

CABLE HUSTON BENEDICT HAAGENSEN & LLOYD LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SUITE 2000
1001 SW FIFTH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OREGON 97204-1136

TELEPHONE (503) 224-3092
FACSIMILE (503) 224-3176

EDWARD A. FINKLEA

efinklea@chbh.com
www.cablehuston.com

November 14, 2005

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING
and HAND-DELIVERY**

Carol Washburn
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

**Re: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission vs. Avista Corporation
Docket Nos. UE-050482 & UG-050483**

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed please find the original and nineteen (19) copies of the Initial Brief of the Northwest Industrial Gas Users for filing in the above-referenced dockets.

A paper copy will be provided to all parties on the WUTC's Master Service List obtained on this date, and electronic copies will also be transmitted to those parties whose e-mail address appear on the Master Service List.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Finklea

EAF/nh
Enclosure
cc: Service List

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	DOCKET NO. UE-050482
)	and
Complainant,)	DOCKET NO. UG-050483
)	<i>(Consolidated)</i>
v.)	
)	
AVISTA CORPORATION d/b/a)	
AVISTA UTILITIES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

**INITIAL BRIEF
OF THE
NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS**

Edward A. Finklea, OSB No. 84216
Cable Huston Benedict
Haagensen & Lloyd LLP
1001 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 224-3092
efinklea@chbh.com
on behalf of the
NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

Pursuant to the procedural schedule adopted by Administrative law Judge Karen M. Caille, the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”) hereby submit this Initial Brief in the above-referenced proceeding.

NWIGU is a signatory to the Settlement Agreement, along with Staff, Avista Corporation, and the Energy Project (collectively the “Signing Parties”). NWIGU supports the Settlement Agreement. At hearing the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (“ICNU”) and Public Counsel have challenged the settlement. ICNU has only challenged the settlement of the electric case, raising no objections to the settlement impacting natural gas customers of Avista. Public Counsel has raised some issues regarding the settlement of the natural gas portion of the case, but the focus of its criticism is also directed at the electric settlement.

NWIGU urges the Commission to approve the settlement of the natural gas case. NWIGU witness Schoenbeck, as well as Staff witnesses and company witnesses have shown through overwhelming evidence that the settlement of the gas case reaches a fair result for Avista’s gas customers and its shareholders. No party has raised a serious issue with the gas settlement that should cause this Commission to reject it. NWIGU urges the Commission to approve the gas settlement as filed.

DATED: November 14, 2005.



Edward A. Finklea, OSB No. 84216

Cable Huston Benedict

Haagensen & Lloyd LLP

on behalf of the

NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I caused to be served the foregoing **Initial Brief of the Northwest Industrial Gas Users** on the attached Service List obtained on this date from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission as follows:

- [XX] by **MAILING** a full, true and correct copy thereof in a sealed, postage-paid envelope, addressed as shown on the attached Service List, and deposited with the U.S. Postal Service at Portland, Oregon, on the date set forth below;
- [XX] **and** by **electronic mail** ("e-mail") to those parties who listed an e-mail address on the Service List provided on this date by the Washington Utilities Transportation Commission.

DATED: November 14, 2005.



EDWARD A. FINKLEA, OSB No. 84216
Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd LLP
Of Attorneys for
The Northwest Industrial Gas Users

MASTER SERVICE LIST

As of: 11/14/05 Docket: UE-050482 Page: 1
 Name: Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities (E016)
 Comments: In the Matter of the Request of Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista Utilites for
 a General Rate Increase of \$35.8 Million (12.52 percent).
 Original MSL Date: 04/04/05

Status	Name and Address.....	Phone & Fax.....	Added....	By.
A	KELLY NORWOOD VICE PRESIDENT AVISTA CORPORATION, D/B/A AVISTA UTILITI RATES AND REGULATION PO BOX 3727, MSC 29 SPOKANE WA 99220	PH: FX: (509) 777-5655	04/04/05	MS
AC	DAVID MEYER ATTORNEY AVISTA CORPORATION Representing Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista U PO BOX 3727 SPOKANE WA 99220-3727 E-mail: dmeyer@avistacorp.com	PH: (509) 495-4316 FX: (509) 495-4361	04/04/05	MS
I	KEN CANON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS OF NW UTILITIES 333 S.W. TAYLOR STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97204 E-mail: icnu@worldaccassnet.com	PH: (503) 239-9169 FX: (503) 239-0466	05/18/05	MS
I	PAULA E PYRON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS 4113 WOLF BERRY COURT LAKE OSWEGO OR 97035-1827 E-mail: ppyron@nwigu.org	PH: (503) 636-2580 FX: (503) 636-0703	05/06/05	MS
IC	RANDALL FALKENBERG Representing Industrial Customers of Nor 8351 ROSWELL RD. PMB 362 ATLANTA GA 30350 E-mail: consultrfi@bellsouth.net	PH: (770) 379-0505 FX: (770) 671-1046	05/18/05	MS
IC	EDWARD A FINKLEA ATTORNEY CABLE HUSTON BENEDICK HAAGENSEN & LLOYD, Representing NWIGU 1001 S.W. 5TH STE 2000 PORTLAND OR 97204 E-mail: efinklea@chbh.com	PH: (503) 224-3092 FX:	05/06/05	MS
IC	MATTHEW PERKINS ATTORNEY DAVISON VAN CLEVE	PH: (503) 241-7242 FX: (503) 241-8160	05/18/05	MS

MASTER SERVICE LIST

As of: 11/14/05 Docket: UE-050482 Page: 2
 Name: Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities (E016)
 Comments: In the Matter of the Request of Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista Utilites for
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 Original MSL Date: 04/04/05

Status Name and Address..... Phone & Fax..... Added.... By.

Representing Industrial Customers of Nor
 333 S.W. TAYLOR STE 400
 PORTLAND OR 97204
 E-mail: mail@dvclaw.com

IC RONALD L ROSEMAN PH:(206)324-8792 05/20/05 CT
 ATTORNEY AT LAW FX:(206)568-0138
 Representing Energy Project
 2011 - 14TH AVENUE EAST
 SEATTLE WA 98112
 E-mail: ronaldroseman@comcast.net

IC JIM SELECKY PH:(314)275-7007 05/18/05 MS
 BRUBAKER & ASSOCIATES FX:
 Representing Industrial Customers of Nor
 1215 FERN RIDGE PKWY. STE 208
 ST. LOUIS MO 63141
 E-mail: jtselecky@consultbai.com

IC CHAD M STOKES PH:(503)232-2757 05/06/05 MS
 ATTORNEY FX:
 CABLE HUSTON BENEDICT HAAGENSEN & LLOYD,
 Representing NWIGU
 1001 SW 5TH STE 2000
 PORTLAND OR 97204
 E-mail: cstokes@chbh.com

IC S. BRADLEY VAN CLEVE PH:(503)241-7242 05/18/05 MS
 DAVISON VAN CLEVE FX:(503)241-8160
 Representing Industrial Customers of Nor
 333 S.W. TAYLOR STE 400
 PORTLAND OR 97204
 E-mail: mail@dvclaw.com

AAG CHRIS SWANSON PH:(360)664-1220 04/12/05 MS
 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FX:
 WUTC
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE
 Representing WUTC
 STATE MAIL STOP 40128
 E-mail: cswanson@wutc.wa.gov

AAG GREG J TRAUTMAN PH:(360)664-1187 04/12/05 MS
 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FX:(360)586-5522
 WUTC
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE

MASTER SERVICE LIST

As of: 11/14/05 Docket: UE-050482 Page: 3
Name: Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities (E016)
Comments: In the Matter of the Request of Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista Utilites for
a General Rate Increase of \$35.8 Million (12.52 percent).
Original MSL Date: 04/04/05

Status Name and Address..... Phone & Fax..... Added.... By.

Representing WUTC
STATE MAIL STOP 40128

E-mail: gtrautma@wutc.wa.gov

CP SIMON FFITCH PH: (206) 389-2055 04/04/05 MS
AAG FX: (206) 389-2079
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
PUBLIC COUNSEL
Representing Public Counsel
900 4TH AVENUE STE 2000
SEATTLE WA 98164
E-mail: simonf@atg.wa.gov

MASTER SERVICE LIST

As of: 11/14/05 Docket: UG-050483 Page: 1
 Name: Avista Corporation, d/b/a Avista Utilities (G024)
 Comments: In the Matter of the Request of Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista Utilities
 for a General Rate Increase of \$2.9 Million (1.82 percent).
 Original MSL Date: 04/04/05

Status	Name and Address.....	Phone & Fax.....	Added....	By.
A	KELLY NORWOOD VICE PRESIDENT AVISTA CORPORATION, D/B/A AVISTA UTILITI RATES AND REGULATION PO BOX 3727, MSC 29 SPOKANE WA 99220	PH: FX: (509) 777-5655	04/04/05	MS
AC	DAVID MEYER ATTORNEY AVISTA CORPORATION Representing Avista Corp. d/b/a Avista U PO BOX 3727 SPOKANE WA 99220-3727 E-mail: dmeyer@avistacorp.com	PH: (509) 495-4316 FX: (509) 495-4361	04/04/05	MS
AAG	CHRIS SWANSON ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WUTC ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE Representing WUTC STATE MAIL STOP 40128 E-mail: cswanson@wutc.wa.gov	PH: (360) 664-1220 FX:	04/12/05	MS
AAG	GREG J TRAUTMAN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WUTC ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE Representing WUTC STATE MAIL STOP 40128 E-mail: gtrautma@wutc.wa.gov	PH: (360) 664-1187 FX: (360) 586-5522	04/12/05	MS
CP	SIMON FFITCH AAG OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLIC COUNSEL Representing Public Counsel 900 4TH AVENUE STE 2000 SEATTLE WA 98164 E-mail: simonf@atg.wa.gov	PH: (206) 389-2055 FX: (206) 389-2079	04/04/05	MS