

Agenda Date: June 29, 2017
Item Number: E1

Docket: UE-151145
Company: Avista Corporation

Staff: Kathi Scanlan, Regulatory Analyst

Recommendation

Issue an Order in Docket UE-151145 finding that:

- (1) Avista Corporation complied with the final renewable portfolio standard reporting requirements in WAC 480-109-210(6).
- (2) Avista Corporation has met its 2015 renewable portfolio standard target of 170,472 megawatt-hours and retired corresponding certificates in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System.

Background

WAC 480-109-210 describes the two-step process by which the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) determines whether a utility has complied with the renewable portfolio standard (RPS). WAC 480-109-210(1) requires a utility to file an initial report each year in which it documents the resources that it acquired or contracted to acquire to meet that year's RPS target.

WAC 480-109-210(6) then requires a utility to file a final compliance report within the next two years that identifies the specific resources that the utility used to meet the target and documents that the utility retired corresponding certificates in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS).

The commission issued Order 01 in this docket on July 30, 2015, which approved Avista's calculation of its 2015 renewable energy target as 170,472 megawatt-hours (MWh).

Discussion

Avista submitted its final 2015 RPS compliance report on June 1, 2017. The report indicates that the company met its 2015 RPS target of 170,472 MWh using its qualified incremental hydropower and wind. Avista used Method 3 for calculating its incremental hydro production, as defined in WAC 480-109-200(7)(d). Staff reminds the company of the requirement in WAC 480-109-200(7)(e) to provide an analysis of Method 3's performance in the company's 2019 report.

The following table summarizes the resources that Avista used for 2015 RPS compliance:

Renewable Energy for 2015 Compliance

| WREGIS Number Unit ID | Facility Name (Location) | Vintage | Amount (MWh) | Multiplier (MWh) | Total Number Eligible Renewable Resources |
|---|---|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| W1560 | Cabinet Gorge Unit 2 (Clark Fork R., ID) | 2015 | 28,578 | N/A | 28,578 |
| W1560 | Cabinet Gorge Unit 2 (Clark Fork R., ID) | 2015 | 430 | N/A | 430 |
| W1561 | Cabinet Gorge Unit 3 (Clark Fork R., ID) | 2015 | 21,300 | N/A | 21,300 |
| W1561 | Cabinet Gorge Unit 3 (Clark Fork R., ID) | 2015 | 24,508 | N/A | 24,508 |
| W1562 | Cabinet Gorge Unit 4 (Clark Fork R., ID) | 2015 | 20,517 | N/A | 20,517 |
| W249 | Stateline Wind | 2015 | 383 | N/A | 383 |
| W2102 | Little Falls Unit 4 (Spokane River, WA) | 2015 | 4,862 | N/A | 4,862 |
| W2103 | Long Lake Unit 3 (Spokane River, WA) | 2015 | 14,197 | N/A | 14,197 |
| W1530 | Noxon Rapids Unit 1 (Clark Fork R., MT) | 2015 | 21,435 | N/A | 21,435 |
| W1552 | Noxon Rapids Unit 2 (Clark Fork R., MT) | 2015 | 7,709 | N/A | 7,709 |
| W1554 | Noxon Rapids Unit 3 (Clark Fork R., MT) | 2015 | 14,529 | N/A | 14,529 |
| W1555 | Noxon Rapids Unit 4 (Clark Fork R., MT) | 2015 | 12,024 | N/A | 12,024 |
| Total eligible certificates retired: | | | | | 170,472 |

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the commission issue an order in Docket UE-151145 as described in the recommendation section above.