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IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

) CASE NOS. AVU-E-11-01 AVU-G-11-01

) MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF) STIPULATION AND SETTLEMENT

COMES NOW, Avista Corporation ("Avista" or "Company") and the

Commission Staff, and hereby move the Commission for an Order accepting the settlement Stipulation filed herewith. RP 56; 272; 274. This Motion is based on the following:

1. On July 5, 2011, Avista filed an Application with the Commission for authority to increase revenue from electric and natural gas service in Idaho by 3.7% and 2.7%, respectively. If approved, the Company's revenues for electric base retail rates would have increased by \$9.0 million annually; Company revenues for natural gas service would have

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increased by \$1.9 million annually. The Company requested an effective date of August 5, 2011 for its proposed electric and natural gas rate increases. By Order No. 32292, dated July 14, 2011, the Commission suspended the proposed schedules of rates and charges for electric and natural gas service for a period of thirty (30) days plus five (5) months, from August 5, 2011, until such time as the Commission enters an Order accepting, rejecting or modifying the Application in this matter.

2. Petitions to intervene in this proceeding were filed by Clearwater, Idaho Forest, CAPAI and the Idaho Conservation League. By various orders, the Commission granted these interventions. *See*, IPUC Order Nos. 32296 and 32317.

3. A settlement conference was noticed and held in the Commission offices on August 17, 2011, and was attended by signatories to this Stipulation; further discussions ensued.

4. Based on settlement discussions, the Parties whose signatures appear on the Stipulation have agreed to resolve and settle all of the issues in the case. A copy of the signed Stipulation evidencing that settlement is enclosed as Attachment 1.

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

6. The Parties respectfully request that the Commission consider the Motion, the Stipulation, and the pre-filed testimony in support of the Stipulation at the time of the technical evidentiary hearings to be scheduled in this docket. The Parties request that any such hearings be scheduled so as to allow the implementation of new rates, as per the Stipulation, on October 1, 2011. The testimony in support of the Stipulation will be filed on or before September 9, 2011.

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7. As noted in the Stipulation, all of the Parties agree that the Stipulation is in the public interest and that all of its terms and conditions are fair, just and reasonable.

8. In order to synchronize the effective date of the proposed Settlement rates with other rates changes also proposed to be effective on October 1, 2011 [e.g., PCA Decrease (Schedule 66); DSIT Increase (Schedule 99-Electric); Residential Exchange Decrease (Schedule 59); PGA Increase (Schedules 150/155); DSM Decrease (Schedule 191), DSIT Increase (Schedule 199-Gas)], the proposed Settlement would also become effective on October 1, 2011. By avoiding multiple adjustments to rates occurring at different times, the parties wish to minimize customer confusion. The Settlement, at Section 6, explains the net effect of all the proposed electric and natural gas rate changes proposed to occur on October 1, 2011, representing a net overall reduction in electric revenues of \$6.2 million and a net overall reduction in gas revenues of \$0.525 million. This is after taking into account the agreed-upon rate case settlement rates which call for an overall increase of \$2.8 million for electric service (1.1%) and an increase of \$1.1 million for natural gas service (1.6%).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request that the Commission issue orders in Case Nos. AVU-E-11-01 and AVU-G-11-01:

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

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

3. Authorizing that revised tariff schedules be made effective October 1, 2011.

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Respectfully submitted this 76 day of August 2011.

David J. Meyer Attorney for Avista Corporation

Donald L. Howell, II Weldon Stutzman Deputy Attorneys General Idaho Public Utilities Commission Staff

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this 26th day of August, 2011, served the Motion for Approval of Stipulation and Settlement in Case Nos. AVU-E-11-01 and AVU-G-11-01, upon the following parties, by mailing a copy thereof, properly addressed with postage prepaid to:

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