

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT PETITION)	CASE NOS. AVU-E-18-02
OF AVISTA CORPORATION, IDAHO)	AVU-G-18-01
PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF, AND)	
COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP)	NOTICE OF APPLICATION
ASSOCIATION OF IDAHO (CAPAI) TO)	
INCREASE LOW-INCOME FUNDING)	NOTICE OF
UNDER TARIFF SCHEDULES 91 AND 191)	PROPOSED SETTLEMENT
)	
)	NOTICE OF MODIFIED
)	PROCEDURE
)	
)	ORDER NO. 34011

On February 20, 2018, Avista Corporation, Commission Staff, and Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho (“the parties”) filed a joint petition requesting approval of a settlement that increases funding to low-income programs.

BACKGROUND

On December 28, 2017, the Commission approved a settlement of Avista’s general rate case. *See* Order No. 33953. One provision of the settlement was that “[t]he Company and interested parties will meet and confer to consider whether the Low Income Weatherization Program and Energy Conservation Education Program funding should be increased from the current Commission approved levels...” *See* Stipulation and Settlement at 15. After extensive examination into how the low-income funding has been utilized, and conferring with the parties, an agreement to increase the funding levels was reached.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Avista is a public utility engaged in the production, transmission, and distribution of electric power and natural gas to customers in eastern Washington, northern Idaho, and parts of southern and eastern Oregon.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho (CAPAI) is a non-profit corporation consisting of six community action agencies in Idaho advocating for issues relating to the causes and conditions of poverty.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission’s jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically

Idaho Code §§ 61-501, 61-502, 61-507, 61-520, 61-521, 61-523, and 61-622. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED parties report that a passive settlement regarding CAPAI's requested funding increase has been reached.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that after conferring on the issue, the parties agree a funding increase is appropriate. Specifically, they agree that \$125,000 of additional funding for Avista's Low Income Weatherization Program, and \$25,000 of additional funding for Avista's Conservation Education Program in Idaho be approved.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company reported that the increase in funding "has no effect on the Company's approved revenue requirement," and that "the funding will come directly out of Avista's Energy Efficiency Tariff Rider Schedules 91 and 191.

COMMISSION SETTLEMENT RULES

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission will review the proposed settlement consistent with Commission Rules 271-280.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission is not bound by the agreement of the signing parties. The Commission will independently review the proposed settlement to decide whether to approve it, reject it, or state conditions under which to accept it. The proposed settlement's proponents ultimately bear the burden to prove that it is just, fair, and reasonable, in the public interest, or otherwise in accordance with law or regulatory policy.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application, Settlement, and forthcoming comments are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Application is also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. To access the documents, click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the Commission's webpage, scroll down to "Open Electric Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has reviewed the filing in this action, and has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing, and will thus proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204.

The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person or party desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission **no later than April 10, 2018**. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Applicant at the addresses reflected below:

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

David Meyer
Avista Corp.
1411 E. Mission Ave, MSC 27
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
email: david.meyer@avistacorp.com

Street Address for Express Mail:
472 W. Washington Street
Boise, ID 83702-5918

Brad Purdy
CAPAI
2019 N. 17th St
Boise, ID 83702
email: bmpurdy@hotmail.com

Comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Case Comment or Question Form" under the "Consumers" tab, and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the parties' Application to approve the Settlement shall be processed by Modified Procedure, Rule 201-204 (IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204).

IT IS FURTHER ORDER that all persons and parties interested in submitting written comments must do so on or before April 10, 2018.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 21st day of March 2018.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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