

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF

FROM: JOHN R. HAMMOND JR.
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2019

SUBJECT: AVISTA CORPORATION'S APPLICATION REQUESTING APPROVAL
TO MODIFY ITS VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM;
CASE NO. AVU-E-19-12.

On November 12, 2019, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities ("Avista" or "Company") filed an Application requesting approval to modify its voluntary renewable energy program ("Program"), Schedule 95 "Optional Renewable Power Rate".

THE APPLICATION

Avista request Commission authorization to modify the Program in an effort to manage costs, provide customers with greater choice, and to support renewable energy within its region. *Application* at 1. During 2019, Avista states that it evaluated the Program by conducting customer research, analyzing Program costs and customer participation levels and reviewing comparable programs at other investor owned utilities. *Id.* at 1. After completing this review Avista states it determined that updates to the Program are necessary to meet the needs of its customers and to ensure that funds collected from the Program participants are sufficient to cover expenses. *Id.* The Company requests that the Application be processed by Modified Procedure under the Commission Rules of Procedure. *Id.*

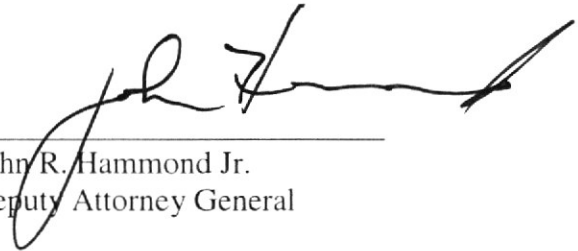
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission issue a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure. Staff recommends the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure provide for a twenty-one (21) day written comment period for itself and any other interested parties, with a seven (7) day reply comment period for the Company to follow.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to issue a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure that establishes a twenty-one (21) day written comment period for Staff and any other interested parties followed by a seven (7) day reply comment period for the Company?

If not, does the Commission wish to set alternative comments deadlines?



John R. Hammond Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

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