## BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)	CASE NOS. AVU-E-17-01
OF AVISTA CORPORATION DBA	)	AVU-G-17-01
AVISTA UTILITIES FOR AUTHORITY	)	
TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND	)	<b>ORDER NO. 34102</b>
CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC AND	)	
NATURAL GAS SERVICE IN IDAHO	)	
	)	

On June 25, 2018, Avista filed a motion for procedural relief under Rule 256 to extend the filing deadline for complying with three (3) terms of its stipulation and settlement agreement in Case Nos. AVU-E-17-01 and AVU-G-17-01, approved by the Commission on December 28, 2017. *See* Order No. 33953. The Company requested an extension of the deadline from July 1, 2018, to October 1, 2018, to allow sufficient time to complete the work. Avista has contacted the parties to the case and none of them, including Staff, object to the motion.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Commission issued Order No. 33953 in Case Nos. AVU-E-17-01 and AVU-G-17-01 approving the terms of the Settlement agreement regarding Avista's Application for a general rate increase. Three of the terms of the settlement agreement addressed consumer issues as follows:

- 19. Natural Gas Service Rules. The Company and interested parties will meet and confer to review the Commission's Service Rules for Gas Utilities (IDAPA 31.31.01) to determine which provisions should be retained and/or modified, and, if the participants agree, incorporate those changes into the Company's tariff. Any changes requiring Commission approval, e.g., tariff revisions, will be submitted by the Company on or before July l, 2018.
- 20. Natural Gas Meter Placement Rules. The Company and interested parties will meet and confer to review its meter placement and protection policies and practices and determine based on the agreement of the parties, what additional steps should be taken to revise the Company's current policies and practices. Any necessary changes requiring Commission approval, e.g., tariff revisions, will be submitted by the Company on or before July l, 2018.
- 21. Service Quality/Performance Measures. Avista has established Service Quality Performance, Customer Guarantees and a Service Quality Measure Report Card for its customers in Washington. The Company and interested parties will work to develop similar performance standards, customer guarantees and a reporting mechanism for its Idaho customers. Following

those discussions, the Company will file its proposal with the Commission requesting implementation on or before July 1, 2018.

Stipulation and Settlement at 15-16. The Company reports that an additional 90 days is sufficient to accomplish the work required in the settlement.

## **COMMISSION FINDINGS**

We find good cause to grant the requested extension of time in this matter. No party will be prejudiced, and no harm will come to ratepayers as a result. The Company and Staff report they have been working collaboratively to address the issues, but that additional time is needed to fully determine what compliance filings might need to be made with the Commission. Accordingly, pursuant to the Commission's authority under Rules 248 and 256 (IDAPA 31.01.01.248, .256), we grant the request to extend the Company's deadline from July 1, 2018, to October 1, 2018.

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Avista's motion for procedural relief under Rule 256 is granted. The deadline for complying with paragraphs 19, 20 and 21 of the Commission approved stipulation and settlement is extended from July 1, 2018, to October 1, 2018.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 3 day of July 2018.

PAUL KYELLANDER, PRESIDENT

KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER

ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Diane Hanian

**Commission Secretary** 

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