



RECEIVED

2016 MAY 12 AM 11:26

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

STATE OF IDAHO

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LAWRENCE G. WASDEN

VIA E-MAIL

May 12, 2016

Avista Corporation

Michael Andrea
michael.andrea@avistacorp.com
Avista Utilities
1411 E. Mission
PO Box 3727
Spokane, WA 99220-3727

Clint Kalich
clint.kalich@avistacorp.com
Avista Utilities
1411 E. Mission
PO Box 3727
Spokane, WA 99220-3727

Rocky Mountain Power

Daniel Solander
daniel.solander@pacificorp.com
Ted Weston
ted.weston@pacificorp.com
PacifiCorp dba Rocky Mountain Power
1407 West North Temple, Suite 330
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Brian Dickman
brian.dickman@pacificorp.com
Daniel MacNeil
daniel.macneil@pacificorp.com
Hui Shu
hui.shu@pacificorp.com
Laren Hale
laren.hale@pacificorp.com
PacifiCorp dba Rocky Mountain Power
825 NE Multnomah Street
Portland, OR 97232

Idaho Power Company

Donovan E. Walker
dwalker@idahopower.com
Idaho Power Company
PO Box 70
Boise, ID 83707-007

Randy Allphin
rallphin@idahopower.com
Idaho Power Company
PO Box 70
Boise, ID 83707-0070

Re: Case Nos. GNR-E-16-01; PAC-E-16-09

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission in Order No. 28708, Case No. GNR-E-99-1, established a methodology for the annual adjustable rate portion of avoided costs for those QF contracts using variable costs associated with Colstrip, a coal-fired generating facility in southeast Montana. For those QF contracts with Colstrip-related fuel costs and variable O&M, future Colstrip variable cost adjustments are to be calculated by using FERC Form 1 Colstrip Unit Coal Costs per megawatt hour (MWh) and adding \$2.00/MWh (the average variable O&M cost of Colstrip plus 20¢/MWh for generation taxes plus a five percent (5%) adjustment for line loss). As computed

May 12, 2016

Page 2

by Commission Staff, the Colstrip related adjustable rate will change from 16.68 mill/kWh to 15.61 mill/kWh. The same calculated rate revision under the avoided cost methodology is used by Avista, PacifiCorp dba Rocky Mountain Power, and Idaho Power Company. This change in the variable rate affects existing contracts under the previous SAR methodology.

The adjustable portion of the avoided cost rates under the Sumas-based methodology is based on annual average gas prices indexed at Sumas, Washington. As reported by Avista, the indexed gas prices have decreased by \$2.008/MMBtu. The approved gas price of \$5.10/MMBtu minus the \$2.008/MMBtu results in a gas price of \$3.092/MMBtu for the 2016-2017 year. This equates to a SAR fuel cost of 21.95 mill/kWh as used in the model.

In accordance with Order No. 29316, the adjustable portion of the avoided cost rate for PacifiCorp contracts with 1992 amendments has also been recomputed. Beginning on July 1, 2003, the adjustable portion for these contracts was ordered to be equal to the average cost of fuel for the Carbon, Hale, Naughton, Huntington, and Hunter generating plants, including a variable O&M component of \$1.51 but exclusive of generation taxes and a line loss adjustment. The variable energy rate applicable to deliveries commencing July 1, 2016 extending through June 30, 2017 has been computed to be \$23.61/MWh, an increase from \$21.75 last year.

Accompanying this letter are worksheets showing the computation of the updated adjustable rates for the various affected contracts. If you accept the updated rates after reviewing them as accurate, please indicate your approval by letter (or other filing) directed to the Commission in the reserved case docket numbers identified above. The case heading for the generic adjustment, Case No. GNR-E-16-01, will read as follows:

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANNUAL REVISION AND UPDATED CALCULATION OF THE ADJUSTABLE PORTION OF THE AVOIDED COST RATE(S) FOR EXISTING PURPA CONTRACTS FOR AVISTA CORPORATION DBA AVISTA UTILITIES, FOR IDAHO POWER COMPANY, AND FOR PACIFICORP DBA ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER.

The case heading in the PacifiCorp case for PacifiCorp QF contracts with 1992 Amendment language, Case No. PAC-E-16-09, is as follows:

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL REVISION OF QF VARIABLE ENERGY PRICES IN PURSUANT TO TERMS OF THE 1992 AMENDMENTS TO POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN IDAHO QFS AND PACIFICORP.

Please file your respective responses with the Commission on or prior to June 10, 2016.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please feel free to contact Yao Yin if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Daphne J. Huang
Deputy Attorney General

Enclosures

bls/L:GNR-E-16-01_PAC-E-16-09_ avoided cost

COLSTRIP ADJUSTABLE RATE CALCULATION Updated

For Period 7/1/16-6/30/17

Colstrip Fuel Cost from Avista FERC Form 1 for CY 2015

line 12	Net Generation (kwh)	1,689,986,000
line 20	Fuel	<u>\$22,992,450</u>
	Fuel cost per kwh	\$0.013605

Fuel Cost per MWh	\$13.6051
Variable O&M, Gen. Tax, 5% line loss per MWh	<u>\$2.0000</u>
Total Colstrip Adjustable Rate	\$15.6051

Reference GNR-E-99-1 O.N. 28708 4/17/2001

**Average Gas Prices at Sumas, Washington from Inside FERC publication
(\$/MMBtu)**

Calculating the 2016-2017 Avoided Cost Adjustable Rate

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Jan	\$4.89	\$3.23
Feb	\$5.12	\$2.56
Mar	\$5.78	\$2.40
Apr	\$4.37	\$2.15
May	\$4.53	\$2.13
Jun	\$4.28	\$2.48
July	\$4.37	\$2.21
Aug	\$3.69	\$2.43
Sep	\$3.85	\$2.41
Oct	\$3.91	\$2.41
Nov	\$3.62	\$2.11
Dec	\$4.68	\$2.47
Average	\$4.424	\$2.416

Actual Annual Adjustment:

$$\$5.10 - (\$4.424 - \$2.416) = \underline{\underline{\$3.092}}$$

Note:

\$6.94/MMBtu = 2007-08 Approved Rate

\$7.18/MMBtu = 2008-09 Approved Rate

\$9.00/MMBtu = 2009-10 Approved Rate

\$4.62/MMBtu = 2010-11 Approved Rate

\$4.99/MMBtu = 2011-12 Approved Rate

\$4.60/MMBtu = 2012-13 Approved Rate

\$3.45/MMBtu = 2013-14 Approved Rate

\$4.35/MMBtu = 2014-15 Approved Rate

\$5.10/MMBtu = 2015-16 Approved Rate

**PacifiCorp
Total Variable Energy Rate
for 2016 / 2017**

	Carbon	Naughton	Huntington	Hunter	Totals
Fuel Cost (\$)	\$ 8,451,578	\$ 97,849,265	\$ 158,215,307	\$ 169,070,144	\$ 433,586,294
<small>2015 FERC FORM 1 - Page 402 Line 20</small>					
Generation (MWH)	392,328	4,899,321	5,988,318	8,335,613	19,615,580
<small>2015 FERC FORM 1 - Page 402 Line 12</small>					
Average Fuel Cost (\$/MWH)				\$ 22.10	/MWH
Variable O&M				\$ 1.51	/MWH
Total Variable Energy Rate for 2016 / 2017				\$ 23.61	/MWH

For deliveries commencing July 1, 2016 extending through June 30, 2017
12 PacifiCorp/QFs contracts with approved 1992 amendment language