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July 31, 2014

Advice No. 14-04-G/ UG-____ (Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment Filing)

Public Utility Commission of Oregon 3930 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302-1166

Attention: Filing Center

Pursuant to OAR 860-022-0070 and Order Nos. 08-504, 11-196 and 14-238 in Docket UM 1286, Avista Utilities hereby submits an original and 10 copies of the following listed tariff sheets applicable to its Oregon natural gas operations along with three (3) copies of supporting workpapers (which are not a part of the official filing). The Company requests that the following tariff sheets become effective on November 1, 2014:

Oregon PUC <u>Sheet No.</u>	Title of Sheet	Canceling Oregon PUC <u>Sheet No.</u>
Nine Revision	Purchased Gas Cost	Supplemental Eighth Revision
Tariff Sheet 461	Adjustment Provision	Tariff Sheet 461
Seventh Revision	Purchased Gas Cost	Supplemental Sixth Revision
Tariff Sheet 461A	Adjustment Provision	Tariff Sheet 461A
Fourth Revision Tariff Sheet 462	Gas Cost Rate Adjustment	Supplemental Third Revision Tariff Sheet 462

This filing is a Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) to change rates within Avista Utilities' natural gas service schedules to reflect the projected cost of natural gas pursuant to tariff Schedule 461, "Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment Provision". Schedule 461 sets forth the estimated purchased natural gas costs for the forthcoming year (November 1, 2014 through October 1, 2015). The difference between the actual cost of natural gas purchased and the amount collected from customers (i.e., the amortization rate pertaining to the PGA balancing account) are passed through to customers through Schedule 462, "Gas Cost Rate Adjustment".

Tables 1 through 3 below summarize the changes in the 1) forward looking commodity costs included in Schedule 461, 2) the demand costs included in Schedule 461, and 3) the combined changes to Schedule 461 (both commodity <u>and demand</u>):

Table 1 - Schedule 461 Commodity

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	<u>Change</u>
410, 420, 424, 444	\$0.39869	\$0.43493	\$0.03624
440	\$0.39869	\$0.43493	\$0.03624

Table 2 - Schedule 461 Demand

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	<u>Change</u>
410, 420, 424, 444	\$0.21200	\$0.20914	-\$0.00286
440	\$0.00000	\$0.00000	\$0.00000

Table 3 - Schedule 461 Commodity + Demand

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	<u>Change</u>
410, 420, 424, 444	\$0.61069	\$0.64407	\$0.03338
440	\$0.39869	\$0.43493	\$0.03624

Commodity Costs (Schedule 461)

As shown in the Table 1 above, the estimated commodity cost (WACOG) change is an increase of 3.624 cents per therm. The proposed WACOG is 43.493 cents per therm compared to the present WACOG of 39.869 cents per therm included in rates. The winter of 2013-2014 was significantly colder than normal not only in the western United States but nationally. The colder than normal weather led to an increase in overall natural gas demand and a heavy reliance on natural gas storage reserves. Natural gas storage both nationally and in the west were drawn down well below their five year average balance. The cold weather and increased demand increased wholesale natural gas prices both in the winter as well as in the summer as more natural gas is required to replenish storage facilities. Storage may not be full by the coming winter, and this storage imbalance may persist through the coming winter. While prices are currently forecast to remain higher throughout the upcoming winter, natural gas prices in future winter periods are below the upcoming winter. As a result, the market prices indicate that the storage imbalance issue is temporary, and the long-term trend of lower priced gas should return.

Avista has been hedging natural gas on both a periodic and discretionary basis throughout 2014 for the forthcoming PGA year. Approximately 43% of estimated annual load requirements for the PGA year (November 2014 through October 2015) will be hedged at a fixed price, comprised of: 1) volumes hedged for a term of one year or less and 2) volumes from prior multi-year hedges. Through June 30, 2014, a majority of the planned hedge volumes for the PGA year have been executed at a weighted average price of \$4.26 per dekatherm (\$0.426 per therm).

The Company has approximately 920,000 dekatherms of underground storage capacity at Jackson Prairie available for its Oregon customers¹. Total underground storage capacity represents approximately 11% of annual load requirements (19% of load requirements during the Dec.-Mar. withdrawal period). The projected storage costs as of June 30, 2014 for all storage volumes is \$4.30 per dekatherm.

As required by Commission Order 14-238, the Company used a 60-day (ending June 30, 2014) historical average of forward prices weighted by supply basin to determine the estimated cost associated with index/spot volumes. These index/spot volumes represent approximately 46% of estimated annual volumes and the annual weighted average price for these volumes is \$4.08 per dekatherm (\$0.408 per therm).

The information contained in the Company's responses to "Natural Gas Portfolio Development Guidelines" describes the Company's Natural Gas Procurement Plan ("Procurement Plan"). The Company's Procurement Plan uses a diversified approach to procure natural gas for the upcoming year. While the Procurement Plan generally incorporates a structured approach for the hedging portion of the portfolio, the Company exercises flexibility and discretion in all areas of the plan based on changes in the wholesale market. The Company meets with the Commission Staff quarterly² to discuss the state of the wholesale market and the status of the Company's Procurement Plan, among other things. Should there be a deviation from the Procurement Plan due to a change in market dynamics etc., the Company documents and communicates any such changes with the Risk Management Committee and provides updates to Commission Staff.

Demand Costs (Schedule 461)

Demand costs reflect the cost of pipeline transportation to the Company's system, as well as fixed costs associated with natural gas storage. As shown in the Table 2 above, demand costs are expected to be relatively stable, with the Company proposing only a <u>slight</u> decrease of 0.286 cents per therm. No significant pipeline rate changes are anticipated for the upcoming PGA year. The primary reason for the decrease in the demand rate per therm is due to the cost of the fixed price contracts being spread over a slightly higher level of natural gas retail sales.

Amortization of Deferral Accounts (Schedule 462)

Tables 4 through 6 below summarize the changes in the commodity and demand amortization rates included in Schedule 462, and the combined change to Schedule 462 (both commodity and demand):

¹ At the present time, Avista Utilities owns a total of 8,528,013 dekatherms (Dth) of capacity. This capacity comes with a withdrawal capability of 398,667 Dth per day (deliverability). Oregon's current share of that capacity is 823,337 Dth and 52,000 Dth of deliverability. Additionally, the Company has leased an additional 95,565 Dth of Capacity (2,623 Dth of deliverability) from Jackson Prairie for the benefit of Oregon customers. The combined leased and owned storage provides Oregon customers storage capacity of 918,902 Dth and deliverability of 54,623 Dth per day.

² The Northwest Industrial Gas Users (NWIGU) and Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) are invited to, and attend, each Quarterly meeting.

Present	Proposed	<u>Change</u>
-\$0.00728	\$0.05099	\$0.05827
-\$0.00728	\$0.05099	\$0.05827
dula 462 Doma		
	-\$0.00728 -\$0.00728	-\$0.00728 \$0.05099

Table 4 - Schedule 462 Commodity Amortization

Table 5 - Schedule 462 Demand Amortization

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	<u>Change</u>
410, 420, 424, 444	-\$0.07737	-\$0.05226	\$0.02511
440	\$0.00000	\$0.00000	\$0.00000

Rate Schedule	Present	Proposed	Change
410, 420, 424, 444	-\$0.08465	-\$0.00127	\$0.08338
440	-\$0.00728	\$0.05099	\$0.05827

As shown in the Table 4 above, the current Commodity Amortization amount approved in the Company's 2013 PGA is a refund rate of approximately 0.7 cents per therm. For reasons discussed earlier in this letter, actual wholesale natural gas prices were higher than the level approved in the Company's 2013 PGA. As a result, commodity costs exceeded collections from customers and created a surcharge deferral balance of approximately \$4.1 million or 5.1 cents per therm.

As shown in Table 5 above, the current Demand Amortization is a refund rate of approximately 7.7 cents per therm, based on a deferral balance of approximately \$6.5 million. The amortization balance currently being amortized was primarily the result of the expiration of a contracted demand rate with Gas Transmission Northwest (GTN) for the Medford Lateral. The actual demand balance included in the Company's filing is approximately \$4.0 million. The new balance primarily is the result of the unamortized balance from the 2013 PGA, as the new cut-off date of June 30 is to be used for PGA amortizations starting with this filing.³ In prior years, the Company would have used estimated amortization balances through September 30.

With the exception of Schedule 440, the overall net impact as it relates to the combined commodity and demand amortization rates included in Schedule 462 is an increase (i.e., a lower rebate rate) of approximately 8.4 cents per therm as shown in Table 6 above.

<u>3% Test</u>

Pursuant to ORS 757.259 and OAR 860-027-0300, the overall annual average rate impact of the amortizations authorized under the statutes may not exceed three percent of the natural gas utility's gross revenues for the preceeding calendar year, unless the Commission finds that allowing a higher amortization rate is reasonable under the circumstances. As shown on Attachment A of the Company's PGA workpapers, total gross revenues for calendar year 2013 was \$185,283,342. The total amortization revenue requested for the "Prior Period Gas Cost

³ See Order No. 14-238 in Docket UM-1286.

Deferral" as shown in Attachment A is \$98,921. The resulting annual average rate impact from the PGA amortization is 0.1% and falls within the requirements of the statute⁴.

The combination of the "Prior Period Gas Cost Deferral" and the "Non-Gas Cost Amortization" related to the Company's Demand Side Management filing also made on July 31, 2014, is a total amortization revenue request of \$1,484,787. The resulting annual average rate impact from both amortizations is 0.8% and falls within the requirements of the statute⁵.

Other Information

This filing reflects an overall annual revenue *increase* of \$9.64 million, or 10.4% effective November 1, 2014. After combining the impact of this PGA filing with the <u>two other</u> regulatory filings made today⁶, a residential customer using an average of 47 therms a month could expect their bill to *increase* by \$5.45, or 9.7 percent, for a revised monthly bill of \$61.42 effective November 1, 2014.

Pursuant to OAR 860-022-0025 and OAR 860-022-0030, the total number of customers affected by the three filings, and the annual revenue before and after the impact of the proposed rate changes, are as follows:

	Average Number of
Rate Schedule	Customers
Schedule 410	86,184
Schedule 420	11,322
Schedule 424	81
Schedule 440	35
Schedule 444	3

Sch		Present	Proposed		Revenue	Percent	Use		Present	Р	roposed	Change to	% Change
No	Description	Revenues	Revenues	I	ncr (Decr)	Incr (Decr)	(Therms)	Mo	onthly Cost	Mo	nthly Cost	Monthly Cost	Monthly Cost
410	Residential	\$ 58,136,705	\$ 63,840,473	\$	5,703,768	9.8%	47	\$	55.97	\$	61.42	\$ 5.45	9.7%
420	General	\$ 25,982,745	\$ 29,051,037	\$	3,068,293	11.8%	193	\$	190.85	\$	213.39	\$ 22.54	11.8%
424	Large General	\$ 3,053,131	\$ 3,565,815	\$	512,685	16.8%	4,289	\$	2,985.01	\$	3,485.78	\$ 500.77	16.8%
				\$	-								
440	Interruptible	\$ 1,990,047	\$ 2,360,515	\$	370,468	18.6%	6,101	\$	3,097.36	\$	3,673.95	\$ 576.59	18.6%
				\$	-								
444	Seasonal	\$ 181,228	\$ 210,779	\$	29,551	16.3%	5,558	\$	3,979.82	\$	4,628.75	\$ 648.93	16.3%

Below is a table showing the <u>net impact</u> to the Company's customers, by rate schedule, inclusive of <u>all of the filings</u> made by the Company on July 31, 2014:

⁴ Please see attachment C included in the Purchase Gas Adjustment workpapers.

⁵ Id.

⁶ On July 31, 2014, Avista filed to update effective November 1, 2014 Schedule 476 (Intervenor Funding Schedule - Advice No. 14-05-G), Schedule 478 (DSM Cost Recovery - Advice No. 14-06-G)

Rate Schedule	Proposed Rate Change ⁷
Schedule 410	9.7%
Schedule 420	11.7%
Schedule 424	16.6%
Schedule 440	18.8%
Schedule 444	16.1%
Schedule 456	1.05%

Included with this filing is the information in response to the Natural Gas Portfolio Development Guidelines and the PGA Filing Guidelines, as approved by the Commission in Order No. 09-248 and as amended in Order No. 10-197, Order No. 11-196 and Order No. 14-238. The Company will issue a media release coincident with this filing and provide notice to customers via a newspaper advertisement following the updated PGA filing in October.

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

Sincerely,

Kelly Norwood

Kelly O. Norwood Vice President, State and Federal Regulation

⁷ Includes filed rate changes to Schedules 461, 462, 476, and 478.

November 1, 2014 As of July 31, 2014 (As filed – these are not approved rate changes)

1	Company	Avista	
2	Docket Numbers	UG-XXX	
3	Advice No.	14-04-G	
		Line Courses	
4	Principal Analysts	Lisa Gorsuch	
5	Current Customer Charge - Residential (\$)	\$8.00	
6	Average Monthly Therm Use (Residential)	47	
7	Current Energy Charge/Rate (dollars/therm)	Billing - \$1.02073 Base - \$0.46998	
8	PGA Base Gas Cost Change - Residential (dollars/therm)	\$0.03624	Gas Cost Only
9	Other Temporary Rate Increments - Residential (dollars/therm)	(\$0.00286) Demand \$0.08338 Amort	Demand, Amortization, Only
10	Permanent Base Rate Adjustment – Residential (dollars/therm)	\$0.00	
11	Overall Change - Residential Rate (dollars/therm)	\$0.11676	Gas, Demand and Amortization
12	Proposed Tariff Rate - Residential (dollars/therm)	\$1.13668	Including all filings (Gas and Non-gas) – See Attachment B in workpapers
13	Average monthly bill change for typical residential customer (\$/bill on an annual basis)	\$5.45	Including all filings (Gas and Non-gas) – See Attachment D in workpapers
14	Overall Change - Residential Revenue (%)	11.4%	Including all filings (Gas and Non-gas) – See Attachment D in workpapers
15	Overall Change – Commercial & Industrial firm (%)	Commercial = 12.5% Industrial = 16.9%	Including all filings (Gas and Non-gas) – See Attachment D
16	WACOG (dollars/therm) – not revenue-sensitized	\$0.42232	
	Comments – Other (continued)		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this day served Avista Utilities', a division of Avista Corp, 2014 Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment upon the parties listed below by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid and by electronic mail or CD.

Bob Jenks Catriona McCracken Nadine Hanhan Citizens' Utilities Board 610 SW Broadway, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97205-3404 dockets@oregoncub.org bob@OregonCUB.org catriona@OregonCUB.org nadine@OregonCUB.org

Edward A. Finklea Executive Director Northwest Industrial Gas Users 326 Fifth Street Lake Oswego, OR 97034 efinklea@nwigu.org

Chad Stokes Tommy A. Brooks Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen & Lloyd, LLP 1001 SW 5th, Suite 2000 Portland, OR 97204-1136 <u>cstokes@cablehuston.com</u> <u>tbrooks@cablehuston.com</u>

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Spokane, Washington this 31st day of July, 2014.

Patrick Ehrbar Manager, Rates & Tariffs

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

AVISTA UTILITIES ADVICE NO. 14-04-G

Tariff Sheets

July 31, 2014

P.U.C. OR. No.5

Ninth Revision Sheet 461 canceling Supplemental Eighth Revision Sheet 461

AVISTA CORPORATION dba Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 461

PURCHASED GAS COST ADJUSTMENT PROVISION – OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

This schedule applies to all schedules for natural gas sales service within the entire territory served by the Company in the State of Oregon. The definitions and provisions described herein shall establish the natural gas costs for Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) deferral purposes on a monthly basis.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this provision is to allow the Company, on established Adjustment Dates, to adjust rate schedules for changes in the cost of gas purchased in accordance with the rate adjustment provisions described herein.

RATE:

(a) The rates of gas Schedules 410, 420, 424 and 444 are to be increased by \$0.64407 per therm in all blocks of these rate schedules.

(b) The rate of gas Schedule 440 is to be increased by \$0.43493 per therm in all blocks of these rate schedules.

(c) The rates of transportation Schedule 456 are to be increased by \$0.0000 per therm in all blocks.

A. DEFINITIONS:

1. <u>Actual Commodity Cost</u>: The natural gas supply costs for commodity actually paid for the month, including Financial Transactions, fuel use, and distribution system lost and unaccounted for natural gas (LUFG) plus Gas Storage Facilities withdrawals, plus or minus the cost of gas associated with pipeline imbalances, plus propane costs, plus odorization charges, less Commodity Off-System Sales Revenues received during the month, plus actual Variable Transportation Costs, plus commodity-related reservation charges, less all transportation demand charges embedded in commodity costs.

2. <u>Commodity Off-System Sales Revenues</u>: Revenues received from the sale of natural gas to a party other than the Company's Oregon sales customers less costs associated with the sales transactions.

3. <u>Variable Transportation Costs</u>: Variable transportation costs, including pipeline volumetric charges and other variable costs related to volumes of commodity delivered to sales customers.

4. <u>Actual Non-Commodity Cost</u>: Actual Non-Commodity gas costs shall be equal to actual Demand Costs, less actual Capacity Release Benefits, plus or minus actual pipeline refunds or surcharges.

5. <u>Demand Costs:</u> Fixed monthly pipeline costs and other demand-related natural gas costs such as capacity reservation charges, plus any transportation demand charges embedded in commodity cost.

Advice No. 14-04-G Issued July 31, 2014 Effective For Service On & After November 1, 2014



(I)

P.U.C. OR. No.5

AVISTA CORPORATION dba Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 461 (continued)

PURCHASED GAS COST ADJUSTMENT PROVISION – OREGON

6. <u>Capacity Release Benefits</u>: This component includes revenues associated with pipeline capacity releases. The benefits to Customers, through the monthly PGA deferrals, shall be 100% of the capacity release revenues up to the full pipeline rate, and 80% of the capacity release revenues in excess of full pipeline rates. Capacity release revenues shall be quantified on a transaction-by-transaction basis.

7. <u>Estimated Weighted Average Cost Of Gas (WACOG)</u>: The estimated WACOG is calculated by the following formula: (Forecasted Purchases at Adjusted Contract Prices) divided by forecasted sales.

- a. "Forecasted Purchases" means November 1 October 31 forecasted sales, plus a percentage for "Distribution System Unaccounted for Gas."
- b. "Distribution System Unaccounted for Gas" means the 5-year average of actual unaccounted for gas, not to exceed 2%.
- c. "Adjusted Contract Prices" means contract prices that are adjusted by each associated Canadian pipeline's published (closest to August 1) fuel-in-kind and line loss amount provided for by tariff, and by each associated U.S. pipeline's tariffed rate.

The Estimated WACOG per therm is as follows:

With Gross Revenue Factor	\$0.43493
Without Gross Revenue Factor	\$0.42232

8. <u>Estimated Non-Commodity Cost per Therm</u>: The estimated Non-Commodity Cost per therm shall be equal to estimated Demand Costs, less estimated Capacity Release Benefits, plus or minus estimated pipeline refunds or surcharges, divided by November 1 – October 31 forecasted sales.

The Estimated Non-Commodity Cost per therm is as follows:

With Gross Revenue Factor	\$0.20914
Without Gross Revenue Factor	\$0.20308

9. <u>Forecasted Monthly Calendar Sales Volumes</u>: Forecasted billed sales therms, adjusted for estimated unbilled therms, for Schedules 410, 420, 424, 440, and 444.

Kelly O. Norwood, V.P. State & Federal Regulation

Advice No. 14-04-G Issued July 31, 2014

Avista Utilities

Issued by

By

Effective For Service On & After November 1, 2014 (l) (l)

> (D) (D)

P.U.C. OR. No.5

Fourth Revision Sheet 462 Canceling Supplemental Third Revision Sheet 462

AVISTA CORPORATION dba Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 462

GAS COST RATE ADJUSTMENT - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

This schedule applies to all schedules for natural gas sales service within the entire territory served by the Company in the State of Oregon.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this provision is to allow the Company to pass through the differences between the actual cost of gas purchased and transported for customer usage and the amount collected from customers. These differences are accumulated in a sub-account of Account 191 for later refund or surcharge to customers.

RATE:

- (I) (a) The rates of gas Schedules 410, 420, 424 and 444 are to be decreased by \$0.00127 per therm.
- (b) The rate of gas Schedule 440 is to be increased by \$0.05099 per therm.

AMORTIZATION OF ACCOUNT 191 SUB-ACCOUNT DEFERRALS:

The Account 191 sub-account deferred balances approved for surcharge or refund to customers shall include interest calculated on a monthly basis using the interest rate(s) approved by the Commission.

The surcharge or refund rate shall be adjusted annually as part of the annual Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) filing.

AMOUNT OF ADJUSTMENT:

The amount of adjustment to be made to customers' rates shall consist of the sum of the changes in the Embedded Commodity Cost and Non-Commodity Cost deferral accounts and the change in amortization rates of the Account 191 sub-accounts, as well as other gas cost related deferral accounts as the Commission may approve.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:

This schedule is subject to the General Rules and Regulations contained in this tariff and to those prescribed by regulatory authorities. This schedule is an automatic adjustment clause (PGA) as described in ORS 757.210(1) and is subject to the customer notification requirements as described in OAR 860-022-0017.

Advice No. 14-04-G Issued July 31, 2014 Effective For Service On & After November 1, 2014

Issued by Avista Utilities

By Kelly Norwood, V.P. State & Federal Regulation

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

> AVISTA UTILITIES ADVICE NO. 14-04-G

> > PRESS RELEASE (DRAFT)

> > > July 31, 2014



Contact:

Media: Casey Fielder (509) 495-4916 <u>casey.fielder@avistacorp.com</u> Investors: Jason Lang (509) 495-2930 <u>jason.lang@avistacorp.com</u> Avista 24/7 Media Access (509) 495-4174

Avista Requests Natural Gas Rate Increase for Oregon Customers in Annual Cost Adjustment Filing

Request reflects change in costs for natural gas commodity

SPOKANE, Wash. – July 31, 2014, 1:30 p.m. PDT: Avista's (NYSE: AVA) approximately 96,000 customers in Oregon could see an overall increase of 10.4 percent in their natural gas rates effective Nov. 1, 2014, if the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC) approves the company's annual Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment (PGA) and related filings made today.

If the requests are approved, an Avista residential customer using an average 47 therms a month could expect their bill to increase by \$5.45, or 9.7 percent, for a revised monthly bill of \$61.42 beginning Nov. 1, 2014. Avista's natural gas revenues would increase by \$9.6 million to cover the costs of increased natural gas costs. The company does not mark up the cost of natural gas purchased to meet customer needs, so there is no impact on company earnings.

PGAs are filed each year to balance the actual cost of wholesale natural gas purchased by Avista to serve customers with the amount included in rates. This includes the natural gas commodity cost as well as the cost to transport natural gas on interstate pipelines to Avista's local distribution system. The primary driver for the company's requested increase is related to increased wholesale natural gas prices which were caused, in part, by a colder than normal winter throughout the United States. The colder than normal winter led to an increase in overall natural gas demand and a heavy reliance on natural gas storage reserves. The cold weather and increased demand put upward pressure on natural gas prices during the winter, and currently, as natural gas companies are replenishing their natural gas storage facilities. In addition to the PGA request, Avista also made two related administrative filings today with the PUC related to demand side management and intervenor funding.

About 55 percent of an Avista natural gas customer's bill is the combined cost of purchasing natural gas on the wholesale market and transporting it to Avista's system. These costs fluctuate up and down based on market prices. The costs are not marked up by Avista. The remaining 45 percent covers the cost of delivering the natural gas -- the equipment and people needed to provide safe and reliable service.

To help customers proactively manage their energy use, Avista offers a number of energy efficiency programs, energy-saving information, rebates and incentives. Avista also provides energy assistance programs and payment options for qualifying customers. Information about these customer programs and options is available at www.avistautilities.com.

About Avista

Avista Corp. is an energy company involved in the production, transmission and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. <u>Avista Utilities</u> is our operating division that provides electric service to 367,000 customers and natural gas to 326,000 customers. Our service territory covers 30,000 square miles in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and parts of southern and eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.5 million. Alaska Energy and Resources Company is an Avista subsidiary that provides retail electric service in the city and borough of Juneau, Alaska, through its subsidiary Alaska Electric Light and Power Company. Our stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit www.avistacorp.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements regarding the company's current expectations. Forward-looking statements are all statements other than historical facts. Such statements speak only as of the date of the news release and are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the company's control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, in addition to those discussed herein, all of the factors discussed in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2013 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014.

SOURCE: Avista Corporation

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