

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF AVISTA	)	CASE NO. AVU-G-26-01
CORPORATION'S APPLICATION FOR AN	)	
ORDER AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY	)	ORDER VACATING COMMENT
SUSPENSION OF ITS NATURAL GAS	)	DEADLINES
DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT	)	
PROGRAMS	)	NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF
	)	PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
	)	
	)	AMENDED NOTICE OF
	)	APPLICATION
	)	
	)	AMENDED NOTICE OF
	)	MODIFIED PROCEDURE
	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 37121

On June 12, 2026, Avista Corporation, doing business as Avista Utilities, ("Company") applied to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") requesting an order permitting the Company's proposed revisions to its Schedule 190, "Natural Gas Efficiency Programs," which would temporarily suspend the Company's natural gas demand-side management ("DSM") programs effective September 1, 2026 ("Application"). Application at 1.

On July 21, 2026, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure establishing written comment deadlines. Order No. 37105. Also on July 21, 2026, the Company filed a revised Application ("Revised Application"), correcting and modifying the expiration date of Community Action Partnership ("CAP") contracts. Revised Application at 9.

At the Commission's August 4, 2026, Decision Meeting upon further consideration of the procedural schedule, the Revised Application, and the Company's responses in discovery, Commission Staff ("Staff") recommended the Commission vacate and reset comment deadlines to provide additional time for public input.

The Commission now issues this Order Vacating Comment Deadlines, Notice of Suspension of Proposed Effective Date, Amended Notice of Application, and Amended Notice of Modified Procedure, reestablishing written comment deadlines.

ORDER VACATING COMMENT DEADLINES
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AMENDED NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company represented that because of the method the Company was directed to use by the Commission in Order No. 36975, its natural gas portfolio received a Utility Cost Test (“UCT”) ratio of 0.94. Revised Application at 5–6. The Company stated that under the current conditions, its natural gas portfolio could not achieve a UCT of 1.0 or greater. *Id.* at 6. The Company represented that because the portfolio could not achieve a UCT of 1.0 or greater, the Company applied for approval to suspend its natural gas DSM programs. *Id.* at 5–6.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company outlined the proposed changes to its natural gas DSM Portfolio programs. *Id.* at 7–8. Specifically, the: (1) site specific programs; (2) residential and non-residential prescriptive rebate and big programs; (3) midstream rebate program; (4) Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (“NEEA”) gas portfolio; and (4) the limited income program. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company represented that during the transition period, Avista Account Executives would be the primary point of contact for site-specific and pay-for-performance programs. *Id.* at 8–9. The Company stated that upon Commission-approval of the September 1, 2026, effective date of the temporary suspension requested in the Revised Application, the Company would post a message on its website 120 days before the anticipated program suspension date, which is December 31, 2026. *Id.* at 9.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company represented it will use the same website notice for the residential and non-residential prescriptive programs. *Id.* The Company explained it planned on using rebate forms to share information on program suspension in September 2026. *Id.* The Company explained that it would notify trade allies through email that its Idaho residential and commercial gas-only rebate programs would end. *Id.* The Company also represented it would send out a notification letter no later than 90 days before the planned suspension date of December 31, 2026. *Id.* at 9.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company represented that it would provide notice of the temporary discontinuation of the midstream program to contractors and distributors in September 2026. *Id.* The Company also represented it would work closely with CAP Lewiston

to develop a method to notify customers of the suspension of the natural gas weatherization offerings by the end of 2027, which the Company represented is the end of the CAP contract period. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company represented it would submit a separate filing to the Commission, concurrent with the Revised Application, for approval to modify to its DSM Rider Schedule 191, which the Company represented is used to collect money for natural gas DSM programs, to “\$0.00/therm for every rate class, during the third quarter of 2026.” *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Revised Application and proposed Schedule 190 are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission’s office. The Revised Application and proposed Schedule 190 are also available on the Commission’s website at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the “NATURAL GAS” icon, select “Open Cases,” 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, and that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

SUSPENSION OF PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

The Company filed its Application on June 12, 2026, and its Revised Application on July 21, 2026, proposing a September 1, 2026, effective date in both. The Commission finds that the Company’s proposed effective date does not provide adequate time for Staff, and interested persons, to evaluate the Company’s proposal. Pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 61-622, the Commission suspends the proposed changes until October 1, 2026, or until the Commission enters an order accepting, rejecting, or modifying the proposed revisions to the Company’s Schedule 190, whichever comes first.

AMENDED NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter, and that it will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to the Commission’s Rules of Procedure 201-204, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204.

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The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring to state a position on this Revised Application may file a written comment explaining why the person supports or opposes the Revised Application. **Persons interested in filing written comments, must do so within 21 days of the service date of this Order.** Comments must be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is unavailable. To comment electronically, please access the Commission's website at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Case Comment Form" and complete the form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

To file by e-mail, persons must e-mail the comments to the Commission Secretary and all parties at the e-mail addresses listed below. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

If computer access is unavailable, then comments may be mailed to the Commission and the Parties at the addresses below. Persons submitting a comment by mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

**For the Idaho Public Utilities
Commission:**

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YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments **within 28 days of the service date of this Order.**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its final order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the comment deadlines established in Order No. 37105 are vacated.

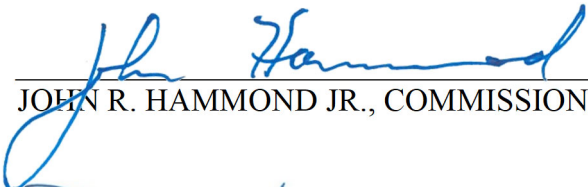
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the September 1, 2026 effective date the Company proposed for changes to its Natural Gas DSM Program is suspended until October 1, 2026, or until the Commission issues an earlier order accepting, rejecting, or modifying the proposed changes, whichever comes first.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Revised Application be processed under Modified Procedure. Persons interested in submitting written comments must do so must do so within 21-days of the service date of this Order. The Company must file any reply comments within 28 days of the service date of this Order.

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 4th day of August 2026.


EDWARD LODGE, PRESIDENT


JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER


DAYN HARDIE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Monica Barrios-Sanchez
Commission Secretary

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