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### **AVISTA UTILITIES**

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Case No. AVU-G-14-0<u>4</u>

### EXHIBIT "E"

Copy of Press Release and Customer Notice



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#### Avista Makes Annual Price Adjustment Request in Idaho

Request would decrease natural gas prices effective Nov. 1, 2014

**SPOKANE, Wash. Sept. 15, 2014, 1:05 p.m. PST:** Avista **(NYSE: AVA)** customers in Idaho could see an overall 2.1 percent decrease in their natural gas rates on Nov. 1, 2014 if the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC or Commission) approves the company's annual Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) filed today.

If the request is approved, Avista residential customers using an average of 60 therms a month could expect their bill to decrease by \$1.16, or 2.0 percent, for a revised monthly bill of \$58.32 beginning Nov. 1, 2014. Avista's natural gas revenues would decrease by \$1.6 million, or approximately 2.1 percent. The requested natural gas rate change by customer segment is as follows:

General Service - Firm - Schedule 101 - Residential & Small Commercial	-1.9%
Large General Service - Firm - Schedules - Commercial 111 & 112	-2.5%
High Annual Load Factor Large - Interruptible Service Schedules 131	0.2%

Avista does not mark up the cost of natural gas purchased to meet customer needs, so the filing does not increase or decrease company earnings.

PGAs are filed each year to balance the actual cost of wholesale natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers with the amount included in rates. This includes the natural gas commodity cost as well as the cost to transport natural gas to Avista's local distribution system. Wholesale natural gas prices were higher over the past year which was caused, in part, by a colder than normal winter throughout the United States. That colder than normal weather led to a higher level of natural gas usage by Avista's customers, resulting in higher natural gas revenue, which offset the higher commodity costs.

About 55 percent of an Avista natural gas customer's bill is the combined cost of purchasing natural gas on the wholesale market and transporting it to Avista's system. These costs fluctuate up and down based on market prices. The costs are not marked up by Avista. The remaining 45 percent covers the cost of delivering the natural gas - the equipment and people needed to provide safe and reliable service.

#### **Rate Application Procedure**

Avista's rate application is a proposal, subject to public review and a decision by the IPUC. Copies of the application are available for public review at the offices of both the IPUC and Avista, as well as on the IPUC's homepage at <a href="https://www.puc.idaho.gov">www.puc.idaho.gov</a>. Customers may subscribe to

the Commission's RSS feed (<a href="http://www.puc.idaho.gov/rssfeeds/rss.htm">http://www.puc.idaho.gov/rssfeeds/rss.htm</a>) to receive periodic updates via email about the case. Written comments regarding Avista's application may be filed with the IPUC.

To help customers proactively manage their energy use, Avista offers a number of energy efficiency programs, energy-saving information, rebates and incentives. Avista also provides energy assistance programs and payment options for qualifying customers. Information about these customer programs and options is available at www.avistautilities.com.

#### About Avista Corp.

Avista Corp. is an energy company involved in the production, transmission and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. Avista Utilities is our operating division that provides electric service to 365,000 customers and natural gas to 325,000 customers. Its service territory covers 30,000 square miles in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and parts of southern and eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.5 million. Alaska Energy and Resources Company is an Avista subsidiary that provides retail electric service in the city and borough of Juneau, Alaska, through its subsidiary Alaska Electric Light and Power Company. Avista stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit www.avistacorp.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements regarding the company's current expectations. Forward-looking statements are all statements other than historical facts. Such statements speak only as of the date of the news release and are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the company's control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, in addition to those discussed herein, all of the factors discussed in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2013 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2014.

SOURCE: Avista Corporation

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# Important Notice for Idaho Natural Gas Customers September - October 2014

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General Service - Firm - Schedule 101 - Residential High Annual Load Factor Large - Interruptible Large General Service - Firm - Schedules Commercial 111 & 112 Service Schedules 131 & Small Commercial

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