

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA’S ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FILING TO UPDATE THE LOAD AND GAS FORECASTS IN THE INCREMENTAL COST INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN AVOIDED COST MODEL TO BE USED FOR AVOIDED COST CALCULATIONS</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. AVU-E-21-14</b>
	)	
	)	<b>NOTICE OF FILING</b>
	)	
	)	<b>NOTICE OF</b>
	)	<b>MODIFIED PROCEDURE</b>
	)	
	)	<b>ORDER NO. 35220</b>

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On October 13, 2021, Avista Corporation (“Company”) filed a compliance filing requesting the Commission issue an order accepting its updated load forecast, natural gas price forecast, and contracts used as inputs to calculate its incremental cost Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) avoided cost rates. The Company must update these inputs by October 15 of each year. *See* Order Nos. 32697 and 32802. IRP avoided cost rates are available to qualifying facilities (“QFs”) that are above the resource-specific project eligibility cap for published avoided cost rates under Idaho’s implementation of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (“PURPA”). The Company requested its Filing be processed by Modified Procedure.

With this Order the Commission issues notice of the Company’s Filing and establishes public comment and Company reply deadlines.

**NOTICE OF FILING**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company forecasts its average load growth at 0.25% annual average growth rate from 2021 through 2045. Application at 2.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company states its natural gas forecast was developed using a blend of two national forecasting consultants’ most recent forecasts, the U.S. Energy Information Administration’s Annual Energy Outlook, and forward market prices as of June 30, 2020. *Id.* at 3.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company states it has signed two new long-term PURPA contracts and two power purchase agreements (“PPAs”) since its last update to the IRP model. These PURPA contracts are extensions of existing contracts for Spokane County Waste Water Digests and Stimson Lumber biomass facility. *Id.* at 3. The PPA’s include five

percent of Chelan PUD's hydro facilities and a special contract with Inland Empire Paper.<sup>1</sup> *Id.* at 4.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company's Filing is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. These documents are also available on the Commission's web site at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on the "ELECTRIC" icon, select "Open Cases," then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

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.

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.*

#### NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter, and that it will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the 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 persons desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment explaining why the person supports or opposes the Application. Persons who would like a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. **Persons must file written comments within 21 days from the service date of this Order.** Comments must be filed by e-mail unless e-mail is unavailable. To comment by e-mail, please access the Commission's home page at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click the "Consumers" tab and then "Case Comment Form" and complete the form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. Comments filed by e-mail must also be e-mailed to the Company at the e-mail addresses listed below. If e-mail is unavailable, then comments may be mailed to the Commission and Company at these addresses:

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<sup>1</sup> The special contract with Inland Empire Paper runs from October 1, 2021 through October 31, 2031. *Id.* The costs associated with this contract will be recovered from Washington customers only. *Id.*

**For the Idaho Public Utilities  
Commission:**

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**YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments within 28 days from the service date on this Order.**


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.

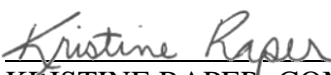
**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed by Modified Procedure, Rules 201-204 (IDAPA 31.01.01.201 - .204). Persons must file any written comments within 21 days from the service date on this Order. The Company must file any reply comments within 28 days from the service date on this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties should continue to comply with Order No. 35058, issued June 3, 2021. All pleadings should be filed with the Commission electronically and shall be deemed timely filed when received by the Commission Secretary. *See* Rule 14.02. Service between parties should also be accomplished electronically. Voluminous discovery-related documents may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.

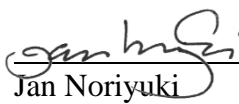
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021.

  
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PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER

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

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Noriyuki  
Commission Secretary

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