



Avista Corp.

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March 29, 2022

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Filing Center
201 High St. SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301

RE: UG 433 – Joint Testimony in Support of Second Settlement Stipulation

Attached for electronic filing, in lieu of physical copies as permitted in Order No. 20-088, is the Joint Testimony in Support of the Second Partial Settlement Stipulation in Docket UG-433. Also enclosed is Exhibit No. Stipulating Parties/105, which is a copy of the Second Settlement Stipulation.

Please direct any questions regarding this filing to Kaylene Schultz at (509) 495-2482.

Sincerely,

/s/ David J. Meyer

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

Enclosure

UG 433
Stipulating Parties/104
Muldoon, et.al.

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF
OREGON**

UG 433

STAFF/AVISTA/AWEC/CUB EXHIBIT 104

**Joint Testimony in Support of the
Second Settlement Stipulation**

March 29, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

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Q. Please state your names and positions.

A. My name is Matt Muldoon. I am employed by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (“PUC”) as a manager in the Rates Finance and Audit (RFA) Division. My witness qualification was previously provided in Stipulating Parties/102 Muldoon/1.

My name is Kaylene J. Schultz. I am employed by Avista Corporation (“Company”) as a Manager of Regulatory Affairs in the Regulatory Affairs Department. I am a 2010 graduate of Gonzaga University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, majoring in both Accounting and Business Administration, with a concentration in Management Information Systems. After spending nearly eight years in the banking and capital markets sector, I joined Avista in September 2015 as a Natural Gas Analyst in the Company’s Gas Supply Department, now Energy Supply. In January 2019, I joined the Regulatory Affairs Department as a Regulatory Affairs Analyst where I was responsible for preparing annual filings and various applications, including those related to the Purchased Gas Adjustments for all jurisdictions. In my current role as Manager of Regulatory Affairs, I am responsible for the preparation of normalized revenue requirement and pro forma studies for the Company’s Oregon jurisdiction, among other things.

My name is Joseph D. Miller. I am employed by Avista Corporation (“Company”) and presently assigned to the Regulatory Affairs Department as Senior Manager of Rates and Tariffs. I am a 1999 graduate of Portland State University with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting. In 2005, I graduated from Gonzaga University with a Master’s degree in Business Administration. I joined the Company in March 2008, after spending eight years in both the public and private accounting sector. I

1 started with Avista as a Natural Gas Accounting Analyst in the Company’s Resource
2 Accounting Department. In January 2009, I joined the State and Federal Regulation
3 Department as a Regulatory Analyst. My primary responsibility was coordinating discovery
4 for the Company’s general rate case (GRC) filings. In my current role as Senior Manager of
5 Rates and Tariffs, I am responsible for the Company’s electric and natural gas rate design,
6 customer usage and revenue analysis, and tariff administration, among other things.

7 My name is William Gehrke. I am an Economist with the Oregon Citizens’ Utility
8 Board (“CUB”). As one of CUB’s economists, my responsibilities include the review of
9 utility and telecommunications filings in Oregon on behalf of residential customers. In this
10 particular docket, I am representing residential customers’ concerns arising from Avista’s
11 General Rate Case filing. My witness qualification was previously provided in Stipulating
12 Parties/103 Gehrke/1.

13 My name is Bradley G. Mullins, and I am an Independent Energy and Utilities
14 Consultant representing large energy consumers before state regulatory commissions. I am
15 appearing in this matter on behalf of the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers (“AWEC”),
16 a non-profit trade association of commercial and industrial electric and gas users in the states
17 of Oregon, Idaho and Washington. My witness qualification was previously provided in
18 AWEC/101 Mullins/1.

19 Hereafter, Staff, the Company, CUB and AWEC will collectively be referred to as the
20 “Stipulating Parties” or “Parties.”

21 **Q. What is the purpose of your Joint Testimony?**

22 A. The purpose of our Joint Testimony is to describe and support the Second
23 Settlement Stipulation, filed on March 18, 2022 between Staff, CUB, AWEC, and the

1 Company in Docket UG-433 (Second Settlement Stipulation), which resolved all remaining
2 issues among the Parties for the general rate increase filed on October 22, 2021. The Second
3 Settlement Stipulation is the product of settlement discussions, open to all parties in this
4 proceeding.

5 **Q. Have you prepared any Exhibits?**

6 A. Yes. The Parties' Exhibit No. Stipulating Parties/105 is the Second Settlement
7 Stipulation filed with the Commission on March 18, 2022. The First Settlement Stipulation
8 was previously filed on January 19, 2022, addressing cost of capital, and marked as Exhibit
9 No. Stipulating Parties/101, supported by Joint Testimony marked as Exhibit No. Stipulating
10 Parties/100.

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II. BACKGROUND

13 **Q. Please describe the background behind the Company's original general**
14 **rate case filing.**

15 A. On October 22, 2021, Avista filed revised tariff schedules to effect a general
16 rate increase for Oregon retail customers of \$3,774,000, which on a percentage basis is 3.1%
17 of its annual revenues or 5.0% on a margin revenue basis. The filing was suspended by the
18 Commission on November 9, 2021, per its Order No. 21-410. On November 29, 2021, a virtual
19 settlement conference was held to discuss Cost of Capital issues only with the above-named
20 Parties. No other Parties subsequently intervened.

21 As a result of that first settlement discussion, the Parties agreed to settle all issues in
22 this Docket concerning the Cost of Capital, including Capital Structure, Long-Term Debt Cost

1 and Return on Equity, subject to the approval of the Commission. The First Settlement
2 Stipulation was filed on January 19, 2022 (First Settlement Stipulation).

3 Staff, CUB, and AWEC filed Opening Testimony on March 3, 2022 on other issues, in
4 response to the Company’s original filing on October 22, 2021. On March 10, 2022, an
5 electronic settlement conference was held, and was attended by all Parties.¹

6 As a result of the settlement discussions, the Parties have agreed to settle all remaining
7 issues in this Docket, as memorialized in this Second Settlement Stipulation. This includes
8 adjustments to the revenue requirement, deferred federal customer tax credit, deferred state
9 income tax credit, business energy tax credits (BETC), and rate spread and rate design issues
10 based on the following terms, subject to the approval of the Commission.

11 **Q. What was the Company’s position with respect to the factors causing the**
12 **Company’s need for a natural gas revenue increase?**

13 A. The Company explained in its original filing that the primary factor driving the
14 Company’s natural gas revenue requirement is an increase in net plant investment (including
15 return on investment, depreciation and taxes, offset by the tax benefit of interest) from that
16 currently authorized. Other changes impacting the Company’s revenue requirement request
17 relate to increases in distribution, operation and maintenance (O&M), and administrative and
18 general (A&G) expenses for natural gas operations, compared to current authorized levels.

19 **Q. Please provide how many data requests Avista responded to, and the**
20 **general issues explored.**

21 A. Avista responded to 384 data requests, with over 662 subparts, including 121
22 that were provided with the Company’s filed case. The data requests covered a broad range of

¹ Additional virtual settlement conferences were held on February 2, 2022, February 9, 2022 and February 14, 2022 for settlement discussion purposes and were attended by all Parties.

1 areas including, but not limited to, cost of capital, plant-in-service, employee wages and
2 benefits, working capital, operating and maintenance costs, property tax, state and federal
3 taxes, regulatory expense and various administrative and general related expenses, as well as
4 issues related to load forecasting and Avista’s long run incremental cost study.

5 **Q. Did Staff, CUB and AWEC propose adjustments to the Company’s Initial**
6 **Filing?**

7 A. Yes, each of these parties filed Opening Testimony on March 3, 2022, in which
8 the Parties proposed adjustments to the Company’s direct filing.

9
10 **III. SUMMARY OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

11 **Q. What revenue requirement adjustments to Avista’s originally filed case are**
12 **included in the First Settlement Stipulation?**

13 A. The adjustments reached in the First Settlement Stipulation resulted in a total
14 reduction in Avista’s revenue requirement increase request from \$3.774 million to a base
15 revenue increase request of \$2.583 million. The adjustments to Avista’s revenue requirement
16 reflected in the First Settlement Stipulation are shown in Table No. 1 below:

17 **Table No. 1 – Summary of Adjustments to Revenue Requirement and Rate Base (First**
18 **Settlement Stipulation)**

19

	Revenue Requirement	Rate Base
	\$3,774	\$315,957
Cost of Capital		
Adjusts return on equity to 9.40%, long-term debt cost to 4.70%, with a common stock equity component of 50%, and overall Cost of Capital of 7.05%.	(1,191)	-
Total Adjustments:	(\$1,191)	\$0
	\$2,583	\$315,957

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21
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23

1 This reduced Avista’s requested cost of capital to an overall cost of capital equal to
2 7.050 percent based on the following components: a capital structure consisting of 50 percent
3 common stock equity and 50 percent long-term debt, return on equity of 9.40 percent, and a
4 long-term debt cost of 4.700 percent. This combination of capital structure and capital costs
5 is shown in the Table No. 2 below.²

6 **Table No. 2 – Agreed-Upon Cost of Capital**

7

AGREED-UPON COST OF CAPITAL			
	Capital Structure	Cost	Weighted Cost
8 Cost of Long-Term (LT) Debt	50.00%	4.700%	2.350%
9 Return on Common Equity (ROE)	50.00%	9.400%	4.700%
10 Total	100.00%		7.050%

11 **IV. TERMS OF THE SECOND SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

12 **Q. What revenue requirement adjustments to Avista’s originally filed case are**
13 **included in the Second Settlement Stipulation (Exhibit No. Stipulating Parties/105)?**

14 A. The Parties support a further reduction to Avista’s requested revenue
15 requirement. The overall natural gas revenue requirement is part of a “black box” settlement,
16 reflecting give-and-take on multiple issues. This “black box” settlement resolves all
17 remaining issues and amounts to a further reduction in Avista’s revenue requirement increase
18 request from \$2.583 million (resulting from a cost of capital settlement) to a base revenue
19 increase request of \$1.600 million. Notwithstanding the “black box” settlement, all capital
20 projects in Avista’s filed case are included in the \$1.600 million base revenue increase. Based
21 on settlement discussions, this amount is reflective of plant that will be in service as of the
22 rate effective date and is reasonable in the context of the overall settlement.

² The agreed-upon capital structure (50/50) and cost of equity (9.4%) represent a continuation of currently approved levels approved in Docket UG-389.

1 **Q. Why did the Parties agree on a “black box” approach for purposes of**
2 **resolving the remaining revenue requirement issues?**

3 A. As discussed earlier, the Parties met multiple times both prior to, and after the
4 filing of the Parties’ responsive testimony. In those meetings, robust discussions on almost all
5 issues making up the proposed revenue requirement were had. Overall, the Parties could not
6 agree on the treatment of all items, but could agree on the level of revenue requirement.
7 Therefore, the Parties believed that a “black box” was appropriate, although no agreement on
8 the components were agreed to. The end result of what was agreed to is well within a zone of
9 reasonableness, based on the pre-filed testimony of all Parties.

10 **Q. What is the proposed effective date for this general rate case?**

11 A. The proposed rate effective date is August 22, 2022. Upon approval of the First
12 and Second Settlement Stipulations, Avista will file revised rate schedules reflecting rates as
13 agreed-upon in the Settlement Stipulations as a compliance filing, effective August 22, 2022.

14

15

V. TAX-RELATED ITEMS

Deferred Federal Customer Tax Credit

17 **Q. What is the agreement of the Parties relating to the deferred federal**
18 **customer tax credit?**

19 A. The Parties agree to return the deferred federal tax credit balance owed
20 customers³, totaling \$22.3 million (grossed up amount) as of December 31, 2021, over ten
21 (10) years, or approximately \$2.2 million annually, through Tariff Schedule 486 “Tax

³ The deferred tax credit accounting and balances were described by Company witness Ms. Andrews in her pre-filed testimony at Andrews/600, pp. 9:1 – 14:16. The deferred tax credit balance of \$22.3 million as of December 31, 2021 was updated in AWEC_DR_046, appearing in Exhibit AWEC/103, Mullins/29.

1 Customer Credit.” Any party may propose a different amortization period of the remaining
2 balance, including additional net deferrals, available at the time of the Company’s next
3 general rate case. The Company will continue to defer annually the on-going deferred federal
4 customer tax credits, beyond the December 31, 2021 amount deferred, for consideration in a
5 future general rate case or other proceeding.

6 **Q. What is being referred to by “Deferred Federal Customer Tax Credits”?**

7 A. As discussed by Ms. Andrews in her pre-filed testimony at Andrews/600,
8 starting at page 9, per Order No. 21-131 (Docket UM-2124) the Commission approved the
9 Company’s application to use the flow-through method of accounting for tax benefits for
10 Industry Director Directive No. 5 (IDD #5) and meters which, prior to 2019, were included in
11 customer rates using tax normalization. As a result of the change in tax accounting method,
12 ongoing costs are now deducted as an expense for tax purposes rather than being capitalized
13 and depreciated. As approved in Order No. 21-131, this tax deduction now flows through to
14 ratepayers rather than being depreciated for ratemaking purposes, creating an annual benefit.
15 Order No. 21-131 authorized deferral of this tax benefit, resulting in accumulated deferred
16 federal income taxes (ADFIT) for future ratemaking consideration. As noted above, the
17 deferred ADFIT tax credits recorded as of December 31, 2021 available to return to customers
18 totaled \$22.3 million (grossed up).

19

20 **Deferred State Income Tax Credit**

21 **Q. Please explain the Parties agreement related to the deferred state income**
22 **tax credit.**

1 A. The Parties agree to return \$1.5 million of deferred state income tax credits,
2 net of deferred tax reform residual balances,⁴ over two (2) years through Schedule 487
3 “Deferred Tax Credit”, or \$755,000 annually.

4 **Q. What is the source of these credits?**

5 A. As discussed by Ms. Andrews in her pre-filed testimony at Andrews/600,
6 starting at page 15, the Company is deferring, for the period January 15, 2021 through August
7 31, 2022, the change (compared to the amount reflected in customer rates from Docket No.
8 UG-389) in Oregon state income tax expense associated with the federal income tax accounting
9 change approved per Order No. 21-131 in Docket No. UM 2124. The balance in this account
10 is expected to be a rebate of \$2.2 million owed to customers at August 31, 2022.

11 Additionally, as discussed by Mr. Miller in his pre-filed testimony at Miller/1000,
12 starting at page 16, the Company has an outstanding residual balance on the books from the
13 amortization of temporary federal income tax benefits attributable to the enactment of the Tax
14 Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (Docket No. UM-1918). Customers received the federal tax reform
15 benefits through Schedule 474 rate reductions from March 1, 2019 through February 28, 2021.
16 The benefits provided to customers exceeded the federal income tax benefits that had been
17 deferred, resulting in a residual balance of \$0.7 million surcharge owed by customers at August
18 31, 2022.

19 The net amount of returning to customers the deferred state income tax benefit of
20 approximately \$2.2 million, offset by the deferred Tax Reform Residual balance owed from
21 customers of approximately \$0.7 million, totals of \$1.5 million.

⁴ The deferred state income tax balance and deferred tax reform residual balance were described by Company witness Ms. Andrews in her pre-filed testimony at Andrews/600, pp. 15:11 – 16:13.

1 **Business Energy Tax Credits (“BETC”)**

2 **Q. What is the agreement of the Parties relating to BETC?**

3 A. The Parties agree that there will be no shareholder impact related to expiring
4 BETC credits.

5

6 **Net Impact on Billed Rates**

7 **Q. What is the combined impact on “billed” rates of the federal and state tax
8 credits discussed above?**

9 A. The overall increase of \$1.6 million in revenue requirement would result in an
10 increase of 1.3% of its annual revenues or 2.1% on a margin revenue basis. After giving effect
11 to the amortization of tax credits, the “billed” impact on rates will be an overall decrease of
12 1.1%. The particulars of this will be addressed below, including the impact on each rate
13 schedule.

14

15 **VI. RESOLUTION OF RATE SPREAD**

16 **Q. What is the agreement of the Parties relating to rate spread?**

17 A. The Parties support the spread of the August 22, 2022, overall base distribution
18 revenue increase of \$1.600 million, which on a percentage basis is 1.3% of its annual revenues
19 or 2.1% on a margin revenue basis, to the Company’s service schedules 410, 420, 424/425 as
20 described in Table No. 3 below. For purposes of the Tax Customer Credit Schedule 486 rate
21 spread, the Parties agree to spread the rate credit based on a weighted allocation of 35 percent
22 number of customers and 65 percent distribution margin. For purposes of the Deferred Tax
23 Credit Schedule 487 rate spread, the Parties agree to spread the rate credit based on a uniform

1 percent of distribution margin. Table No. 3 below (and as shown in Attachment A to Exhibit
 2 No. Stipulating Parties/105 Second Settlement Stipulation) details the rate spread changes as
 3 described above:

4 **Table No. 3: Agreed-Upon Rate Spread⁵**

Type of Service	Schedule Number	Distribution Revenue Increase	Distribution	Schedule 486	Schedule 487	Total	Total
			Revenue Percentage Increase	Tax Customer Credit	Deferred Tax Credit	Billed Revenue Decrease	Billed Revenue Percentage Decrease *
Residential	410	\$1,034	2.1%	(\$1,631)	(\$489)	-\$1,086	-1.4%
General Service	420	\$551	2.7%	(\$489)	(\$209)	-\$147	-0.4%
Large General Service	424/425	\$15	2.1%	(\$14)	(\$7)	-\$6	-0.2%
Interruptible Service	439/440	\$0	0.0%	(\$35)	(\$18)	-\$52	-0.9%
Seasonal Service	444	\$0	0.0%	(\$1)	(\$0)	-\$1	-0.8%
Transportation Service	456	\$0	0.0%	(\$61)	(\$32)	-\$93	-2.9%
Total		\$1,600	2.1%	(\$2,230)	(\$755)	-\$1,385	-1.1%

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

12 **Q. Why did the Parties agree to spread the revenue requirement to only**
 13 **Schedules 410, 420, and 424?**

14 A. While the Parties did not agree on the Long Run Incremental Costs Studies,
 15 the studies showed that Schedules 410, 420 and 424 were at or below their cost of service to
 16 varying degrees. The other three Schedules, Schedules 440, 444 and 456, all are providing
 17 revenues in excess of their cost of service. By spreading the increase to Schedules 410, 420
 18 and 424, and leaving the other Schedules unchanged, all Schedules will move closer to their
 19 cost of service.

20 **Q. Please explain why the Tax Customer Credit Schedule 486 rate spread rate**
 21 **credit is based on a weighted allocation of 35 percent number of customers and 65 percent**
 22 **distribution margin?**

⁵ Reproduced from Table No. 1, on page 4 of Exhibit No. Stipulating Parties/105 Second Settlement Stipulation.

1 A. Approximately 35% of the Tax Customer Credit is attributable to the tax
2 deduction of meter expenditures.⁶ Relative to their overall margins, however, small customer
3 classes are allocated a higher proportion of meter costs, relative to large customer classes.
4 Therefore, Parties agreed to allocate a higher proportion of the Tax Customer Credit
5 attributable to meter expenditures to small customer classes using an allocation factor based
6 on customer counts. This favorable allocation to small customers partially offset the higher
7 base rate increase allocated to those customers.

8 **Q. Please explain why the Second Stipulation regarding rate spread is**
9 **reasonable?**

10 A. The Stipulating Parties agree that the rate spread show in Table No. 3 above
11 represents a compromise that fairly balances the interests of the Stipulating Parties. While
12 the Parties may each hold different positions on rate spread issues, the Stipulating Parties
13 support the Stipulation on rate spread and believe it results in rates that are fair, just and
14 reasonable.

15

16

VII. RESOLUTION OF RATE DESIGN

17 **Q. What is the agreement of the Parties relating to rate design?**

18 A. The Parties support the following rate design: the base revenue increase, Tax
19 Customer Credit Schedule 486, and Deferred Tax Credit Schedule 487 will be applied solely
20 to the volumetric charges of the individual rate schedules. The monthly customer basic charge
21 for all rate schedules will remain at current levels. All other rate design components are as

⁶ Staff_DR_189.docx

1 proposed by the Company in its original filing. Attachment A to Exhibit No. Stipulating
2 Parties/105 Second Settlement Stipulation provides the agreed-upon base rates.⁷

3 **Q. Please explain why the Second Settlement Stipulation regarding rate**
4 **design is reasonable.**

5 A. The Stipulating Parties agree that maintaining existing basic charge levels
6 represents a reasonable compromise that fairly balances the interests of the Stipulating Parties.

7

8 **VIII. RESIDENTIAL BILL CHANGE**

9 **Q. What is the impact to the average residential bill as a result of the**
10 **agreement of the Parties?**

11 A. For the revenue requirement included in the Second Settlement Stipulation,
12 based on an average usage level of 48 therms per month, the average bill for a Schedule 410
13 residential customer, which includes both base and adder schedules⁸, would decrease \$0.96 per
14 month, or 1.4 percent, from \$68.17 to \$67.21.

15

16 **IX. DECOUPLING BASE**

17 **Q. Please describe any changes to the natural gas decoupling base as a result**
18 **of the agreement by the Parties.**

19 A. Attachment B to the Second Settlement Stipulation reflects the new decoupling
20 base effective August 22, 2022, that is supported by the Parties. The new decoupling base
21 provides the “Monthly Allowed Customers” and “Monthly Decoupled Revenue per Customer”

⁷ The agreed-upon billing determinants are those in the Company’s filed case.

⁸ “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.

1 which incorporate the effects of the settlement revenue requirement and billing determinants
2 discussed above.

3

4

X. OTHER ITEMS

5

Regulatory Deferral Amortizations

6

**Q. Please describe the agreement of the Parties relating to the Regulatory
7 Deferral Amortizations included in this case.**

8

A. The Parties agree to the regulatory deferral amortizations for the Meter Data
9 Management (“MDM”) depreciation and Corporate Activity Tax (“CAT”) deferred
10 asset/liability (Adjustment 2.11), as filed by the Company⁹ and updated in response to Staff
11 DR 191. Commission authorization will allow Avista to amortize these balances on its books
12 of record.

13

14

Multifamily Study

15

**Q. What is the agreement of the Parties relating to the Company providing a
16 multi-family residential study?**

17

A. The Parties agree that the Company, in its next general rate case filing, will
18 include a study to determine if it is less costly to serve multi-family residential customers than
19 single-family residential customers as proposed by Staff witness St. Brown in his Opening
20 Testimony (Exhibit Staff/1400).

⁹ The MDM and CAT deferred asset/liability were described by Company witness Ms. Schultz in her pre-filed testimony at Schultz/500, pp. 47:16 – 49:8.

1 **UM 2069 COVID-19 Filing**

2 **Q. Please describe the UM 2069 COVID-19 tariff filing the Company will**
3 **make as agreed to by the Parties.**

4 A. The Parties agree the Company will make a tariff filing no later than April 30,
5 2022, with an effective date of November 1, 2022, related to the COVID-19 deferral balances
6 (UM 2069), and the proposed recovery of net deferred costs of \$778,000 reflected as of
7 December 31, 2021.

8
9 **XI. Statements of the Parties¹⁰**

10 **Statement of Avista**

11 **Q. Does Avista support the Second Settlement Stipulation which resolves all**
12 **remaining issues in this Docket, including effects to the revenue requirement, treatment**
13 **of deferred federal and state tax credits, and rate spread and rate design issues?**

14 A. Yes. The Settlement strikes a reasonable balance between the interests of
15 Avista’s customers and the Company on revenue requirement, treatment of the deferred federal
16 and state tax credits, and rate spread and rate design issues. The Second Settlement Stipulation
17 was a compromise among differing interests and represents give-and-take. The Second
18 Settlement Stipulation also reaches consensus around all issues regarding rate spread and rate
19 design. The Second Settlement Stipulation was entered into following the filing of testimony
20 from Staff, CUB and AWEC, extensive discovery, audit and review of the Company’s filing,
21 its books and its records. For these reasons, the Settlement is in the public interest and should
22 be approved by the Commission.

¹⁰ The Statements provided by each Party represent their views only as it relates to the Settlement, and should not be construed as being the views of the Parties collectively.

1 **Statement of Staff**

2 **Q. Mr. Muldoon, please explain why Staff believes the Second Settlement**
3 **Stipulation is in the public interest.**

4 A. Staff supports the Second Settlement Stipulation as a reasonable compromise
5 of the issues in this rate case that balances customers' interests and shareholder interests, and
6 that results in fair, just and reasonable rates. Staff is confident none of the terms of the Second
7 Settlement Stipulation are contrary to Commission precedent. For those agreed-to terms for
8 which there is no Commission precedent, Staff's agreement was based on Staff's evaluation
9 and analysis of the issues, further informed by Staff practice in other rate cases. Staff's position
10 on these adjustments is supported by its opening testimony, a further evaluation of the available
11 information and the conclusion that the agreed-to adjustments fall within a reasonable range
12 of outcomes at this time.

13

14 **Statement of CUB**

15 **Q. Please explain why CUB finds the Second Settlement Stipulation is in the**
16 **public interest.**

17 A. CUB finds the Second Settlement Stipulation is in the public interest as a
18 reasonable compromise of the issues addressed by Staff, AWEC, CUB, and Avista in this
19 docket. CUB believes that the settlement is a fair compromise that protects Avista's Oregon
20 residential ratepayers from an unreasonable increase to overall rates. The First and Second
21 Stipulations will provide an overall reduction of the Company's initial revenue requirement
22 request, which was \$3,774,000. CUB is supportive of the Second Stipulation because the
23 proposed spread results in an overall net rate reduction to all customer classes.

1 **Statement of AWEC**

2 **Q. Please explain why AWEC finds the Second Settlement Stipulation to be in**
3 **the public interest.**

4 A. AWEC supports the Second Settlement Stipulation as being in the public
5 interest and recommends the Commission approve it. The signing parties each hold different
6 positions on the individual components of Avista’s natural gas revenue requirement, and rate
7 spread and rate design issues addressed in the Second Settlement Stipulation.
8 Notwithstanding, the Second Settlement Stipulation has brought down the overall gas revenue
9 requirement increase from \$3,774,000 as originally filed to \$1,600,000. It also provides a
10 material long-term benefit associated with the refund of Tax Customer Credits over a 10-year
11 period. Overall, the Second Settlement Stipulation results in a net rate reduction to all customer
12 classes, a result that AWEC supports.

13 AWEC also found it to be important to implement a rate spread that is consistent with
14 the principles of cost causation and recognizes the results of Avista’s long run incremental cost
15 study, which shows that some rate classes are well above cost of service. While the Second
16 Settlement Stipulation does not completely move all rates to cost of service, AWEC supports
17 the proposed margin revenue allocation because it makes some movement towards cost based
18 rates, without resulting in a rate increase for any customer class. Similarly, AWEC supports
19 following the principles of cost causation with respect to the Tax Customer Credit and
20 allocating more of the benefits to residential and other small customer classes, recognizing that
21 those customer classes are allocated a higher proportion of the costs associated with meters.
22 AWEC, however, did not necessarily agree that it was consistent to use the customer counts to
23 allocate the benefit of 35% portion of the Tax Customer Credit associated with meters. As

1 AWEC discussed in testimony, meter expenditures are allocated based on marginal metering
2 costs in the LRIC study, which would have been a more appropriate allocator to use.
3 Notwithstanding, the use of a customer count allocation factor did not materially impact the
4 results in this case, and therefore, AWEC found it to be reasonable for use in this proceeding.
5 AWEC may reevaluate this assumption for future deferrals in future rate proceedings.

6 Considering these factors, AWEC found the Second Settlement Stipulation to be a fair
7 compromise between Avista and its customers. AWEC recommends that the Commission
8 approve the Second Settlement Stipulation.

9

10

XII. CONCLUSION

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13

Q. Do the Parties agree that the Second Settlement Stipulation provided as Exhibit No. Stipulating Parties/105 is in the public interest and results in an overall fair, just and reasonable outcome?

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A. Yes, the Parties do. The Stipulating Parties have reviewed Avista's opening testimony, Staff and the Intervenors' opening testimony, the Company's responses to data requests, and carefully analyzed the issues. The Stipulating Parties find that the agreements in this Stipulation represent a reasonable resolution of the issues presented by the Parties and will result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable.

19

Q. What do the Parties recommend regarding the Stipulation?

20

A. We recommend that the Commission adopt the Stipulation in its entirety.

21

Q. Does this conclude your Joint Testimony?

22

A. Yes.

1 2. On November 29, 2021, a virtual settlement conference was held to discuss Cost of
2 Capital issues only with the above-named Parties. No other Parties subsequently intervened.

3 3. As a result of that first settlement discussion, the Parties agreed to settle all issues in
4 this Docket concerning the Cost of Capital, including Capital Structure, Long-Term Debt Cost and
5 Return on Equity, subject to the approval of the Commission, which Settlement Stipulation was
6 filed on January 19, 2022 (First Settlement Stipulation). The adjustments reached in the First
7 Settlement Stipulation resulted in a total reduction in Avista's revenue requirement increase
8 request from \$3.774 million to a base revenue increase request of \$2.583 million. This reduced
9 Avista's requested cost of capital to an overall cost of capital equal to 7.050 percent based on the
10 following components: a capital structure consisting of 50 percent common stock equity and 50
11 percent long-term debt, return on equity of 9.400 percent, and a long-term debt cost of 4.700
12 percent.

13 4. Staff, CUB, and AWEC filed Opening Testimony on March 3, 2022 on other issues,
14 in response to the Company's original filing on October 22, 2021. On March 10, 2022, an
15 electronic settlement conference was held, and was attended by all Parties.

16 5. As a result of the settlement discussions, the Parties have agreed to settle all
17 remaining issues in this Docket, as memorialized in this Second Settlement Stipulation. This
18 includes adjustments to the revenue requirement, deferred federal customer tax credit, deferred
19 state income tax credit, business energy tax credit (BETC), and rate spread and rate design issues
20 based on the following terms, subject to the approval of the Commission.

21
22 **TERMS OF THE SECOND SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

23 6. **Adjustments to Revenue Requirement:**

1 The Parties support a further reduction to Avista’s requested revenue requirement. The
2 overall natural gas revenue requirement is part of a “black box” settlement, reflecting give-and-
3 take on multiple issues. This “black box” settlement resolves all remaining issues and amounts to
4 a further reduction in Avista’s revenue requirement increase request from \$2.583 million (resulting
5 from a cost of capital settlement) to a base revenue increase request of \$1.600 million.
6 Notwithstanding the “black box” settlement, all capital projects in Avista’s filed case are included
7 in the \$1.600 million base revenue increase.

8 7. **Proposed Effective Date:** The proposed rate effective date is August 22, 2022. Upon
9 approval of the First and Second Settlement Stipulations, Avista will file revised rate schedules
10 reflecting rates as agreed-upon in the Settlement Stipulations as a compliance filing, effective
11 August 22, 2022.

12 8. **Deferred Federal Customer Tax Credit:** The Parties agree to return the deferred
13 federal tax credit balance owed customers, totaling \$22.3 million (grossed up amount) as of
14 December 31, 2021 over 10 years, or approximately \$2.2 million annually, through Tariff Schedule
15 486 “Tax Customer Credit.” Any party may propose a different amortization period of the
16 remaining balance, including additional net deferrals, available at the time of the Company’s next
17 general rate case. The Company will continue to defer annually the on-going deferred federal
18 customer tax credits, beyond the December 31, 2021 amount deferred, for consideration in a future
19 general rate case or other proceeding.

20 9. **Deferred State Income Tax Credit:** The Parties agree to return \$1.5 million of
21 deferred state income tax credits, net of deferred tax reform residual balances, over two (2) years
22 through Schedule 487 “Deferred Tax Credit”, or \$755,000 annually.

10. **Business Energy Tax Credits (“BETC”)**: The Parties agree that there will be no shareholder impact related to expiring BETC credits.

11. **Regulatory Deferral Amortizations**: The Parties agree to the regulatory deferral amortizations for the Meter Data Management (“MDM”) depreciation and Corporate Activity Tax (“CAT”) deferred asset/liability (Adjustment 2.11), as filed by the Company and updated in response to Staff DR 191. Commission authorization will allow Avista to amortize these balances on its books of record.

12. **Rate Spread**: The Parties support the spread of the August 22, 2022, overall base revenue increase of \$1.600 million, which on a percentage basis is 1.3% of its annual revenues or 2.1% on a margin revenue basis, to the Company’s service schedules 410, 420, 424/425 as described in Table 1 below. For purposes of the Tax Customer Credit Schedule 486 rate spread, the Parties agree to spread the rate credit based on a weighted allocation of 35 percent number of customers and 65 percent distribution margin. For purposes of the Deferred Tax Credit Schedule 487 rate spread, the Parties agree to spread the rate credit based on a uniform percent of distribution margin. Table No. 1 below (and as shown in Attachment A to this Second Settlement Stipulation) details the rate spread changes as described above:

13. **Table No. 1: Agreed-Upon Rate Spread**

Type of Service	Schedule Number	Distribution Revenue Increase	Distribution Revenue Percentage Increase	Schedule 486 Tax Customer Credit	Schedule 487 Deferred Tax Credit	Total Billed Revenue Decrease	Total Billed Revenue Percentage Decrease *
Residential	410	\$1,034	2.1%	(\$1,631)	(\$489)	-\$1,086	-1.4%
General Service	420	\$551	2.7%	(\$489)	(\$209)	-\$147	-0.4%
Large General Service	424/425	\$15	2.1%	(\$14)	(\$7)	-\$6	-0.2%
Interruptible Service	439/440	\$0	0.0%	(\$35)	(\$18)	-\$52	-0.9%
Seasonal Service	444	\$0	0.0%	(\$1)	(\$0)	-\$1	-0.8%
Transportation Service	456	\$0	0.0%	(\$61)	(\$32)	-\$93	-2.9%
Total		\$1,600	2.1%	(\$2,230)	(\$755)	-\$1,385	-1.1%

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

1 14. **Rate Design:** The Parties support the following rate design: the base revenue
2 increase, Tax Customer Credit Schedule 486, and Deferred Tax Credit Schedule 487 will be
3 applied solely to the volumetric charges of the individual rate schedules. The monthly customer
4 basic charge for all rate schedules will remain at current levels. All other rate design components
5 are as proposed by the Company in its original filing. Attachment A to this Second Settlement
6 Stipulation provides the agreed-upon base rates.²

7 15. **Residential Bill Change:** For the revenue requirement included in this Stipulation,
8 based on an average usage level of 48 therms per month, the average bill for a Schedule 410
9 residential customer, which includes both base and adder schedules³, would decrease \$0.96 per
10 month, or 1.4 percent, from \$68.17 to \$67.21.

11 16. **Decoupling:** Attachment B to this Second Settlement Stipulation reflects the new
12 decoupling base effective August 22, 2022, that is supported by the Parties. The new decoupling
13 base provides the “Monthly Allowed Customers” and “Monthly Decoupled Revenue per
14 Customer” which incorporate the effects of the settlement revenue requirement and billing
15 determinants discussed above.

16 17. **Multifamily Study:** The Parties agree that the Company, in its next general rate case
17 filing, will include a study to determine if it is less costly to serve multi-family residential
18 customers than single-family residential customers as proposed by Staff witness St. Brown in his
19 Opening Testimony (Exhibit Staff/1400).

20 18. **UM 2069 COVID-19 Filing:** The Parties agree the Company will make a tariff filing
21 no later than April 30, 2022, with an effective date of November 1, 2022, related to the COVID-

² The agreed-upon billing determinants are those in the Company’s filed case.

³ “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.

1 19 deferral balances (UM 2069), and the proposed recovery of net deferred costs of \$778,000
2 reflected as of December 31, 2021.

3 19. The Parties agree that this Second Settlement Stipulation is in the public interest and
4 results in an overall fair, just and reasonable outcome, and will serve to resolve all contested issues
5 in this case.

6 20. The Parties agree that this Second Settlement Stipulation represents a compromise in
7 the positions of the Parties. Without the written consent of all Parties, evidence of conduct or
8 statements, including but not limited to term sheets or other documents created solely for use in
9 settlement conferences in this Docket, are not admissible in the instant or any subsequent
10 proceeding unless independently discoverable or offered for other purposes allowed under ORS
11 40.190. Nothing in this paragraph precludes a party from stating as a factual matter what the
12 Parties agreed to in this Second Settlement Stipulation or in the Parties' testimony supporting the
13 Stipulation.

14 21. Further, this Second Settlement Stipulation sets forth the entire agreement between
15 the Parties and supersedes any and all prior communications, understandings, or agreements, oral
16 or written, between the Parties pertaining to the subject matter of this Stipulation.

17 22. This Second Settlement Stipulation will be offered into the record in this proceeding
18 as evidence pursuant to OAR 860-001-0350(7). The Parties agree to support this Second
19 Settlement Stipulation throughout this proceeding and any appeal. The Parties further agree to
20 provide witnesses to sponsor the Second Settlement Stipulation at any hearing held, or, in a Party's
21 discretion, to provide a representative at the hearing authorized to respond to the Commission's
22 questions on the Party's position as may be appropriate.

1 23. If this Second Settlement Stipulation is challenged by any other party to this
2 proceeding, the Parties to this Second Settlement Stipulation reserve the right to cross-examine
3 witnesses and put on such case as they deem appropriate to respond fully to the issues presented,
4 including the right to raise issues that are incorporated in the settlement embodied in this Second
5 Settlement Stipulation. Notwithstanding this reservation of rights, the Parties agree that they will
6 continue to support the Commission's adoption of the terms of this Second Settlement Stipulation.

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

12 25. By entering into this Second Settlement Stipulation, no Party shall be deemed to have
13 approved, admitted, or consented to the facts, principles, methods, or theories employed by any
14 other Party in arriving at the terms of this Second Settlement Stipulation. No Party shall be deemed
15 to have agreed that any provision of this Second Settlement Stipulation is appropriate for resolving
16 the issues in any other proceeding.

17 26. This Second Settlement Stipulation may be executed in counterparts and each signed
18 counterpart shall constitute an original document. The Parties further agree that any electronically-
19 generated signature of a Party is valid and binding to the same extent as an original signature.

20 27. This Second Settlement Stipulation may not be modified or amended except by
21 written agreement among all Parties who have executed it.

22 28. This Second Settlement Stipulation is entered into by each Party on the date entered
23 below such Party's signature.

1 AVISTA CORPORATION

2

3

4 By: _____

5 David J. Meyer

6

7 Date: _____

8

9

10 ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY
11 CONSUMERS

12

13 By: _____

14 Chad M. Stokes

15

16 Date: _____

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

By: /s/ Johanna Riemenschneider

Johanna Riemenschneider

Date: _____

OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD

By: _____

Michael P. Goetz

Date: _____

1 AVISTA CORPORATION

2

3

4 By: _____

5 David J. Meyer

6

7 Date: _____

8

9

10 ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY
11 CONSUMERS

12
13 By:  _____

14 Chad M. Stokes

15

16 Date: March 17, 2022

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

By: _____

Johanna Riemenschneider

Date: _____

OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD

By: _____

Michael P. Goetz

Date: _____

1 AVISTA CORPORATION

2

3

4 By: _____

5 David J. Meyer

6

7 Date: _____

8

9

10 ALLIANCE OF WESTERN ENERGY
11 CONSUMERS

12

13 By: _____

14 Chad M. Stokes

15

16 Date: _____

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY
COMMISSION OF OREGON

By: _____

Johanna Riemenschneider

Date: _____

OREGON CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD

By:  _____

Michael P. Goetz

Date: 3/17/2022 _____

Avista Utilities
Proposed Revenue Increase by Schedule
Oregon - Gas
Pro Forma 12 Months Ended August 31, 2023
(000s of Dollars)

Line No.	Type of Service	Schedule Number	Distribution Revenue Under Present Rates	Distribution Revenue Increase	Distribution Revenue Under Proposed Rates	Distribution Revenue Percentage Increase	Billed Revenue Under Present Rates	Settlement GRC Increase	Schedule 486 Tax Customer Credit	Schedule 487 Deferred Tax Credit	Billed Revenue Under Proposed Rates	Billed Revenue Percentage Increase
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)
1	Residential	410	\$48,603	\$1,034	\$49,636	2.1%	\$77,071	\$1,034	(\$1,631)	(\$489)	\$75,985	-1.4%
2	General Service	420	\$20,769	\$551	\$21,320	2.7%	\$35,579	\$551	(\$489)	(\$209)	\$35,432	-0.4%
3	Large General Service	424/425	\$690	\$15	\$704	2.1%	\$2,878	\$15	(\$14)	(\$7)	\$2,872	-0.2%
4	Interruptible Service	439/440	\$1,772	\$0	\$1,772	0.0%	\$6,104	\$0	(\$35)	(\$18)	\$6,051	-0.9%
5	Seasonal Service	444	\$37	\$0	\$37	0.0%	\$142	\$0	(\$1)	(\$0)	\$141	-0.8%
6	Transportation Service	456	\$3,142	\$0	\$3,142	0.0%	\$3,155	\$0	(\$61)	(\$32)	\$3,063	-2.9%
7	Special Contract	447	\$175	\$0	\$175	0.0%	\$175	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$175	0.0%
8	Total		\$75,188	\$1,600	\$76,788	2.1%	\$125,104	\$1,600	(\$2,230)	(\$755)	\$123,719	-1.1%

**Avista Utilities
 Comparison of Present & Proposed Base Rates
 Oregon - Natural Gas**

<u>Present Base Rates</u>	<u>Base Tariff Change</u>	<u>Proposed Base Rates</u>
Residential Service Schedule 410		
\$10.50 Customer Charge	\$0.00/month	\$10.50 Customer Charge
All Therms - \$0.67642/Therm	\$0.01907/therm	All Therms - \$0.69549/Therm
General Service Schedule 420		
\$17.00 Customer Charge	\$0.00/month	\$17.00 Customer Charge
All Therms - \$0.63115/Therm	\$0.01899/therm	All Therms - \$0.65014/Therm
Large General Service Schedule 424 & 425		
\$55.00 Customer Charge	\$0.00/month	\$55.00 Customer Charge
All Therms - \$0.13832/Therm	\$0.00326/therm	All Therms - \$0.14158/Therm
Interruptible Service Schedule 439 & 440		
\$75.00 Customer Charge	\$0.00/month	\$75.00 Customer Charge
All Therms - \$0.11468/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	All Therms - \$0.11468/Therm
Seasonal Service Schedule 444		
All Therms - \$0.17241/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	All Therms - \$0.17241/Therm
Seasonal Minimum Charge:		Seasonal Minimum Charge:
\$ 5,840.04		\$ 5,840.04
Transportation Service Schedule 456		
\$300.00 Customer Charge	\$0.00/month	\$300.00 Customer Charge
1st 10,000 Therms - \$0.15890/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	1st 10,000 Therms - \$0.15890/Therm
Next 20,000 Therms - \$0.09563/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	Next 20,000 Therms - \$0.09563/Therm
Next 20,000 Therms - \$0.07860/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	Next 20,000 Therms - \$0.07860/Therm
Next 200,000 Therms - \$0.06152/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	Next 200,000 Therms - \$0.06152/Therm
Over 250,000 Therms - \$0.03121/Therm	\$0.00000/therm	Over 250,000 Therms - \$0.03121/Therm
<u>Schedule 456 Monthly Minimum Charge</u>		<u>Schedule 456 Monthly Minimum Charge</u>
\$ 2,725.78		\$ 2,725.76

Avista Utilities
 Tax Customer Credit
 Schedule 486

Line No.	Type of Service	Schedule Number	Distribution Revenue Under Present Rates	Annual Customers	Meters	IDD#5	Sch. 486		Billing Determinants	Per Therm Rate
					Customer Allocation	Percentage of Base Revenue	Tax Customer Credit Allocation			
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	
					35%	65%				
1	Residential	410	\$48,603	94,663	88.6%	64.8%	\$ 1,631	54,219,249	\$ 0.03007	
2	General Service	420	\$20,769	12,020	11.2%	27.7%	\$ 489	29,021,461	\$ 0.01685	
3	Large General Service	424/425	\$690	93	0.1%	0.9%	\$ 14	4,539,621	\$ 0.00309	
4	Interruptible Service	439/440	\$1,772	38	0.0%	2.4%	\$ 35	15,153,934	\$ 0.00228	
5	Seasonal Service	444	\$37	6	0.0%	0.0%	\$ 1	216,390	\$ 0.00353	
6	Transportation Service	456	\$3,142	31	0.0%	4.2%	\$ 61	37,340,974	\$ 0.00320	
7	1st 10,000 Therms								\$ 0.00192	
8	Next 20,000 Therms								\$ 0.00158	
9	Next 20,000 Therms								\$ 0.00124	
10	Next 200,000 Therms								\$ 0.00063	
11	Over 250,000 Therms								\$ 0.00063	
12	Total		\$75,013	106,851			\$ 2,230			

**Avista Utilities
 Deferred Tax Credit
 Schedule 487**

Line No.	Type of Service	Schedule Number	Distribution Revenue Under Present Rates (1)	Percentage of Base Revenue	Sch. 487 Deferred Tax Credit Allocation	Billing Determinants	Per Therm Rate
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1	Residential	410	\$48,603	64.8%	\$ 489	54,219,249	\$ 0.00902
2	General Service	420	\$20,769	27.7%	\$ 209	29,021,461	\$ 0.00720
3	Large General Service	424/425	\$690	0.9%	\$ 7	4,539,621	\$ 0.00153
4	Interruptible Service	439/440	\$1,772	2.4%	\$ 18	15,153,934	\$ 0.00118
5	Seasonal Service	444	\$37	0.0%	\$ 0	216,390	\$ 0.00174
6	Transportation Service	456	\$3,142	4.2%	\$ 32	37,340,974	
7	1st 10,000 Therms						\$ 0.00166
8	Next 20,000 Therms						\$ 0.00100
9	Next 20,000 Therms						\$ 0.00082
10	Next 200,000 Therms						\$ 0.00064
11	Over 250,000 Therms						\$ 0.00033
7	Total		<u>\$75,013</u>		<u>\$ 755</u>		

Avista Utilities
Natural Gas Decoupling Mechanism (Oregon)
Development of Decoupled Revenue by Rate Schedule - Natural Gas
Docket No. UG-433 Rates Effective August 22, 2022

	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE 410	SM COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL SCH. 420	LG COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL SCH. 424/425	INTERRUPTIBLE SCH 439/440	SEASONAL SCH 444	TRANSPORTATION SCH 456/447
1 Total Normalized 12ME 08.2023 Margin Revenue	\$ 75,188,000	\$ 48,603,000	\$ 20,769,000	\$ 689,000	\$ 1,772,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 3,318,000
2 Settlement Margin Revenue Increase	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,034,000	\$ 551,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
3 Total Delivery Revenue (12ME 08.2023 Test Year) (Ln 1 + Ln 2)	\$ 76,788,000	\$ 49,637,000	\$ 21,320,000	\$ 704,000	\$ 1,772,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 3,318,000
4 Customer Bills (12ME 08.2023 Test Year)	1,282,196	1,135,956	144,236	1,121	454	33	396
5 Proposed Basic Charges		\$10.50	\$17.00	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
6 Basic Charge Revenue (Ln 4 * Ln 5)	\$ 14,586,832	\$ 11,927,538	\$ 2,452,019	\$ 61,654	\$ 34,021	\$ -	\$ 111,600
7 Decoupled Revenue (Ln 6 - Ln 3)	\$ 62,201,168	\$ 37,709,462	\$ 18,867,981	\$ 642,346	\$ 1,737,979	\$ 37,000	\$ 3,206,400
8 Normalized Therms (12ME 08.2023 Test Year)	147,155,320	54,219,249	29,021,461	4,539,621	15,153,934	216,390	44,004,664
9 Average Number of Customers (Line 8 / 12 mos.)		Residential 94,663	Non-Residential Group 12,154				Exempt from Decoupling Mechanism
10 Annual Therms		54,219,249	48,931,406				
11 Basic Charge Revenues		\$ 11,927,538	\$ 2,547,694				
12 Customer Bills		1,135,956	145,844				
13 Average Basic Charge		\$10.50	\$17.47				

Avista Utilities
Natural Gas Decoupling Mechanism (Oregon)
Development of Decoupled Revenue Per Customer - Natural Gas
Docket No. UG-433 Rates Effective August 22, 2023

Line No.	Source	Residential	Non-Residential Schedules*	
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	Decoupled Revenue	Page 1	\$ 37,709,462	\$ 21,285,306
2	Test Year Number of Customers (12ME 08.2023)	Revenue Data	94,663	12,154
3	Decoupled Revenue Per Customer	(1) / (2)	\$ 398.35	\$ 1,751.35

*Schedules 420, 424, 425, 439, 440, and 444

Avista Utilities
Natural Gas Decoupling Mechanism (Oregon)
Development of Monthly Decoupled Revenue Per Customer - Natural Gas
Docket No. UG-433 Rates Effective August 22, 2022

Line No.	Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	
1															
2	Natural Gas Delivery Volume														
3	<i>Residential</i>														
4	- Weather-Normalized Therm Delivery Volume	Monthly Rate Year	9,067,724	7,299,776	6,186,661	4,298,743	2,614,148	1,684,638	1,235,527	1,310,134	1,353,929	3,310,971	6,622,933	9,234,065	54,219,249
5	- % of Annual Total	% of Total	16.72%	13.46%	11.41%	7.93%	4.82%	3.11%	2.28%	2.42%	2.50%	6.11%	12.22%	17.03%	100.00%
6															
7	<i>Non-Residential Sales*</i>														
8	- Weather-Normalized Therm Delivery Volume	Monthly Rate Year	6,474,635	5,495,597	4,854,234	3,663,574	2,609,097	2,175,279	2,049,840	2,391,254	2,482,502	4,082,668	5,798,164	6,854,563	48,931,406
9	- % of Annual Total	% of Total	13.23%	11.23%	9.92%	7.49%	5.33%	4.45%	4.19%	4.89%	5.07%	8.34%	11.85%	14.01%	100.00%
10															
11	Monthly Decoupled Revenue Per Customer ("RPC")														
12	<i>Residential</i>														
13	- Decoupled Revenue per Customer	Page 2 - Decoupled RPC													\$ 398.35
14	- Monthly Decoupled Revenue per Customer	(5) x (13)	\$ 66.62	\$ 53.63	\$ 45.45	\$ 31.58	\$ 19.21	\$ 12.38	\$ 9.08	\$ 9.63	\$ 9.95	\$ 24.33	\$ 48.66	\$ 67.84	\$ 398.35
15	- Monthly Allowed Customers		95,202	95,211	95,250	95,179	95,043	94,802	94,527	94,325	93,319	93,806	94,369	94,923	
16	<i>Non-Residential Sales*</i>														
17	- Decoupled Revenue per Customer	Page 2 - Decoupled RPC													\$ 1,751.35
18	- Monthly Decoupled Revenue per Customer	(9) x (17)	\$ 231.74	\$ 196.70	\$ 173.74	\$ 131.13	\$ 93.38	\$ 77.86	\$ 73.37	\$ 85.59	\$ 88.85	\$ 146.13	\$ 207.53	\$ 245.34	\$ 1,751.35
19	- Monthly Allowed Customers		12,220	12,231	12,233	12,208	12,191	12,175	12,136	12,120	12,019	12,044	12,093	12,173	
20	*Schedules 420, 424, 425, 439, 440, and 444.														