

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT</b>	)	<b>CASE NOS. AVU-E-17-09</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF HYDRO ONE LIMITED</b>	)	<b>AVU-G-17-05</b>
<b>AND AVISTA CORPORATION FOR</b>	)	
<b>APPROVAL OF MERGER AGREEMENT</b>	)	<b>ORDER NO. 34109</b>
	)	

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On October 5, 2017, the Commission set an October 26, 2017, deadline for petitions to intervene. The Commission granted timely-filed motions to intervene from Idaho Forest Group, Clearwater Paper, Idaho Conservation League (ICL), the Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho (CAPAI), and the Washington and Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers (WNIDCL). Order Nos. 33914, 33916, 33931, and 33932. On December 20, 2017, the Commission scheduled a Technical Hearing date of June 27, 2018. Order No. 33950.

On April 13, 2018, the Applicants filed a Motion for Approval of Stipulation notifying the Commission that all parties had reached a full settlement, and requested that the settlement be processed by modified procedure. The Commission granted that request, vacated the technical hearing, and issued notice of proposed settlement and set a comment deadline of June 20, 2018, and a reply, and non-party public comment deadline of June 27, 2018. Order No. 34061. Commission Staff, CAPAI, and the Idaho Conservation League filed timely comments in support of the Stipulation.

On June 27, 2018, the Avista Customer Group (ACG) petitioned to intervene in this case. Avista did not object to the requested intervention, but asked the Commission condition the approval that ACG be limited in issues to its written comments, filed June 27, 2018, and that the Company be granted the right to respond to the ACG’s comments.

**FINDINGS**

Petitions to intervene are governed by Rules 71-75, IDAPA 31.01.01.071-.075. Based on the record, we grant the Avista Customer Group’s petition to intervene. We find that the ACG aims to represent a direct and substantial interest of Avista Idaho ratepayers in this proceeding. We expect that ACG’s participation will not unduly broaden the issues as required by Rule 74. We note that, per Rule 73, the Avista Customer Group is bound by all prior orders and notices issued in the case.

We also find good cause to grant the Applicant's request to file reply to the ACG comments. The request will cause no delay because Applicants filed the proposed reply with its motion. The reply appears to be limited to the ACG Comments filed on June 27, 2018.

**ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Avista Customer Group's petition to intervene is granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Applicant's Motion for Leave to File Reply Comments is granted. The comments attached to the motion will be considered by the Commission accordingly.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties in this proceeding serve all papers hereafter filed in this matter on all parties of record. This Intervenor is represented by the following for purposes of service:

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DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this *19<sup>th</sup>*  
day of July 2018.

  
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PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

  
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KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
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Diane M. Hanian  
Commission Secretary

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