

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Eric Anderson, President John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner Edward Lodge, Commissioner

Brad Little, Governor

Case No. AVU-E-25-01 Case No. AVU-G-25-01 Order No. 36633 Contact: Adam Rush Office: (208) 334-0339 E-mail: adam.rush@puc.idaho.gov

NEWS RELEASE: Parties file proposed settlement in northern Idaho utility's application to increase rates. Customer hearing will be held June 25 to take testimony on the proposed settlement.

BOISE (June 12, 2025) – On June 9, 2025, Avista Utilities submitted a proposed settlement of its application to increase rates for electric and natural gas service in Idaho.

Avista originally applied for commission approval to increase electric rates for the average residential customer by 14.7 percent, or about \$15.36, beginning Sept. 1, 2025. The utility also proposed increasing the basic charge to \$25.00 per month, up from \$20.00 per month.

The utility also originally sought approval for another electric rate increase beginning Sept. 1, 2026. If approved, electric residential customers using an average of 939 kilowatt hours per month would have seen their monthly bills increase 5.3 percent, or \$6.36, along with another increase of \$5 per month in the basic charge, bringing it to \$30.00 per month.

In the same filing, the utility further sought approval to increase natural gas rates. If approved, the average monthly bill for 66 therms would have risen by 10.4 percent — from \$60.63 to \$66.92 — starting Sept. 1, 2025. A second increase would have followed on Sept. 1, 2026, raising the bill by another 1.3 percent to \$67.80.

However, the utility recently filed a proposed settlement in which it agreed to, among other things, a 6.3 percent increase to base electric rates on Sept. 1, 2025, and a 4.5 percent increase on Sept. 1, 2026, with no additional increase to the basic charge either year. The utility further agreed to a 9.2 percent increase to natural gas rates in 2025, and a .4 percent decrease in 2026. The commission can approve, deny or modify the proposed settlement.

The commission intends to keep the two previously scheduled customer hearings to take customer testimony on the proposed settlement. The first hearing will be held Wednesday, June 25, at the Molstead Library's Todd Lecture Hall at North Idaho College, 875 W. Garden Avenue,

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814. The purpose of the hearing is to take testimony for the record. It will begin at 4:00 p.m. (PDT) and conclude at 7:00 p.m. or after all customer testimony has been taken, whichever comes first. In-person attendance is required to submit testimony. Those planning to testify are encouraged to arrive at the hearing location by 3:45 p.m. as the hearing will conclude when it appears all customer testimony has been received.

Those interested in listening to the hearing remotely can do so by calling 1-415-655-0001 and entering meeting number 2867 771 5779 when prompted.

The hearing will continue telephonically on Thursday, June 26. It will begin at 12:00 p.m. (PDT) and end at 3:00 p.m. or after all customer testimony has been taken, whichever comes first. Those planning to testify are encouraged to call in by 11:55 a.m. (PDT) as the hearing will conclude when it appears all customer testimony has been received. Those wishing to call in and testify can do so by calling 1-415-655-0001 and entering meeting number 2861 516 9950 when prompted.

Additional information on Avista's application is available at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7453 and puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7452.