

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WUTC v. Avista Corporation d/b/a Avista Utilities – General Rate Case
Dockets UE-090134, UG-090135 and UG-060518 (consolidated)

**RESPONSE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL TO AVISTA
DATA REQUEST NO. 5**

Request No: 5
Directed to: Hugh Larkin, Jr.
Date Received: September 14, 2009
Prepared by: Hugh Larkin, Jr.
Date Prepared: September 18, 2009

Data Request No. 05

Re: Injuries and Damages

Page 29, line 16, The Company records the accrual of reserve for damage claims in FERC Account No. 228200, which Public Counsel used to propose its adjustment to rate base. The Company records the payment of claims to a contra-account for reserves to FERC Account No. 228210, which reduces the reserve. Public Counsel did not factor in the contra-account for its adjustment. Please explain why.

RESPONSE:

Please refer to the Company's Response to Public Counsel Data Request No. 480 wherein the Public Counsel asked the Company to provide the injuries and damages reserve monthly balances for each of the months September 2007 through September 2008. The Company identified transactions within account 228200 and not the net reserve balance. The Company did not identify account 228210 as part of the reserve accrual. To the extent that that account represents actual payments of injuries and damages, it should be deducted from the reserve balance as calculated by Mr. Larkin.