



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Brad Little, Governor

Paul Kjellander, Commissioner
Kristine Raper, Commissioner
Eric Anderson, Commissioner

Case No. AVU-E-21-01
Case No. AVU-G-21-01
Order No. 35010
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NEWS RELEASE: Commission schedules telephonic public hearing on proposed Avista natural gas, electric rate increases

BOISE (July 2, 2021) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will host a telephonic public hearing on Wednesday, July 14, to take testimony on a proposed rate increase for Avista natural gas and electric customers in Idaho.

The telephonic hearing begins at 6:00 p.m. (PDT). Those interested in submitting verbal testimony are asked to call 1-415-655-0001, and enter passcode 133 481 5766 when prompted. Those planning on testifying are encouraged to join the hearing at 5:45 p.m. (PDT).

Parties to the case have proposed a settlement with a two-year rate plan that, if approved by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, would allow Avista to increase annual base electric revenues by \$10.6 million, or 4.3 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2021, and increase annual base electric revenues by \$8.0 million, or 3.1 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2022.

For natural gas, the parties agree that Avista should be allowed to decrease natural gas base revenue by \$1.6 million, or 3.7 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2021, and increase natural gas base revenue by \$0.9 million, or 2.2 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2022. Through the settlement agreement, the parties also agree to return to customers available tax credits of approximately \$31.3 million for electric over the two-year rate plan and \$12.1 million for natural gas over 10 years.

If the settlement is approved, a residential electric customer using an average of 892 kilowatt hours per month would see a billed increase of \$0.49 per month, or 0.6 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2021, and a billed increase of \$0.31 per month, or 0.4 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2022. A residential natural gas customer using an average of 63 therms per month would see a billed decrease of \$2.30 per month, or 4.6 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2021, and a billed increase of \$0.76 per month, or 1.6 percent, effective Sept. 1, 2022.

Avista's original proposal called for an increase in rates for electric customers and natural gas customers over a two-year period. In the first year, Avista proposed to increase electric revenues

by \$24.8 million, or 10.1 percent, and natural gas revenues by \$0.1 million, or 0.1 percent, beginning Sept. 1, 2021. In the second year, Avista originally requested an increase of \$8.7 million, or 3.2 percent, for electric customers, and \$1 million, or 2.2 percent, for natural gas customers. Avista's original request also proposed to offset the proposed rate increases with available tax credits, similar to the settlement agreement.

In addition to the telephonic hearing, those wishing to submit written comments on the proposed rate increases may do so. Public testimony and written comments become part of the permanent public record for the case.

Written comments are due by the close of business on Tuesday, Aug. 3. Comments must be filed by e-mail unless it is unavailable. To comment by e-mail, please visit puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "Consumers" tab and then the "Case Comment or Question Form" and complete the form using case number AVU-G-21-01 if commenting on the proposed natural gas rate increase or case number AVU-E-21-01 if commenting on the proposed electric rate increase. If e-mail is not available, comments may be mailed to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and Avista at these addresses:

For the Idaho Public Utilities Commission:

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074
secretary@puc.idaho.gov

Street address for the commission to send express mail:

11331 W. Chinden Blvd.
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For Avista:

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To learn more about Avista's application, please visit: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6614.