

April 23, 2018

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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

Washington UTC
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Commission:

I am very much against the merger of Avista Utilities and Hydro One for the following reasons:

Avista is a private corporation built in the best tradition of our capitalistic economic system. Hydro One is a quasi government corporation in a socialist country.

Hydro One is owned by 49% of the Ontario government. Given the Ontario government will vote all of its shares the same it is too easy for the Ontario government to convince another 1% plus one vote to vote the same. Should that happen our utilities would be governed by a foreign government in a foreign country.

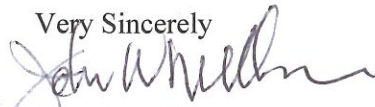
In the not too distant past Washington Water Power sold off its distribution of water to a private company I believe in Philadelphia. Within months our cost of water skyrocketed until such time we formed Water District #3 and purchased the assets back at an exorbitant price. Since then the high price of water has stabilized at much higher rates than surrounding utilities.

Power rates at Hydro One are some of the highest rates in Canada while Power rates at Avista are some of the lowest in the US. After the merger if Hydro rates go down our rates will necessarily rise much to the disappointment of Washington rate payers.

The socialist government is bent on saving the world through the adoption of a "green" philosophy which will necessarily be foisted on rate payers in Washington to promote the agenda of a foreign nation.

Bottom line is let's keep a good, solid company built with the best interests of Washingtonians in mind in the confines of the USA. Avista is a great company that should not be sold to anyone let alone a quasi government corporation.

Very Sincerely



John W. Miller
2124 S. Herald Rd
Spokane Valley, WA 99206



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2124 S. Herald Rd.
Spokane Valley, WA 99206



98504-7250



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