

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET NO. UE-030751
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 03
Complainant,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
v.	)	FOR CONTINUANCE OF
	)	HEARING DATES
AVISTA CORPORATION, d/b/a	)	
AVISTA UTILITIES,	)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
	)	(Reset to December 11, 2003)
Respondent.	)	HEARING
	)	(Reset to December 15-17, 2003)
.....	)	

1 **SYNOPSIS:** *The Commission grants the agreed motion for continuance of hearing dates filed by Public Counsel.*

2 **PROCEEDINGS:** The Commission initiated this proceeding on the joint motion of Commission Staff, Public Counsel and ICNU to determine the prudence of Avista’s power cost deferrals under the Energy Recovery Mechanism (ERM) approved as part of the Stipulation adopted by the Commission on June 18, 2002, in Docket No. UE-011595.

3 **PARTIES:** David Meyer, attorney, Spokane, WA, represents Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities (Avista). Donald Trotter, Assistant Attorney General, represents Commission Staff. Robert Cromwell, Assistant Attorney General, Public Counsel’s Office, Seattle, WA, represents Public Counsel. S. Bradley Van Cleve, attorney, Portland, OR, represents Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU).

**MEMORANDUM**

4 **Motion to Continue Hearing Dates.** On October 6, 2003, Public Counsel filed a motion to continue the hearing dates currently set for October 15 -17, 2003.

Public Counsel requests a six to eight week postponement of the hearings to allow its expert witness, Ms. Catherine M. Elder, time to analyze data to be provided by Avista on October 6, 2003. Public Counsel explains that this data may materially alter Ms. Elder's analysis previously submitted on August 25, 2003. Public Counsel states that in the event Ms. Elder's direct testimony is materially affected by her review of this additional data, Public Counsel will request by motion an opportunity to supplement her testimony. No party objects to the continuance of hearing dates for the requested period.

- 5 **Commission Decision.** The Commission has reviewed Public Counsel's request to postpone the evidentiary hearings in this proceeding, and finds it consistent with the public interest to grant the motion to continue hearing dates. *WAC 480-09-440*. Accordingly, the prehearing conference scheduled for October 9, 2003, and the hearings scheduled for October 15-17, 2003, are canceled, and the following hearing schedule replaces the schedule set forth in Order No. 1, Prehearing Conference Order, entered May 27, 2003.

Prehearing Conference	December 11, 2003 (1:30 p.m.)
-----------------------	----------------------------------

Evidentiary Hearings	December 15-17, 2003
----------------------	----------------------

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 7th day of October, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

KAREN M. CAILLÉ  
Administrative Law Judge