

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Requested Waiver)	
of Statutory Notice in Connection with)	
the Tariff Revisions Filed by)	DOCKET UE-010510
)	
)	ORDER GRANTING LESS
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a)	THAN STATUTORY
AVISTA UTILITIES)	NOTICE, ACCOUNTING
)	TREATMENT, AND
)	REPORTING
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On April 13, 2001, Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-28, designated as Original Sheet No. 92. The purpose of the filing is to implement an energy buy-back program entitled by Avista as its All Customer Electric Energy Buy-Back Program and request accounting treatment of associated program costs.

- 2 WAC 480-80-070 requires thirty days' notice prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheet bears an inserted effective date of May 15, 2001. This date recognizes statutory notice as required. The Company requests, however, that statutory notice be waived as authorized in WAC 480-80-240, and that the revisions become effective April 26, 2001. The Company requests approval with less than statutory notice to have the program approved as close as possible to the beginning of the effected usage period in mid-April.

- 3 The Company also requests the buy-back credits paid to customers and incremental costs associated with the program be included in the deferred power cost calculation approved in Docket UE-000972.

- 4 Since the proposed tariff revisions and accounting treatment request appear to be fair, just, and reasonable, and waiver of statutory notice is not inconsistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant the waiver Avista requests with an effective date of April 26, 2001.

- 5 Given the proposed program is a pilot in nature, the Company should provide a report on the results of the program not later than 60 days after the completion date of the program.

FINDINGS

- 6 (1) After careful examination of the proposed tariff revisions and accounting treatment request filed by Avista on April 13, 2001, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that the proposed tariff revisions and proposed accounting treatment of the buy-back credits paid to customers and incremental costs associated with the program should become effective April 26, 2001.
- 7 (2) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on April 25, 2001. The Commissioners, having been fully advised in the matter, and having determined this order to be consistent with the public interest, enter this order.

O R D E R

- 8 THE COMMISSION GRANTS the requested waiver of statutory notice in connection with the tariff revisions filed by Avista on April 13, 2001, and the tariff revisions shall become effective on April 26, 2001.
- 9 The Company is allowed to defer all buy-back credits and direct incremental costs associated with the program to the deferred power cost mechanism approved under Docket UE-000972.
- 10 The Company must provide a report on the results of the program not later than 60 days after the completion date of the program providing at a minimum the following items:
1. Number of customers achieving the threshold by class by month.
 2. Percentage of total customers achieving the threshold by class.
 3. Total volumes and dollars credited to customers by month.
 4. Total volumes saved from previous years by month and by customer class.
 5. Calculation of the monetary benefits derived for customers and the Company.
- 11 This order shall in no way affect the authority of this Commission over rates, services, accounts, evaluations, estimates, or determination of cost or any matters whatsoever that may come before it, nor shall anything herein be construed as an acquiescence in any estimate or determination of costs claimed or asserted.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 25th day of April, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner