

✓ Gen Ack  
sent 10/17/05

✓ To AV:

✓ To Comms  
11

**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Monday, October 17, 2005 1:35 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Monday, October 17, 2005  
12:35:28 PM

Case: AVU-G-05-02  
Name: Marilyn Turcotte  
Street Address: 4002 E. Holt Road  
City: Coeur d Alene  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83814  
Home Telephone: 208 676-0598  
E-Mail: turcotte@icehouse.net  
Company: Avista  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes  
Comment\_description: Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing regarding Avista's proposed rate increase for northern Idaho. I am against granting a rate increase at this time and don't see the necessity of raising rates again. Wages in this area, including the Sandpoint/Bonnars Ferry area and Silver Valley, are very low, averaging between \$8.00 to \$12.00 per hour. Utility and housing costs keep increasing but wages do not increase and benefits are non-existent. Many families are finding it impossible just to put food on the table while the top executives of companies (including Avista) are paid obscenely high salaries, bonuses and benefits. Many children and elderly are cold and hungry and make hard decisions every day, reshuffling priorities. And with the price of a gallon of gas now near \$3.00, that extra expense must be budgeted in somehow. How do wages in the Boise/southern Idaho area compare with Kootenai, Shoshone, Bonner and Boundary counties? Please do not approve a rate increase at this time. Families are struggling.  
Thank you.  
Marilyn J. Turcotte

Transaction ID: 10171235.28  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 216.255.193.33  
User Hostname: 216.255.193.33

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sent 10/17/05

✓ To A.V.

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14

**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Monday, October 17, 2005 12:04 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Monday, October 17, 2005  
11:04:01 AM

Case: AVU-G-05-02  
Name: Tim Winde  
Street Address: 1261 E. Ezra Avenue  
City: Hayden  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83835  
Home Telephone: 208-772-6969  
E-Mail: timandgretchen@abcinet.net  
Company: Avista

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes  
Comment\_description: I strongly object to Avista's proposed rate hike for the following reasons:

- 1- Avista's profitability is not at risk.
  - 2- Avista secured contracts for the 2004 - 2005 Winter season well in advance of the rapid price hikes for natural gas, probably in early Spring. This is a ploy they are using to get this rate hike. If you'll remember, they made this request in July and prepared it well before then. The spot price of natural gas has risen most dramatically over the past 45 days and has no affect on their profitability!
  - 3- If a 24% increase is accepted by the commission it will be one more nail that impacts the economic stability of the community. Jobs and disposable income will be adversely impacted.
  - 4- Has Avista CEO Gary Ely cut back on the use of the company jet? Throttled back, flying commercial? Of course not and until he does then they must be doing quite well thank you. Times are tough and as the sole provider of natural gas in North Idaho they need to feel it with the rest of us.
- Please make sure you do not grant them this rate hike. The public will be closely watching the commissions actions.  
Thank you!

Transaction ID: 10171104.1  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 65.216.75.240  
User Hostname: 65.216.75.240

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Monday, October 17, 2005 8:23 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Cc:** Tammie Estberg; Marilyn Parker  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Howell  
Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2005 10:18 PM  
To: Front; bev; barker@puc.idaho.gov; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
Subject: Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Sunday, October 16, 2005  
9:18:23 PM

Name: Margaret Sherwood  
Street Address: Box 115  
City: Silverton  
State: ID  
ZIP: 83867  
Home Telephone: 208-556-6665  
Work Telephone: N/A  
E-Mail: unklwally@imbris.net  
Home Business: Home  
Business Name: N/A  
Business Street Address:  
Business Phone:  
Complaint Company: AVISTA  
Local Provider: Verizon  
Contacted utility: No

Complaint description: Cost increase for senior citizens with increased gasoline & travel to Cour d'Alene for Dr. appointments, along with increased taxes for property, now we are looking at a possible 24% natural gas heating cost plus there will probably be an electric increase. Those of us on fixed incomes will not I'm sure see that much increase in our social security checks. I feel the comission should look very carefully at a reasonable increase. It appears there must be excess profits being made somewhere.

Transaction ID: 10162118.22  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>  
User Address: 216.18.131.86  
User Hostname: 216.18.131.86

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 15, 2005 3:31 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Saturday, October 15, 2005  
2:30:32 PM

Case: AVU-G-05-02  
Name: Betty Castleberry  
Street\_Address: box 657  
City: Osburn  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83849  
Home\_Telephone: 208-752-5843  
E-Mail: castlone@localnet.com

Company: Avista

mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: We have a very limited income & with gas prices for cars & Avista's wanted increase we will be hurting !!!!!

Transaction ID: 10151430.32  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 66.239.239.211  
User Hostname: 66.239.239.211

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 15, 2005 1:36 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Saturday, October 15, 2005  
12:35:48 AM

Case: AVU-6-05-02  
Name: James Booth  
Street Address: P.O. Box 5294  
City: Coeur d Alene  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83814  
Home Telephone: 208 664-8996  
E-Mail: reneebo@msn.com  
Company: Avista Utilities  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: We are tired of the Utility rates going thru the roof! It is time too hold these Utility Co's accountable.

They need to cut employee wages, we know one 21 year old employee that gets \$30. an hour plus and gets lots of double overtime!

We are on a fixed income, these price increases are unfair, Absolutely No more price increases for Utilities!!

Transaction ID: 1015035.48  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 70.36.14.251  
User Hostname: 70.36.14.251

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Nancy Hylton  
**Sent:** Friday, October 14, 2005 11:52 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Cc:** Front; Beverly Barker  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Front  
**Sent:** Friday, October 14, 2005 8:25 AM  
**To:** Nancy Hylton  
**Subject:** FW: Complaint acknowledgement

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 13, 2005 5:35 PM  
**To:** Front; bev; barker@puc.idaho.gov; Ed Howell; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Complaint acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Thursday, October 13, 2005  
4:34:45 PM

**Name:** Susan Wheeler  
**Street Address:** 1003 Phinney  
**City:** Culdesac  
**State:** Idaho  
**ZIP:** 83524-7800  
**Home Telephone:** 208-843-2132  
**Work Telephone:**  
**E-Mail:** trouble28@netscape.com  
**Home Business:** Home  
**Business Name:**  
**Business Street Address:**  
**Business Phone:**  
**Complaint Company:** Avista Utilities  
**Local Provider:**  
**Contacted utility:** yes  
**Complaint description:** I am disabled and on a fixed income. How am I suppose to pay for my utilities when they continue to go up and up and my monthly check stays the same? I am on medication and I live 25 miles from Lewiston and with the price of gas how am I to survive. I am a lone.

Thank you, Susan Wheeler.

Transaction ID: 10131634.45  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/cons>  
User Address: 209.240.205.61  
User Hostname: 209.240.205.61

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 13, 2005 2:45 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Thursday, October 13, 2005  
1:44:47 PM

Case: AVU-G-05-02  
Name: Donna Miller  
Street Address: 15985 N. Oneida  
City: Rathdrum  
State: Idaho  
ZIP: 83858  
Home Telephone: 208-687-1827  
E-Mail: dmiller4@gte.net  
Company: Avista  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: With another mill possibly shutting down in January, and the fixed income people we have in the area, I don't think people can afford another price raise in the utility bills. People here aren't getting the raises in their income to help cover the property or sale taxes, gas or now utility bills on top of it all. Thank you Donna Miller

Transaction ID: 10131344.47  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 63.24.125.74  
User Hostname: 63.24.125.74

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**Jean Jewell**

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**From:** Ed Howell  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 13, 2005 12:07 PM  
**To:** Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark  
**Subject:** Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Thursday, October 13, 2005  
11:07:09 AM

Case: AVU G0502  
Name: Robert Travis  
Street Address: 14988 W. Delmar  
City: Rathdrum  
State: Id.  
ZIP: 83858  
Home Telephone: 773-4520  
E-Mail:

Company: Avista  
mailing\_list\_yes\_no: yes

Comment\_description: I am against the 24% rate hike currently pending. In my opinion it indicates poor management if you really need 24% to cover costs. If costs have been increasing good business practice is to raise rates as you go. Not to wait until your in a bind and jump them up to cover what you should have been paying attention to in the past. That's crisis management!  
Bob

Transaction ID: 10131107.9  
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>  
User Address: 65.107.168.210  
User Hostname: 65.107.168.210



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October 12, 2005

12696 Dover Ln  
Hayden, Id. 83835

OCT 14 PM 2:14  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, Id. 83720

Dear Commission:

This letter is in regard to Avista of Washington proposed rate increase on natural gas of approximately 40%. The IPUC docket # is AVU-G-05-02.

As a senior age person living on a fixed income, the proposed 40% rate increase on the natural gas we use in our home for heating, cooking, laundry dryer, and water heater, far exceeds the monthly Social Security increase of 3% both in percent as well as real dollars. For us, the monthly Social Security 3% increase would be about \$30.00 per month. With the increase cost of Medicare and the new drug program, \$30.00 doesn't even cover these cost let alone the proposed natural gas increase. For our Avista bill, the proposed increase during the winter time would be over \$40.00 per month.

In reviewing the makeup of the Avista board with three banker types, two attorneys, and 5 corporate executives, all of these people make at least \$100,000 a year and more. And the reimbursement from Avista for their board positions would certainly offset a \$40.00 monthly increase in their houses' natural gas cost. The impact on these Avista board people will NOT be same as it impacts our financial situation. And with Avista CEO Gary Ely making over \$900,000 in salary as CEO, he won't have any problem with his monthly Avista gas bill going up 40 %.

Avista certainly doesn't have any representation on their board of people from the less affluent sector of society – the working and retired folks. No wonder they don't mind raising the rates some 40% - it certainly won't impact them or their wealthy friends. Their Avista stock will just also increase. And I suspect many of them are so isolated in their gated and protected world of power and wealth, they don't even know – or maybe care – about the other segment of people that are totally dependant on their product for heat and utilities in their houses. And being the sole provider, Avista only has to convince the IPUC which generally is done with good representation by their attorneys and public relations people – the cost of which gets factored into the rate increase rational which the consumer ultimately pays for. Little people only have influence via this kind of IPUC letter – gives new understanding to trying to stop a bulldozer by holding up one's hand.

And you certainly never hear about Avista corporate officers and/or board members donating their board payments to Avista's Project Share. Maybe they do but it must be in the realm of "quiet philanthropy". But they do expect the small rate payers to fund this

Page 2 Avista Cont.

safety net for the very poor. You can be assured that there are more donations to Project Share from the consumers – in real dollars and percent of income – than from the Avista's corporate and board people.

In closing, I know that the rationale for the 40% natural gas increase is touted by the fact that the oil and gas companies are gouging everyone - including Avista. But it might be time for some belt tightening – especially among the corporate rich in Avista. In order for the rest of the community to survive the gouging, the pain needs to be shared proportionally by all. The only hope for any of us at the lower levels of the economic ladder, is for the IPUC to say NO to this increase. We hope that you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.L. Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

D.L. Martin

Cc: Spokesman Review  
Cd'A Press

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10-15-05

2005 OCT 17 AM 8:25

Avista Corporation  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

I was so cold last winter, even buying an oil-filled space heater, to keep from burning on the gas. I never wanted to be cold in my home but it's sure burning out that way. Couldn't there be a break for seniors who are disabled? I was on the comfort zone billing which went from \$88 to \$117; it was a hardship for me. Even when I called the local Avista office, I was told "everybody has problems." Since I have many medical problems (& layers of clothing), the cold affects my joints.

I'm unable to comprehend the reasons you keep raising, raising, raising the rates so many times. Maybe all your high-paid bureaucracy could take less money & make life bearable for us "little people."

Barbara Scarsella



Barbara Scarsella  
663 E Dalton Ave  
Dalton Gardens ID 83815-7300

Haven Humane Society

208-762-5332

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2005 OCT 17 AM 8:25

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

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October 12, 2005  
Robert Whitcomb  
2796 Ferry Landing  
Post Falls, Id. 83854

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

Dear Sirs:

In reading the Spokane Review I learned about a meeting held where you thought it was a shame you had so few attend. I find it no wonder there were few in attendance, since I saw no advertisement of the meeting. I read the paper and watch the news every day, and saw nothing about this meeting. My wife and I would have gladly attended as we are concerned about rising costs. I am also sure there would have been many other people there if they had known of this meeting.

Maybe there should be another meeting with at least some notice so that people can attend, or is it to the best interests of Avista to not do this. The rising cost of taxes, plus utilities, plus auto fuel, medical bills, and medication will cause retired Seniors on fixed incomes many great hardships. Each of you may retire some day, so consider us in your thoughts. Again I would like to reiterate we would like to attend if we had proper notice of the meeting.

Pat & Bob Whitcomb  
2796 Ferry Landing  
Post Falls, Id. 83854  
208-777-2141

Pat Whitcomb  
Bob Whitcomb

✓ Ann Ark  
smt 10/18/05

No. A.V.

✓ To Commrs  
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10-13-05

2005 OCT 17 AM 8:21

Public Utilities Commission  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

I am writing to protest the new rate increase Avista wants to get. Every year they raise their rates by a good margin. This latest rate increase they are asking for was planned way before the hurricanes in the gulf region. They can't blame it on that.

A small increase might be justified due to the problems in the gulf region.

The CEO got a big raise & a big fat bonus the past year. You don't see him giving any of that back.

I am a widow trying to live on a fixed income \$831 a month. That has to cover food, prescriptions (I have many & they are quite expensive) gasoline, all utilities, clothing etc.

I got my clothes from Goodwill & St. Vincent. I can't remember when I bought something new.

Havent had a piece of meat in ages (I love meat) can't afford it.

Keep the thermostat set on 65° (gas)  
wear sweat pants under my pants,  
2 or 3 sweaters on. Am always cold.

If the new rate increase is allowed  
I will have to set the thermostat  
down even further.

I never go anywhere. Can't  
afford gasoline & the price of  
admission to anything. Never eat  
out.

Let's see the C & O try to live  
like this. I guarantee he would  
not like it.

I never have more than 1 light on at  
a time ~~anywhere~~ in the house, & these  
are the energy saving light bulbs.

If the new rate increase is allowed  
I will have to stop taking some of  
my medicine. Can't get my food bill  
any cheaper than it is now. Am already  
living on the cheapest food I can buy plus  
help from the food bank,

Please don't allow this new  
increase to take effect.

Connie Holden



Mrs. Connie Holden  
1025 N. 8th St.  
Coeur D Alene, ID 83814

✓ Ann Ark  
sent 10/18/05

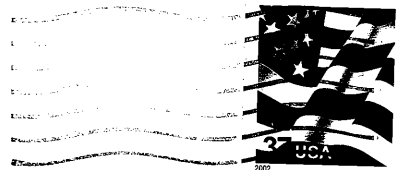
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Oct 12<sup>th</sup>

I read in the paper this morning very few people attended your + Avista's meeting on natural gas prices - its about more than the price of gas - people have given up they know every thing will proceed as usual - we have no representation - you need to do something to a company over weighted in management + giving bonuses, that all way out of proportion to what their customers make. I know you say you have no control over that part of their company - but all the money comes out of the same pot - we need help - do your job - represent the people.

Cathie Simpson  
P.O. Box 815  
Rathdrum, Idaho 83858



Idaho Utilities Comm.