana Power to private industry is a prime example.</p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: NO TO HYDRO ONE PURCHASE OF AVISTA Date: 2018-05-23 08:25 From: dlswan@nctv.com</p> <p>To: diane.holt@puc.idaho.gov</p> <p>I have lived and worked here in the northern 2 counties of Idaho all of my 74 years. And, I am incensed by and strenuously object to the proposed sale of Avista (formerly Washington Water Power) to a Canadian company, Hydro One.</p> <p>I watched what happened in our neighbor State of Montana after Montana Power, which provided very reasonable rates for electricity to Montana residents, was sold to "private corporations", which then proceeded to essential dismantle that once "public utility" and ending up costing Montana residents much more for power.</p> <p>If private US corporations can cause the harm that was done to the citizens of Montana once Montana Power was privatized, I shudder to think what could happen to we Avista customers should this sale take place, particularly if Hydro One were able to resell to what was Avista to another country (countries).</p> <p>Sincerely, Don Swanstrom</p>

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	C.J. and Wende Mayer	E-mail	<p>There is only one reason why Hydro 1 wants to buy Avista. They need a cash cow to save their bankrupt state monopoly by passing the ridiculous energy wasting decisions onto the western states residents.</p> <p>The reason Avista wants to sell is to pad the pockets of the directors and upper management to the detriment of our citizens. Look at the results of Hydro 1's stupidity in their infrastructure investments.</p> <p>Your job is to protect the public from the utilities. My experience is that they usually get their way. The sale of our energy sources to foreign government is never in our best interest. The result will be uncertain whether our energy costs will rise 100 % or 1000% and you will no longer have any control as we Freeze to death next winter.</p> <p>Do your job and protect us from this evil scheme.</p> <p>C. J. & Wende Mayer 509-487-0765 509-220-8244 Cell ourpco@gmail.com</p>
	David Boyce	E-mail	<p>The sale of Avista to HydroOne is not in the best interests of the consumers in the United States. There are many questions how Canadian law might affect us with higher costs and regulations. We need to keep our resources for our own use and our own control.</p> <p>David and Ritajane Boyce Avista Customers Spokane Valley, Washington</p>

Marilyn
Montgomery

E-mail

To: THE WUTC PANEL MEMBERS:

I wish to include – with many others I am sure – my serious objections to the sell out of Avista to HydroOne in Ontario. Please strongly consider the many objections you must surely be receiving regarding this proposed sale.

While stockholders will receive a handsome profit, it will be at the expense of America's Avista customers who have enjoyed the lowest energy rates in N. America! HydroOne customers have paid the highest rates, and HydroOne must adhere to Ontario's Green Energy Act, requiring a carbon tax – a tax much maligned as its basis is unproven, unnecessary and unfair, resulting in miniscule positive results of human carbon pollution. Australia's institution of a carbon tax in 2012 ended two years later, having caused severe unemployment and economic downturns. Also, with the sale, Canadian laws will prevail over our precious natural resource, and hydroelectric dams will be subject to Canadian laws! Not an American choice for sure!

HydroOne's expansion of unreliable wind and solar power is egregious, and much less efficient than Avista's current energy source; while EPA found wind turbines killed so many of our defenseless wildlife they stopped keeping track!

Finally (but not exclusively), foreign ownership will provide little motivation to invest HydroOne's profits back into Avista's four-state local region, meaning updates and necessary improvements down the road may be left long overlooked and overdue. Unfortunately, proponents of this proposed sale have not well researched the fallout of the unwanted results to this sale and are keyed only into the profits to the stockholders, resulting in a betrayal to Avista's long-time customers.

Please WUTC Panel Members: Do the right thing - Reject this sale! Thank you.

Marilyn J. Montgomery
7808 N. Morton Road
Apt. 767
Spokane, WA 99208
marilynj35@gmail.com
509-319-8287

	Brian Gemmell	E-mail	<p>PLEASE DON'T LET AVISTA SELL TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY. I already spend 12.2 % of my income to Avista. Think of what will do people even poorer than I am. We need to keep that money in this economy. I think we all know the cost will increase. PLEASE STOP THIS SALE.</p> <p>THANK YOU Brian Gemmell Spokane Wa.</p>
	William LaPoint	Web	<p>Please vote NO on the sale of Avista Utilities to Hydro One. We enjoy the most reasonable rates in the world here in Spokane County. I cannot understand why we would allow a foreign country to own or make decisions about our future electric and gas and dam decisions or rates. Thank you. Bill Lapoint</p>
	Richard Johnson	Web	<p>I am NOT in favor of approving the sale of Avista to Hydro One. The captive Avista rate payers won't benefit from this sale. The people of Ontario, Canada will profit over time, and the Avista executives and stock holders will benefit. Ontario will use income from American customers to fund their Province. Highly paid Avista execs should not benefit from the capital investment that the captive utility users funded over many decades, (including Washington Water Power). Please stop this sale. Help the little guy for once, not fat cats and foreign governments. Richard</p>
	Ginny Butler	Web	<p>Typed for consumer by KM I am not in favor of a sale to Canadian company Hydro one because: 1 Because they have a poor customer service record in Canada 2. I don't believe we should sell utility companies to foreign. It should always be with American companies. 3. And I feel such a premium for avista, they will have to increase rates, or cut quality of service, and there is no other way to justify price.</p>
	Tony Donnelly	Web	<p>Absolutely against the merger as it is likely to hurt Americans.</p>
	Sharon Donough	Web	<p>Nothing good will become of this sale. My electric rates will soar!!!!!!</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Sharon Andrews	Web	Please deny the sale of Avista to be finalized to an outside Country! Canada will eventually (sooner than later) impose rate hikes to citizens of the Inland Empire, regardless of what they are "offering". Canada has green law costs, and fees that we aren't even familiar with. This is a red flag for what is happening to senior citizens. We are being cost-increased right out of our homes. I have tried unsuccessfully to become a recipient of Avista Project Share as I am 68, and only get \$26,000 a year. (Too much for a single person, who is then penalized for not being a "couple". I don't agree with Trumps logic, but what happened to our country not being able to sell ourselves off? PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THE SALE OF AVISTA TO BE COMPLETED. Thank you, Sharon Andrews
	Carol Black	Web	ABSOLUTELY AND COMPLETELY OPPOSED TO THIS SALE of Avista to Hydro One. Washington, Idaho and Utah customers are citizens of the United States and to place them under control and at their mercy to a Canadian firm is not only unconstitutional, but also foolish. Hydro One's reason for the sale come from their belief in Green Energy and global warming and the illusionary practices Hydro uses to implement their belief have dramatically affected all their Canadian customers. The outcome of huge price increases is known throughout the Inland Empire and Canada. Hydro One energy has disconnected 58,000 customers, some as winter started. Ending use of coal power plants, increasing use of wind turbines to generate electricity is underway there in Canada, skyrocketing kilowat hour costs from 5.1 cent to 66.2 cents. Canada will be implementing taxes on carbon dioxide, beginning 2018. Also Cap and Trade will shake the safety base of power for Hydro One as well, threatening low-income families. After the sale, the dams will be traded as clean energy credits on the climate exchantes in either Ontario or California. The sale is dangerous, risky and foolish as well as unnecessary! NO NO NO!! both my husband & I agree

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Richard William Johnson	Web	Hydro One CEO Mayo Schmidt recently sent out a letter stating they will continue to grow THEIR income stream to fund Ontario public programs like transit, schools, and hospitals. I don't think it appropriate that USA citizens fund public programs of another nation. Inland northwest customers have paid to fund the infrastructure put in place by WWP and Avista, so why should we again pay a premium for another corporation and nation to profit. Vote NO on Hydro One acquisition of AVISTA. Why should AVISTA big wigs profit financially from this acquisition?
	Steve Busch	Web	Public utilities should not be owned and controlled by foreign companies based in foreign countries. Hydro One has raised rates so high in Ontario that thousands of customers are no longer able to afford service. We need local control, and local accountability for our public utilities. Stop the sale of Avista to Hydro One.
	Mike Bodey	Web	Taken by phone- MS I don't want them to sell to a socialist country right next door. Rates are high enough and will just get higher. I want to take with someone face to face about this and will be going to the public comment meeting.
	Charles Gades	Web	I strongly oppose. It is ludicrous to sell a vital American Company to a foreign company/provincial government. We will give up control and influence to a foreign entity that can change the rules as time goes by for their benefit and not the benefit to the current customers. I have no confidence in any commission to be tough and hold any line. A power company is just that--a source of power and security for vital resources for the sustenance of the nation. To hand that over to another country smacks of selling our uranium resources to Russia for a mess of porridge. Tell Hydro One to go and create their own power company if they want one so bad.
	Roger Trainor	Web	I don't understand why there is a need for Avista to be sold and sold to a Foreign company? Who are the real buyers, I understand they show raising rates over 400 percent? Should there not be protection for the people? I am not for selling. No need for the sell.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Larry M Snider	Web	I feel it is outrageous to sell the cleanest power in the world to a foreign country. Why would this company manage our resources in our best interest. It is clear that influence buying is alive and well. Do the Right Thing--- deny request. Thank You
	Mary Stohr and Craig Hemmens	Web	4/24/2018 at 12:37 PM Elizabeth Eskridge is making the comment for the customer as she does not have access to Internet: Strongly recommends we not sell to a foreign company and disagrees with Avista and Hydro One merger. Our power and water should not be sold, it is dangerous to take those rights from a local company and give them to a foreign company also, it is not cost efficient. The customer suspects the board will make money off this at the expense of rate payers.
	jeannie kimberly	Web	Please, do not let the Avista to HydroOne sale be approved. HydroOne will increase rates, even though it says otherwise. Management of both companies do not care about people. Keep Avista a US owned company. I am a Avista Retiree, I know this will not be good for the local people. HydroOne customers pay expensive rates. Go Read about Lawsuit over the deal to privatize HydroOne. There are problems with this sale.
	Jack and Phyllis Scott	Web	If the decision has already been made why are you just now having an opportunity for the customers to say what they think? Seems just a little too late. We also do NOT a SMART METER.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Margaret Herzog	Web	<p>*** Customer sent written comment on 4-10-18 and left written comment at public comment hearing, see attachments***</p> <p>After further research, It is apparent that Avista has built and controls hydroelectric dams in Washington, Idaho, and Montana.. If this merger should occur, will the U.S. dams and waterways used and operated by Avista be owned and controlled by the foreign company, HydroOne? Is the United States willing and able to give up jurisdiction of its waterways and NW power production to a foreign entity? Please, see that this issue gets to the UTC Commissioners. Thank you!</p>
	Mark Youngblood	Web	I am opposed to the HydroOne/Avista merger.
	Bill Johns	Web	AVISTA AS A LOCAL COMPANY to be owned by Hydro one a CANADIAN entity does not make sense. It will cost us a fortune with nutty Canadian requirements. Eastern Canada does not care about us and it will be reflected in rates. It is very bad idea. Please do not allow the "merger".
	Alex springer	Web	I object to hydro 1 acquiring Avista Corp
	Roseanne McCampbell	Web	<p>There is no need, aside from further enriching Avista's stockholders, to even consider approving the sale of Avista to HydroOne. Since Avista is a Washington state regulated utility provider and is doing the job well as it is--not failing in any respect, what would be the logic in selling? It is true that if control of this public utility changes hands to an out of U.S.A. control, that HydroOne can and will charge American ratepayers highly excessive prices. Washington States hydroelectric-generated dams will deteriorate thereby impacting further our environment here in Washington state.</p> <p>We do not need this sale to go through! Stop it now!</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Mary Rose Decker	Web	Vote no on sale. Don't like the idea of a foreign country controlling my electric.
	Tami Thueringer	Web	Why would we give our electricity, dams etc ti a foreign country? Getting rid of coal is ludicrous. Our rates will raise significantly and we will not be able to afford our electric bills. This is utility poverty. No no no. Global warming is a SCAM. We need Co2
	Ted Duncan	Web	Now that Avista has been purchased by a foreign company we all can expect to receive massive gas and electric rates increases,due to the fact that this co. is immune from rules set forth by the wa, state utilities commission.
	Michael Kelley	Web	It is clear to me that selling a locally-based energy company that has provided people in the Inland Northwest with plentiful electricity at reasonable rates for over a century to a Canadian-based company is not a sound idea. This Provence of Toronto based-company has a terrible record of huge rate increases some sources place at 400% over the last ten years and reputedly has heartlessly turned off power to thousands of customers who can no longer afford to pay their bills. This looks like an attempt to make a grab for our cheaper hydroelectric power and then empty our pockets. Do the right thing and vote against this. Surely, if you think honestly about this, you must smell a rat too, and it is creeping around our doorstep!
	Don Collins	Web	(Submitted online for consumer - KM) I am deeply apposed to the upcoming proposal to merger. This would deeply affect retirees on fixed incomes. Spokane is a town of low income people to begin with. Everybody heard about this at the last minute in a timely fashion we just heard about this. We need to extend more time for public response. We deeply appose higher rate increases that a Canadian company. If it goes for Spokane rate increases it should also go for Seattle people as well. At the very least extend time release so public should have time to hear upcoming proposals. No we don't want this as Avista customers.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Stephen Black	Web	<p>First of all Avista has no authority to submit United States customers to submission to another sovereign nation and their administration, policies and governance foreign and unrecognized in this nation. Hydro One's failure with their own Canadian customers these past few years (many choosing to feed their children or have heat through the winter) is glaring evidence to examine closely the possible disasterous outcome to their (YOUR) Washington customers. Hydro One and Canada are operating under their belief in Green Energy (unproven) which has driven electric rates from 5.1cent/kwhr to 66.2 cent/kwhr today. Cap & trade operations with further jeopardize prices (illusionary method to relieve carbon emitters of carbon diox. emmis.) by making fuels arbitrarily scare by trading "clean" & passing on costs to customers. In addition, taxation of carbon dioxide begins in Canada 2018, it's really a tax on air. Govt's promise benefit to environment, forcing customers to pay for "air." There is no danger from carbon dioxide since climate change caused by humans is not happening. The scientific proofs are proven at this date. Those who espouse it's belief (climate change) have provided no evidence that it is human caused or carbon dioxide could possibly have a relationship to climate. I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS sale!</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Carol Taylor	Web	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I have been a customer of Avista for the past 11 years and for the most part have no problems with them as an energy provider. However, I am extremely alarmed that our local, Washington based company is about to be sold to a multinational Canadian company. They have some of the highest rates in Canada and I am concerned that they will not only raise our rates but not be accountable to our local needs.</p> <p>Energy is a basic need in this country and the ability for people to stay warm is critical. I am opposed to the sale of Avista to Hydro One. Not a good idea.</p> <p>Thank you, Dr. Carol Taylor</p>
	Lori Burns	Web	I do not approve of the sale of Avista to a Canadian company. I'm really worried about what it will do to our utility rates.
	Jan Sarchio	Web	The Sale of Avista to a foreign company is a dangerous violation of public safety and trust. The dams were built with public funds, as a starter. The need to trust a foreign company for our power is crazy. The agreement will be changed many times over the course of ownership. Nowhere will American citizens be assured that the rules that are put in place now will remain. This is insane. It is only about greed. Only you can stop this mess from happening. Do not be fooled by our good neighbor status. All things change. Protect America.
	Sherrie Ebenal	Web	A public company that supplies electricity and gas to homeowners that have no other option to purchase these utilities should not be owned by a foreign based company.

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Larry Blanchard	Web	<p>***Second comment from customer recieved shortly after the first on 4-24-18***</p> <p>My wife and I attended the public meeting in Spokane Valley WA yesterday (4/24). After we got home, I became concerned about something one of the speakers mentioned. He said that according to Canadian law, the owners of 51% of Hydro1 are not subject to disclosure. IOW, if he was correct, we don't know who holds the majority of the stock.</p> <p>If they're buying a regulated Washington business, don't we have a right to know who's involved? Please don't approve the sale without this information.</p> <p>Actually, I'm against the sale anyway, as I made clear yesterday, but this info is like salting the wound :-).</p> <p>***First comment from customer 4-24-18***</p> <p>My wife and I attended the public meeting yesterday (4/23) in Spokane Valley. One of the participants pointed out that, according to Canadian law, the identities of the holders of 51% of Hydro1 stock are secret. If they're buying a Washington utility, shouldn't Washington know the buyers? Please don't approve this sale without this information.</p>
	Howard Brunner	Web	<p>I am against the proposed merger of Avista and Hydro One. I feel that this is not in the public interest due to the advantages that we here in Washington state get from the use of the many dams here in the Northwest to generate power. I would not like the profits from our energy to go to a foreign company.</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	WILLIAM MCINERNEY	Web	<p>***Second comment received 4-22-18***</p> <p>Please say no to the merger of Avista with Hydro One. There are too many unknowns. It is not in the best interest of customers to allow this merger. We should not allow our local utility to come under the control of a Canadian company. It will be great for the executives of Avista but unfair to customers.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Bill McInerney 2828 W Olympic Ave Spokane WA 99205</p> <p>***First comment received 4-22-18***</p> <p>I'm not in favor of a Canadian Company taking over our utility that has been in place for over 100 years. There are too many unknowns. The Northwest is blessed to have a Utility such as Avista and that is all subject to change if Hydro One takes control.</p>
	Patricia McCartney	Web	<p>PHONE/RS</p> <p>Keep Avista in the U.S.A. and not in Canada.</p>
	Arlene Caferro	Web	<p>(Comment taken by phone for consumer - KM)</p> <p>I understand that Avista wants to have a merger with HydroONE in Canada. I am against that. I know people in Canada and their electric charges are to the moon. They are horrible. Many have had to move. I am afraid that would happen here with Avista. I am very firm on it. I can't believe they would go for this.</p>

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Joanne Bovey	Web	<p>Phone (SH)</p> <p>Avista's proposed sale to Hydro1</p> <p>My concern is that Avista is a company in the United States that is being sold to a company in Canada. If this happens, and Hydro1 buys us, we have lost control of certain aspects of our electrical grid. What is there to prevent Hydro1 from selling this company to a foreign government or another entity? (Sheri: I explained that any sale of the utility would need to be approved by state and federal authorities.) It needs to be made clear to the public that a sale must be authorized by the UTC. I see this could be a problem in the future.</p>
	CAROLYN KIESZ	Web	<p>I am commenting about the sale of Avista to a Canadian company. I am against any such sale. DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN. The sale of a utility company to any foreign corporation would be a violation of our NATIONAL SECURITY. It matters not that the country is Canadian. The ONLY country who should be running power to OUR GRID should be a company that is wholly owned and operated by Americans! To even consider such a sale is insanity! I cannot believe that any state utility would be considered for sale. What kind of greed has brought this to fruition? Our Country has an electric grid that powers all our businesses and that power should ONLY be in the care, custody and control of an American corporation or an American Co-operative. No other nation will have the best interest of the American people at heart. The bottomline will always prevail and that is not going to be in the best interest of our people. I have read a bit about the company that wants to purchase Avista and they are not even treating their own Canadian citizens very well. How do you think they will be treating Americans? I would imagine with less care than their own people, who I understand have had HUGE increases in the cost of electricity! This deal has to be stopped! IF you allow a foreign nation to control your power -- it will be very easy to be left POWERLESS! That is not something we want to have happen to us. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS SALE TO PROCEED. Sincerely, Carolyn Kiesz</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Ted P Baker	Web	I am opposed to the sale of AVISTA to a foreign company. I am fearful that I, as a person on a fixed income from Social Security, may experience unprecedented rate hikes. In light of the planned excessive payouts of severance packages to executives of AVISTA, I am very concerned about the real motives of this transaction. Please deny the permission to proceed with this sale. Thank you.
	Galen Chamberlain	Web	As a long time Avista customer Please do not let a foreign company take control of Avista. Thank you, Galen Chamberlain
	Gary	Web	As a customer of Avista power in Spokane Washington I want the commission to know that I am against the sale of Avista to a foreign country. This should not be allowed.
	Thomas P. Hanley	Web	I understand that AVISTA might be bought up by some Canadian company. I see NO ADVANTAGE to AVISTA customers if this transaction were to take place. The Spokane area has some of the lowest electrical rates in the country; I do not see how the rate payers will benefit. I also see this as a national security issue. I believe this critical utility service should remain under the control of regulatory agencies in the United States. Please reject the sale of AVISTA. Thank you.
	joseph siers	Web	I do not feel Avista should be sold to a foreign corporation. With the greatest concern being keeping affordable rates.

Total Comments: 283

In Favor: 13

Opposed: 201

Undecided: 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Kenton Foundas	Web	<p>The proposed merger of Avista with Hydro One of Canada states in the WA UTC brochure that the merger is suppose to provide "immediate cost savings". I believe that this statement is a far from the truth as it can be! I challenged the state to cancel any merger that does not live up to its hype. The second challenge I make is to the statement, "customers will continue to receive the same great service from Avista...". Our service is pitiful to say the least. We have had more power outages than ever and the company's response has been poor at best. Before Avista makes a big deal of its charitable contributions I would hope that they would serve their customers better first! Their service is so bad that property buyers as cautioned to buy a generator for backup as Avista cannot be trusted to provide consistent power services to folks in the northern part of their service area. The fact that the employees will see a continuation of the company as it is today would not comfort me at all based upon the company's service record. I would propose that electric bills be taxed according to the hours of service lost and that the customers not feel like they are pawns in the monopoly called Avista.</p>
	Jeff and Sally Brodhead	Web	<p>***See attachments for additional emailed comments***</p> <p>To the UTC Commissioners,</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>Notice:</p> <p>On information and belief, this purchase of Avista Utilities may be proposed under the guise of another (foreign) utility "Hydro One Limited", but with intent to target resources (dams and other), within the boundaries of Washington State and other States, for purposes of hidden agenda.</p> <p>Please refrain from approval, until all possibly hidden agenda AND ITS BACKERS are investigated thoroughly AND THEN HESITATE AGAIN!</p>

			<p>~~~~~</p> <p>As property owners, residing in Eastern Washington (and natural gas customers of Avista), We STRONGLY OBJECT to and are concerned over the (proposed) sale of Avista to a foreign entity, especially Hydro-One!</p> <p>From the readings we have found, Hydro-One will be the next ENRON and possibly much worse.</p> <p>Please protect the energy resources of Washington State, effectively protecting the same for Idaho, Montana and these United States.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Regards, Jeff and Sally Brodhead Spokane Valley, Washington jsbrodhead@wwdb.org</p> <p>P.S. As we are shareholders of and served by Modern Electric Water, we are very pleased with the service we receive from Modern Electric Water (a co-op). We also receive great service from Avista Utilities (natural gas), though those services are rarely seen. Is there any reason, the residents of areas served by Avista cannot be given the opportunity to become THE OWNERS of the utility (e.g. a co-op), rather than the utility being sold as proposed? jb</p>
	Lindarae P. Watts	Web	<p>I am concerned about the potential consequences with Avista selling to a foreign owned company. Concerned about every thing from rates to continuing good service. Not in favor.</p> <p>*entered by MS from phone call</p>

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Roi L. Sigler C/O Rois Furniture Repair Refinish	Web	history repeats again i remember it use to be washington water company .. and electric use to be way cheaper now it seems we have to support canada . gee wis whats wrong with this story. may be we all should go back to the horse and buggy days so they wouldnt have to raise fees again.. then they might be gone how about that..
	Duane A. DePoe	Web	Are you out of your minds? Do you even know how bad a performer Hydro 1 is compared to Avista? Do you even know that Hydro 1 will have 5 votes and Avista will have four? Sanity will never prevail! I know who appointed you to your position - Inslee!!!! YOU SOLD US OUT TO KEEP YOUR JOBS. Thanks for nothing - people will have to choose between food and heat in five western states! Obviously you have no collective conscience!!!! Reverse your ok of the acquisition of Avista by Hydro 1 and you will sleep with a clear conscience!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
	Vera Wingett	Web	I would like the sale of Avista to be rejected to Hydro One Ltd of Toronto, Canada. I feel that the utilities should stay in Washington state and not be sold to a foreign country.
	Mary Moldenhauer	Web	Re: Docket No. U-170970 - Joint application of Hydro One Ltd. and Avista Corp. This sale/merger should not happen. America should not sell or merge its utilities with foreign entities. Bad idea.
	Tom Troup	Web	5/15/2018 12:44 P.M. Dictation by customer by Elizabeth Eskridge Commission Staff for the customer has no access to Internet: The customer objects to Avista and the Hydro One Merger. Hydro One which is a Canadian company and 51 % percent of it is owned by a county other than Canada. Tens of thousands of Canadians are living without electricity because Hydro One jacked up the prices so high. The customer attended a meeting that gave the statistics.

Total Comments: 283**In Favor:** 13**Opposed:** 201**Undecided:** 69

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	N Jeanneret	Web	Why does Avista have the authority to sell our natural assets to a foreign company? I feel once we have lost this company to a foreign buyer what keeps it from being sold again to China. What are the advantages to us as consumers.
	Jerry Richardson	Web	I'am against the sale to Hydro One. Two things for sure, their will be layoffs and price increases . Also what will stop Hydro One from diverting power to Canada and levying some sort of use tax? All the info I have read is that Hydro One is not consumer friendly. I'am sure if I went through all the emails I have received I could fill the comment box with 8000 characters , I'am sure you have the info. The layoffs and price increases will happen if you allow the sale. As a consumer this is unacceptable.
Undecided			
	Michael L. Shevham	Mail	***SEE ATTACHED LETTER***
	Jorgen Rasmussen	E-mail	<p>Let me know with a recite or link back to the document</p> <p>For the Records My Address: Jørgen Rasmussen 5711 N McKenzie RD Otis Orchards WA 99027 (509 542 7740)</p> <p>Here is the text</p> <p>Monday April 23, 2018 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Spokane Valley City Council Chamber</p>

10210 E. Sprague Ave. Spokane Valley, WA

Chairman and Commission members:

My wife and I own Solar Acres Farm in Eastern Washington, and are Avista customers or rather Avista is a customer of our 16KW solar production. Solar Acres Farm supports the acquisition of Avista by Hydro One and are looking forward to working with Hydro One.

My interaction with Avista go back a decade or more, I was first exposed to their futuristic way of thinking when they gave me a tour of the Silicon Energy Solar Array, installed on the top of the Spokane headquarters building, and their converted Toyota Prius SunCars, This was ten years ago and before anybody even Tesla had hit the road with their fleet of electric cars.

For five years now, Solar Acres Farm has been solar powered and had nothing but positive interactions with the Avista company and their employees. In addition, as a member of the Avista Technical Advisory Committee, I had had first hand insight on what it takes to plan for future energy generation, and what future fossil fuel consumption and CO2 generation looks like.

Also note, the planning for the 15MW solar array has since expanded to a 28MW system, currently being installed in Lind Washington. A positive step in the right direction, however developments of sustainable energy must be scaled to much bigger systems.

I also serve as a member of the Spokane Climate Collaborative, focusing on Climate Connections and city's carbon footprint, I am pleased to extend an I-Sustain invitation to twelve members of the Spokane community, including Avista. The selected twelve goes to Europe in September 2018 to study, first hand, sustainable energy infrastructure.

Earlier this year I have the opportunity to testify for the 100% clean energy bill going through Olympia. Neither the 100% clean energy or the carbon bill made it into law however, we in the state of Washington will not let up until our CO2 emissions are dealt with. Currently the I-1631 (Carbon fee) is heading for the ballot in November.

While in Olympia, I had the opportunity to stand up in front of all the environmentalists, and to their amazement, I had a public statement from Avistas stating "Avista is willing to work with the governor's office concerning the Carbon Tax bill". That to me is key. We all need to collaborate as we must move away from Fossil Fuel burning, and we need to do it sooner not later. It needs to be done now.

I'll stop here. I'm sure you will hear a lot of concerns about the clean up require after ColStrip. Yes listen to the statements and pay attentions. You will also hear stupid statements, like let the letter in today's paper, stating invasion of foreign countries buying up our Utilities, that is just a sad federal political climate coming through, screw the FED's the current administration will be out

			<p>soon, I assure you. Climate change has no border, we all need to work together, and develop a comprehensive solution to the climate crisis. Jorgen Rasmussen Solar Acres Farm</p> <p>Jørgen Rasmussen (509 542 7740) Solar Acres Farm Lisa Brown for Congress The best sin tax is a carbon tax National Drive Electric 2018 16KW Solar System Inland Northwest Sustainable Energy Group Setting the Poles on my Barn Inland N.W. Environmental Events</p>
	Pauline Druffel	In person	Person attended public comment hearing on April 23rd.
	John O'Leary	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Patrick Ciesifiski	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Ken Garceau	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Patty Blakesley	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Scott Hanks	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Wayne Clemens	In person	Customer participated in a public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Steven W. Peters	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Darlene Meyer	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Rob Chase	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Anthony J. Teske	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Carol V. Kowzan	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	David Randall	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18. See attachment for written comment left during meeting.
	Dorothy Ochsner	In person	Customer participated in a public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	William Lamont Worden	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	DeeAnne McGhee	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Carol Weltz	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Ted Cummings	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Keith Taylor	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Mike Harper	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Jerry Willis	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Fawna Slavic	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and left written comment.
	Vickie Applegate	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Monica Pierce	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Becky Kramer	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	John Miller	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Clyde Johnson	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Lowell White	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Eve Prescott	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Samyo Tinsley	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Clifford A Sheets	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Claudia Sheets	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Sherri Richmond	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Vic Ulber	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Dian Reed	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Brian Parker	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	John Pierson	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Kristine Coleman	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Larry Johnson	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Ron & Barb	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Scott Rozic	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Ron Duggan	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Diane Zeihen	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Philip Duggan	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Brenon McFarland	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Linda Ballo	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Alvan K Sampson	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	George Terrill	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Bob Jackman	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Thomas M Troup	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Marty Brown	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	James Thueringer	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Ed Trueman	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Lisa Shinn	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Lou Thureinger	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Terri Galloway	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Mary C Selecky	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Holly O'Connell	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Sally Leque	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Joanne McLain	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Barry Smith	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Diane Kent	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Dr. Brian G Henning, PH.D.	Mail	Customer wrote a letter on 4/23/18.
	Whitney Preston		Customer attended the 5-3-18 public comment hearing
	Don Warner	Web	Would help some retail customers if Avista / Hydro One would allow the use of credit cards (MasterCard & Visa) without the added user fee for monthly bill payments. Thank you!

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Jackie Truelove	Web	I am very confused about the merger between Avista and Hydro One. Is Hydro One buying Avista? If so who will be determining any increases in rates? And which agency would be looking into those rate changes? Who would be regulating Avista or Hydro-One if they are the owner? Will this merger be only for electricity or is it also natural gas? If Hydro One is the owner, why would we need a large management team in Spokane? I hope that you will be able to answer these questions for me. Until that time, I don't know if I am in favor of the merger or not. Thank you. Jackie Truelove
	John O'Rourke	Web	I ask that the Commission, as part of the conditions of approval of the purchase, make it mandatory that Avista/Hydro-One provide a monthly report detailing how many customers it has shut-off because of nonpayment. I was surprised to learn that power companies in Washington generally don't release such statistics. I think the numbers are important to know because it gives the entire community an idea on how it is doing in serving the poor and vulnerable. It lets us know if we need to do better helping people access assistance programs and also would encourage people to donate to project share and advocate and support energy assistance programs. It would also help us keep tabs on a foreign corporation to make sure it is meeting it's obligations to our entire community. Thanks for your consideration.
Yes			
	Jim LeTellier	In person	Customer provided comment at the April 23 public comment hearing.
	Lawrence Luton	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and left written comment, see attachment.
	Brian Henning	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18. See attachment for written comment received during the meeting.

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Rebecca MacMullan	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and left written comment, see attachment. Customer submitted written petition on May 2, 2018, containing 163 signatures
	Dr. Bill Miller	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18.
	Judy Fitzpatrick	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and left written comment, see attachment.
	Julie Honekamp	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/23/18 and left written comment, see attachment.
	Madonna R Jones	In person	Customer was present at public comment hearing on 4/24/18.
	Lindsey Brocious	In person	Customer attended 5-3-18 public comment hearing
	Tim Hatten	In person	Customer was at the 5-3-18 public comment hearing
	Pat Rathmann	In person	Customer attended the 5-3-18 public comment hearing
	Alan Hodgdon	In person	Customer was at the 5-3-18 public comment hearing

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Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
	Jeff Pittman	Web	<p>Hi, My name is Jeff Pittman, Founder & CEO of Spokane based started up named GoMain (www.gomain.com) which is building an electric car charging stations map starting in Spokane, WA. I'd like to propose a public benefit that Hydro One (the proposed purchaser of Avista Corp.) could provide to the customers of Avista. Hydro One could commit, as part of the transaction, to installing a large number, say 100, of electric vehicle charging stations in the Spokane and surrounding areas. Avista has already begin this initiative, and Hydro One could accelerate its expansion as part of Avista's mission to providing access to clean fuel (electricity). Customers in Avista's Footprint would benefit by having access to a lower cost (even free in some cases) fuel for transportation as they travel in Spokane, and the Spokane Area would win by attracting electric vehicle drivers to their area, who would then spend money in the community.</p> <p>I would be happy to elaborate on this public comment in person, if so desired. Please contact me at jeff@gomain.com if this issomething the commission would like to hear more on. Thank you for your time and interest.</p>