



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Brad Little, Governor

Edward Lodge, President

John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

Dayn Hardie, Commissioner

Case No. AVU-E-25-01

Case No. AVU-G-25-01

Order No. 36586

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NEWS RELEASE: Commission schedules technical hearing on proposed settlement for northern Idaho utility's rate cases.

BOISE (July 8, 2025) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will hold a technical hearing on July 23 on a proposed settlement for Avista Utilities' natural gas and electric rate cases.

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 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.

Technical hearings are held when a utility's application may be more significant to customers or present complex issues. Parties to a case cross examine witnesses and submit testimony during the hearings. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. (MDT) on July 23 and is scheduled to conclude at 5:00 p.m. It is anticipated testimony from parties is not going to take the full day, and the

hearing may finish earlier. It will be held at the commission's offices, 11331 W. Chinden Boulevard, Building 8, Suite 201-A, Boise, ID 83714.

Those interested in attending online can do so by visiting idahogov.webex.com and entering meeting number 2868 954 8113 (no spaces between numbers). Then, click on the green "Join" button. At the next window, please enter this password: Avista. Next, please click on the green "Join Webinar" button. At the next window, please enter your name and e-mail address, and then click on the "Next" button. Then click on the green "Join Webinar" button.

To listen over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2868 954 8113 when prompted.

The hearing was scheduled to continue on July 24 if needed. It was determined a second day was not needed and the hearing will conclude on July 23.

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