

CASE NO. AVU-E-17-01 - AVU-G-17-01

6-26-17

Idaho PLC
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Commissioner:

Avista's 2018 proposed rates increases are quite simply outrageous. Year after year after year! How about a break.

For those of us on fixed incomes and trying to maintain our homes in our later years, and especially our on-strike miners -- we need your help.

Enough is enough!

Sincerely,

Robert C. Miller, J.D.
Emeritus Prof. of Law
College of the Redwoods

422 High Street
Wallace, ID 83873

208-558-0968

Natural Gas

The proposed increase above current billing rates by service schedule is as follows:

| Rate Schedule | Proposed 2018 Billing Increase | Proposed 2019 Billing Increase |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| General Service - Schedule 101 | 6.6 percent | 3.8 percent |
| Large General Service - Schedules 111 & 112 | 7.2 percent | 1.5 percent |
| Interruptible Service - Schedules 131 & 132 | 0.0 percent | 0.0 percent |
| Transportation Service - Schedule 146 (excludes commodity and interstate pipeline transportation costs) | 9.2 percent | 5.0 percent |
| Total | 5.7 percent | 3.3 percent |

For 2018, the proposed increase for residential customers using an average of 61 therms per month would see their monthly bills increase from \$51,10 to \$54,47, an increase of \$3.37 per month or 6.6%. As part of the request, Avista is proposing that the basic monthly charge for residential service currently set at \$5.25 increase to \$6.00 per month. For 2019, the proposed increase for residential customers using an average of 61 therms per month would see their monthly bills increase from \$54.47 to \$56.54, an increase of \$2.07 per month or 3.8%.

Important Notice for Idaho Electric and Natural Gas Customers

On June 9, 2017, Avista filed an application with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to increase Idaho electric and natural gas rates. These requests are primarily driven by capital investments, operations and maintenance costs, and continuing emphasis on providing customers with safe and reliable electric and natural gas service.

The proposal is a two-year rate plan which would increase electric billed revenues by \$18.6 million or 7.9% effective Jan. 1, 2018, and by \$9.9 million or 4.2% effective Jan. 1, 2019. The request would increase natural gas billed revenues by \$3.5 million or 5.7% effective Jan. 1, 2018, and by \$2.1 million or 3.3% effective Jan. 1, 2019. More information on the requested price change is available at www.myavista.com/rates.

As a part of the application, Avista has proposed to use funds related to its 2015 electric earnings sharing to replace a portion of the approximately \$2.7 million rebate customers are receiving in 2017. If approved, that rebate would be in effect for 2018, and expire Jan. 1, 2019.

For 2018, the proposed bill increase for a residential customer using an average of 910 kWhs per month would see their monthly bills increase from \$86.39 to \$93.42, an increase of \$7.03 or 8.1% per month. As a part of the request, Avista is proposing that the basic monthly charge for residential service currently set at \$5.75 per month increase to \$6.00 per month. For 2019, the proposed bill increase for residential customers using an average of 910 kWhs per month would see their monthly bills increase from \$93.42 to \$97.44, an increase of \$4.02 or 4.3% per month.

Avista's application is a proposal, subject to public review and a Commission decision. A copy of the application is available for public review at the offices of both the Commission and Avista, and on the Commission's website (www.puc.idaho.gov). Customers may file with the Commission written comments related to the Company's filing. Customers may also subscribe to the Commission's RSS feed (<http://www.puc.idaho.gov/rssfeeds/rss.htm>) to receive periodic updates via e-mail about the case. Copies of the rate filing are also available on our website, www.myavista.com/rates.

The Commission has up to nine months to review the Company's rate increase requests. The Commission will begin a comprehensive review of Avista's application and will seek public input.

If you would like to submit comments on the proposed increase, you can do so by going to the Commission website or mailing comments *(hand-delivered)*.

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P. O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Avista offers a number of programs and services to help customers manage their energy use and costs. Visit www.myavista.com for information on these programs which include Comfort Level Billing, bill payment options, automated payment service, assistance programs, conservation tips, and energy efficiency rebates.

AVA2511

Positive energy solutions. Help you play today as if you were.

Electric

The proposed increase above current billing rates by service schedule is as follows:

| Rate Schedule | Proposed 2018 Billing Increase | Proposed 2019 Billing Increase |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Residential Service - Schedule 1 | 8.1 percent | 4.3 percent |
| General Service - Schedules 11 & 12 | 7.5 percent | 4.0 percent |
| Large General Service - Schedules 21 & 22 | 8.2 percent | 4.4 percent |
| Extra Large General Service - Schedule 25 | 7.7 percent | 4.3 percent |
| Extra Large General Service 25P - Schedule 25P | 7.2 percent | 4.1 percent |
| Pumping Service - Schedules 31 & 32 | 8.8 percent | 4.6 percent |
| Street & Area Lights - Schedules 41 - 49 | 7.5 percent | 3.8 percent |
| Total | 7.9 percent | 4.2 percent |

