

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )**  
**OF AVISTA CORPORATION FOR )** **CASE NO. AVU-E-07-09**  
**AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT A PILOT )**  
**PROGRAM FOR REMOTE DISCONNECTS )** **NOTICE OF APPLICATION**  
**AND RECONNECTS )**  
**)**  
**)** **NOTICE OF**  
**)** **MODIFIED PROCEDURE**  
**)**  
**)** **ORDER NO. 30437**  
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On August 31, 2007, Avista Corporation filed an Application seeking approval to implement a one-year pilot program for remote disconnects and reconnects. The Company also requested a limited waiver of Utility Customer Relations Rules 311.03 and 311.04 (IDAPA 31.21.01.311.03 and 311.04). The Company requested that its Application be processed by Modified Procedure. IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. With this Order the Commission authorizes the use of Modified Procedure and establishes a comment deadline.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Avista proposes to implement a one-year pilot program for remote disconnects and reconnects. The Company proposes to install approximately 250 remote disconnect collars that would utilize Power Line Carrier (PLC) as the communication protocol in rural areas and approximately 350 wireless meter devices for use in urban areas. The devices would allow for the remote enabling and disabling of electric service from Avista's office. Customers selected for the pilot would include customers with 200 amp services that either have had multiple disconnects, are located in rural areas, or otherwise occupy premises where the Avista employee may be "at risk" for manually performing disconnects and/or reconnects.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company states that the anticipated benefits of remote disconnect and reconnect capability include: (1) reducing operating and maintenance expenses related to multiple disconnections and reconnections for urban and rural accounts; (2) productivity gains of employees by eliminating multiple trips to customer homes for collections; (3) enhancing employee safety; (4) quicker response time to reconnect service leading to increased customer satisfaction; and (5) recognizing a reduction in bill defaults and

write-offs by encouraging prompt consumer payment over time. Avista proposes to report on the following at the conclusion of the one-year pilot program: (1) number of disconnect devices installed; (2) reason for installation; (3) utilization of the disconnect devices after installation; and (4) costs together with realized savings.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application and supporting workpapers have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Application is also available on the Commission's Website at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov) under "File Room" and then "Electric Cases."

**NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has reviewed the filing of record in Case No. AVU-E-07-09. The Commission has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a hearing to consider the issues presented in this case and that issues raised by the Company's filing may be processed under **Modified Procedure**, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing. IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. In so doing, 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 the Commission may not hold a hearing in this proceeding unless it receives written protests or comments opposing the use of Modified Procedure and stating why Modified Procedure should not be used. IDAPA 31.01.01.203.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no protests or written comments are received within the deadline, the Commission will consider the matter and enter its Order without a hearing. If protests or comments are filed within the deadline, the Commission will consider them and may, in its discretion, set the matter for hearing or decide the matter and issue its Order on the basis of the written positions before it. IDAPA 31.01.01.204.

**NOTICE OF COMMENT/PROTEST DEADLINE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that **the deadline for filing written comments or protests** with respect to the Application and the Commission's use of Modified Procedure in Case No. AVU-E-07-09 is **October 25, 2007**. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written protests or comments.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that written comments concerning this case should be mailed to the Commission and to the Company at the addresses reflected below.

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

Street Address For Express Mail:  
472 W. Washington Street  
Boise, ID 83702-5983

David J. Meyer  
Vice President and Chief Counsel for  
Regulatory and Government Affairs  
Avista Corporation  
PO Box 3727  
1411 E. Mission Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99220-3727  
E-mail: [david.meyer@avistacorp.com](mailto:david.meyer@avistacorp.com)

Kelly Norwood  
Vice President State and Federal  
Regulation  
Avista Corporation  
PO Box 3727  
1411 E. Mission Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99220-3727  
E-mail: [kelly.norwood@avistacorp.com](mailto:kelly.norwood@avistacorp.com)

These 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 homepage located at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click the "Comments and Questions" icon, and complete the comment form, using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to Avista at the e-mail addresses listed above.

#### **FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

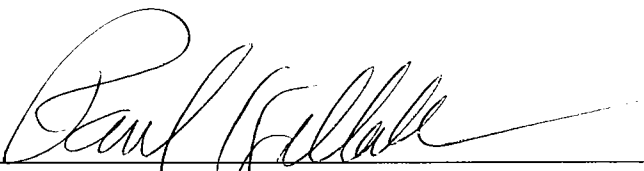
The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has jurisdiction over Avista Corporation, its Application seeking authority to implement a pilot program for remote disconnects and reconnects, and the issues involved in this case by virtue of Title 61, Idaho Code, including *Idaho Code* §§ 61-129, 61-301, 302, 303, 61-502, and 61-503, and the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

The Commission has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a hearing to consider the issues presented in this case, and that issues raised by the Company's filing may be processed under **Modified Procedure**, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing. IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. In so doing, the Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed by Modified Procedure. Persons interested in submitting written comments regarding this case or protesting the use of Modified Procedure should do so no later than October 25, 2007.

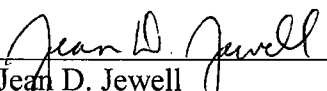
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2007.

  
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PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

  
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MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

  
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MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
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Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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