

APR 13 2018

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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

_____)	
IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT)	
APPLICATION OF HYDRO ONE)	CASE NO. AVU-E-17-09
LIMITED AND AVISTA CORPORATION)	AVU-G-17-05
FOR APPROVAL OF MERGER)	
AGREEMENT)	MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF
_____)	STIPULATION

COMES NOW the Commission Staff, the Joint Applicants (Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation) and the other parties¹ to the settlement Stipulation and respectfully request that the Commission accept the attached settlement Stipulation. The parties assert the settlement Stipulation and the accompanying Commitments are reasonable and in the public interest.

¹ The other signatories to the Stipulation include: Clearwater Paper Corporation ("Clearwater"), Idaho Forest Group, LLC ("Idaho Forest Group"), Idaho Conservation League ("ICL"), the Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho ("CAPAI") and the Washington and Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers (WNIDCL).

BACKGROUND

On July 19, 2017, Avista announced that it had entered into a merger agreement with Hydro One. On September 14, 2017, the Joint Applicants filed the above-captioned Joint Application for approval of the merger. Approval of the Joint Application would result in Avista becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of a Hydro One holding company. The Joint Applicants have requested approval by August 14, 2018, and have made the same request in other state jurisdictions.

Petitions to intervene in this proceeding were filed by Clearwater, Idaho Forest Group, Idaho Conservation League, CAPAI and the WNIDCL. The Commission granted these interventions through IPUC Order Nos. 33914, 33916 and 33932.

A settlement conference was noticed and held in the Commission offices on April 4, 2018, and was attended by the Parties to this case. As a compromise of positions in this case, and for other consideration as set forth in the Stipulation, the Parties agreed to the terms set forth in the Stipulation.

As a result of the settlement negotiations, the parties whose signatures appear on the signature pages of the Stipulation have reached settlement regarding the issues in this proceeding. The stipulating parties submit that the terms of the Stipulation and the accompanying Commitments are just and reasonable and in the public interest. The Parties further maintain that the Commitments satisfy the statutory standard for Hydro One's acquisition of Avista set out in Idaho Code Section 61-328.

According to the schedule, Staff and Intervenor testimony is due May 18, 2018, and Rebuttal testimony from the Applicants is due June 20, 2018. Joint Applicants and the Parties will file testimony in support of the settlement Stipulation on or before May 18, 2018. The

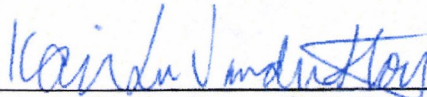
parties to the Stipulation stand ready to support the Stipulation at the Commission's technical hearing scheduled for June 27, 2018.

PRAYER

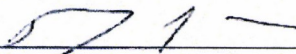
The Parties to the Stipulation respectfully request that the Commission grant this Motion and accept the settlement Stipulation in its entirety. Consistent with the Commission Rules 274 through 276 the Parties stand ready to support the Stipulation,

DATED this 13th day of April, 2018.

HYDRO ONE LIMITED

By: 
Elizabeth Thomas, Partner, K&L Gates LLP
Kari Vander Stoep, Partner, K&L Gates LLP
On Behalf of Hydro One Limited and
Olympus Equity LLC

AVISTA CORPORATION

By: 
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