

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**OF OREGON**

**UG 288**

In the Matter of

AVISTA CORPORATION, DBA  
AVISTA UTILITIES

Request for a General Rate Revision

NORTHWEST INDUSTRIAL GAS  
USERS' PETITION TO INTERVENE

and Waiver of Paper Service

Pursuant to ORS § 756.525, OAR § 860-001-0300(2), and Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities' ("Avista") application for General Rate Revision dated May 1, 2015, Northwest Industrial Gas Users ("NWIGU") hereby submits this Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned proceeding and seeks party status as provided in OAR § 860-001-0300(7). In support of this Petition to Intervene, NWIGU states as follows:

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

Edward A. Finklea  
Executive Director  
Northwest Industrial Gas Users  
326 Fifth Street  
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034  
Telephone: (503) 303-4061  
Facsimile: (503) 303-4941  
E-Mail: [efinklea@nwigu.org](mailto:efinklea@nwigu.org)

Chad M. Stokes and Tommy A. Brooks from the law firm Cable Huston LLP will represent NWIGU in this proceeding. In addition to Mr. Finklea, all documents related to this proceeding should be served on NWIGU's attorneys at the following address:

Chad M. Stokes  
Tommy A. Brooks  
Cable Huston LLP  
1001 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97204-1136  
Telephone: (503) 224-3092  
Facsimile: (503) 224-3176  
E-Mail: [cstokes@cablehuston.com](mailto:cstokes@cablehuston.com)  
[tbrooks@cablehuston.com](mailto:tbrooks@cablehuston.com)

2. NWIGU is a non-profit association comprised of more than 40 end users of natural gas with major facilities in the States of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. NWIGU members include diverse industrial and commercial interests, including food processing, pulp and paper, wood products, electric generation, aluminum, steel, chemicals, electronics, aerospace, and healthcare providers. The association provides an informational service to its members and participates in various regulatory matters that affect member interests. NWIGU member companies purchase sales and transportation services from Oregon local distribution companies. .

3. On May 1, 2015, Avista filed an application for a general rate revision. In its filing, Avista proposes to increase base rates, including natural gas costs, for Oregon retail customers by approximately \$8.5 million or 8%. Avista proposes an overall rate of return of 7.72% and a return on equity of 9.9%. On a margin revenue basis, excluding the cost of gas, the overall increase is more than 16%. Because NWIGU member companies purchase sales and transportation services from Avista, it has a direct and substantial interest in Avista's rates and, therefore, in this proceeding.

4. 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.

5. NWIGU waives paper service of documents in this proceeding.
6. NWIGU is also filing a Notice of Intent to Request an Issue Fund Grant concurrently with this Petition to Intervene.

WHEREFORE, NWIGU respectfully requests leave to intervene and requests all the rights of a party in this proceeding.

Dated this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of May 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Chad M. Stokes, OSB No. 004007  
Tommy A. Brooks, OSB No. 076071  
Cable Huston LLP  
1001 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97204-1136  
Telephone: (503) 224-3092  
Facsimile: (503) 224-3176  
E-Mail: [cstokes@cablehuston.com](mailto:cstokes@cablehuston.com)  
[tbrooks@cablehuston.com](mailto:tbrooks@cablehuston.com)

Of Attorneys for the  
Northwest Industrial Gas Users