



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Brad Little, Governor

Eric Anderson, President

John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

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Case No. AVU-E-24-05

Order No. 36154

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NEWS RELEASE: Commission is accepting written comments on utility application to update costs and administrative changes to electric line extension schedule 51.

BOISE (April 19, 2024) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is accepting written comments on an application from Avista Utilities to update costs and administrative changes to the utility’s electric line extension Schedule 51.

This schedule incorporates the average costing for electric facilities commonly used to extend service. Schedule 51 sets forth basic and exceptional costs that have a fixed and variable component. The variable component is stated on a cost-per-foot basis. The basic and exceptional costs apply to infrastructure like transformers and conduit, and are based on recent average costs.

Avista updated the allowances for new residential, industrial and commercial customers’ services. The updated allowances are based on an embedded cost method which seeks to ensure investments in facilities for new customers track embedded costs included in base rates. Costs that exceed the allowance must be paid by the customer and will be booked as a contribution in aid of construction.

The utility said the primary driver of higher costs are increased labor and transformer costs. Avista also said demand outpaces supply in the utility sector, driving prices upward.

The commission is accepting writing comments on the utility’s application until May 1, 2024. Comments are required to be filed through the commission’s website or by e-mail unless computer access is not available. To submit comments using the commission website, please visit puc.idaho.gov and click on the “Case Comment Form” link on the upper left side of the page. Please use case number AVU-E-24-05 when filling out the form. The commenter should also include their name and address. If using e-mail, comments are required to be sent to the commission secretary and Avista at the e-mail addresses listed below. If computer access is not available, comments can be mailed to the commission and Avista at the addresses listed below. Those submitting comments through the mail are required to include their name, address and case number AVU-E-24-05.

For the Idaho Public Utilities Commission:

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Additional information is available at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7295.