

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of	DOCKET UE-151145
AVISTA CORPORATION’S	ORDER 02
Final 2015 Renewable Compliance Report under RCW 19.285.070 and WAC 480-109-210	ORDER ACKNOWLEDGING COMPLIANCE WITH 2015 RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

BACKGROUND

A. The Energy Independence Act

1 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 19.285, the Energy Independence Act (EIA), includes a renewable portfolio standard (RPS), which requires electric utilities with 25,000 or more customers to obtain certain percentages of their electricity from new renewable resources beginning in 2012. RCW 19.285.060(6) authorizes the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) to enforce the EIA with respect to investor-owned utilities.¹

2 RCW 19.285.030(20) authorized the Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) to select a tracking body to verify the certificates representing eligible generation that utilities use for compliance with the EIA. Commerce selected the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS) to perform this function. WAC 480-109-200(3) requires that all eligible renewable generation used by investor-owned utilities for EIA compliance be registered and retired in WREGIS.

B. Company Filings

3 On May 29, 2015, Avista Corporation (Avista or Company) initiated this docket by filing with the Commission a Renewable Portfolio Standard Report (RPS Report) pursuant to RCW 19.285.070 and WAC 480-109-210.

¹ RCW 19.285.030(11) defines “investor-owned utility” by reference to RCW 19.29A.010. RCW 19.29A.010(19) provides: “‘Investor-owned utility’ means a company owned by investors that meets the definition of RCW 80.040.010 and is engaged in distributing electricity to more than one retail customer in the state.”

4 On July 30, 2015, the Commission entered Order 01 in this Docket approving Avista’s calculation of its 2015 renewable energy target as 170,472 megawatt-hours (MWh).

5 WAC 480-109-210(6) requires a utility to submit a final RPS compliance report within two years of the initial report documenting the certificates it retired in WREGIS to comply with its target and requesting a compliance determination from the Commission. Avista filed its final RPS report on June 1, 2017. Avista’s report identifies the following 170,472 WREGIS certificates that the Company retired for 2015 RPS compliance:

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

6 The Company met its 2015 RPS target of 170,472 using a mix of wind and incremental hydropower resources. WAC 480-109-200(7) lists three methods from which a utility may choose to calculate the eligible renewable generation (incremental hydropower) portion of an upgraded hydropower facility’s output pursuant to RCW 19.285.030(12)(b). Avista used Method 3 to calculate the eligible output of Company-owned hydropower facilities.

7 Staff reviewed the Company's RPS report and recommends the Commission issue an
order finding that: 1) Avista complied with the final renewable portfolio standard
reporting requirements in WAC 480-109-210(6), and 2) Avista met its 2015 renewable
portfolio standard target of 170,472 megawatt-hours and retired corresponding
certificates in WREGIS.

DISCUSSION

8 We find that Avista has complied with the final renewable portfolio standard reporting
requirements set out in WAC 480-109-210(6) and met its 2015 renewable portfolio
standard target of 170,472 megawatt-hours.

9 We accept the Company's use of Method 3 for calculating its incremental hydropower
generation, and remind 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.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 10 (1) The Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with
the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts,
securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service
companies, including electrical companies.
- 11 (2) Avista is an electrical company and a public service company subject to
Commission jurisdiction and is an "investor-owned utility" under RCW
19.285.030(11).
- 12 (3) Avista serves more than 25,000 customers within the State of Washington, and it
is a "qualifying utility" under RCW 19.285.030(19).
- 13 (4) Under RCW 19.285.040(2)(a)(i) and WAC 480-109-200(1)(a), Avista's
renewable energy target for 2015 was 170,472 megawatt-hours.
- 14 (5) In Avista's Final Renewable Compliance Report, filed on June 1, 2017, the
Company demonstrated that it had acquired 170,472 megawatt-hours of eligible
generation.
- 15 (6) Avista retired a total of 170,472 certificates in WREGIS.

- 16 (7) Avista has complied with all reporting and filing requirements set out in Order 01.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 17 (1) Avista Corporation complied with the final renewable portfolio standard reporting requirements set out in WAC 480-109-210(6).
- 18 (2) Avista Corporation met its 2015 renewable portfolio standard target of 170,472 megawatt-hours and retired corresponding certificates in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System.
- 19 (3) Avista Corporation has complied with its 2015 renewable energy target as required by RCW 19.285.040(2)(a)(i).

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 29, 2017.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary