

✓ Ann Ack  
sent 7/25/08

✓ To AV-

✓ To Comm.  
: H

7-15-08  
AVU-E-08-01

TO Public Utilities Commission,

Please do not allow Avesta's request to raise  
gas & electric rates.

I am 50 single & disabled. I am doing  
everything I can think of to stretch my  
Disability check. I live in low income housing,  
I don't have cable or satellite TV (just rabbit ears), I  
have no home phone, no credit cards, no memberships  
(gyms, clubs...) and I schedule my appointments so that  
I drive just 1 or 2 days per wk; saving gas and  
avoiding any impulse buying. I do qualify for  
energy assistance but with the utility increases in the  
last 4 years it only covers about 2 1/2 months of the  
bill for my small 1 bedroom apartment.

The savings acct and IRA's that I had 5 years  
ago are now gone. All used just for living expenses.  
I have nothing left to sell. I am just getting  
by from 1 month to the next. IF Avesta is  
allowed the sizeable rate increase they are asking  
for I will not be able to keep my apartment.

Please do not allow this increase. IF the  
economy stabilizes, food or gas prices reduce,  
healthcare reforms, Medicare or Energy Assistance

amounts increase then consider an increase  
at that time. ~~But~~ But now - to allow  
that rate increase with no additional help  
to low income residents would be a final  
blow to people like me. I would be  
homeless or at the very least unable to  
live independantly. Please say no.

Thank you  
Sande Dressel  
Sande Dressel  
1629 Cedar Av. #28  
Lewiston, ID 83501

1/25/08  
sent 7/25/08  
V To AV.  
V To Comm. H  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

July 17, 2008  
AVU-E-08-01/6-08-01

RECEIVED

2008 JUL 21 PM 3:01

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Idaho Public Utilities Commission:

Please oppose the proposed rate increases for AVISTA on gas (6.5 percent) and electricity (15.9 percent). I and others on fixed incomes of retirement cannot continue to support these high yearly increases.

I ask you to understand we live modest lives and have enough difficulty with medical costs as is. We need to be able to heat and light our homes and provide other necessities on a very limited income.

You speak for us, I ask you to understand we have reached the limit.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Katheryn Farjes

1801 PROSPECT AVE  
LEWISTON, IDAHO

83501

✓ Gen. Ack  
sent 7/25/08

✓ To AN.

Ruth Nelson  
PO Box 1227  
Bonners Ferry, ID 83805

✓ To Comms.  
i H

July 15, 2008

RECEIVED

2008 JUL 21 AM 8:30

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

Public Workshop/Case Nos. AVU-E-08-01 & AVU-G-08-01

RE: Rate Increases to Natural Gas Customers

I received the notices regarding the workshops to be held July 23, 2008 in Moscow, Idaho and on July 24, 2008 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho to discuss the proposed rate increases for electricity and gas customers. I appreciate the opportunity to attend and to ask questions or present concerns but will be unable to appear due to difficulty driving that far without significant back pain and the cost of the trip is not in my budget. However, I would be most grateful if this communications could be presented by proxy by one of the spokespersons for the private consumers, who are being asked to pay the highest percentage rate of all, by 50%, or more, except the interruptible service.

As stated in an earlier communications, this is a gross miscarriage of authority, and an injustice that is being thrust upon those who can least afford it. I feel that the percentage should be adjusted downward to no more than the increases proposed for the larger companies and heaviest of utility users! I call attention to the enclosed items, the brochure sent to residential customers and the article from the Spokesman Review listing the salary increases for Avista's executives in 2007. What are the 2008 salary and compensation package increases? Is this the reason for our rate increases?

Small town residential customers must be heard with an appropriate adjustment made so that they can afford to heat their homes. I look forward to a favorable result after these meetings.

Sincerely,



Ruth Nelson

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR IDAHO  
NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS**

April 2008

On April 3, 2008, Avista filed an application with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting a net increase above current Idaho natural gas rates totaling \$4.7 million or 5.8% overall. The proposed rate change is related to increased operating costs, increased capital investment necessary to provide natural gas service to customers, and expansion of Avista's underground natural gas storage facility. This proposed rate change does not reflect changes in the cost of natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers. Changes in the cost of natural gas are reflected in an annual purchased gas cost adjustment.

The proposed increases above current rates by service schedule are as follows:

General Service - Firm - Schedule 101 (residential & small commercial) - 6.5%

Large General Service - Firm - Schedules 111 & 112- 3.3%

High Annual Load Factor Large General Service - Firm - Schedules 121 & 122\* 2.7%

\*Interruptible Service - Schedules 131 & 132 4.9%

Transportation Service for Customer-Owned Gas - Schedule 146\*\* 0.9% *HHK?*

\* Propose to discontinue Schedules 121 & 122, those customers will be moved to Schedule 111 or 112.

\*\* Excludes gas costs

The difference in the proposed increase percentages for different customer rate classes is based on a comparison of the cost of providing service to those customers and the present rates billed for service.

(more on reverse)



**How to Calculate Natural Gas Bills for Idaho Customers**

**About Your Avista Utilities Gas Rates and Bill**

Avista Utilities provides rate schedule information and an explanation of billing procedures to help our customers understand how their bills are calculated.

*If you wish to calculate your monthly bill:*

1. Find the number of therms you used this month. Your bill shows them under metering information.
  - Subtract your previous meter reading from your present meter reading.
  - Multiply the difference by the multifactor shown for your meter.
  - This is your use for the period. Compute the charges for it by using the rate schedule shown for your meter on your bill.
2. Find your rate schedule in this pamphlet. Your bill

3. Compute the charges for your use, following the steps outlined for your rate schedule. For your convenience, the energy charges already include the effect of Schedule 150 (Purchase Gas Cost Adjustment), Schedule 155 (Gas Rate Adjustment), and Schedule 191 (Energy Efficiency Rider Adjustment). The rates for these schedules are stated at the end of each rate schedule where applicable.
4. After calculating the charge for your natural gas use, figure and add any city taxes which you pay on gas. They also are identified on your monthly bill.

**Franchise Fees** The current Franchise Fees in Idaho towns to which Avista Utilities provides natural gas are:

Village of Bonners Ferry	3%	City of Moscow	3%
City of Coeur d'Alene	5%	City of Mullan	1%
City of Dalton Gardens	1%	City of Ponderay	1%
City of Dover	1%	City of Post Falls	1%
City of Hailey	1%	City of Rathdrum	1%
City of Hayden	1%	City of Sandpoint	1%
City of Hayden Lake	3%	City of Spink Lake	1%
City of Kootenai	1%	City of Wallace	1%
City of Lewiston	1%		

**PLEASE NOTE** If the days of service shown on your bill are for less than 27 or more than 35 days, your bill may have been prorated. In this case, the following calculations cannot be used to calculate your monthly bill exactly. If you notice a dramatic change in your billing, up or down, please contact our customer service department immediately. Errors in billing may result in adjustment (backbilling or refund) of your account up to three years.

**RATES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2007**

# Stocks, service help set top Avista executives' pay

Salaries released on heels of utility's proposal for rate increase

BY BECKY KRAMER  
Staff writer

Every year, Avista Corp. releases the salaries of its executive team in late March or early April, just as winter-wary customers are wrapping up a season of high heating bills.

This year, the salaries' release comes shortly after the utility announced a proposed rate increase for 2009.

The timing isn't lost on Avista's corporate communications team.

"Oh, yes, we're aware of it," said Jessie Wuerst, a spokeswoman for the util-

ity that provides the majority of the region's electricity and natural gas. "There's nothing we can do about it ... and it's not necessarily something that we would try to do anything about anyway."

Salaries and other executive compensation for Avista's top six executives are disclosed in the company's pre-proxy statement. According to federal law, a proxy must be made public at least 30 days before Avista's annual meeting in early May.

Most homeowners write a check each

See **AVISTA, A13**

## Avista compensation packages for top executives

	2006	2007
<p>▲ <b>Gary G. Ely</b> (Retired Dec. 31, 2007) Former chairman of the board and chief executive officer</p>	<p>SALARY \$710,029 TOTAL COMPENSATION \$3,325,275</p>	<p>\$715,000 \$2,159,633</p>
<p>▲ <b>Scott L. Morris</b> (Effective Jan. 1, 2008) Chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer</p>	<p>SALARY \$357,703 TOTAL COMPENSATION \$1,115,496</p>	<p>\$452,461 \$1,164,126</p>
<p>▲ <b>Malyn K. Malquist</b> Executive vice president and chief financial officer</p>	<p>SALARY \$338,918 TOTAL COMPENSATION \$1,096,256</p>	<p>\$350,000 \$799,360</p>

\$ 1.5K  
+ Bonus  
↑ 101K  
↑ 7.5K  
↑ 12.5K  
+ Bonus

Total compensation includes the value of stock awards; cash bonuses; company matches for 401(k) contributions; and changes in the value of the pension liability held by Avista. For more information go to [spokesmanreview.com](http://spokesmanreview.com) and read the pre-proxy statement.

SOURCE: Avista Corp.

copy to file

Staff graphic: Molly Quinn



This story first appeared at [S.R.com](http://S.R.com), where you can find the SEC filing and Avista's backgrounder on executive compensation.

✓ Response sent by Gene F. on 7/24/08

✓ To AV.

✓ To Commus. F H

Jean Jewell

From: cynthiann0@mac.com  
Sent: Thursday, July 24, 2008 8:15 AM  
To: Tonya Clark; Jean Jewell; Beverly Barker; Gene Fadness; Ed Howell  
Subject: PUC Comment Form

A Comment from Cynthia Nichols follows:

-----  
Case Number: AVU-E-08-01  
Name: Cynthia Nichols  
Address: 2248 East Sixth  
City: Moscow  
State: ID  
Zip: 83843  
Daytime Telephone: 208-596-1385  
Contact E-Mail: [cynthiann0@mac.com](mailto:cynthiann0@mac.com)  
Name of Utility Company: Avista  
Add to Mailing List:

Please describe your comment briefly:

I could not make the PUC meeting yesterday evening in Moscow, but I do have some comments.  
1. I don't understand WHY the PUC members presented the case FOR Avista to the public (as reported would be done in the Moscow Pullman Daily News). Isn't the PUC supposed to be on MY side--having Avista present their case and the PUC asking probing questions in addition to MY questions? Avista is supposed to be the defendent and we the prosecutors, making sure they really need the raise in rates. Are they really using their income from rates properly and wisely? Did they purchase a new company jet, for example? Are they paying their executives too much money? Can they cut some fat? Can they charge new developments more for new services to homes? Can they get rid of some PR people that aren't necessary to services? Do those people just go to luncheons and meetings and add to the payroll? If it's true in Moscow, is it true in all Avista cities? Are employees misusing Avista trucks and equipment for their own personal use? I see it happening in Moscow.  
Why doesn't management stop that (that IS BAD PR). They ask me for higher rates, but their employees abuse their access to Avista equipment which costs money.

I oppose the rate increase. These are hard times for many of us. Maybe Avista needs to tighten its belt as I have to to get by.

And, once again, I don't believe that the PUC should be presenting Avista's case to the public. It looks like you're in bed with the company!!

Sincerely, cynthia nichols

The form submitted on <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/forms/ipuc1/ipuc.html>  
IP address is 12.150.78.85