

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	DOCKET NO. UG-050983
	)	
Avista Corporation,	)	ORDER NO. 01
	)	
Applicant,	)	
	)	
To Amend its Certificate of Public	)	
Convenience and Necessity to Operate	)	
a Gas Plant for Hire in the General	)	ORDER GRANTING
Area of Spokane County	)	APPLICATION
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On June 24, 2005, in compliance with RCW 80.28.190 Avista Corporation (Avista or the Company) filed an application to amend its present Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire, to include an additional area in designated portions of Spokane County which are contiguous to presently certificated areas. (Exhibits A & B).
- 2     Avista is presently certificated for and is now providing gas service in Spokane County. Avista is requesting a certificate to expand the service area North of Spokane. The additional area requested is contiguous to the existing certificated area. (See Exhibit A for legal description.)
- 3     This filing requests no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to service this addition to Avista’s service area, and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with the treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Avista’s results of operation for ratemaking purposes.

4 It appears that Avista is best suited to serve the requested service territory economically, therefore, the application should be granted to satisfy the public convenience and necessity.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including gas companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW, and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*
- 6 (2) Avista is a gas company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 7 (3) RCW 80.28.190 states no gas company shall operate in this state any gas plant for hire without first having obtained from the Commission a certificate declaring that public convenience and necessity requires or will require such operation and setting forth the area or areas within which service is to be rendered.
- 8 (4) Avista has previously been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate a gas plant for hire.
- 9 (5) Avista has filed an application to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to include an additional area in Northern Spokane. This area is contiguous to Avista's presently certificated area.

- 10 (6) Commission Staff has reviewed the Company's application and recommends the operation of a gas plant for hire in the additional area requested is required for the public convenience and necessity.
- 11 (7) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2005.
- 12 (8) After review of the request filed in Docket UG-050983 by Avista and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public convenience and necessity that the Certificate of Avista be amended to reflect the addition of areas east of Bruce Road in Northern Spokane.

## O R D E R

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) The application of Avista to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire within the certificated area in Spokane County is granted and the Certificate shall be in accordance with the attached Exhibit B.
- 14 (2) This Order makes no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to serve this addition to Avista's service area, and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Avista's results of operations for ratemaking purposes.

- 15 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Avista to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

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 this 14th day of September, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary