Avista Corp.

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June 10, 2015

Jean D. Jewell, Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission P O Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074

RE: Case Nos. AVU-E-15-01, IPC-E-15-01 and PAC-E-15-03

Dear Ms. Jewell:

Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities respectfully submits for filing with the Commission an original and nine (9) copies of the Rebuttal Testimony of Clint Kalich in the above referenced cases.

Please direct any questions on this matter to Michael Andrea, Sr. Counsel at (509) 495-2564.

Sincerely,

Patrick Ehrbar

Manager, Rates & Tariffs

Enclosures

CC: Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this 10th day of June, 2015, served Avista's Rebuttal Testimony in Docket No. AVU-E-15-01 upon the following parties, through electronic mail and/or mailing a copy thereof, properly addressed with postage prepaid to:

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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ATTORNEY FOR AVISTA CORPORATION

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA CORPORATION'S PETITION TO MODIFY TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PURPA AGREEMENTS))))	CASE	NO.	AVU-E-15-01
IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER)			
COMPANY'S PETITION TO MODIFY TERMS)			
AND CONDITIONS OF PURPA)	CASE	NO.	IPC-E-15-01
AGREEMENTS)			
)			
)			
IN THE MATTER OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN)			
POWER COMPANY'S PETITION TO MODIFY)			
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PURPA)	CASE	NO.	PAC-E-15-03
AGREEMENTS)			
)			
)			

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF CLINT KALICH
FOR AVISTA CORPORATION

- Q. Please state your name, the name of your employer,
- 2 and your business address.
- 3 A. My name is Clint Kalich. I am employed by Avista
- 4 Corporation ("Avista") at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane,
- 5 Washington.
- 6 Q. Did you provide direct testimony in this
- 7 proceeding?
- 8 A. Yes. I filed direct testimony in this proceeding
- 9 on behalf of Avista Corporation on February 27, 2015.
- 10 Q. Please summarize Avista's position in this case.
- 11 A. As stated in my direct testimony beginning on page
- 12 2 at line 22:

23

- 13 Avista requests the Commission provide the Company the
- same relief granted Idaho Power in Order No. 33222,
- namely to limit the maximum required contract terms for "IRP Methodology" wind and solar PURPA contracts to
- "IRP Methodology" wind and solar PURPA contracts to five (5) years. A term beyond five (5) years should be
- an option for the utility in the event a favorable
- 19 PURPA opportunity arises. Avista also requests that
- 20 the Commission provide the Company with any other
- 21 interim or final relief granted to any other utility
- subject to PURPA in the State of Idaho.
- 24 Q. Parties to this docket have introduced evidence
- 25 addressing many issues in addition to the issue of the
- 26 appropriate contract term for Qualifying Facilities ("QFs").
- 27 Does Avista believe the Commission should broaden the docket
- 28 beyond the issue of the appropriate contract term for QFs?

- 1 A. No, Avista believes the Commission should focus
- 2 exclusively on the issue of the appropriate contract term
- 3 for QFs, for reasons explained below.
- 4 Q. Some parties to this case appear to advocate re-
- 5 opening the IRP methodology? Does Avista see a need to do
- 6 so?
- 7 A. No. In Avista's view, the existing avoided cost
- 8 methodology works well. The IRP methodology allows Avista to
- 9 account for its needs while providing QFs an avoided cost
- 10 rate that reflects Avista's actual avoided cost. Further,
- 11 there is insufficient information in the record for the
- 12 Commission to make an informed determination on any changes
- 13 to the IRP Methodology. In the event that the Commission
- 14 decides to revisit the IRP Methodology, a new generic docket
- 15 should be initiated for that purpose to ensure that all
- 16 parties have an opportunity to develop a complete record.
- 17 However, I emphasize that Avista does not believe any
- 18 changes to the IRP methodology are warranted, so a generic
- 19 docket is not necessary.
- 20 Q. Does Avista take any position on the non-variable
- 21 IRP Methodology contract term or Staff's position that SAR-
- 22 based contracts retain the flexibility to extend out 20
- years at the option of the QF?

- 1 A. No. Avista's interest, as explained in its
- 2 petition and my testimony, is to ensure a level playing
- 3 field across the Commission-regulated utilities. To the
- 4 extent the Commission makes changes affecting any QF
- 5 resource type, Avista should be afforded similar treatment
- 6 to ensure that a level playing field is maintained.
- 7 Q. Do you support the five-year maximum term for QF
- 8 contracts?
- 9 A. Yes, but with a caveat. Avista believes that the
- 10 five-year term should be a maximum required term. In other
- 11 words, utilities should be allowed to contract for longer
- 12 terms where such terms are found by Avista and the IPUC to
- 13 be in the interest of utility customers. It is not possible
- 14 to know every circumstance where a longer term agreement may
- 15 be warranted.
- 16 Q. Idaho Conservation League and Sierra Club witness
- 17 Mr. Wenner states in his direct testimony that an IPUC order
- 18 establishing a maximum required term of two-years for Idaho
- 19 OF PURPA contracts would not be consistent with PURPA or
- 20 FERC's regulations thereunder. Do you agree?
- 21 A. No. As Mr. Sterling notes in his direct testimony
- 22 beginning on page 10, FERC regulations implementing PURPA
- 23 are silent on contract length and 20-year contract terms may
- 24 be inconsistent with PURPA. The Fifth Circuit recently

- 1 stated in Exelon Wind 1, L.L.C. v. Nelson, 766 F.3d 380, 400
- 2 (5th Cir. 2014) ("Nelson") that:
- mandatory long-term contracts between generators and utilities can burden customers by imposing prices well above the actual market prices. The [Texas Public Utility Commission] made a reasonable decision that only those Qualifying Facilities capable of providing reliable and predictable power may enter into such [long-term] arrangements.

10

- 11 Mr. Wenner himself acknowledges, at line 7 on page 5 of
- 12 his testimony, that there is no FERC regulation specifying
- 13 the number of years, or other time period, for the term over
- 14 which the QF, which accepts a legally enforceable
- 15 obligation, is entitled to receive avoided cost rates
- 16 calculated at the time the obligation is incurred.
- 17 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 18 A. Yes.