

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**
2 **OF OREGON**

3 UG 325

4 In the Matter of)
5 AVISTA CORPORATION, dba AVISTA) SETTLEMENT STIPULATION
6 UTILITIES)
7)
8 Request for a General Rate Revision.)
9

10 This Settlement Stipulation (“Stipulation”) is entered into for the purpose of resolving all
11 issues in this Docket.

12 **PARTIES**

13 The Parties to this Stipulation are Avista Corporation (“Avista” or the “Company”), the
14 Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (“Staff”), the Oregon Citizens’ Utility Board
15 (“CUB”), and the Northwest Industrial Gas Users (“NWIGU”) (collectively, “Parties”). These
16 Parties represent all who intervened and appeared in this proceeding.
17

18 **BACKGROUND**

19 1. On November 30, 2016, Avista filed revised tariff schedules to effect a general rate
20 increase for Oregon retail customers of \$8,539,000, or 9.0 percent of its annual revenues. The
21 filing was suspended by the Commission on December 20, 2016, per its Order No. 16-495.

22 2. Pursuant to Administrative Law Judge Allan Arlow’s Prehearing Conference
23 Memorandum of December 29, 2016, Staff, CUB, and NWIGU filed Opening Testimony in
24 response to the Company’s original filing on March 1, 2017. On April 6, 2017, Avista filed its
25 Reply Testimony. On April 24, 2017, a settlement conference was held, attended by all Parties.

1 **Table No. 1:**

SUMMARY OF ADJUSTMENTS TO REVENUE REQUIREMENT AND RATE BASE (\$000s of Dollars)		
	Revenue Requirement	Rate Base
Amount as filed:	\$8,539	\$243,424
Adjustments:		
a Rate of Return	(1,854)	-
b Revenue Sensitive - Uncollectible rate	(41)	-
c Uncollectibles	(191)	-
d Revenue Sensitive - Commission & Franchise Fee rate	(34)	-
e Working Cash	(343)	(3,356)
f Interest Synchronization	311	-
g Wages, Salaries, Medical Benefits, and D&O Insurance	(593)	(27)
h Property Tax	(78)	-
i Amortization & Depreciation	(36)	39
j Regulatory Expense	(92)	
k Pensions	(264)	(170)
l Underground Storage	(21)	-
m Other Gas Supply Expense	(18)	-
n Load Forecasting	(394)	-
o Sales & Transportation	39	-
p Information Technology	(445)	(3,009)
q Cost Allocation	(187)	(1,449)
r Utility Plant in Service	(550)	(5,392)
s Other Revenues	(26)	-
t Atmospheric Testing	(66)	-
u Advertising and Promotional Expense	(5)	-
v Memberships and Dues	(6)	-
w Various A&G Expenses	(132)	-
x Materials & Supplies - Non-Fuel	(13)	(128)
Total Adjustments:	(\$5,039)	(\$13,492)
Adjusted Base Revenue Requirement & Rate Base - <u>Effective October 1, 2017:</u>	\$3,500	\$229,932

1 The following information provides an explanation for each of the adjustments in Table No. 1.
 2 Attachment A summarizes the Company's filed rate case and the stipulated adjustments. The
 3 numbers in parenthesis below represent the agreed-upon increase or decrease in revenue
 4 requirement associated with the item.

5 a. Rate of Return (-\$1,854,000): Table No. 2 below shows the Company's and Staff's
 6 proposed Cost of Capital. NWIGU proposed a rate of return on common equity of 9.4%.¹

7 **Table No. 2:**

AVISTA CORPORATION			
Proposed Cost of Capital			
	<u>Proposed Structure</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Weighted Cost</u>
Debt	50.0%	5.750%	2.88%
Common Equity	50.0%	9.9%	4.95%
TOTAL	<u>100.0%</u>	Rate of Return	<u>7.83%</u>

STAFF			
Proposed Cost of Capital (1)			
	<u>Proposed Structure</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Weighted Cost</u>
Debt	51.1%	5.095%	2.60%
Common Equity	48.9%	9.1%	4.43%
TOTAL	<u>100.0%</u>	Rate of Return	<u>7.03%</u>

(1) Staff/200, Muldoon/2, lines 8-9.

20 For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to an overall weighted cost of capital equal to 7.35%
 21 based on the following components: a capital structure consisting of 50% common stock equity
 22 and 50% long-term debt, return on equity of 9.4%, and a long-term debt cost of 5.30%, thereby

¹ NWIGU/100/Gorman/4, lines 3-10.

1 reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$1,854,000. This combination of capital structure
2 and capital costs is shown in Table No. 3 below:

3 **Table No. 3:**

AVISTA CORPORATION			
Agreed-Upon Cost of Capital			
	Percent of Total Capital	Cost	Weighted Cost
Long-Term Debt	50.00%	5.300%	2.650%
Common Equity	50.00%	9.400%	4.700%
Total	100.00%	Rate of Return	7.350%

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10 b. Revenue Sensitive – Uncollectible Rate (-\$41,000): In the Company’s direct filing,
11 the uncollectible rate used in the conversion factor was calculated using a three-year average on a
12 twelve-months ended June 30, 2016 basis, for a rate of 1.09760 percent. Staff proposed in its
13 opening testimony to apply a rate of 0.5496 percent, the rate set in Docket UG 288, noting a need
14 for clarification of the available data. In its reply testimony, the Company proposed using the net
15 write-off and direct revenue balances for the twelve months ended December 31, 2016, for a rate
16 of 0.6242 percent. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to adjust the uncollectible rate to
17 0.6335 percent, based on a three year average using the calendar years 2014, 2015, and 2016 for
18 the revenue sensitive rate and conversion factor.

19 c. Uncollectibles (-\$191,000): In the Company’s direct filing, uncollectible expense
20 was adjusted to a three-year average on a twelve-months ended June 30, 2016 basis. For settlement
21 purposes, the Parties accept Staff’s proposal to adjust uncollectible expense utilizing the
22 uncollectible rate of 0.6335 percent, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by
23 \$191,000.

1 d. OPUC & Franchise Fee Rate (\$-34,000): In the Company's direct filing, the
2 Company used an OPUC & Franchise Fee rate of 0.00275. For settlement purposes, the Parties
3 accept Staff's proposed OPUC & Franchise Fee rate of 0.0030, thereby reducing the proposed
4 revenue requirement by \$34,000.

5 e. Working Capital (-\$343,000): In the Company's direct filing, the Company proposed
6 a working capital rate base adjustment, excluding materials and supplies, using the Investor
7 Supplied Working Capital methodology. For settlement purposes, the Parties accept Staff's
8 proposal to remove the working capital rate base adjustment, thereby reducing the proposed
9 revenue requirement by \$343,000. This adjustment reduces rate base by \$3,536,000.

10 f. Interest Synchronization (+\$311,000): This adjustment includes the flow through of
11 the federal and state tax impact on rate base adjustments due to the agreed-upon cost of debt,
12 thereby increasing the proposed revenue requirement by \$311,000.

13 g. Wages, Salaries, Medical Benefits, and D&O Insurance (-\$593,000): Staff proposed
14 an adjustment to the Company's Wages and Salaries expense for reductions associated with the
15 Company's overall wages and salaries increases related to overtime, full-time employee
16 equivalents (FTE), associated payroll taxes, Officer and Non-Officer Incentive Pay, and Restricted
17 Stock Units. NWIGU also proposed an adjustment to the Company's Wages and Salaries expense
18 for Restricted Stock Units.² In addition, Staff proposed adjustments to the Company's medical
19 benefits expense, as well as proposing a 50 percent sharing of all layers of Directors' and Officers'
20 (D&O) Insurance expense. For settlement purposes the Parties agree to reductions to an agreed-
21 upon level of expense, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$593,000. The
22 adjustment also reduces rate base by \$27,000.

² NWIGU/100/Gorman/6-7.

1 h. Property Taxes (-\$78,000): Staff proposed an adjustment to property tax expense to
2 reflect the use of a three-year average of the property tax levy rate, which was applied to the agreed-
3 upon level of rate base. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree upon a lower level of property
4 tax expense, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$78,000.

5 i. Amortization & Depreciation (-\$36,000): For settlement purposes, the Parties agree
6 to an adjustment to amortization and depreciation expense associated with the Information
7 Technology, Cost Allocation and Utility Plant in Service adjustments discussed in items q. – s.
8 below. This adjustment reduces rate base by \$39,000 and revenue requirement by \$36,000.

9 j. Regulatory Expense (-\$92,000): Avista proposed to recover the level of regulatory
10 expense that occurred in the twelve-months ended June 30, 2016. Staff proposed an adjustment to
11 regulatory expense to reflect a three-year average level of expense. For settlement purposes, the
12 Parties agree to Staff's proposal to reduce the level of Regulatory Expense by \$92,000, thereby
13 reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$92,000.

14 k. Pension (-\$264,000): Staff proposed an adjustment to reflect an Expected Return on
15 Assets (EROA) on pensions and post-retirement medical benefits of 6.6 percent, as recommended
16 by Commission Staff and as approved by the Commission in Docket UG-288, OPUC Order No.
17 16-109. In its reply testimony, the Company accepted Staff's proposal. This adjustment reduces
18 rate base \$170,000, and reduces the proposed revenue requirement by \$264,000.

19 l. Underground Storage (-\$21,000): Staff proposed an adjustment to underground
20 storage expense to reflect a three-year average level of expense. In its reply testimony, the
21 Company accepted Staff's proposal to adjust the Underground Storage to reflect a three-year
22 average level of expense, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$21,000.

1 m. Other Gas Supply (-\$18,000): Staff proposed an adjustment to other gas supply
2 expense to reflect a three-year average level of expense. In its reply testimony, the Company
3 accepted Staff's proposal to adjust the Other Gas Supply to reflect a three-year average level of
4 expense, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by \$18,000.

5 n. Load Forecasting (-\$394,000): After reviewing the Company's filed load forecast,
6 Staff proposed certain recommendations which would increase the level of customer usage in the
7 rate effective period. In its reply testimony, the Company accepted Staff's adjustments to the
8 Company's load forecasting calculation, thereby reducing the proposed revenue requirement by
9 \$394,000.

10 o. Sales & Transportation (+\$39,000): As a result of the changes made to the load
11 forecasting adjustment in item n above, Staff proposed an adjustment to the Company's Sales &
12 Transportation revenue. In its reply testimony, the Company accepted Staff's proposal to Sales &
13 Transportation revenue as a result of the changes in the load forecasting calculation, thereby
14 increasing the proposed revenue requirement by \$39,000.

15 p. Information Technology Adjustment (-\$445,000): Staff's testimony proposed
16 reductions to information technology and associated general plant rate base additions and
17 expenses. CUB's testimony also proposed reductions to information technology and associated
18 general plant rate base additions.³ For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to a rate base
19 reduction of \$3,009,000 associated with information technology and general plant rate base
20 additions (e.g., Technology Expansion, Meter Data Management, Next Generation Radio System,
21 and Long-Term Campus Restructuring, among others) and a reduction to expense associated with

³ CUB/100/McGovern/56.

1 capital investment. This adjustment reduces the revenue requirement associated with information
2 technology and general plant rate base additions by \$445,000.

3 q. Cost Allocation Adjustment (-\$187,000): Staff's testimony proposed reductions to
4 common plant rate base as well as reductions to expense, based on its review of the Company's
5 allocations of these items by jurisdiction and service. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to
6 a reduction to common plant rate base (e.g., common warehouse space and main campus
7 expansion, among other items) of \$1,449,000 and a reduction to expense of \$38,000. This
8 adjustment reduces the revenue requirement associated with common plant rate base and common
9 expense by \$187,000. Avista agrees to provide business descriptions in the description field of
10 account transactions sufficient to allow internal and external auditing of jurisdictional assignment
11 and allocation.

12 r. Utility Plant in Service Adjustment (-\$550,000): Staff's testimony proposed
13 reductions to rate base for natural gas utility plant in service. CUB's testimony also proposed
14 reductions to rate base for natural gas utility plant additions. For settlement purposes, the Parties
15 agree to a reduction to rate base of \$5,392,000 for natural gas utility plant (e.g., the Bonanza and
16 Old Midland Road service extensions, the Natural Gas Revenue Growth program, and the Natural
17 Gas Pipe Replacement for Street and Highway Moves program, among others). This adjustment
18 reduces the revenue requirement associated with natural gas utility plant in service rate base by
19 \$550,000.

20 s. Other Revenues – Miscellaneous Revenue (-\$26,000): Staff proposed an adjustment
21 to other revenues to reflect increased revenues from reconnect fees. For settlement purposes, the
22 Parties agree to adjust Other Revenues to reflect an increased level of collection fees, thereby
23 resulting in a decrease to revenue requirement by \$26,000.

1 t. Atmospheric Testing (-\$66,000): After the Company filed its general rate case,
2 Avista discovered that the level of Atmospheric Testing expense included in its initial filing was
3 too high due to a calculation error. In Staff's direct testimony, it proposed to include the
4 Company's correction for a reduction to expense of approximately \$62,000 as well as an additional
5 adjustment to the Company's calculated inspection point growth rate. In its reply testimony, the
6 Company accepted Staff's proposal, resulting in a reduction of \$66,000 in revenue requirement.

7 u. Advertising and Promotional Expense (-\$5,000): Staff proposed to remove certain
8 expenses Staff identified as promotional expenses. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to
9 remove these expenses, thereby reducing revenue requirement by \$5,000.

10 v. Membership and Dues (-\$6,000): Staff proposed to remove all subscription expenses
11 and 25 percent of dues associated with membership in a trade organization (Northwest Gas
12 Association). On settlement, the Parties agree that 25 percent of the dues associated with the trade
13 organization should be removed.

14 w. Various Administrative & General (A&G) Expenses (-\$132,000): Staff proposed to
15 remove 50 percent of miscellaneous A&G expenses, including those for employee business meals,
16 airfare, lodging, vehicle and transportation, office supplies, and other miscellaneous expenses. In
17 its reply testimony, the Company accepted Staff's proposal to remove 50 percent of expenses
18 associated with employee business meals. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree to remove 50
19 percent of the employee business meals, as well as 25 percent of the remaining miscellaneous
20 A&G expenses identified above, thereby resulting in a decrease to revenue requirement by
21 \$132,000.

22 x. Materials & Supplies (-\$13,000): Staff proposed a reduction to non-fuel material and
23 supplies to reflect a three-year average level of expense. For settlement purposes, the Parties agree

1 to Staff’s use of a three-year average level of expense. This adjustment reduces rate base \$128,000
2 and revenue requirement by \$13,000.

3 5. **Proposed Effective Date:** The proposed rate effective date is October 1, 2017. Upon
4 approval of this Stipulation, Avista will file revised rate schedules reflecting rates as agreed upon
5 in this Stipulation as a compliance filing, effective October 1, 2017.

6 6. **Rate Spread:**

7 The Parties support the spread of the October 1, 2017 overall billed revenue increase of
8 \$3.5 million, or 3.7 percent, to the Company’s service schedules as follows (and as shown in
9 Attachment B to the Settlement Stipulation):

10 **Table No. 4: Agreed-Upon Rate Spread**

	Rate	Revenue	% Increase in	% Increase in
<u>Schedule Description</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Base Revenue</u>	<u>Billed Revenue*</u>
		<u>(\$000s)</u>		
11 Residential	410	\$1,693	4.3%	2.8%
12 General Service	420	\$1,807	11.8%	6.8%
13 Large General Service	424	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
14 Interruptible Service	440	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
15 Seasonal Service	444	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
16 Transportation Service	456	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Total		<u>\$3,500</u>	<u>5.9%</u>	<u>3.7%</u>

17 * Billed Revenue includes base rate revenue plus revenues associated with natural gas supply, energy
18 efficiency, intervenor funding, and other items.

19 7. **Rate Design:**

20 The Parties support the following rate design: For Residential Service Schedule 410, the
21 monthly customer basic charge will be increased by \$1 per month, from \$9.00 to \$10.00 per month.

1 The monthly customer charge for General Service Schedule 420 will remain at \$17.00 per month.⁴
2 Attachment C to the Settlement Stipulation provides the agreed-upon base rates.

3
4 **8. Residential Bill Change:**

5 Based on an average usage level of 47 therms per month, the average bill for a Schedule
6 410 residential customer, which includes both base and adder schedules⁵, would increase \$1.57
7 per month, or 2.8 percent, from \$56.18 to \$57.75.⁶

8 **9. Decoupling:**

9 Attachment D to the Settlement Stipulation reflects the new decoupling base effective
10 October 1, 2017 that is supported by the Parties. The new decoupling base provides the “Monthly
11 Allowed Customers” and “Monthly Decoupled Revenue per Customer” which incorporate the
12 effects of the settlement revenue requirement and billing determinants. Avista will make any
13 necessary changes to reflect in Schedule 475 how new customers are treated as compared to
14 existing customers in the decoupling mechanism.

15 **10. Capital Projects & Officer Attestations:**

16 The Parties agree that Avista will file, prior to October 1, 2017, an officer attestation that
17 the following projects, individually, are complete and have been placed into service:

- 18 • Project # 3209 – Pierce Road La Grande HP Reinforcement (associated revenue
19 requirement of \$364,000).
- 20 • Project #3057 – Klamath Falls Gas High Pressure (HP) Pipeline Remediation
21 (associated revenue requirement of \$156,000).

⁴ The agreed-upon billing determinants reflect Staff’s load adjustments as discussed in Section 4 item o above.

⁵ “Adder” schedules recover costs associated with natural gas supply (Schedules 461 and 462), energy efficiency (Schedules 469 and 478), intervenor funding (Schedule 476), and other items.

⁶ In terms of the increase in base revenue (excluding all adder schedules) the increase is 4.3%.

- 1 • Project #2586 – Meter Data Management (associated revenue requirement of
2 \$387,000).

3 The Parties agree that if one or more of the three projects listed above is not complete and in-
4 service by the October 1, 2017 effective date for new base rates, the revenue requirement
5 associated with the project shall be removed from test year rate base and therefore from the October
6 1, 2017 base rate change.

7 The Parties further agree that if one or more of the projects is not complete by October 1,
8 2017, but is otherwise completed and placed in service prior to November 1, 2017 (the rate
9 effective date for the Company’s annual Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment and other associated
10 filings), the Company will file an officer attestation that the project is complete and in service.
11 Project costs, up to the agreed-upon project revenue requirement provided above, associated with
12 any delayed project that is attested to as being in service by November 1, 2017 will be recovered
13 through a separate tariff beginning November 1, 2017 (Schedule 495).⁷ The associated revenue
14 requirement will be spread to the schedules in the same manner as the revenue requirement in this
15 case as shown in Table No. 4 above.

16 If one or more of the projects is not complete and placed in service prior to November 1,
17 2017, Avista will need to support any recovery of capital costs associated with that project in a
18 subsequent general rate filing.

19 **11. Load Forecast Refinements:**

20 The Parties have agreed on the Load Forecasting adjustment issue in this general rate case
21 as discussed in Section 4 above. Further, in Staff’s opening testimony, Staff made three
22 recommendations to improve the forecast models’ accuracy: (1) Limit intervention variables to

⁷ This method of attestation and cost recovery has been utilized in prior general rate cases, such as in Docket Nos. UE 294 and UG 181.

1 those with sufficient theoretical justification, (2) Select ARIMA model structures to minimize the
2 information loss, and (3) Include economic forecast drivers related to the number of large
3 commercial customers. The Company agrees to the following refinements, which it will include
4 in its next load forecast, currently planned to be completed in June of 2017:

- 5 a. The Company will add employment as an economic driver to the forecast of Schedule
6 424 commercial customers for the Medford, Roseburg, and Klamath regions.
- 7 b. When selecting forecasting models, the Company will use the Akaike Information
8 Criteria (AIC) rather than the root-mean-square error (RMSE) method. However, the
9 Company will continue to select models “by hand” rather than using an automatic
10 selection routine. The Company’s reply testimony states that this reflects the need to
11 carefully consider each model in light of the empirical difficulties (outliers, missing
12 data, etc.) that often arise when modeling with billed data.

13 **General Terms and Conditions**

14 12. The Parties agree that this Stipulation is in the public interest and results in an overall
15 fair, just and reasonable outcome, consistent with ORS 756.040. The Parties recommend that the
16 Commission issue an order adopting the Stipulation.

17 13. The Parties agree that this Stipulation represents a compromise in the positions of the
18 Parties. Without the written consent of all Parties, evidence of conduct or statements, including
19 but not limited to term sheets or other documents created solely for use in settlement conferences
20 in this Docket, are not admissible in the instant or any subsequent proceeding unless independently
21 discoverable or offered for other purposes allowed under ORS 40.190. Nothing in this paragraph
22 precludes a party from stating as a factual matter what the Parties agreed to in this Stipulation or
23 in the Parties’ testimony supporting the stipulation.

1 14. Further, this Stipulation sets forth the entire agreement between the Parties and
2 supersedes any and all prior communications, understandings, or agreements, oral or written,
3 between the Parties pertaining to the subject matter of this Stipulation.

4 15. This Stipulation will be offered into the record in this proceeding as evidence
5 pursuant to OAR 860-001-0350(7). The Parties agree to support this Stipulation throughout this
6 proceeding and any appeal. The Parties further agree to provide witnesses to sponsor the
7 Stipulation at any hearing held, and, in a Party's discretion, to provide a representative at the
8 hearing authorized to respond to the Commission's questions on the Party's position as may be
9 appropriate.

10 16. If this Stipulation is challenged by any other party to this proceeding, the Parties to
11 this Stipulation reserve the right to cross-examine witnesses and put on such case as they deem
12 appropriate to respond fully to the issues presented, including the right to raise issues that are
13 incorporated in the Settlement embodied in this Stipulation. Notwithstanding this reservation of
14 rights, the Parties agree that they will continue to support the Commission's adoption of the terms
15 of this Stipulation.

16 17. The Parties have negotiated this Stipulation as an integrated document. If the
17 Commission rejects all or any material portion of this Stipulation, or imposes additional material
18 conditions in approving this Stipulation, any Party disadvantaged by such action shall have the
19 rights provided in OAR 860-001-0350(9) and shall be entitled to seek reconsideration or appeal of
20 the Commission's Order.

21 18. By entering into this Stipulation, no Party shall be deemed to have approved,
22 admitted, or consented to the facts, principles, methods, or theories employed by any other Party

1 in arriving at the terms of this Stipulation. No Party shall be deemed to have agreed that any
2 provision of this Stipulation is appropriate for resolving the issues in any other proceeding.

3 19. This Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed counterpart shall
4 constitute an original document. The Parties further agree that any electronic copy of a Party's
5 signature is valid and binding to the same extent as an original signature.

6 20. This Stipulation may not be modified or amended except by written agreement among
7 all Parties who have executed it.

8 This Stipulation is entered into by each Party on the date entered below such Party's
9 signature.

10 AVISTA CORPORATION

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

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12
13
14 By:  _____
15 David J. Meyer

By: _____
Johanna Riemenschneider

16
17 Date: May 16, 2017

Date: _____

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20 NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF
OREGON

21
22
23 By: _____
24 Chad M. Stokes

By: _____
Michael Goetz

25
26 Date: _____

Date: _____

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

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14 By: _____
15 David J. Meyer

By: 
Johanna Riemenschneider

16
17 Date: _____

Date: 5/15/17

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20 NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF
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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

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12

13

14 By: _____
15 David J. Meyer

By: _____
Johanna Riemenschneider

16

17 Date: _____

Date: _____

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20 NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF
OREGON

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23 By:  _____
24 Chad M. Stokes

By: _____
Michael Goetz

25

26 Date: 5/15/17 _____

Date: _____

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10 AVISTA CORPORATION

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

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14 By: _____
15 David J. Meyer

By: _____
Johanna Riemenschneider

16

17 Date: _____

Date: _____

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20 NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS

CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD OF
OREGON

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23 By: _____
24 Chad M. Stokes

By: Michael P. Goetz
Michael Goetz

25

26 Date: _____

Date: May 18, 2017



Avista Corp.
1411 East Mission P.O. Box 3727
Spokane, Washington 99220-0500
Telephone 509-489-0500
Toll Free 800-727-9170

May 16, 2017

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Filing Center
PO Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148

RE: UG 325 – Settlement Stipulation

Attached is an electronic copy of the Settlement Stipulation and Motion to Admit the Settlement Stipulation in Docket UG-325. As noted in the Motion, the Parties will endeavor to file Joint Testimony in support of the Settlement Stipulation, on or before June 1, 2017.

Please direct any questions regarding this filing to Patrick Ehrbar at (509) 495-8620.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David J. Meyer", is written over the typed name.

David J. Meyer
Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory
and Governmental Affairs

Enclosure

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UG 325

In the Matter of
AVISTA CORPORATION, dba AVISTA
UTILITIES
Request for a General Rate Revision

MOTION TO ADMIT SETTLEMENT
STIPULATION

Pursuant to OAR 860-001-0350(7)(b), Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon, Northwest Industrial Gas Users, and Avista Corporation ("the Parties") offer the Settlement Stipulation, filed on May 16, 2017. The Parties will endeavor to file Joint Testimony in support of the Settlement Stipulation, on or before June 1, 2017.

DATED: May 16, 2017

AVISTA CORPORATION

Dated: May 16, 2017

By: David Meyer

Signed: 