

EDWARD A. FINKLEA

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December 4, 2007

# VIA ELECTRONIC FILING & U.S. MAIL

Oregon Public Utility Commission Attn: Filing Center 550 Capitol Street, N.E., #215 P.O. Box 2148 Salem, Oregon 97308-2148

Re:

In the Matter of the Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities

Petition Requesting Authority to Revise Its Book Depreciation Rates,

Together With Exhibit A. **Docket No. UM-1351** 

Dear Filing Center:

Enclosed please find the original and one (1) copy of NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS' PETITION TO INTERVENE AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE FUND GRANT in the above-referenced docket.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Finklea

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EAF:

Enclosure(s)

cc: UM-1351 Service List (via email and/or US Mail)

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### **OF OREGON**

## **UM 1351**

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)
)
) THE NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL
) GAS USERS' PETITION TO
) INTERVENE AND NOTICE OF
) INTENT TO REQUEST AN ISSUE
) FUND GRANT
)

Pursuant to ORS § 756.525 and OAR § 860-013-0021, the Northwest Industrial Gas Users ("NWIGU") hereby submit this Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding and seeks party status as provided in OAR § 860-011-0035(7). In addition, NWIGU files this Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant in the above-captioned docket. In support of this pleading, NWIGU states as follows:

1. The name and address of NWIGU as a party of record in this proceeding is:

Paula E. Pyron
Executive Director
Northwest Industrial Gas Users
4113 Wolf Berry Court
Lake Oswego, OR 97035-1827
Telephone: (503) 636-2580
Facsimile: (503) 636-0703
E-mail: ppyron@nwigu.org

Edward A. Finklea and Chad M. Stokes from the law firm Cable Huston Benedict

Haagensen and Lloyd will represent NWIGU in this proceeding. All documents related to this

proceeding should be served on NWIGU's attorneys at the following address:

Edward A. Finklea Chad M. Stokes Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd LLP 1001 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97204-1136

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- 2. NWIGU is a non-profit association comprised of thirty five end users of natural gas with major facilities in the States of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. NWIGU members include diverse industrial interests, including food processing, pulp and paper, wood products, electric generation, aluminum, steel, chemicals, electronics, and aerospace. The association provides an informational service to its members and participates in various regulatory matters that affect member interests. NWIGU member companies purchase transportation services from Williams Gas Pipeline West, also known as Northwest Pipeline Corporation and TransCanada Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation. NWIGU member companies acquire sales and transportation services from Oregon local distribution companies ("LDCs"), including Avista in Southern Oregon.
- 3. On October 12, 2007 Avista filed a petition requesting authority to revise its book depreciation rates. The proposed change to Avista's depreciation rates will impact the tariff rates the company charges for its natural gas sales and transportation services in Oregon.
- 4. NWIGU member companies acquire gas sales and transportation services from Avista under its large general service and transportation service tariffs. The outcome of this proceeding will impact the rates paid by Avista's Oregon customers. As customers of Avista, NWIGU member companies have a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding. No other party can adequately represent NWIGU member companies' interest and NWIGU will be affected by any Commission determination made in this proceeding. Thus, NWIGU's participation in this proceeding will assist the Commission in resolving the issues, and will not unreasonably broaden the issues, unduly burden the record, or delay the proceeding.

PAGE 2 - NWIGU PETITION TO INTERVENE & NOTICE OF INTENT

5. Through this pleading, NWIGU also files its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant ("Notice of Intent") in the above-captioned docket pursuant to OAR § 860-017-0050 and the Intervenor Funding Agreement ("IFA") approved by this Commission in Order No. 07-487. NWIGU is pre-certified to receive an Issue Fund Grant under the IFA. NWIGU designates the Avista Account as the account from which NWIGU intends to request an Issue Fund Grant.

WHEREFORE, NWIGU respectfully requests leave to intervene, requests all the rights of a party in this proceeding and provides its Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant in this proceeding.

DATED: December 4, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward A. Finklea, OSB # 84216

Chad M. Stokes, OSB # 00400

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Of Attorneys for the Northwest Industrial Gas Users

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I CERTIFY that I have on this day served the foregoing document upon all parties of record in this proceeding via electronic mail or by mailing a copy properly addressed with first class postage prepaid.

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	-

Dated in Portland, Oregon, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007.

Edward A. Finklea, OSB # 84216

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