

*✓ Hen. Ack  
sent 3/18/04*      *✓ To AV.*      *✓ To Commu  
: H*

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2004 11:59 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Wednesday, March 17, 2004  
11:59:11 AM

Case:

Name: Norman Schroder  
Street Address: 1213 E.7th.Street  
City: Moscow  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83843-3714  
Home Telephone: 208-882-5645  
E-Mail: normaddie@adelphia.net  
Company: Avista Corp.

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: It is outrageious for Avista to ask for a rate increase. I have been retired from The Washington Water Power and Avista Corp.since January of 1988 with one raise. I thought you had more intergury than that and looked out for the rate payers.

Sincerely Norman Schroder

Transaction ID: 3171159.11  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 24.50.75.246  
User Hostname: 24.50.75.246

✓ Gen Beck  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commis.  
= it.

**Jean Jewell**

---

**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 13, 2004 7:43 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Saturday, March 13, 2004  
7:42:31 AM

Case: AVU-E-04-1 AVU-G-04-1  
Name: BRAD BAKER  
Street Address: 1334 PONDEROSA DR.  
City: MOSCOW  
State: IDAHO  
ZIP: 83843-9445  
Home Telephone: 208-883-3715  
E-Mail: bebbaker@msn.com  
Company: AVISTA

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: I AM A UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO/STATE EMPLOYEE. I HAVE NOT RECEIVED A COST OF LIVING INCREASE FOR THE PAST 3-YEARS. I PROBABLY WONT SEE ONE FOR THE NEXT TWO TO THREE YEARS IF THAT. THE STATE DID APPROVE A 2% MERIT INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES, BUT THE U of I WILL MOST LIKELY WITHHOLD PAYMENT OF THAT FUNDING CONTINGENT ON ANY FUTURE STATE FUNDING HOLDBACKS. EVEN IF THAT FUNDING COMES AVAILABLE IT PROBABLY WILL NOT TRICKLE DOWN TO ME.

AVISTA'S REQUEST FOR INCREASED SERVICE CHARGES / ELECTRIC & GAS RATES IS NOT AT A WELCOME TIME FOR THE AVERAGE IDAHO CITIZEN, NOR FOR THE STATE FUNDING CRISIS WE HAVE NOW AND IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE COMPANY CLAIMS FOR THE INCREASES ARE QUESTIONABLE.

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE COMMISSION TO DENY AVISTA'S PROPOSED RATE INCREASE AT THIS TIME. B BAKER

Transaction ID: 313742.31  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 65.54.97.143  
User Hostname: 65.54.97.143

✓ Gen. Acct  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To Commis.  
7 H



RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 MAR 10 AM 8:39

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mountain View Terrace  
1211 Gooby Road  
Sandpoint, ID 83864-9281  
March 6, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P. O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

I am opposed to the Avista proposed increase in gas and electricity prices for these reasons:

This is my third year without a pay increase in my salaried job. The cost of living has gone up 2.6%, 1.4% and 2.1% in those three years. In those same three years my medical insurance premiums have gone up 46.7%.

In that same period of time my cost for electricity has gone up 17.6% per KWH and my cost for natural gas has gone up 40% per therm. I don't see why Avista stockholders should not be required to do a little belt-tightening along with the rest of us.

Sincerely,



L. O. SMITH

*✓ Ben Ack  
sent 3/18/04*

*✓ To A.V.*

*✓ To Commes  
? H*

07 March 2004

From: Theodore E. Guindon, 1631 E. Horsehaven Ave., Post Falls, ID  
83854-4450  
To: Idaho Public Utilities Commission, 472 W. Washington St., Boise,  
ID 83702  
Subj: **AVISTA REQUESTED RATE INCREASE**

1. In the March Avista bill, notice was given of a request to the IPUC for a rate increase that appears to be 11% increase on residential electrical usage.
2. Before you approve any such rate request, I hope you will exclude all expenses other than the amount Avista requires in electricity purchases as well as expenses running their physical plants. Disregard any increase in wages, earnings, and other benefits. We should not have to pay the price for the fat cats to get richer nor should the ordinary workers make that much more than the people who are forced to pay the ever increasing costs of electricity and gas.

*Theodore E Guindon*  
**THEODORE E. GUINDON**

RECEIVED  
FILED

2004 MAR 15 PM 3:28

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

✓ Gen. Acct  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commus  
; H



RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 MAR 11 AM 8:49

LOCAL PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

P.O. Box 586  
Orofino, ID 83544

Commissioners

Phone: (208) 476-3615  
Fax: (208) 476-3127

Stan Leach, Chair  
J. P. "Pete" Curfman  
Don Ebert

## Clearwater County Commissioners

March 4, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83750-0074

Dear Sir:

This letter is regarding Avista's rate hike request. The average of their requested increase is 13.9%. This causes us a problem because we are only allowed to raise taxes 3% per year according to state law. The remaining amount must be made up through reductions in services. Our figures show a 13.9% increase would translate to almost \$1,000 more per month on the County power bill. We feel that this large of a rate increase is unwarranted and unreasonable. The increasing costs of doing business is something that we are well acquainted with. Those of us in County government are constantly trying to do more with less and we feel that Avista should do the same.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our opinions.

Sincerely,

Stan Leach, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
Clearwater County, Idaho

*✓ Gen. Acct sent 3/18/04*      *✓ To A.V.*      *✓ To Commus*  
H

# MAGNUSON HOSPITALITY GROUP

THE BEST WESTERN WALLACE INN • STARDUST MOTEL • HISTORIC JAMESON HOTEL, RESTAURANT & SALOON

P.O. Box 469  
Wallace, Idaho 83873

2004 MAR 12 PM 3:29

Telephone: 208 752-1131

Telecopier: 208 753-9361

RECEIVED  
IDaho PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

March 2, 2004

Mr. Paul Kjellander, President  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 W. Washington Street  
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Mr. Kjellander:

I note in the press that Avista has made an application for a substantial increase in electric and natural gas prices.

As you are probably mindful, the economic conditions in the Silver Valley continue to be depressed. We have one of the highest unemployment rates in Idaho.

I respectfully urge that the Commission and staff limit any increase to the minimum amount that is warranted.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MAGNUSON HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC.

*H. F. Magnuson*  
H. F. Magnuson, President

HFM:sla

*Thank you.*

✓ Men Ack  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commes  
H

MARCH 11, 2004

RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 MAR 15 PM 3:27

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RATE COMMISSION DIVISION  
472 WEST WASHINGTON  
BOISE, IDAHO 83702

DEAR RATE COMMISSIONERS,

I WISH TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO DENY THE PORTION OF THE AVISTA  
RATE INCREASE APPLICATION THAT RAISES THE BASIC RATE FOR  
BOTH ELECTRICITY AND NATURAL GAS.

IT IS MY OPINION THAT THE BASIC RATE IS ALREADY HIGHER THAN  
WHAT CAN BE JUSTIFIED AS THE ACTUAL COST OF KEEPING AND  
MAINTAINING AN ACCOUNT. I THINK THIS JUSTIFICATION IS  
NECESSARY FOR ANY TYPE OF A MONTHLY FEE IN A REGULATED  
INDUSTRY, AND IT SHOULD BE JUST AS VALID FOR THE OCCASIONAL  
USER AS WELL AS THOSE NEEDING FULL TIME CONSUMPTION.

IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY THOSE COSTS, AVISTA SHOULD BE ABLE TO  
SHOW, USING PRINCIPLES EMPLOYED BY CPA COST ACCOUNTANTS,  
WHY THEY SPEND OR NEED THAT AMOUNT TO MAINTAIN AN ACCOUNT  
OVER TWELVE MONTHS WHEN THEIR IS ACTUALLY CONSUMPTION FOR  
ONLY A FEW OF THOSE TWELVE MONTHS. ONE COULD CHOOSE A  
WIDE SELECTION OF EXAMPLES, BUT SUMMER CABINS, WINTER SPORTS  
CENTERS, AND LOW INCOME RESIDENTIAL HOMES ALL MIGHT FIT INTO  
SUCH A CATEGORY. IF AVISTA CAN TRULY JUSTIFY WHY THEY NEED  
TO SPEND ENOUGH TO RECOVER A BASIC FEE ON THEM, THEN THEY  
MIGHT BE VALID FOR THE REST OF US. IF THEY CAN'T, THEN THE  
REST OF US ARE PAYING TOO MUCH IN BASIC FEES.

A BASIC FEE IN A REGULATED INDUSTRY SHOULD NEVER BE CONSIDERED  
JUST ANOTHER WAY TO RAISE REVENUE. IT SHOULD REFLECT SPECIFIC  
IDENTIFIABLE COSTS CONSISTANT WITH STANDARD COST ACCOUNTING  
METHODS, AND APPLY EQUALLY ACROSS THE BOARD.

I WOULD BE VERY PLEASED IF THESE OPINIONS WERE EXPRESSED IN  
YOUR RATE HEARING. THANK YOU.

SINCERELY,

  
JOHN AMONSON

JOHN AMONSON  
BOX 92  
WALLACE, IDAHO 83873



RATE COMM  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
472 WEST

✓ Allen Acke  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To AV.

✓ To Comm  
H

RECEIVED  
FILED



2004 MAR 17 AM 8:16

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

March 15, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise ID 83720-0074

Re: Avista Utilities rate increase request of February, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

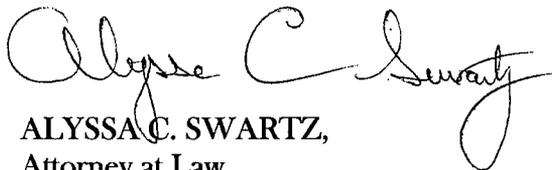
I object to the rate increase in both electricity and natural gas rates in Idaho recently requested by Avista Utilities. The information provided by Avista in their utility bills is not particularly clear, but it appears that they expect Idaho customers to increase their payments by over 13% for electricity and almost 10% for natural gas. I am able to see specifically that they wish to increase a basic charge for residential electrical service from \$4.00 to \$5.00, and raise the basic charge for natural gas services by \$1.78. This increase is totally unwarranted in the present economic times now facing Idahoans.

In light of the recent Enron scandal, I ask the Commission first to carefully scrutinize and take with skepticism any claims by Avista as to the "increased cost" of generation of electricity. These "costs" have been proven in the past to be mere manipulations by energy brokers.

Next, even if the data provided by Avista supports a claim of increased costs, it is not appropriate in these hard economic times to ask the ratepayers of Idaho, rather than Avista corporate management, to bear this burden and supply the capital investment necessary to expand Avista. I believe that Avista has in the past had a windfall from excessive charges, and they can best serve the public at this time by cutting their corporate costs and finding capital investment on the open market.

As to the increase for basic residential service, I believe that would be best allowed only after Idaho adopts 10% to 13% increase in the minimum wage. The individual rate payer is subsidizing large corporate usage with this proposal, and it is more appropriate that those who most benefit from a service be those who pay for it. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



ALYSSA C. SWARTZ,  
Attorney at Law

ALYSSA C. SWARTZ  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 1813  
Coeur d'Alene ID 83816

ACS/cj

✓ Don Ack  
sent 3/18/04

✓ To AV.

✓ To Comm  
3/14

## "COMMISSIONERS"

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

RECEIVED  
FILED  

MY HAND IS NOT STEADY ENOUGH TO WRITE THIS, SO  
PLEASE BEAR WITH ME & PLEASE ALL OF YOU, READ ALL THIS.

MAR. 8TH.  
2004 MAR 10 AM 8:39IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

THIS IS IN REGARDSTO AVISTA'S PROPOSED RATE AND BASIC  
RATE INCREASES ON BOTH ~~THE~~ ELECTRIC & GAS. I AM DEFINITELY  
OPPOSED TO ANY INCREASE IN THE RATES OR BASIC RATES.

THE ENCLOSED CLIPPING SHOWS THEY DO NOT NEED ANY INCREASE,  
AS THEIR PROFITS \$43.4 MILLION, A 50% INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR  
AND SHOULD BE AMPLE TO CARRY ON THE BUSINESS. THE 2 TOP  
OFFICERS RECEIVED SALARY INCREASES OF 66% AND 53% & NOW  
THEY WANT US TO PAY MORE. THE BASIC RATES SHOULD BE  
ABOLISHED AS IT IS ALL CLEAR, "UNJUSTIFIED INCOME," IF LEFT  
ON THEY WILL KEEP ASKING FOR MORE. THEY TAKE IN A LOT OF  
MONEY FROM BASIC RATES FOR NO SERVICE TO THE RATE PAYERS.  
AGAIN I AM AGAINST ANY BASIC RATES OR INCREASE IN THEM.

THIS IS MY 77<sup>TH</sup> YEAR ON THIS OLD EARTH AND TRY TO GET BY  
ON SOCIAL SECURITY AND A SMALL PENSION AND BARELY ABLE TO  
PAY THE PRESENT RATES AND THEY ARE TOO HIGH. THE ABOVE  
MENTIONED SALARY INCREASES THEY GOT, COMPARED TO MY COLA,  
S.S. INCOME RAISE OF 2% AND BUSH WIPE OUT MOST OF THAT  
WITH A RECORD HIGH INCREASE IN MEDICARE MONTHLY PREMIUMS.  
THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY COLA IN MY PENSION CHECK AND  
NEVER WILL BE.

THE ELDERLY AND THOSE ON FIXED INCOMES ARE TAKING A  
BEATING; HAVE SOME MERCY ON US. AVISTA EXECS SAID THAT  
THE IDAHO CUSTOMERS NEED TO SHOULDER MORE OF THE  
COST OF DOING BUSINESS, MEANING FAT SALARY INCREASES NO DOUBT.  
THEY ARE WAY OVER PAID NOW FOR A SMALL COMPANY AS AVISTA  
IS. IT IS TIME AVISTA DOES THE "BELT TIGHTENING" NOT US.

AGAIN THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY INCREASE WHATSOEVER AND MY OPINION STILL IS TO ABOLISH THE BASIC RATES ALTOGETHER.

I HOPE YOU ALL CAN SEE OUR SIDE OF THE PICTURE AND GIVE US SOME MUCH NEEDED RELIEF. I KNOW SOME LOW INCOME WIDOWS THAT HAVE TO KEEP CUTTING BACK ON THE GROCERIES, SO THEY CAN PAY UTILITIES ETC. A SAD THING, BUT IT IS HERE. ALL THEY HAVE IS A SMALL MONTHLY S.S. CHECK TO TRY TO STAY AFLOAT. THAT 66% AND 53% WOULD GO A LONG WAY IN HELPING THESE PEOPLE.

SINCERELY & THANK YOU  
"A 77TH YEAR OLDTIMER"  
William E. Hayes

P.S. I WOULD APPRECIATE AN ANSWER ON THIS FROM YOU WHEN TIME ALLOWS'

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION:  
COMMISSIONERS:

I MAILED YOU A LETTER TODAY ABOUT  
AVISTAS RATE INCREASE.

I FORGOT TO ENCLOSE THIS CLIPPING  
FROM THE SPOKESMAN REVIEW.

SO: WHEN YOU GET IT OR THIS, PUT  
THEM TOGETHER.

Thank You

11  
P.S. THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION PERTAINING TO  
TO THE LETTER I MAILED TODAY

2/15/04

## Letters

### *Avista execs not having hard times*

Avista is requesting to boost both electric and natural gas rates again. According to The Spokesman-Review (Feb. 7) Avista says, "Idaho customers need to shoulder more of the increased costs of doing business."

Yet, Avista's net income for 2003 was \$43.4 million, up from \$28.9 million in 2002 (Spokesman-Review, Jan. 29). That's a 50 percent increase in profit.

According to SEC filings, Scott Morris, president of Avista Utilities, has seen his executive compensation increase 66 percent from \$184,069 in 2000 to \$304,781 in 2002 (latest filing), and Avista CEO G.G. Ely saw his income increase 53 percent from \$469,483 to \$716,050 during the same period. This doesn't even include income gained from stock options!

Is the company experiencing hard times? Are the executives, as Mr. Morris puts it, shouldering "more of the increased costs of doing business"?

The proposed hike, including an electric base-rate increase from \$4 to \$5, will burden customers. They aren't receiving large pay increases. Especially hard hit will be the elderly and low-income families.

Why not shift the burden of lining the pockets of the executives to the large, wasteful customers who can better afford to "shoulder" the burden? Don't raise base rates. Instead, set progressive rates for wasters.

**Vern Stevens**  
Kellogg, Idaho



Mr. William E. Hayes  
P.O. Box 212  
Mullan, ID 83846-0212

LET

COMP

IDAHO PUBLIC UTI

PO. BOX 8372

BOISE, ID.