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2004 MAY 21 AM 8:37

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

*Allen Ack
sent 5/24/04*

*✓ To Comm
7 H*



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Wallace Inn

100 Front Street

P. O. Box 867
Wallace, ID 83873
(208) 752-1252
(800) 643-2386
Fax: (208) 753-0981

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1-800-528-1234

May 18, 2004

Mr. Paul Kjellander, President
Mrs. Marsha Smith, Commissioner
Mr. Dennis Hansen, Commissioner
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Re: Avista Corporation

Dear Commissioners:

As a business operator in the Silver Valley of North Idaho, President of the Historic Wallace Chamber of Commerce and long term resident of Wallace, Idaho, grave concerns arise when continued deliberations occur regarding further utility rate increases. Private enterprise in the Valley has been ham strung by slow or negative economic development for decades accompanied by high unemployment rates, low revenues and continually higher utility rates.

Avista Utilities is back at the ever-increasing "utility rate" table. One of the substantiations for the proposed increase is to pay for decreased usage by customers. We are encouraged to be conservation minded, to use high efficiency methods for lighting and heating (that actually work), but are then to be penalized for this conservation. This does not make common or ethical sense.

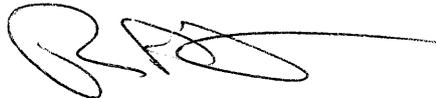
Further reasoning for the necessity of an increase is that with decline in usage, there is an increase in the number of customers. If there are more customers, this results in more gas and electric being consumed; why would there be a decline in gas and electric usage?

All that is being asked of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission is for the positive stewardship and leadership in allowing the struggling depressed areas of North Idaho to regain some positive economic ground toward stability and long hoped for prosperity. Utility increases do not permit this to occur.

Professionally and personally, it is respectfully requested that the Idaho Public Utilities Commission weigh the negative effects that any utility rate increase will have on the economics of Wallace, the Silver Valley and North Idaho.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. A. Shaffer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard A. Shaffer
Director of Operations and
President, Historic Wallace
Chamber of Commerce

RS:sla

✓ then Ack mailed 5/24/04

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commus.
H

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2004 9:57 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Saturday, May 22, 2004
8:57:07 AM

Case: AVU-G-04-1
Name: Delene Miller
Street Address: 506 W. Mullan Ave
City: Kellogg
State: Idaho
ZIP: 83837
Home Telephone: (208)783-5611
E-Mail:

Company: Avista
mailing_list_yes_no: yes

Comment_description: Please do not allow another rate hike for Avista utilities. We have very serious problems with our economy and a rate hike will make matters even worse. It effects every aspect of our lives not just electricity and heat. There has to be another answer.
thank you

Transaction ID: 522857.7
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 216.18.131.118
User Hostname: 216.18.131.118

*✓ Men Ack
sent 5/24/04*

*✓ To Comments
; H*

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2004 5:27 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Saturday, May 22, 2004
4:27:04 PM

Case: AVU-E-04-01
Name: Daniel Deiss
Street_Address: 3681 Westmond Rd
City: Sagle
State: Idaho
ZIP: 83860
Home_Telephone: 208 265-0421
E-Mail: deiss@sandpoint.net
Company: Avista

mailing_list_yes_no: no

Comment_description: I understand Avista Utilities is seeking a rate hike. My comment about Avista concerns the undependability of their service in northern Idaho. I am nearly 60 years old, and have lived/worked in more than a dozen states. I am a forester by trade, so I am very familiar with living in rural areas. At no time in my life, at any location, have I had the poor quality of electrical service as I have with Avista here in north Idaho. Power outages are constant (every time it snows or the wind blows) and total at least one to two per month, lasting more than 2 hours. Blinking power and short duration brownouts occur all the time. I have become a major supporter of the light bulb industry! I can live with a rate increase if service is dependable, but the company doesn't deserve increased rates for north Idaho right now based on the quality of their current service. Thank you for considering this comment.

Transaction ID: 5221627.4
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 69.41.133.34
User Hostname: 69.41.133.34