

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	CASE NOS. AVU-E-23-01
OF AVISTA CORPORATION FOR THE)	AVU-G-23-01
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES)	
AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC AND)	
NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO ELECTRIC)	ORDER NO. 35927
AND NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS IN THE)	
STATE OF IDAHO)	
)	

On February 1, 2023, Avista Corporation (“Company”) filed an application (“Application”) with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) requesting authorization to increase its rates for both Electric and Natural Gas service. The Company requested a September 1, 2023, effective date.

On February 21, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Intervention Deadline. Order No. 35684. Subsequently, the Commission granted intervention to Clearwater Paper Corporation, Idaho Forest Group LLC, Walmart Inc., and the Idaho Conservation League and NW Energy Coalition (“ICL/NWEC”) jointly. Order Nos. 35704, 35713, and 35719.

On April 12, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Schedule, Notice of Virtual Public Workshop, and Notice of Technical Hearing. Order No. 35736. The Commission set a June 14, 2023, Commission Staff (“Staff”) and Intervenor written testimony deadline, and a July 12, 2023, Company Rebuttal written testimony deadline. *Id.*

On June 1, 2023, Staff, the Company, and all Intervenors participated in a settlement conference. Based upon that settlement conference, on June 6, 2023, Staff requested that the Commission vacate the deadlines for written testimony, and the Commission issued an Order Vacating Testimony Deadlines. Order No. 35808.

On June 14, 2023, Staff and the Company filed a Stipulation and Settlement (“Proposed Settlement”), and a Motion for Approval of Stipulation and Settlement (“Motion”). The Proposed Settlement was signed by Staff, the Company, and intervenors Clearwater Paper Corporation, Idaho Forest Group LLC, and Walmart Inc. (“Signing Parties”). Intervenors ICL/NWEC did not sign the Proposed Settlement.

On July 6, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Settlement, Notice of Amended Schedule, Notice of Customer Hearings, Notice of Technical Hearing, and Notice of

Public Comment Deadline. Order No. 35844. The Commission set an initial testimony filing date of July 12, 2023, and a rebuttal testimony filing date of July 26, 2023. *Id.* The Commission scheduled customer hearings in Lewiston and Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, on July 25, 2023, and a customer hearing in Sandpoint, Idaho, on July 26, 2023. The Commission also set a July 26, 2023, deadline for public comments on the Proposed Settlement.

On July 25, 2023, the Commission held customer hearings in Lewiston and Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. On July 26, 2023, the Commission held a customer hearing in Sandpoint, Idaho. On August 2, 2023, the Commission held a technical hearing on the Proposed Settlement.

On August 31, 2023, the Commission issued Order No. 35909 approving the Proposed Settlement. On August 31, 2023, the Company submitted updated tariffs and schedules reflecting the rates approved by the Order.

COMMISSION FINDINGS AND DECISION

The Commission has jurisdiction over the Company’s Application and the issues in this case under Title 61 of the Idaho Code including *Idaho Code* §§ 61-301 through 303. The Commission is empowered to investigate rates, charges, rules, regulations, practices, and contracts of all public utilities and to determine whether they are just, reasonable, preferential, discriminatory, or in violation of any provisions of law, and to fix the same by order. *Idaho Code* §§ 61-501 through 503.

Having reviewed the record and the Company’s submission, the Commission finds that the Company’s tariffs and schedules filed on August 31, 2023, comport with the provision of the approved Settlement.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Company’s tariffs and schedules filed on August 31, 2023, are approved with an effective date of September 1, 2023.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date upon this Order regarding any matter decided in this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. *Idaho Code* §§ 61-626.

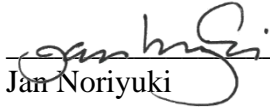
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 18th day of September 2023.


ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT


JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER


EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Jan Noriyuki
Commission Secretary

I:\Legal\ELECTRIC\AVUE2301_G2301_Rates/orders\AVUEG2301_FO_Comp_cb.docx