



RECEIVED

2021 DEC -3 AM 11:06

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Avista Corp.

1411 East Mission P.O. Box 3727
Spokane, Washington 99220-0500
Telephone 509-489-0500
Toll Free 800-727-9170

December 3, 2021

Commission Secretary
State of Idaho
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
11331 W. Chinden Blvd. Building 8, Suite 201-A
Boise, Idaho 83702-5983

Case No. AVU-G-21-07

I.P.U.C. No. 27 – Natural Gas Service

In accordance with Case No. GNR-U-20-01, Order No. 34602, which suspends the requirement to file physical copies, the Company has attached for electronic filing with the Commission are the following revised tariff sheet:

Thirtieth Revision Sheet 150 canceling Twenty-Ninth Revision Sheet 150

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are an original and seven copies of the “Application of Avista Utilities for an Order Approving a Change in Natural Gas Rates and Charges”. The revised tariff sheet included in the Company’s filing reflects an update to the Commodity WACOG for the Company’s Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (“PGA”). If approved, the Company’s annual revenue will *increase* by approximately \$3.3 million or approximately 8.1%. The proposed changes have no effect on the Company’s earnings. Detailed information related to the Company’s request is included in the attached Application and supporting workpapers.

If the Company’s request is approved, a residential or small commercial customer using an average of 63 therms for the period January – October 2022 will see an *increase* of \$3.93 per month, or approximately 7.6%. The present bill for 63 therms is \$51.93 while the proposed bill is \$55.86.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact Joe Miller at (509) 495-4546 or Marcus Garbarino at (509) 495-2567.

Sincerely,

/s/ Patrick D. Ehrbar

Patrick D. Ehrbar
Director of Regulatory Affairs

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
AVISTA UTILITIES FOR AN ORDER APPROVING) CASE: AVU-G-21-07
A CHANGE IN NATURAL GAS RATES AND CHARGES)

Application is hereby made to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission for an Order approving a revised schedule of rates and charges for natural gas service in the state of Idaho. The Applicant requests that the proposed rates included in this Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (“PGA”) filing be made effective on February 1, 2022. If approved as filed, the Company’s annual revenue will increase by approximately \$3.3 million or about 8.1%. In support of this Application, Applicant states as follows:

I.

The name of the Applicant is AVISTA CORPORATION, doing business as AVISTA UTILITIES (hereinafter Avista, Applicant or Company), a Washington corporation, whose principal business office is 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, and is qualified to do business in the state of Idaho. Applicant maintains district offices in Moscow, Lewiston, Coeur d'Alene, and Kellogg, Idaho. Communications in reference to this Application should be addressed to:

Patrick D. Ehrbar
Director of Regulatory Affairs
Avista Utilities
1411 E. Mission Avenue
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
Phone: (509) 495-8620
Fax: (509) 495-8851
Pat.ehrbar@avistacorp.com
Dockets@avistacorp.com

II.

Attorney for the Applicant and his address is as follows:

David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory
And Governmental Affairs
Avista Utilities
1411 E. Mission Avenue
Spokane, WA 99220-3727
Phone: (509) 495-4316
Fax: (509) 495-8851
David.meyer@avistacorp.com

III.

The Applicant is a public utility engaged in the distribution of natural gas in certain portions of Northern Idaho, Eastern and Central Washington, and Southwestern and Northeastern Oregon, and further engaged in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington.

IV.

Thirtieth Revision Sheet 150, which Applicant requests the Commission approve, is filed herewith as Exhibit "A". Also included in Exhibit "A" is a copy of Twenty-Ninth Revision Sheet 150 and a copy of Twenty-Ninth Revision Sheet 150 and with the proposed changes shown by lining over the current language or rates.

V.

The existing rates and charges for natural gas service on file with the Commission and designated as Applicant's Tariff IPUC No. 27, which will be superseded by the rates and charges filed herewith, are incorporated herein as though fully attached hereto.

VI.

Notice to the Public of Applicant's proposed tariffs is to be given simultaneously with the filing of this Application by posting, at each of the Company's district offices in Idaho, a Notice in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and by means of a press release distributed to various informational agencies, a draft copy attached hereto in Exhibit "C". In addition, Exhibit "C" to this Application also contains the form of customer notice that the Company will send to its customers in its monthly bills in the December timeframe.

VII.

The circumstances and conditions relied on for approval of Applicant's revised rates are as follows: Applicant purchases natural gas for customer usage and transports it over Williams Northwest Pipeline, Gas Transmission Northwest (GTN), TransCanada - Alberta, TransCanada - BC and Spectra Energy Pipeline systems, and defers the effect of timing differences due to implementation of rate changes and differences between Applicant's actual weighted average cost of gas ("WACOG") purchased and the WACOG embedded in rates.

VIII.

This filing reflects the Company's proposed "Out of Cycle" PGA to amend the commodity WACOG in Schedule 150 due to a material change in natural gas prices and collect the change in the estimated cost of natural gas for the February 2022 through October 2022 nine-month period. Below is a table summarizing the proposed changes reflected in this filing.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Sch. No.</u>	<u>Commodity Change per therm</u>	<u>Demand Change per therm</u>	<u>Total Sch. 150 Change</u>	<u>Amortization Change per therm</u>	<u>Total PGA Rate Change per therm</u>
General	101	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235
Lg. General	111	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235
Lg General	112	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235
Interruptible	131	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235	\$ -	\$ 0.06235
Transportation	146	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

IX.

Commodity Costs

In Case No. AVU-G-21-04, the Commission approved the Company’s annual PGA with a September 1, 2021 effective date. In that filing, the Company’s commodity weighted average cost of gas (“Commodity WACOG”) increased by \$0.04022 per therm, from \$0.16283 per therm to \$0.20305 per therm (including revenue sensitive costs). As discussed in that filing, although the cost of natural gas commodity remains relatively low in comparison to historical periods, wholesale natural gas prices have risen substantially during the year and above the level currently included in rates. The market factors attributing to the rise in prices is an overall increase in demand and lower supply. The main driver in demand has been record exports to Mexico, elevated LNG exports and increased use for power generation. On the supply side, production has been slow to ramp up to pre-pandemic levels. In addition, storage levels are well below where they were at this time last year and the current forecasted end of season level is seen as significantly below last year’s level. These market conditions were present when the Company made its initial filing and have since continued to put significant upward pressure on wholesale natural gas prices thus creating a material change from the WACOG approved in the Company’s prior PGA.¹ Avista is proposing a rate adjustment that more closely aligns the actual cost of what Avista is paying for natural gas with what is included in customer rates in this filing.

In order to limit the bill impact to customers resulting from a large surcharge deferral caused by the difference in commodity WACOG presently included in rates and the current forward commodity prices, especially during the winter heating season, the Company proposes to increase the Commodity WACOG from the \$0.20305 per therm embedded in current rates to \$0.26540 per therm for the remainder of the PGA year, representing an increase of \$0.06235 per therm.

The Company calculated the proposed Commodity WACOG of \$0.26540 per therm by adjusting just two items. First, the Company used a 5-day historical average of AECO forward prices (as of November 22, 2021) to develop an estimated cost associated with index purchases for the remainder of the PGA year.² The estimated monthly volumes to be purchased are multiplied by the 5-day average forward price for the corresponding month. The annual weighted average price for these volumes is \$3.06 per

¹ In Case No. AVU-G-21-04, Final Order 35151, the Commission stated on page 6 “IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Company shall promptly apply to amend its WACOG if gas prices materially deviate from the WACOG approved in this Order.

² The use of 5-day historical average forward prices reduced the weighted average price per dekatherm, and the rate impact to customers, from what otherwise would have occurred had the Company used a longer pricing period.

dekatherm (\$0.306 per therm). The annual weighted average price presently included in rates for these volumes is \$2.17 per dekatherm (\$0.217 per therm).

Second, the Company entered into additional natural gas hedges after it filed its annual PGA. The weighted average price for hedged natural gas presently included in rates for the remainder of the PGA year is \$1.77 per dekatherm (\$0.177 per therm). The annual weighted average price for all hedges, including those entered into after the annual PGA filing for the remainder of the PGA year, is \$2.66 per dekatherm (0.266 per therm).

Updating the 5-day historical average of forward wholesale natural gas prices, and reflecting all hedges entered into to date, results in a proposed \$3.3 million revenue increase.

X.

Demand Costs

The Company is not requesting any changes related to demand charges in this filing. Any changes to those items will occur in the Company's next annual PGA filing.

XI.

Schedule 155 / Amortization Rate Change

The Company is not requesting any changes related to Rate Schedule 155/Amortization charges in this filing. Any changes to those items will occur in the Company's next annual PGA filing.

XII.

If approved as filed, the Company's annual revenue will *increase* by approximately \$3.3 million or about 8.1% effective February 1, 2022. Residential or small commercial customers using an average of 63 therms per month (for the nine month period) would see an *increase* of \$3.93 per month, or approximately 7.6%. The present bill for 63 therms is \$51.93 while the proposed bill is \$55.86.

XIII.

Confidential Exhibit "D" attached hereto contains support workpapers for the rates proposed by Applicant contained in Exhibit "A".

XIV.

Avista requests that the rates proposed in this filing be approved to become effective on February 1, 2022, and requests that the matter be processed under the Commission's Modified Procedure rules through the use of written comments. Avista stands ready for immediate consideration on its Application.

XV.

WHEREFORE, Avista requests the Commission issue its Order finding its proposed rates to be just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory and to become effective for all natural gas service on and after February 1, 2022. The overall increase is approximately \$3.3 million or 8.1%. The Company requests that the matter be processed under the Commission's Modified Procedure rules through the use of written comments.

Dated at Spokane, Washington, this 3rd day of December 2021.

AVISTA UTILITIES
BY

/s/ David J. Meyer

David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for
Regulatory and Governmental Affairs

AVISTA UTILITIES

Case No. AVU-G-21-07

December PGA Commodity WACOG Update

EXHIBIT “A”

Proposed Tariff Sheet

December 3, 2021

AVISTA CORPORATION
d/b/a Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 150
PURCHASE GAS COST ADJUSTMENT - IDAHO

APPLICABLE:

To Customers in the State of Idaho where Company has natural gas service available.

PURPOSE:

To pass through changes in costs resulting from purchasing and transporting natural gas, to become effective as noted below.

RATE:

- (a) The retail rates of firm gas Schedules 101, 111 and 112 are to be increased by 35.783¢ per therm in all blocks of these rate schedules.
- (b) The rates of interruptible Schedules 131 and 132 are to be increased by 26.540¢ per therm.
- (c) The rate for transportation under Schedule 146 is to be decreased by 0.000¢ per therm.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE GAS COST:

The above rate changes are based on the following weighted average cost of gas per therm as of the effective date shown below:

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.243¢	26.540¢	35.783¢
Schedules 111 and 112	9.243¢	26.540¢	35.783¢
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	26.540¢	26.540¢

The above amounts include a gross revenue factor.

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.203¢	26.424¢	35.627¢
Schedules 111 and 112	9.203¢	26.424¢	35.627¢
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	26.424¢	26.424¢

The above amounts do not include a gross revenue factor.

BALANCING ACCOUNT:

The Company will maintain a Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA) Balancing Account whereby monthly entries into this Balancing Account will be made to reflect differences between the actual purchased gas costs collected from customers and the actual purchased gas costs incurred by the Company. Those differences are then collected from or refunded to customers under Schedule 155 – Gas Rate Adjustment.

Issued December 3, 2021

Effective February 1, 2022

Issued by Avista Utilities
By

Patrick Ehrbar – Director of Regulatory Affairs



AVISTA CORPORATION
d/b/a Avista UtilitiesSCHEDULE 150
PURCHASE GAS COST ADJUSTMENT - IDAHO

APPLICABLE:

To Customers in the State of Idaho where Company has natural gas service available.

PURPOSE:

To pass through changes in costs resulting from purchasing and transporting natural gas, to become effective as noted below.

RATE:

- (a) The retail rates of firm gas Schedules 101, 111 and 112 are to be increased by ~~29.548¢~~ per therm in all blocks of these rate schedules.
- (b) The rates of interruptible Schedules 131 and 132 are to be increased by ~~20.305¢~~ per therm.
- (c) The rate for transportation under Schedule 146 is to be decreased by 0.000¢ per therm.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE GAS COST:

The above rate changes are based on the following weighted average cost of gas per therm as of the effective date shown below:

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.243¢	20.305¢	29.548¢
Schedules 111 and 112	9.243¢	20.305¢	29.548¢
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	20.305¢	20.305¢

The above amounts include a gross revenue factor.

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.203¢	20.217¢	29.420¢
Schedules 111 and 112	9.203¢	20.217¢	29.420¢
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	20.217¢	20.217¢

The above amounts do not include a gross revenue factor.

BALANCING ACCOUNT:

The Company will maintain a Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA) Balancing Account whereby monthly entries into this Balancing Account will be made to reflect differences between the actual purchased gas costs collected from customers and the actual purchased gas costs incurred by the Company. Those differences are then collected from or refunded to customers under Schedule 155 – Gas Rate Adjustment.

Issued July 2, 2021

Effective September 1, 2021

Issued by Avista Utilities
By

Patrick Ehrbar – Director of Regulatory Affairs



AVISTA CORPORATION
 d/b/a Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 150
 PURCHASE GAS COST ADJUSTMENT - IDAHO

APPLICABLE:

To Customers in the State of Idaho where Company has natural gas service available.

PURPOSE:

To pass through changes in costs resulting from purchasing and transporting natural gas, to become effective as noted below.

RATE:

- (a) The retail rates of firm gas Schedules 101, 111 and 112 are to be increased by 35.783¢ per therm in all blocks of these rate schedules.
- (b) The rates of interruptible Schedules 131 and 132 are to be increased by 26.540¢ per therm.
- (c) The rate for transportation under Schedule 146 is to be decreased by 0.000¢ per therm.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE GAS COST:

The above rate changes are based on the following weighted average cost of gas per therm as of the effective date shown below:

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.243¢	<u>26.540¢</u>	<u>35.783¢</u>
Schedules 111 and 112	9.243¢	<u>26.540¢</u>	<u>35.783¢</u>
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	<u>26.540¢</u>	<u>26.540¢</u>

The above amounts include a gross revenue factor.

	Demand	Commodity	Total
Schedules 101	9.203¢	<u>26.424¢</u>	<u>35.627¢</u>
Schedules 111 and 112	9.203¢	<u>26.424¢</u>	<u>35.627¢</u>
Schedules 131 and 132	0.000¢	<u>26.424¢</u>	<u>26.424¢</u>

The above amounts do not include a gross revenue factor.

BALANCING ACCOUNT:

The Company will maintain a Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA) Balancing Account whereby monthly entries into this Balancing Account will be made to reflect differences between the actual purchased gas costs collected from customers and the actual purchased gas costs incurred by the Company. Those differences are then collected from or refunded to customers under Schedule 155 – Gas Rate Adjustment.

Issued December 3, 2021

Effective February 1, 2022

Issued by Avista Utilities
 By

Patrick Ehrbar – Director of Regulatory Affairs



AVISTA UTILITIES

Case No. AVU-G-21-07

December PGA Commodity WACOG Update

EXHIBIT “B”

Notice of Public Applicant's Proposed Tariffs

December 3, 2021

DRAFT

**Important Notice for Idaho Customers
(December 2021)**

Avista has filed a Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) rate adjustment request with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission), that if approved, is designed to increase overall natural gas revenue by approximately \$3.3 million or 8.1% effective Feb. 1, 2022. This filing has no impact on Avista's earnings.

The PGA is filed annually to balance the actual cost of wholesale natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers with the amount presently included in customer's rates. PGAs ensure that customers pay what Avista pays for natural gas, only at a more predictable and stable rate throughout the year. Avista made its annual PGA filing earlier this year and new rates went into effect on Sept. 1.

Since that time, the price of wholesale natural gas has continued to rise. Due to this increase of wholesale natural gas prices, Avista is proposing a rate adjustment that more closely aligns the actual cost of what Avista is presently paying for wholesale natural gas with the cost of natural gas included in customer rates.

About 40% 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, of which Avista cannot control. Importantly, Avista does not make a profit on, or markup, the wholesale cost of natural gas; what Avista pays is what is passed through to customers, dollar for dollar.

Natural Gas Customer Bills

If approved, residential natural gas customers in Idaho using a monthly average of 63 therms would see their bills increase \$3.93 or approximately 7.6%, from \$51.93 to \$55.86 per month effective Feb. 1, 2022.

Net effect on an annual revenue basis by rate schedule would be:

General Service - Schedule 101	7.2%
Large General Service - Schedules 111 & 112	11.0%
Transportation Service - Schedule 146	0.0%
Overall	8.1%

Rate Application Procedure

The Company's applications are proposals, subject to public review and a Commission decision. Copies of the applications are available for public review on the Commission's website (www.puc.idaho.gov). Customers may file with the Commission written comments related to the Company's filings. Customers may also subscribe to the Commission's RSS feed (<https://puc.idaho.gov/RssPage>) to receive periodic updates via e-mail about the case. Copies of rate filings are also available on our website, www.myavista.com/rates.

If you would like to submit comments on the proposed rate change, you can do so by going to the Commission website or mailing comments to:

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

DRAFT

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.

AVA483i

AVISTA UTILITIES

Case No. AVU-G-21-07

EXHIBIT “C”

Copy of Press Release and Customer Notice



Contact:

Media: Celena Mock (509) 495-4923 celena.mock@avistacorp.com

Investors: Stacey Wenz (509) 495-2046 stacey.wenz@avistacorp.com

Avista 24/7 Media Access (509) 495-4174

Avista Makes Natural Gas Price Adjustment Filing in Idaho

Overall changes in natural gas prices would be effective Feb. 1, 2022

SPOKANE, Wash. – Dec. 3, 2021, 4:05 p.m. PST: Avista (NYSE: AVA) has made a Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) filing with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC or Commission) that, if approved, is designed to increase overall natural gas revenue by approximately \$3.3 million or 8.1% effective Feb. 1, 2022. This filing has no impact on Avista's earnings.

The PGA is filed annually to balance the actual cost of wholesale natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers with the amount presently included in customer's rates. PGAs ensure that customers pay what Avista pays for natural gas, only at a more predictable and stable rate throughout the year. Avista made its annual PGA filing earlier this year and new rates went into effect on Sept. 1, 2021.

Since that time, the price of wholesale natural gas has continued to rise. Due to this increase of wholesale natural gas prices, Avista is proposing a rate adjustment that more closely aligns the actual cost of what Avista is presently paying for wholesale natural gas with the cost of natural gas included in customer rates.

About 40% 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, which Avista cannot control. Importantly, Avista does not make a profit on, or markup, the wholesale cost of natural gas; what Avista pays is what is passed through to customers, dollar for dollar.

Natural Gas Customer Bills

If approved, residential natural gas customers in Idaho using a monthly average of 63 therms would see their bills increase \$3.93 or approximately 7.6%, from \$51.93 to \$55.86 per month effective Feb. 1, 2022.

Net effect on an annual revenue basis by rate schedule would be:

General Service - Schedule 101	7.2%
Large General Service - Schedules 111 & 112	11.0%
Transportation Service - Schedule 146	0.0%
Overall	8.1%

Customer Resources

To assist customers in managing their energy bills, Avista offers services for customers such as comfort level billing, payment arrangements and Customer Assistance Referral and Evaluation Services (CARES), which aid special-needs customers through referrals to area agencies and churches for help with housing, utilities, medical assistance and other needs. Avista also provides funding for energy assistance programs and Project Share, which are administered through community action agencies.

Avista provides energy efficiency and outreach programs that include rebates and incentives as well as tips and resources to help customers manage their energy use and energy bills. Customers can learn more at www.myavista.com.

Rate Application Procedure

Avista's applications are proposals, subject to public review and a Commission decision. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are unable to provide copies at our office locations as we usually do. However, a copy of the application is available for public review 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 (<https://puc.idaho.gov/RssPage>) to receive periodic updates via e-mail about the case. Copies of the rate filing is also available on our website, www.myavista.com/rates.

If you would like to submit comments on the proposed rate change, you can do so by going to the Commission website or mailing comments to:

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

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 400,000 customers and natural gas to 367,000 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 1.6 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, 2020 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2021.



SOURCE: Avista Corporation

-2142-

To unsubscribe from Avista's news release distribution, send a reply message to lena.funston@avistacorp.com



DRAFT

**Important Notice for Idaho Customers
(December 2021)**

Avista has filed a Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) rate adjustment request with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission), that if approved, is designed to increase overall natural gas revenue by approximately \$3.3 million or 8.1% effective Feb. 1, 2022. This filing has no impact on Avista's earnings.

The PGA is filed annually to balance the actual cost of wholesale natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers with the amount presently included in customer's rates. PGAs ensure that customers pay what Avista pays for natural gas, only at a more predictable and stable rate throughout the year. Avista made its annual PGA filing earlier this year and new rates went into effect on Sept. 1.

Since that time, the price of wholesale natural gas has continued to rise. Due to this increase of wholesale natural gas prices, Avista is proposing a rate adjustment that more closely aligns the actual cost of what Avista is presently paying for wholesale natural gas with the cost of natural gas included in customer rates.

About 40% 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, of which Avista cannot control. Importantly, Avista does not make a profit on, or markup, the wholesale cost of natural gas; what Avista pays is what is passed through to customers, dollar for dollar.

Natural Gas Customer Bills

If approved, residential natural gas customers in Idaho using a monthly average of 63 therms would see their bills increase \$3.93 or approximately 7.6%, from \$51.93 to \$55.86 per month effective Feb. 1, 2022.

Net effect on an annual revenue basis by rate schedule would be:

General Service - Schedule 101	7.2%
Large General Service - Schedules 111 & 112	11.0%
Transportation Service - Schedule 146	0.0%
Overall	8.1%

Rate Application Procedure

The Company's applications are proposals, subject to public review and a Commission decision. Copies of the applications are available for public review on the Commission's website (www.puc.idaho.gov). Customers may file with the Commission written comments related to the Company's filings. Customers may also subscribe to the Commission's RSS feed (<https://puc.idaho.gov/RssPage>) to receive periodic updates via e-mail about the case. Copies of rate filings are also available on our website, www.myavista.com/rates.

If you would like to submit comments on the proposed rate change, you can do so by going to the Commission website or mailing comments to:

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

DRAFT

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.

AVA483i

AVID J. MEYER
VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF COUNSEL FOR
REGULATORY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
AVISTA CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 3727
1411 EAST MISSION AVENUE
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON 99220-3727
TELEPHONE: (509) 495-4316
FACSIMILE: (509) 495-8851
DAVID.MEYER@AVISTACORP.COM

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	CASE NO. AVU-G-21- <u>07</u>
OF AVISTA CORPORATION FOR AN)	
ORDER APPROVING A CHANGE)	ATTORNEY'S CERTIFICATE
IN NATURAL GAS RATES AND CHARGES)	CLAIM OF
CONFIDENTIALITY)	
TO NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS IN THE)	RELATING TO PORTIONS
STATE OF IDAHO)	OF AVISTA'S EXHIBIT'S
)	AND WORKPAPERS
)	

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

FOR AVISTA CORPORATION

I, David J. Meyer, represent Avista Corporation. I am Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory and Governmental Affairs for Avista Corporation (Avista or Company) and I am appearing on its behalf in this proceeding.

I make this certification and claim of confidentiality pursuant to IDAPA 31.01.01 because Avista, through its supporting workpapers, is disclosing certain information that is CONFIDENTIAL and constitutes TRADE SECRETS as defined by Idaho Code Section 9-340 and 48-801 and protected under IDAPA 31.01.01.067 and 31.01.01.233.

The electronic information Avista provides will, as required under IDAPA Rule 31.01.01.067, be marked as CONFIDENTIAL on all documents. In accordance with Case No. GNR-U-20-01, Order No. 34602 which suspends the requirement to physically file documents due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Company will file all work papers, tariffs, and exhibits only in electronic format.

The confidential information that Avista is disclosing includes, but is not limited to certain forward wholesale natural gas pricing which is provided by a third-party vendor, who does not allow public access to their proprietary information. Avista herein asserts that the aforementioned information is confidential in that making third-party pricing data public will violate the terms of our agreement with the vendor.

I am of the opinion that this information is CONFIDENTIAL, as defined by Idaho Code Sections 9-340D and 48-801, should therefore be protected from public inspection, examination and copying, and should be utilized only in accordance with the terms of the protective agreement between Avista Corporation and Parties who have requested such an agreement.

