# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
AVISTA CORPORATION	)	APPLICATION
for an Order authorizing the issuance and sale of	)	UF-
up to 5 000 000 shares of Common Stock	j	

Avista Corporation (hereinafter called "Applicant") hereby requests the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to enter a written order establishing that the proposed offering, issuance and sale by the Applicant of up to 5,000,000 authorized but unissued shares of its Common Stock, from time to time, utilizing one or more potential methods, including but not limited to, periodic offering programs, direct sales or underwritten transactions is in accordance with OAR 860-27-0030 and ORS 757.415. The requested authority is in addition to the authority previously granted by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon for the offering, issuance and sale of up to 2,000,000 shares of Common Stock under a periodic offering program in Order No. 06-014, entered January 17, 2006, in Docket No. UF-4223.

## 1. Required information:

- (a) The name and principal business address of the Applicant is Avista Corporation, 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington 99202-2600.
- (b) The Applicant was incorporated in Washington Territory (now the State of Washington) on March 15, 1889. The term of incorporation is perpetual. The Applicant is a public utility, which currently owns and operates property in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, Western Montana, and Central & Southwestern Oregon.
- (c) The name and address of the person authorized on behalf of the Applicant to receive notices and communications with respect to this Application is Ms. Diane C. Thoren, Assistant Treasurer, Avista Corporation, 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99202.
- (d) The names and titles of the principal officers of the Applicant, all of whom maintain offices at 1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington 99202, are as follows:

Gary G. Ely Chairman of the Board, President & CEO

Malyn K. Malquist Senior Vice President & CFO

Marian M. Durkin Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Chief Compliance Officer

Scott L. Morris Senior Vice President

Karen S. Feltes Senior Vice President & Corporate Secretary

Christy M. Burmeister-Smith Vice President & Treasurer Vice President & Controller

Don F. Kopczynski Vice President

David J. Meyer V.P. & Chief Counsel for Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

Kelly O. Norwood Vice President Ronald R. Peterson Vice President Roger D. Woodworth Vice President

Susan Y. Miner Assistant Corporate Secretary

Diane C. Thoren Assistant Treasurer Robert R. Hanson Assistant Controller

(e) The Applicant is engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy, which it sells at retail to approximately 338,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, and at wholesale to public utilities, municipalities and others. Its electric properties are operated as a unified system and are interconnected with adjacent electric utilities. The electric energy sold by the Applicant is generated in power stations, which it owns in whole or in part or obtained, by purchase or exchange from other utilities and governmental agencies.

The Applicant is also engaged in the distribution and sale of natural gas to approximately 297,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, and Central & Southwestern Oregon.

## (f) The Applicant's capital stock as of December 31, 2005 was as follows (Dollars in thousands):

	Outsta Shares	nding Amount
Preferred Stock (10,000,000 shares authorized)	Onares	Amount
Subject to Mandatory Redemption \$6.950 Series K (\$100 stated value)	280,000	\$28,000
Total Preferred Stock	<u>280,000</u>	<u>\$28,000</u>
Common Stock (200,000,000 shares authorized)		
No Par Value Capital Stock Expense Retained Earnings Other Comprehensive Total Common Stock	48,593,139 <u>48,593,139</u>	\$631,084 (10,485) 173,828 (23,299) \$771,128

None of the capital stock is held as reacquired securities, pledged, held by affiliated corporations, or held in any fund, except as noted above.

## (g) The Applicant's long-term debt as of December 31, 2005 was as follows:

	Authorized (\$000s)	Outstanding (\$000s)
Description	<u>(ФОООО)</u>	<u> (ΦΟΟΟΟ)</u>
First Mortgage Bonds		
Secured Medium-Term Notes, Series A	\$ 250,000	\$ 72,000
Secured Medium-Term Notes, Series B	250,000	31,000
7 3/4% Series Due 1-1-2007	150,000	150,000
6.125% Series Due 9-1-2013	150,000	45,000
5.45% Series Due 12-1-2019	*	90,000
Series C	250,000	88,850
6.25% Series Due 12-1-2035	150,000	150,000
0.23 /6 Selles Due 12-1-2033	130,000	130,000
Pollution Control Bonds		
Series due October 1, 2032	66,700	66,700
Series due March 1, 2034	17,000	17,000
6% Series due 2014	4,100	4,100
0 % Selles due 2014	4,100	4,100
Unsecured Medium-Term Notes		
Series A	200,000	3,000
Series B	150,000	· ·
Selles D	150,000	17,000
Trust Preferred Notes		
	150,000	112 102
Capital I & II	150,000	113,403
Caniar Carnarata Natas		
Senior Corporate Notes 9.75% Due 6-1-2008	400,000	270 725
9.75% Due 6-1-2006	<u>400,000</u>	<u>279,735</u>
Total Long Torm Dobt	¢ 2497.000	¢ 4407.700
Total Long Term Debt	\$ <u>2,187,800</u>	\$ <u>1,127,788</u>

None of the long-term debt is held as reacquired securities, pledged, held by affiliated corporations, or held in any fund, except as noted above.

<sup>\*</sup>Both the 6.125% and the 5.45% Series where issued under the same \$150 million authority.

- (h) <u>Full Description of Securities Proposed to be Issued</u>. The Applicant proposes to issue up to 5,000,000 shares of authorized but unissued Common Stock, without par value, ("Common Stock").
- (i) <u>Detailed Description of the Proposed Transaction</u>. The Applicant proposed to offer, issue and sell up to 5,000,000 shares of authorized but unissued Common Stock, from time to time, utilizing one or more potential methods, including but not limited to, periodic offering programs, direct sales or underwritten transactions. Since the new shares of Common Stock are expected to be issued from time to time and such issuances and sales are dependent upon factors such as market conditions and investor demand, the Applicant is not now able to specify the price at which the Common Stock will be sold. The new shares will be offered to the public after a registration statement relating to the new shares is declared effective and any other applicable requirements satisfied.

## **Periodic Offering Programs**

In any periodic offering programs, the Applicant proposes to issue the Common Stock from time to time through one or more agents. The agents will assist Applicant with the marketing and distribution of shares of Common Stock pursuant to an arrangement under which the shares would be sold in one or more methods of offering determined by such agents, all in accordance with the terms of sales agency agreements. The agents selected by the Applicant will have experience in marketing securities similar to the Common Stock, are expected to be familiar with the Applicant and the Applicant's long-term financing goals. The agents will assist the Applicant in evaluating market conditions and in formulating the terms and timing of the issuance.

The Applicant proposes that Common Stock issued and sold under a periodic offering program will be subject to the following pricing limitations: The price received by the Applicant, before agent commission, will not be less than \$0.25 below the last price at which the Applicant's Common Stock was reported in the record of composite quotations published in The Wall Street Journal on the trading day immediately preceding the day for the fixing of such price, and will also not be less than 100% of the book value per share of the Applicant's Common Stock as of the last day of the most recently ended calendar quarter.

#### **Direct Sales**

In any direct sales, the Applicant proposes to issue the Common Stock from time to time in one or more direct sales specifically negotiated with purchasers interested in larger blocks of Common Stock.

#### **Underwritten Transactions**

In any underwritten transaction, one or more underwriters will assist Applicant with the marketing and distribution of shares of Common Stock pursuant to an arrangement under which the shares would be sold in one or more methods of offering determined by such underwriter(s), all in accordance with the terms of an underwriting agreement. Such methods could include ordinary brokerage transactions, block transactions in accordance with the rules of the New York Stock Exchange, offerings off the floor of such exchange, any combination of such methods or any other method determined by such underwriter(s) with the approval of the appropriate Officers of the Applicant. The underwriter(s) selected by the Applicant will have experience in marketing securities similar to the Common Stock, are expected to be familiar with the Applicant and the Applicant's long-term financing goals. The underwriter(s) will assist the Applicant in evaluating market conditions and in formulating the terms and timing of any issuances.

- (j) <u>Fees to Persons Other than Attorneys & Accountants</u>. Compensation to any underwriter, bank or agent for their services in connection with the handling of the Common Stock that is the subject of this application is not expected to exceed 1.0% for both the direct sales and periodic offering programs and 5.0% for a underwritten transaction.
- (k) Amount and Unit Price. Since the new shares of Common Stock are expected to be issued from time to time and such issuances and sales are dependent upon factors such as market conditions and investor demand, the Applicant is not now able to specify the price at which the Common Stock will be sold. While it is not possible to measure the economic value of such shares of Common Stock until they are ultimately issued, if one assumes a market price of \$20 per share, the shares of Common Stock would be worth \$100,000,000 million (5,000,000 x \$20 per share).
- (I) <u>Purposes for which the securities are to be issued</u>. The Applicant may use the proceeds from the offer, issuance and sale of the Common Stock for any or all of the following purposes: (1) the Applicant's construction, facility improvement, and maintenance programs, (2) to retire or exchange one or more outstanding stock, bond, or note issuances, (3) to reimburse the treasury for funds previously expended, and (4) for such other purposes, as may be permitted by law. To the extent that the Applicant's treasury is

refunded, the original expenditures, or their precedents, were made for purposes described by ORS 757.415(1)(a), (b), or (e). To the extent that the obligations are discharged or refunded, those obligations or their precedents were used for purposes described by ORS 757.415(1)(a), (b), or (e).

- (m) Other required applications of filings. Similar applications have been filed with, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, in whose jurisdictions the Applicant also operates. The appropriate forms or other appropriate filing will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission depending on the nature of the issuance of the Common Stock.
- (n) Reasons and Benefits. The requested authority allows the Applicant to reduce its debt to equity ratio over time by issuing additional Common Stock and thus will strengthen its balance sheet. The Applicant has an anticipated capital expenditure program in excess of \$450 million over the next three years. Additionally, debt and preferred stock in excess of \$550 million matures in that same timeframe. Issuing common equity will provide flexibility in meeting these obligations. Accordingly, Applicant believes the requested authority is consistent with the public interest and necessary or appropriate for or consistent with the proper performance by the Applicant of service as a public utility.

## (o) Not Applicable

2. Submitted herewith are the following exhibits as required:

Exhibit A The Applicant's Articles of Incorporation (As filed in Docket No. UF-4223)

Exhibit B The Applicant's Bylaws (As filed in Docket No. UF-4223)

Exhibit C A copy of the resolution adopted by the Applicant's Board will be supplied when

available

Exhibit D Not applicable

Exhibit E A balance sheet as of December 31, 2005

Exhibit F A statement of contingent liabilities as of December 31, 2005

Exhibit G An income statement for the 12 months ended December 31, 2005

Exhibit H An analysis of retained earnings for the 12 months ended December 31, 2005

Exhibit I Drafts of transactional documents will be supplied when available

Exhibit J Proposed journal entry

Exhibit K Not applicable

WHEREFORE, the Applicant respectfully requests the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to enter a written order authorizing the proposed offering, issuance and sale by the Applicant of up to 5,000,000 authorized but unissued shares of its Common Stock.

## **AVISTA CORPORATION**

		By
		Dated: April 7, 2006
STATE OF WASHINGTON County of Spokane	)	
Corporation, the Applicant in the	foregoing A	rn, depose and say that I am the Assistant Treasurer of Avista application; that I have read said Application, including all Exhibits that the same are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
		Diane C. Thoren, Assistant Treasurer
		SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 7th Day of April, 2006
		Notary Public for Washington
		My Commission Expires:

## AVISTA CORPORATION Unconsolidated Balance Sheet At December 31, 2005

Dollars in Thousands

ASSETS:		pro forma
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash, Restricted cash, Materials, and other	\$ 146,862	\$ 146,862
Accounts and notes receivable	<u>96,785</u>	96,785
Total current assets	243,647	243,647
PROPERTY:		
Utility plant in service-net	2,902,930	*3,002,930
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>971,551</u>	971,551
Net utility plant	<u>1,931,378</u>	<u>1,931,378</u>
OTHER PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS:		
Investment in exchange power-net	33,483	33,483
Other-net	269,193	269,193
Total other property and investments	302,676	302,676
Total other property and investments		302,070
DEFERRED CHARGES:		
Regulatory assets	126,648	126,648
Unamortized debt expenses	44,768	44,768
Other	248,024	248,024
Total deferred charges	419,440	419,440
TOTAL	\$ 2,897,141	2,897,141
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CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES:		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable	143,507	143,507
Interest accrued	18,643	18,643
Other	51,599	51,599
Total current liabilities	213,749	213,749
		<u> </u>
DEFERRED CREDITS:		
Deferred income taxes, Other	479,359	479,359
Other	210,494	210,494
Total deferred credits	689,853	689,853
CAPITALIZATION:		
Common stock and additional paid in capital	\$ 771,128	*871,128
Preferred stock - subject to mandatory redemption	141,403	141,403
Long-term debt	1,081,008	1,081,008
Total capitalization	1,993,539	1,993,539
TOTAL	<u>\$ 2,897,141</u>	<u>\$ 2,997,141</u>

<sup>\*\$100</sup> million in new equity.

# **Unconsolidated Statement of Income** For the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2005 Dollars in Thousands

pro forma

Operating Revenues	\$ 1,161,317	\$ 1,161,317
Operating Expenses:		
Resource costs	670,907	670,907
Operations and Maintenance	180,927	180,927
Depreciation and Amortization	79,138	79,138
Taxes other than income taxes	68,044	68,044
Total operating expenses	999,016	999,016
Income from Operations	<u>162,301</u>	<u>162,301</u>
Other Income (Expense):		
Interest expense	(88,802)	(88,802)
Interest other	14,119	14,119
Other income - net	(8,741)	(8,741)
Total other income (expense) - net	(83,424)	(83,424)
Income Before Income Taxes	78,878	78,878
Income Taxes	26,399	26,399
Net Income	52,479	52,479

<sup>\*</sup>See exhibit H for calculation.

# AVISTA CORPORATION An analysis of the income statement pro forma At December 31, 2005

Common Stock

The estimated amount of issued equity would be 5,000,000 shares at \$20 or \$100,000,000.00

Annual dividend  $(5,000,000 \times 0.56) = $2,800,000$ 

# **AVISTA CORPORATION** Proposed journal entry Dollars in Thousands

DR CR \$100,000

Utility plant

Common Equity

<u>100,000</u> <u>\$100,000</u> <u>\$100,000</u>

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Administrative Hearings Division 550 Capitol St NE #215 PO Box 2148 Salem OR 97308-2148

Attention: Filing Center

ι	JF			

Transmitted herewith are one executed and three conformed copies of an application for approval of an order authorizing security issuance.

The application contains as much information as is presently known. As other applicable data or updated documents become available, they will be forwarded to your attention.

The Company requests to receive an Order of Approval from the Commission by May 11, 2006. When complete, please send one (1) executed copy of the Order of Approval to:

Ms. Diane C. Thoren, Assistant Treasurer Avista Corporation 1411 East Mission Avenue Spokane WA 99202-2600

If any questions arise or additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Kimball at 509-495-4584.

Sincerely,

Diane Thoren Assistant Treasurer

**Enclosures** 

## **ENTERED**

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UF	
In the Matter of the Application of AVISTA CORPORATION for an Order authorizing the issuance and sale of 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock	) ) APPLICATION ) UF)
enter a written order establishing that the proposed	) hereby requests the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to doffering, issuance and sale by the Applicant of up to 5,000,000 ock in accordance with OAR 860-27-0025 and -0030.
At its, public meeting, th	ne Commission decided to grant the application.
Based on the Application and the Commiss	ion's records, the Commission makes the following:
FINDINGS (	OF FACT
The Company provides natural gas service	to the public in Oregon.
The Company proposes to issue and sell purposes.	up to 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock for various corporate
There is no indication that the proposed of service.	fering will impair the Company's ability to provide its public utility
<u>OPINI</u>	<u>ON</u>
<u>Jurisdiction</u>	
ORS 757.005 defines a "public utility" as ar Oregon. The Company is a public utility subject to the	nyone providing heat, light, water or power service to the public in ne Commission's jurisdiction.

# **The Offerings**

ORS 757.415(1) provides that:

A public utility may issue [stocks and bonds, notes, and other evidences of indebtedness] for the following purposes and no others.

- (a) The acquisition of property, or the construction, completion, extension, or improvement of its facilities.
- (b) The improvement or maintenance of its service.
- (c) The discharge or lawful refunding of its obligations.
- (d) The reimbursement of money actually expended from income or from any other money in the treasury of the public utility not secured by or obtained from the issue of stocks or bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, or securities of such public utility, for any of the purposes listed in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection except the maintenance of service and replacements,

in cases where the applicant has kept its accounts and vouchers for such expenditures in such manner as to enable the commission to ascertain the amount of money so expended and the purposes for which such expenditures were made.

When an application involves refunding of obligations, the applicant also must show that the original borrowings were made for a permissible purpose. <u>Avion Water Company, Inc.</u>, UF 3903, Order No. 83244; <u>Pacific Power & Light Co.</u>, UF 3749, Order No. 81-745 at 5.

ORS 757.415(2) provides that:

[The applicant] shall secure from the commission an order stating:

- (a) The amount of the issue and the purposes to which the proceeds are to be applied; and
- (b) In the opinion of the commission, the [proceeds] reasonably [are] required for the purposes specified in the order and compatible with the public interest, which is necessary or appropriate for or consistent with the proper performance by the applicant of service as a public utility, and will not impair its ability to perform that service; and
- (c) Except as otherwise permitted in the order in the case of [long-term debt], such purposes are not, in whole or in part, reasonably chargeable to operating expenses or to income.

The amount of the offering will be not more than 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock. The Applicant will use the funds from the offer for the following purpose: the acquisition of property, or the construction, completion, extension, or improvement of its facilities, the improvement or maintenance of its service or to retire or exchange one or more outstanding stock, bond, or note issuances. To the extent that the obligations are discharged or refunded, those obligations or their precedents were used for purposes described by ORS 757.415(1)(a), (b), or (e).

Utility facilities are long-term assets which should be financed with long-term capital. The proposed expenditures are not reasonably chargeable to operating expenses or income.

The Commission believes that the proposed transactions are reasonably required for the purposes stated. The Company's proposed issuances are compatible with the public interest and consistent with the proper performance of the Company's public utility service. The proposed transactions will not impair the Company's ability to perform that service.

For rate-making purposes, the Commission reserves judgment on the reasonableness of the Company's capital costs and capital structure. In its next rate proceeding, the Company will be required to show that its capital costs and structure are just and reasonable. See ORS 757.210.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Avista Corporation is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
- 2. The application meets the requirements of ORS 757.415.
- 3. The Application should be granted.

#### **ORDER**

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

## ORDER NO.

- 1. The Application of Avista Corporation for authority to issue and sell up to 5,000,000 authorized but unissued shares of Common Stock for various corporate purposes.
- 2. The proceeds must be used for the purposes set forth in ORS 757.415(1) (a), (b), (c) and (d).
- 3. Avista Corporation shall file as they become available:
  - (a) The Report of Securities Issued required by OAR 860-27-030(4).
  - (b) Verified copies of any agreement entered into in connection with the issuance of the Securities pursuant to this order not previously filed with the Commission.
  - (c) A verified statement setting forth in reasonable detail the disposition of the proceeds of each offering made pursuant to this order.

Made, entered, and effective	·
	BY THE COMMISSION:
Lee Beyer Commissioner	Ray Baum Commissioner
Commissioner	Commissioner
John Savage	
Commissioner	