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**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA** )  
**CORPORATION'S APPLICATION TO** ) **CASE NO. AVU-G-13-01**  
**CHANGE ITS RATES AND CHARGES (2013** )  
**PURCHASED GAS COST ADJUSTMENT).** ) **COMMENTS OF THE**  
 ) **COMMISSION STAFF**  
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The Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission comments as follows on Avista Corporation's Application for its 2013 Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA).

**BACKGROUND**

On July 31, 2013, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities ("Company" or "Avista") filed its annual PGA Application asking to increase its annualized revenues by about \$4.9 million (7.5%). Application at 1.<sup>1</sup> The Company says its proposal will not affect its earnings and will increase the average, residential or small commercial customer's rates by \$3.80 per month (6.8%). *Id.* at 4. The Company asks that its Application be processed by Modified Procedure, and that the new rates take effect October 1, 2013. *Id.* at 4-5.

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<sup>1</sup> The PGA mechanism is used to adjust rates to reflect annual changes in the Company's costs for the purchase of natural gas from suppliers – including transportation, storage, and other related costs.