

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA’S</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. AVU-E-22-13</b>
<b>APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATION OF</b>	)	<b>AVU-G-22-05</b>
<b>ITS 2020-2021 ELECTRIC AND NATURAL</b>	)	
<b>GAS ENERGY EFFICIENCY EXPENSES AS</b>	)	<b>NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS</b>
<b>PRUDENTLY INCURRED</b>	)	
	)	<b>NOTICE OF</b>
	)	<b>INTERVENTION DEADLINE</b>
	)	
	)	<b>ORDER NO. 35523</b>

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On August 1, 2022, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities (“Company”) filed two Applications, each requesting the Commission issue an order finding that the Company’s electric or natural gas energy efficiency expenditures from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 were prudently incurred (referred to collectively as the “Applications”). The Applications summarize the Company’s energy efficiency activities and their cost-effectiveness. The Applications include the Company’s 2020 and 2021 Annual Conservation Reports and Idaho Incentive Modification Methodology document. The Applications also include the 2020/2021 impact evaluation reports of the Company’s electric and natural gas energy efficiency programs. The Company requests its Applications be processed by Modified Procedure.

At the August 30, 2022 Decision Meeting, Staff recommended the Commission process the Applications together and establish a 21-day intervention deadline. We find that processing these cases together is reasonable and will be an efficient use of resources for any parties wishing to join. If circumstances change and the issues diverge, we can consider bifurcating the cases at that time. Consequently, we now issue this Notice of Applications and Notice of Intervention Deadline establishing a 21-day intervention deadline for interested parties.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company requests a prudency determination for \$13,236,234 incurred in 2020/2021 for its electric energy efficiency programs portfolio (“Electric Programs”)—\$7,730,146, or 58 % of total expenditures were paid directly to customers.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that its 2020/2021 third-party process and impact evaluations concluded the Company's Idaho Electric Programs cost-effectively saved 30,221 megawatt hours ("MWhs").<sup>1</sup>

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company's Electric Programs had an underfunded balance of about \$4.4 million on January 1, 2022.<sup>2</sup> On June 30, 2022, the Company's Idaho Electric Program had an overfunded balance of about \$4.9 million.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company measures the cost effectiveness of its Electric Programs using the Utility Cost Test ("UCT"), Total Resource Cost ("TRC"), Participant Cost Test, and Ratepayer Impact Test. The 2020 UCT and TRC ratios for the Company's Electric Programs were 2.23 and 2.02, respectively. The 2021 UCT and TRC ratios for the Company's Electric Programs were 1.24 and 1.11, respectively.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company exceeded its energy efficiency targets set in its Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") for 2020, but not 2021. In 2020, the Company achieved 16,711 MWhs of electric savings, 109% of the IRP target of 15,387 MWhs. In 2021, the Company achieved 13,510 MWhs of electric savings, 93% of the IRP target of 14,504 MWhs.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company requests a prudence determination for \$4,928,907 incurred in 2020/2021 for its natural gas energy efficiency programs portfolio ("Gas Programs")—\$3,795,232, or 77% of total expenditures were paid directly to customers.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that its 2020/2021 third-party process and impact evaluations concluded the Company's Idaho Gas Programs cost effectively saved 652,548 therms.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Gas Programs had an overfunded balance of \$78,073 on January 1, 2020. By December 31, 2021 the Company had an underfunded balance of \$2,067,047. This was primarily due to customer participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the 2020 UCT and TRC ratios for the Company's Gas Programs were 1.26 and 0.68, respectively. The 2021 UCT and TRC ratios for the Company's Gas Programs were 1.24 and 0.60, respectively.

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<sup>1</sup> This is exclusive of the 6,994 MWhs of Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance savings.

<sup>2</sup> The underfunding was addressed by Order No. 33897 in Case No. AVU-E-17-06, which authorized increasing schedule 91 rates on October 1, 2017.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that in 2020, the Company saved 352,548 therms of gas, 84% of the IRP target of 421,270 therms. In 2021, the Company saved 300,000 therms of gas, 84% of the IRP target of 358,160 therms.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company's Applications and Exhibits are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. The Applications are also available on the Commission's web site at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on the "ELECTRIC" or "GAS" tab, select "Open Cases" and then locate and click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code. The Commission may enter any final order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted under the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000, *et seq.*

#### **NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring to intervene in this matter to obtain parties' rights of participation must file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission pursuant to this Commission's Rules of Procedure 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.01.072 and .073. **Persons who wish to intervene as a party must file a Petition to Intervene within 21 days from the service date of this Order.** Persons desiring to present their views without parties' rights of participation are not required to intervene and may present their comments without prior notification to the Commission or the parties.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that after the intervention deadline runs, the Commission Secretary will issue a Notice of Parties. Staff then will informally confer with the parties about scheduling for this case.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that persons desiring to intervene for the purpose of obtaining parties' rights of participation must file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission, pursuant to Rules 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.01.72-73, within 21 days from the service date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that after the Commission Secretary issues a Notice of Parties, Staff will informally confer with the parties about an appropriate schedule.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties comply with Order No. 35375, issued April 21, 2022. Generally, all pleadings should be filed with the Commission electronically and will be deemed timely filed when received by the Commission Secretary. *See* Rule 14.02. Service between parties should continue to be accomplished electronically when possible. However, voluminous discovery-related documents may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.



ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

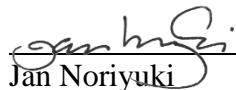


JOHN CHATBURN, COMMISSIONER



JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jan Noriyuki  
Commission Secretary

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