

**AVISTA UTILITIES
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

JURISDICTION:	Washington	DATE PREPARED:	3/13/00
DOCKET NO:	UE-991606	WITNESS:	Kelly Norwood
	UG-991607		Don Falkner
REQUESTER:	WUTC	RESPONDER:	Don Falkner
TYPE:	Data Request	DEPT:	Rates
DUE DATE:	3/15/00	TELEPHONE:	(509) 495-4326
REQUEST NO.:	255		

REQUEST:

Please provide a copy of voucher 386852, payment to Montana Power. Please describe the transaction behind this payment and document the relevance of this expense to the regulated gas and electric operations.

RESPONSE:

Please see the attached invoice. From time to time the opportunity to sell or purchase electric generation resources becomes available to the Company. This was part of the cost associated with participation with Montana Power and other owners in the process, of determining whether or not to sell the Colstrip Units 3 & 4. The Company believes it was prudent and in the best interest of electric customers to participate in the initial offering round in order to be in the position to take advantage of any situation that could have benefited the electric system's cost of operations. The Company dropped out of the sales offering after reviewing the initial bids, which would have resulted in a loss on the sale of the plant.

WUTC		
DOCKET NO. <u>UE-991606</u>		
EXHIBIT # <u>258</u>		
ADMIT	W/D	REJECT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE ISSUE VOUCHER TO:

61221

19 78

NAME Montana Power Company

ADDRESS 40 East Broadway

CITY Butte STATE MT ZIP 59701-9394

AMOUNT One hundred twenty five thousand & ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ DOLLARS \$ 125,000⁰⁰/₁₀₀

FOR Fee for includ. wwp portion of Colstr. p in Montana Power's offering of generating plants.

See attached wiring instructions.

WIRE TRANSFER

DO NOT MAIL

3548

MAIL

PAYMENT DUE BY

WIRE

ASAP week of June 22nd

CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDED

6-23-please

SIGNED

Christy Beament

APPROVED

In Key 386852

WORK ORDER	ACCOUNT		RC	LOC	AMOUNT	
	MAIN	SUB				
CHARGE <u>3921</u>	<u>0920</u>	<u>00</u>	<u>B55</u>	<u>099</u>	<u>125000</u>	<u>00</u>

DISTRIBUTION O.K. _____ VERIFIED _____

NDom

6/27