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RECEIVED 2023 JUNE 14, 2023 2:04PM IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

FILED ELECTRONICALLY

June 14, 2023

Ms. Jan Noriyuki Commission Secretary 11331 W. Chinden Blvd Building 8, Suite 201-A Boise, ID 83714

RE: Case Nos. AVU-E-23-01 & AVU-G-23-01

Enclosed for electronic filing with the Commission in the above-referenced dockets are Avista Corporation's Motion for Approval of Stipulation and Settlement as well as the Settlement Stipulation itself. Please direct any questions related to this filing to Liz Andrews at 509.495.8601.

Sincerely,

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David J. Meyer Vice President, Chief Counsel for Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

Enclosures

c: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this 14th day of June 2023, served the foregoing Motion for Approval of Stipulation and Settlement, as well as the Settlement Stipulation itself, in Case Nos. AVU-E-23-01 and AVU-G-23-01, upon the following parties by electronically providing a copy thereof, to:

Commission Staff:	Clearwater Paper:		
Chris Burdin Deputy Attorneys General Idaho Public Utilities Commission 11331 W. Chinden Blvd Building 8, Suite 201-A Boise, ID 83714 <u>Chris.burdin@puc.idaho.gov</u>	Peter J. Richardson Richardson Adams 515 N. 27 th Street PO Box 7218 Boise, ID 83702 <u>peter@richardsonadams.com</u> Dr. Don Reading		
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/s/ Shawn Bonfield

Shawn Bonfield Sr. Manager of Regulatory Policy & Strategy David J. Meyer, Esq. Vice President and Chief Counsel of **Regulatory and Governmental Affairs** Avista Corporation 1411 E. Mission Avenue P.O. Box 3727 Spokane, Washington 99220 Phone: (509) 495-4316

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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF AVISTA CORPORATION FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE OF IDAHO

) CASE NO. AVU-E-23-01 CASE NO. AVU-G-23-01

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF STIPULATION AND SETTLEMENT

Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities ("Avista" or "Company") and the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Staff"), hereby move the Commission for an Order accepting the Settlement Stipulation filed herewith. See Commission Rules 56, 276 and 274.

1. On February 1, 2023, Avista filed an Application with the Commission for authority to increase revenue effective September 1, 2023, and September 1, 2024, for electric and natural gas service in Idaho. The Company proposed a "Two-Year Rate Plan" with an increase in electric base revenue of \$37.5 million or 13.6% for "Rate Year 1", and \$13.2 million or 4.2% for "Rate Year 2". With regard to natural gas, the Company proposed an increase in base revenue of \$2.8 or 6.0% for "Rate Year 1", and \$120,000 or 0.3% for "Rate Year 2". By Order No. 35684, dated February 21, 2023, the Commission provided Notice of the Application and set an intervention deadline for interested persons and parties to intervene in the case.

2. Petitions to intervene in this proceeding were filed by Clearwater Paper Corporation ("Clearwater"), Idaho Forest Group, LLC ("Idaho Forest"), Walmart Inc. and Idaho Conservation League / NW Energy Coalition ("ICL/NWEC"). The Commission granted these interventions in IPUC Order Nos. 35704, 35713 and 35719.

3. A settlement conference was noticed and held on June 1, 2023. All Parties attended, whether in person or virtually. Based on these settlement discussions, the Settling Parties¹, whose signatures appear on the Stipulation, have agreed to resolve and settle all of the issues in the case. ICL/NWEC do not join in the Settlement. A copy of the signed Stipulation evidencing that settlement is enclosed as Attachment 1.

4. The Settling Parties recommend that the Commission grant this Motion and approve the Stipulation in its entirety, without material change or condition, pursuant to RP 274.

5. The Settling Parties respectfully request that the procedural schedule established in this case be amended to allow for the Settling Parties to submit testimony in support or opposition of the Stipulation on July 12, 2023, and any rebuttal testimony by the Settling Parties by July 26, 2023. Because of the Settlement, the June 14, 2023 date for the filing of Staff and Intervenor Testimony and the July 12, 2023 date for the filing of Company Rebuttal were vacated by Commission Order 35808.

6. As noted in the Stipulation, the parties agree that the Stipulation is in the public

¹ Avista, Staff, Clearwater, Idaho Forest, and Walmart Inc., are collectively referred to as the "Settling Parties" and singularly as a "Settling Party." The remaining parties, ICL/NWEC, do not join in the Settlement.

interest and that all of its terms and conditions are fair, just and reasonable.

7. The Settling Parties support this Motion.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties respectfully request that the Commission issue an order in Case Nos. AVU-E-23-01 & AVU-G-23-01:

1. Granting this Motion and accepting the Stipulation (Attachment 1), in its entirety, without material change or condition;

2. Revising the procedural schedule to allow for the filing of testimony in support or opposition of the Settlement on July 12, 2023, and July 26, 2023, for any rebuttal testimony by the Settling Parties.

3. Authorizing the Company to implement revised tariff schedules designed to increase the annual electric and natural gas revenue from Idaho customers consistent with the terms of the Stipulation; and

4. Authorizing that revised tariff schedules implementing settlement rates be made effective September 1, 2023, consistent with the terms of the Stipulation.

Respectfully submitted this $\underline{19}$ day of June, 2023.

Avista Corporation

David J. Meyer

Attorney for Avista Corporation

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

By:__

Chris Burdin Deputy Attorney General interest and that all of its terms and conditions are fair, just and reasonable.

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3. Authorizing the Company to implement revised tariff schedules designed to increase the annual electric and natural gas revenue from Idaho customers consistent with the terms of the Stipulation; and

4. Authorizing that revised tariff schedules implementing settlement rates be made effective September 1, 2023, consistent with the terms of the Stipulation.

Respectfully submitted this ____ day of June, 2023.

Avista Corporation

By:___

David J. Meyer Attorney for Avista Corporation

Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

Bv:

Chris Burdin Deputy Attorney General