

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) CASE NO. AVU-E-18-12
OF AVISTA FOR A DETERMINATION OF)
2016-2017 ELECTRIC ENERGY) NOTICE OF APPLICATION
EFFICIENCY EXPENSES AS PRUDENTLY)
INCURRED) NOTICE OF INTERVENTION
) DEADLINE
)
) ORDER NO. 34210

On November 16, 2018, Avista Corporation (“Avista” or “Company”) filed an Application requesting the Commission to determine that the Company prudently incurred \$22,719,204 in electric energy efficiency expenses in 2016 and 2017. The Application provides an overview of the Company’s energy efficiency activities and their cost-effectiveness. The Application includes 2016 and 2017 Idaho Annual Conservation Reports, a 2018 Idaho Research and Development Report, and an Impact Evaluation of the Company’s 2016-2017 Electric Energy Efficiency Programs prepared by a third party.

Generally, a utility incurs energy efficiency or demand side management (“DSM”) expenses by developing and operating programs designed to reduce or shift customers’ energy consumption and improve their efficient use of energy. The Commission will allow the utility an opportunity to recover its energy efficiency and DSM expenses through rates if the Commission finds that the expenses were prudently incurred. However, if the Commission finds any of the expenses were not prudently incurred, it will not allow the utility to recover those expenses through rates, and the disallowed expenses will be borne by the utility’s shareholders and not by customers.

With this Order, the Commission provides notice of the Application, and sets deadlines for interested persons to intervene as parties to the case.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Avista is a public utility that produces, transmits, and distributes electricity to customers in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. The Company also distributes natural gas in northern Idaho and parts of Montana, Washington, and Oregon. This Application only pertains to the prudence of the Company’s energy efficiency expenses while providing electrical service. The prudence of the

Company's energy efficiency expenses while providing gas service is addressed in a separate docket, Case No. AVU-G-18-08.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company states that it spent \$22,719,204 on energy efficiency measures from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company reports that 74%, or \$16,835,716 of its expenditures were paid to customers in direct incentives.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company reports that its energy efficiency programs saved 38,149 MWh in 2016 and 42,223 MWh in 2017, which exceeded the 23,399 MWh goal for the two year time period by 359%.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company hired a third party to evaluate and verify the demand savings attributable to the Company's energy efficiency portfolio and submitted the third party's report to the Commission with its Application.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application and supporting documentation have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. These documents are also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "Open Cases" link under the heading "Electric" and click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

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* §§ 61-502 and 61-503. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons who wish to intervene in this matter to obtain the rights of party (e.g., to file formal discovery, or present evidence or cross-examine witnesses at a hearing) must file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission under the Commission's Rules of Procedure 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.01.072 and .073. **Persons who wish to intervene as a party must file a Petition to Intervene no later than January 2, 2019.** Such

persons shall also provide the Commission Secretary with their electronic mail address to facilitate further communications.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons who would like to present their views without parties' rights of participation and cross-examination are not required to intervene but may present their views by submitting written comments to the Commission.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission Secretary shall issue a Notice of Parties after the deadline for intervention has passed. The Notice of Parties shall assign exhibit numbers to each party in this proceeding.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that once the Notice of Parties is issued, Commission Staff will informally confer with the parties to discuss a schedule to process this case and other issues as raised by the parties.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that persons desiring to intervene in this case for the purpose of obtaining parties' rights of participation must file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission, pursuant to Rules 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.72-.73, no later than January 2, 2019.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, after the Secretary issues a Notice of Parties, Staff will informally confer with the parties to discuss the appropriate scheduling of this case.

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

14th



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

I:\Legal\AVU-E-18-12\AVUE1812_ntc app ntc inter_ej