

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSIONER HANSEN
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: SCOTT WOODBURY

DATE: AUGUST 19, 2005

SUBJECT: CASE NO. AVU-G-05-1 (Avista)
PETITION TO EXTEND NATURAL GAS IRP FILING DEADLINE

On August 16, 2005, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities (Avista; Company) filed a letter with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting authority to extend its 2005 Natural Gas Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) filing deadline from December 31, 2005 to March 31, 2006. Pursuant to Order No. 25342, Case No. GNR-G-93-2, Avista is required to file an Integrated Resource Plan every two years.

As justification for the proposed delay in filing, Avista states that the Company makes its request to better align the IRP filing expectations in Avista's three state service territory. A delay, the Company contends, will better serve the Company's stakeholder interests as some participants in the IRP process have requested a delay. This extension, the Company contends, will allow for greater public involvement, and should result in a more robust IRP.

By making this request, the Company understands that if granted, this request will not affect future IRP time schedules and filings.

COMMISSION DECISION

Staff recommends that Avista's requested delay in filing its Natural Gas 2005 IRP be granted without further notice or procedure. Does the Commission agree with Staff's recommended handling of the Company's letter request?

Scott Woodbury