AVISTA UTILITIES RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

JURISDICTION: Washington

DATE PREPARED: 3/17/2000

CASE NO:

UE-991606

UG-991607 WITNESS: Don Falkner

REQUESTER:

ICNU

RESPONDER:

Don Falkner

TYPE:

Data Request

DEPT:

Rates

DUE DATE:

3/17/2000

TELEPHONE:

(509) 495-4326

REQUEST NO.:

61

FIELD AUDIT:

___ Yes <u>X</u> No

REQUEST:

With regard to workpaper PF92 provided in support of the name change amortization amount contained in Exhibit No. 28, please provide a complete explanation of the benefits the retail customers of Avista will derive from the name change and why it is appropriate to have the customers pay for the change.

RESPONSE:

Name changes have become relatively common in the utility industry and are one of the costs of continuing to operate in today's utility environment. At the same time it was recognized that this is the type of cost that benefits multiple periods, so the Company proposed a 5-year amortization period for recovery in this case. For additional discussion on this item, please refer to pages 45 and 46 of my testimony, Exhibit T-26.

WUTC		
DO MET NO. UE-991606		
E DIT#	267	
ADMIT	W/D	REJECT