

**Comments of the Snake River Alliance  
In the Matter of the Application of Avista Corporation DBA Avista Utilities for  
Authority to Increase Its Rates and Charges for Electric and Natural Gas Service in Idaho**

**Cases No. AVU-E-12-08 and AVU-G-12-07**

**Submitted by  
Ken Miller, Clean Energy Program Director, Snake River Alliance**

**Feb. 20, 2013**

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The Snake River Alliance ("Alliance") appreciates this opportunity to convey to the Idaho Public Commission its support of the Stipulation and Settlement in the above-captioned cases. The Commission granted the Alliance's application to intervene in these cases (Order 32687, Nov. 27, 2012). Due to exigent medical circumstances, the Alliance's representative in these cases, Energy Program Director Ken Miller, was required to be out of the state during scheduled settlement conferences on Jan. 17 and 24, 2013.

As a consequence of being unable to participate in those settlement conferences, the Alliance chose not to sign the settlement stipulation. However, the Alliance did review the Settlement Stipulation and its attachments as well as the accompanying motion for approval of the Stipulation, filed with the Commission on Feb. 6, 2013.

In light of the above, and as a party in the above-referenced cases, the Snake River Alliance wishes to notify the Commission that it supports the terms of the settlement stipulation and its accompanying attachments, and that the lack of the Alliance's signature on the Stipulation should not be construed as a lack of the Alliance's support for the terms of the Stipulation.

Among the issues of primary concern to the Alliance in AVU-E- 12-08 were the magnitude and timing of the increase in base rates (chiefly for Residential Schedule 1); adjustments to Avista's electric revenue requirement; the amount of time that should pass between resolution of this general rate case and the filing of the next electric general rate case (rate freeze/stay out provisions, excluding anticipated PCA filings); treatment of the anticipated FERC approval of the Bonneville Power Administration settlement revenue as an offset to a portion of the base rate increase; and rate spread of the base rate changes.

The Alliance believes that the parties have reached satisfactory resolutions to the above issues as well as others.

The Alliance concurs with the parties that the Stipulation and its accompanying attachments are in the public interest and that all of its terms and conditions are fair, just and reasonable, and joins the parties in requesting that the Commission accept the Stipulation in its entirety.

In addition, the Alliance intends to participate as a party in further proceedings in these cases pending their resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

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