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June 16, 2017

Via Electronic Filing

Mr. Steven V. King
Executive Director & Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Pk. Dr. S.W.
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: AVISTA CORPORATION dba AVISTA UTILITIES, Revises Tariff
WN U-28, Power Cost Rate Adjustment Schedule 93
Docket UE-170484

Dear Mr. King:

Please find enclosed the Petition for Rules Exemption of the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities in the above-referenced docket.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

/s/ Haley M. Thomas
Haley M. Thomas

Enclosure

cc: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the attached Petition for Rules Exemption upon all parties in this proceeding, as shown below, via electronic mail.

DATED this 16th day of June, 2017.

Davison Van Cleve, P.C.

/s/ Haley M. Thomas

Haley M. Thomas

AVISTA CORPORATION

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**WASHINGTON UTILITIES &
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

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BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	DOCKET UE-170484
)	
)	
AVISTA CORPORATION dba AVISTA)	PETITION FOR RULES EXEMPTION
UTILITIES, Revises Tariff WN U-28,)	OF THE INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS
Power Cost Rate Adjustment Schedule 93)	OF NORTHWEST UTILITIES
)	

1 Pursuant to WAC § 480-07-110(2), the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (“ICNU”) files this petition for rules exemption (“Petition”) to accompany ICNU’s concurrently filed motion to dismiss and alternative motion to consolidate with general rate case filing (“Motions”). Specifically, ICNU petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (or the “Commission”) to approve an exemption, waiver, or modification of any rules, as necessary, in order to consider ICNU’s Motions, consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes, per WAC § 480-07-110(1).

2 Avista Corporation (“Avista” or the “Company”) submitted its Power Cost Rate Adjustment (“PCRA”) filing on May 26, 2017. The Company seeks a 2.92% average rate increase via the PCRA, effective September 1, 2017. Moreover, Avista has asked the Commission to allow this significant, near-term rate increase to go into effect by operation of law. Consequently, time is of the essence for the Commission to consider issues raised in the Motions, including whether the Company has even stated a claim upon which the Commission may grant PCRA relief, or whether power cost issues underlying the PCRA should be consolidated with the Company’s concurrent general rate case, docketed as UE-170485.

3 On June 1, 2017, ICNU filed a petition to intervene in this proceeding, along with
a notice of appearance for ICNU counsel. The Commission has not yet issued a complaint and
suspension order for this docket, however, or issued notice of a prehearing conference. With the
prospect of future process or a prehearing conference still uncertain, no determination has yet
been made on ICNU’s intervention petition.

4 While ICNU has, therefore, not yet been granted status as a “party” or
“intervenor” to this proceeding,^{1/} ICNU respectfully requests that the Commission approve this
Petition and exercise its authority, in this particular circumstance, to exempt ICNU from any rule
requirements that would prohibit motion filings for any non-party persons.^{2/} Any requisite
exemption, modification, or waiver of the Commission’s motion-filing rules would be fully
consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.
More specifically, consideration of matters contained in the Motions are fundamental to the
public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes governing the
Commission—since the Motions arguments address whether Avista’s proposed rate increases are
fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient, as well as efficient and reasonable process which the
Commission should undertake (or not).

5 Neither the Commission nor any other parties would be advantaged by ICNU
withholding the Motions, which would only serve to allow less time for review and response.
Conversely, approval of this Petition would be in accord with the public interest, so as not to
penalize ICNU for a good faith effort to present its Motions argument as soon as possible,
thereby allowing for a maximum period of process and consideration.

^{1/} WAC § 480-07-340(1)(b), (3)(f).

^{2/} See WAC §§ 480-07-375, -380.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVISON VAN CLEVE, P.C.

s/ Jesse E. Cowell

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Of Attorneys for the Industrial Customers of
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