

664

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED: July 7, 2000  
CASE NO: UE-991606  
                  UG-991607  
REQUESTER: Avista Corporation

WITNESS: Joelle Steward  
RESPONDER: Joelle Steward  
TELEPHONE: (360) 664-1308

**REQUEST NO. 177:**

On page 7, starting at line 14, you state that unless the balance is reduced to a reasonable level by mid-2001 then the tariff rider mechanism, Schedule 91, should be reduced to a level that approximates its DSM program expenditures. What is your definition of or guidelines for a "reasonable level"?

**RESPONSE:**

Staff believes that a reasonable level for the tariff rider balance is approximately one to one and a half months revenues from the rider. The average monthly revenue in 1999 (based on the information provided in Exhibit 319) was \$285,000; therefore, Staff would find monthly balances that fall under approximately \$450,000 to be reasonable. Staff recognizes the difficulty of managing energy efficiency programs to match monthly revenues and we use this guideline to acknowledge the Company's need to maintain a cushion of revenues in the balance for program management. We also recognize that there will be some variability of the balance level as funding commitments are made and become due. Funding commitments that Staff are aware of and that we will take into account when we receive updates include signed contracts with customers, dues to the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and funds committed to low-income agencies for weatherization.

<b>WUTC</b>		
DOCKET NO. <u>UE-991606</u>		
EXHIBIT # <u>664</u>		
ADMIT	W/D	REJECT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>