



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Public Utility Commission

201 High St SE Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-3398

Mailing Address: PO Box 1088

Salem, OR 97308-1088

503-373-7394

December 7, 2023



BY EMAIL

Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities
dockets@avistacorp.com

RE: Advice No. 23-08-G

The tariff sheets in your December 5, 2023, compliance filing docketed in UG 461, are accepted in compliance with Order No. 23-384. Attached is a receipted copy of the sheets in your compliance filing for your records.

/s/ Nolan Moser

Nolan Moser

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Public Utility Commission of Oregon

503-689-3622

AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

SCHEDULE 410

SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable to single-family residential natural gas service for all purposes.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge:

\$11.25

(I)

Commodity Charge Per Therm:

Base Rate

\$0.76603

(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program, and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)

(D)(N)

MINIMUM CHARGE:

The Customer Charge constitutes the Minimum Charge.

(Continued)

Advice No. 23-08-G
Issued December 5, 2023

Effective For Service On & After
January 1, 2024

Issued by Avista Utilities
By

Patrick Ehrbar, Director of Regulatory Affairs



AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

(N)

SCHEDULE 411

MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

To Residential tenants that reside in a Multi-Family Residence. A Multi-Family Residence is defined as two or more conjoined, separately metered units such as apartments, condos, and duplexes etc. Rate Schedule 411 will be available on or after April 1, 2024.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge:

\$9.75

Commodity Charge Per Therm:

Base Rate

\$0.76603

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program, and any other charges approved by the Commission.

MINIMUM CHARGE:

The Customer Charge constitutes the Minimum Charge.

Advice No. 23-08-G Supplemental
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(N)

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Patrick Ehrbar, Director of Regulatory Affairs



AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

(Continued)

SCHEDULE 411 (continued)

MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

1. The above Commodity Charge Per Therm is subject to the provisions of "Other Charges" listed above.
2. A reconnection charge shall be made for restoration of service where service has been turned off for seasonal turnoff, or for other reasons arising through the action or for the convenience of the customer. (See Rule No. 20)
3. Service under this schedule may be subject to other applicable adjustments approved by the Public Utility Commission.
4. When service has been discontinued at the Customer's request and then reestablished within a twelve-month period, the Customer shall be required to pay the monthly minimum charges that would have been billed had service not been discontinued.

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(N)

(N)

AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 420
GENERAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable to commercial and small industrial natural gas service for all purposes.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge:

\$19.00

(I)

Commodity Charge Per Therm:

Base Rate

\$0.72455

(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)

(D)(N)

(N)

Minimum Charge:

The Customer Charge constitutes the Minimum Charge.

(continued)

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 424

LARGE GENERAL AND INDUSTRIAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable to large commercial and industrial use customers where at least 75% of the natural gas requirements are for uses other than space heating and where adequate capacity exists in the Company's system. Customers served under this schedule must use a minimum of 29,000 therms annually.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge: **\$60.00** (I)

Commodity Charge Per Therm:
Base Rate \$0.14174 (I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program and any other charges approved by the Commission. (D)
(D)(N)
(N)

MINIMUM CHARGE:

The minimum monthly charge shall consist of the Monthly Customer Charge.

(Continued)

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 425

TRANSPORTATION OF CUSTOMER-OWNED NATURAL GAS
FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICE – OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable for the transportation of customer-owned natural gas to large commercial and industrial use customers where at least 75% of the natural gas requirements are for uses other than space heating and where adequate capacity exists in the Company's system, subject to the limitations found in Order 20-468. Customers served under this schedule must use a minimum of 29,000 therms annually.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

	<u>Per Meter</u> <u>Per Month</u>	
Customer Charge:	\$60.00	(I)
Commodity Charge Per Therm:		
Base Rate	\$0.14174	(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 - Low Income Rate Assistance and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)
(D)(N)
(N)

MINIMUM CHARGE:

The minimum monthly charge shall consist of the Monthly Customer Charge.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 439

INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION OF CUSTOMER-OWNED NATURAL GAS
FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICE – OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable for the transportation of customer-owned natural gas, subject to interruptions in capacity and supply, for large commercial and industrial use where capacity in excess of the existing requirements of firm sales and transportation customers exists in the Company's system, subject to the limitations found in Order 20-468. Customers served under this schedule must use a minimum of 50,000 therms annually.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

	Per Meter <u>Per Month</u>	
Customer Charge:	\$75.00	
Commodity Charge Per Therm:		
Base Rate	\$0.11578	(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program, and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)
(N)
(N)
(N)

ANNUAL MINIMUM CHARGE:

Each Customer shall be subject to an Annual Minimum Charge if their gas usage during the prior year does not equal or exceed 50,000 therms. Such Annual Minimum Charge shall be determined by subtracting their actual usage for a twelve-month period from 50,000 therms multiplied by 11.578 cents per therm.

(I)

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 440

INTERRUPTIBLE NATURAL GAS SERVICE
FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable, subject to interruptions in capacity and supply, for large commercial and industrial use where capacity in excess of the existing requirements of firm sales and transportation customers exists in the Company's system. Customers served under this schedule must use a minimum of 50,000 therms annually.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge:

\$75.00

Commodity Charge Per Therm:
Base Rate

\$0.11578

(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 – Low Income Rate Assistance Program and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)

(N)

(N)

ANNUAL MINIMUM CHARGE:

Each Customer shall be subject to an Annual Minimum Charge if their gas usage during the prior year does not equal or exceed 50,000 therms. Such Annual Minimum Charge shall be determined by subtracting their actual usage for a twelve-month period from 50,000 therms multiplied by 11.578 cents per therm.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 444

SEASONAL NATURAL GAS SERVICE - OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable for natural gas service to customers whose entire natural gas requirements for any calendar year are supplied during the period from and after March 1, and continuing through November 30, of each year.

Service under this schedule is not available to any "essential agricultural user" or "high priority user" (as defined in section 281.203(a), Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations), who has requested protection from curtailment, as contemplated by Section 401 of the NGPA (Public Law 95-261). An "essential agricultural" or "high-priority" user receiving service under this schedule can obtain protection from curtailment by requesting transfer to the appropriate firm rate schedule of the Company.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Commodity Charge Per Therm:
Base Rate

\$0.17403

(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 461 – Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment, Schedule 462 – Gas Cost Rate Adjustment, Schedule 469 – Public Purpose Funding, Schedule 475 – Decoupling Mechanism, Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, Schedule 493 Low Income Rate Assistance Program and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)

(N)

(N)

MINIMUM CHARGE:

\$5,894.92 of base revenue per season.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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SCHEDULE 456

INTERRUPTIBLE TRANSPORTATION OF CUSTOMER-OWNED NATURAL GAS
FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICE – OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable, subject to interruptions in capacity and supply, for the transportation of customer-owned natural gas for large commercial and industrial use where capacity in excess of the existing requirements of firm sales and transportation customers exists in the Company's system. Customers served under this schedule must transport over the Company's system a minimum of 225,000 therms annually.

TERRITORY:

This schedule is applicable to the entire territory in the State of Oregon served by the Company.

THERM:

The word "therm" means one hundred thousand British Thermal Units (100,000 B.T.U.).

RATES:

Per Meter
Per Month

Customer Charge:

\$325.00

(I)

Volumetric Charge Per Therm:

First 10,000	\$0.15980	(I)
Next 20,000	\$0.09617	(I)
Next 20,000	\$0.07904	(I)
Next 200,000	\$0.06187	(I)
All Additional	\$0.03139	(I)

OTHER CHARGES:

The above Monthly Rates are subject to increases or decreases as set forth in Schedule 476 – Intervenor Funding, Schedule 477 – Residual Deferral Account, Schedule 482 – Regulatory Fee Adjustment, Schedule 486 – Tax Customer Credit, Schedule 487 – Deferred Tax Credit, and any other charges approved by the Commission.

(D)
(N)

MINIMUM CHARGE:

The minimum monthly charge shall be \$2,764.44 per month, accumulative annually. The minimum is based on 18,750 therms per month (225,000 therms annually), plus the monthly customer charge. The minimum charge is based on base revenues only

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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RULE NO. 15

GAS MAIN EXTENSIONS

Extensions of gas distribution mains exclusive of meters, regulators and service lines, necessary to furnish permanent gas service to applicants, will be made by the Company in accordance with the following provisions:

A. General

The Company will construct, own, operate and maintain gas distribution main extensions only along public streets, roads and highways which the Company has the legal right to occupy, and on public lands and private property across which rights-of-way satisfactory to the Company may be obtained without cost to the Company.

B. Extensions to Individual Applicants

1. Extension Allowance

The total cost of gas main extensions (Rule 15) and service connections (Rule 16) will be made by the Company, provided the total direct cost of the required extension from existing distribution mains to the meter location to be served does not exceed the following:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024	\$2,500
2025	\$1,250
2026	\$750
2027	\$0

The request for service shall be of such permanence as to warrant the expenditure involved as determined by the Company.

2. Extension Beyond the Allowance

a. An extension where the estimated cost is more than the Allowance shall be constructed by the Company upon fulfillment of the following conditions:

- (1) The execution of a main extension agreement.
- (2) The applicant or group of applicants shall advance in cash to the Company an amount equal to the difference between the cost of the extension and the Allowance times the number of applicants.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

RULE NO. 15 (continued)

GAS MAIN EXTENSIONS

b. Upon completion of an extension, where an advance is made based on the estimated cost thereof, said advance will be adjusted to reflect the actual direct cost of the extension. (C)

c. The amount advanced hereunder will be subject to refund, without interest, as provided for in Section B.3.

3. Method of Refund

The amount advanced in accordance with Section B.2. will be subject to refund in the following manner:

a. A refund will be made for each additional customer connected to an extension for which all advance payments have not been refunded, equal to the amount by which the Allowance exceeds the cost of a construction to serve such additional customer. Where there is a series of extensions, on any of which an advance is still refundable, and the Company makes succeeding free extensions with excess allowances refunds will be made to repay in turn each of such advances which remain refundable beginning with the first series from the original point of supply. When two or more parties make a joint advance on the same extension, refundable amounts will be distributed to these parties in the same proportion as their individual advances bear to the total joint advance. (C) (D)

b. No refunds will be made by the Company on advances, or portions thereof, covering extensions which have been in service more than five (5) years.

c. Any assignment by a customer of his interest in any part of a cash advance made as above which at the time remains unrefunded, must be made in writing and endorsed by the Company showing the amount still unrefunded, and a copy of such assignment bearing the signature of both the assignor and assignee must be filed with the Company before it shall be effective and binding upon the Company.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
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RULE NO. 16

SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES ON CUSTOMERS' PREMISES

Extensions of gas distribution service pipes necessary to furnish permanent gas service to applicants, and installation of facilities on customers' premises will be in accordance with the following:

A. Allowance for Service Pipes

- 1. Upon application, the Company will furnish and install a service pipe of suitable capacity from its gas main to the property line of property abutting upon any public street, highway, alley, lane or road along which it already has or will install street mains, and will install as much of such extension as may be necessary to reach a meter location that is satisfactory to the Company so long as the direct costs do not exceed the extension Allowance described below:

Extension Allowance

The total cost of gas main extensions (Rule 15) and service connections (Rule 16) will be made by the Company, provided the total direct cost of the required extension from existing distribution mains to the meter location to be served does not exceed the following:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024	\$2,500
2025	\$1,250
2026	\$750
2027	\$0

The Company will install that portion of each service pipe in excess of the portion installed at the Company's expense inside of the property line, subject to an advance to be paid by the applicant as set forth below.

- 2. In cases where the applicants' building is located a considerable distance from the main, or where service is taken off a high pressure transmission main, or where a hazard or obstruction such as plowed land between the gas main and the applicant's building prevents the Company from prudently installing a service pipe, the Company may, at its discretion, waive the above. In such cases, the meter may be located at or near the applicant's property line, as close as practical to the Company's main at a location agreed upon by the customer.
- 3. Service Pipes Exceeding the Allowance
When the length of service pipe on the applicant's premises, necessary to reach the approved meter location, exceeds the extension allowance as stated above, the applicant will have the following options:
 - a) Pay the Company for the installed cost of the excess length of service pipe; or
 - b) Provide "in-kind" services (e.g., ditching, labor, etc.) that are equal to or greater than the value of the installed cost of the excess length of service pipe; or
 - c) Use a combination of items a) and b) above.

If the customer chooses Option b) or c), above, the Company's total gas-service installation cost shall not exceed the original cost of installing the gas service from the gas main to the customer's property line as described in paragraph A.1. above.

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(D)
(D)
(N)
(N)
(C)
(C)
(D)
(C)
(C)
(D)

AVISTA CORPORATION
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RULE NO. 16 (continued)

SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES ON CUSTOMERS' PREMISES

B. Service Pipes for Firm Industrial and Interruptible Service

The cost of a service pipe for firm industrial and interruptible service will be included in the determination of required investment for mains and service pipe and treated in accordance with the rule governing main extensions to these classes of service subject to the Allowance contained under section A above

(D)

(N)

C. One Service Pipe for a Single Premises

1. The Company will not install more than one service pipe to supply a single premises, unless it is for the convenience of the Company or an applicant requests an additional service pipe and, in the opinion of the Company, an unreasonable burden would be placed on the applicant if the additional service pipe were denied. When an additional service pipe is installed under these conditions at the applicant's request, the applicant will pay the installed cost for the entire length of said additional service pipe.
2. When a service pipe extension is made to a meter location upon private property which is subsequently subdivided into separate premises, with ownership of portions thereof divested to other than the applicant or the customer, the Company will have the right, upon written notice, to discontinue service without obligation or liability. Gas service, as required by said applicant or customer, will be re-established in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Company's rules.

D. Branch Service Pipe

For additional separately metered permanent customers on the same or adjoining premises, the Company will install a branch service pipe at the option of the Company, and will grant allowances on private property under the conditions as set forth in Sections A. and B.

E. Relocation of Service Pipes

1. When in the judgement of the Company the relocation of a service pipe, including metering facilities, is necessary and is due either to the maintenance of adequate service or operating

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RULE NO. 16 (continued)

SERVICE CONNECTIONS AND FACILITIES ON CUSTOMERS' PREMISES

convenience of the Company, the Company will perform such work at its own expense.

2. If relocation of service pipe is due solely to meet the convenience of the applicant or the customer, or is made necessary by acts of the customer which create hazards or which make the meter inaccessible, such relocation, including metering facilities, will be performed by the Company at the expense of the applicant or the customer.

F. Standby Use

No allowance will be made for equipment used for standby or emergency purposes only.

G. Other Types of Service Pipes

Where an applicant or customer requests another type of service pipe such as stub service pipes, or service from transmission mains, the Company will consider each such request and will grant an allowance in accordance with Section A above.

H. General

1. The applicant or customer shall not attempt to connect his piping to the Company's main, service pipe or meter, nor shall he connect, disconnect, turn on, or move or adjust any of the Company's facilities.

Only duly authorized employees or other persons specifically authorized by the Company are permitted to perform work of this nature or to break a Company seal. The Company shall not be responsible or liable in damages or otherwise for injury to person or property caused by the unauthorized use of its facilities on the customers' premises by him or others.

2. For each gas service pipe installed or reconstructed the Company will include a suitable shutoff valve, located so as to be accessible at all times, outside of the structure served and between said structure and the gas main from which the service pipe is supplied.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

RULE NO. 18
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

A. METER TESTS

1. **Prior to Installation**

Each gas service meter when installed for the use of any Customer, will be in good working order and will have been tested and adjusted, if necessary, to operate within prescribed limits.

2. **Periodic and Other Tests**

- a. Each in service gas meter will be tested, and properly adjusted, if necessary, in accordance with procedures authorized by the Commission.
- b. At any time a meter is observed by a Company employee to be in such a condition or so operating as to cause doubt of its accuracy, it will be tested and readjusted, if necessary, to operate within prescribed limits.

3. **Upon Customer Request**

- a. Any Customer may request the Company to test the meter used to measure their gas usage. Such tests shall be made within 20 working days of the request at no cost to the Customer. The meter test will be conducted at a time mutually agreeable to both Customer and the Company. A Customer has the right to require the Company to conduct the test in their presence or in the presence of an expert or other representative appointed by the Customer. A written report showing the name of the Customer, the date of the request, address where the meter has been installed, the serial number of the meter, the date tested, and the result of the test shall be supplied to the Customer within a reasonable time after completion of the test.
- b. If the Customer requests more than one meter test within any 12-month period, the Company may charge to recover the reasonable cost of the test. The Company shall inform the Customer, prior to the test, that if the meter is found to register within the 2 percent accepted tolerance standard, under normal operating conditions, the Customer shall be required to pay the reasonable costs for the Company performing the meter test. This payment shall be based on a Company formula which allows the Company to recover expenses for payroll, taxes, insurance, and Company vehicle use.
- c. No billing adjustment shall be required if the gas meter registers less than two percent error under conditions of normal operation.

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RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

B. METER TEST PROCEDURES

Technical performance requirements for natural gas meters shall be per the current versions of ANSI B109.1, ANSI B109.2, and ANSI B109.3.

1. **Meter Test Records**

The Company will file its meter testing results for the prior calendar year by April 30 of each year. Retention of records will be in accordance with OAR 860-023-0015(4).

2. **New Meters**

a. New meters shall be factory tested and certified to meet accuracy criteria specified by OAR 860-023-0015(1).

i. Formulation of test sample sizes and analysis of test results shall be per ANSI/ASQ Z1.9-2003 (hereinafter may be referred to as the Standard) or any more current version referenced in regulatory requirements. Ongoing manufacturer quality control program results for specific meter types consistent with an AQL value of 1.5 overall performance (double specification limit) and AQL value of 1.0 for fast meters (single specification limit) are acceptable.

b. Acceptance testing by the Company prior to installation of all new meters.

i. Each meter shipment will be inspected for physical damage. Meters found to be damaged or in damaged packaging will be tested, repaired and/or calibrated or returned to the manufacturer as described herein. All costs for tests, return shipping and/or calibration to meters described in this section shall be borne by the manufacturer.

ii. Normal acceptance testing described herein, not associated with physical damage found on arrival of the shipment, will be performed by the Company at the Company's expense. Expanded testing for shipments found to be non-conforming through acceptance testing will be paid for by the manufacturer or the shipment returned to the manufacturer per negotiations between the Company and the manufacturer.

iii. The lot size to determine random sample quantity shall be the size of the shipment.

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AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

- iv. The methodology for the new meter testing program is derived from ANSI/ASQ Z1.9-2003.
- c. Acceptance testing of new domestic meters, 1000 CFH and smaller. A random sample of new domestic meters, selected using random number procedures of quantity per the Standard, shall be tested against tolerances prescribed by OAR 860-023-0015 and analyzed using the procedures contained in the Standard as detailed herein.
 - i. Test result analysis: two analysis results will determine the acceptability of a lot.
 - 1) The "standard deviation – *double* specification limit method with variability unknown" as detailed in the Standard shall be used to determine the overall acceptability of a meter type lot. Acceptable Quality Limit (AQL) for analysis will equal **1.5**. Equal weight shall be given to both the upper and lower specification limit (i.e., fast and slow meters are weighted equally). The results of the "Open Test" and the "Check Test" will be averaged; the resulting average number will be used in the procedures for analysis per the Standard.
 - a) It is the intent of this rule to accomplish testing to verify, with approximately 90% certainty, that the percentage of non-conforming meters does not exceed **3%** of any new meter shipment population.
 - b) It is further the intent of this specification to insure that the long-term proportion of non-conforming meters to the standard does not exceed **1.5%**.
 - 2) The "standard deviation – *single* specification limit method with variability unknown" as detailed in the Standard shall be used to determine the acceptability of a meter type lot in the fast direction (disadvantageous to the consumer). AQL for analysis will equal **1.0**. The results of the "Open Test" and the "Check Test" will be averaged; the resulting average number will be used in the procedures for analysis per the Standard.

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RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

- a) It is the intent of this rule to accomplish testing to verify, with approximately 90% certainty, that the proportion of non-conforming meters to the fast direction is approximately 1% or less of any new meter shipment population. (T) (M)
- b) It is further the intent of this specification to insure that the long-term proportion of non-conforming meters to the standard does not exceed 1.0%.
- ii. Equipment not eligible for random sampling that fail to meet AQL criteria shall be returned to the manufacturer or the entire shipment may be adjusted at the manufacturer's expense. (T)(D)
- iii. Tested meters found to be outside the tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015 shall be adjusted to 100% plus or minus 0.5% with no greater than 0.7% spread. If the meter cannot be adjusted to these standards it shall be returned to the manufacturer.
- d. Acceptance testing of new diaphragm meters, greater than 1000 CFH, shall be tested against metering tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015. (T) (T)
- i. Tested meters found to be outside of tolerance shall be adjusted to 100% plus or minus 0.5%, with no greater spread than 0.7%. If the meter cannot be adjusted within these standards, it shall be returned to the manufacturer. (T)
- e. New rotary meters are tested after putting into service. (T)
- i. Differential testing confirms a minimum of 3 points for accuracy.
- f. New turbine meters are tested after putting into service. (T)
- i. Testing confirms a minimum of 2 points within the range of the meter.

3. Installed Meters Testing Program

- a. Meters shall be periodically inspected and tested against metering tolerances prescribed in OAR 860-023-0015. Meters found to be outside the tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015 shall be immediately adjusted or replaced. If a meter cannot be adjusted, and no replacement meter is immediately available, the inaccurate meter shall be removed and a replacement meter shall be installed as soon as possible. Service will be maintained to the Customer. (T) (D)(M)

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RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

b. The methodology for sample sizes and analysis for the installed meter testing program is derived from ANSI/ASQ Z1.9-2003.

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(T)

c. Domestic meters, 1000 CFH and smaller. A random sample of domestic meters shall be selected, tested against tolerances prescribed by OAR 860-023-0015, and analysis conducted using the Standard. The random sampling program shall begin during the 5th year after meter installation.

(T)
(C)

i. A meter population is defined as meters of the same model, size, and manufactured in the same year. Meter population is synonymous with the term lot as used in the Standard.

1) Major design changes to a meter model within a single year shall be a new population for sampling.

ii. A random sample of meters to be tested within a population will be made at the beginning of a calendar year. The random sample may be modified as described below.

(T)

1) Every meter in a population will be considered eligible for testing. If service work such as a reported gas odor brings a service person to a meter during the course of the year and the required test quota of meters has not yet been completed, the meter will be eligible for substitution into the sample of the meter population for that year.

2) Eligibility of meters for inclusion into the test population will be tracked electronically through the Work Order Management Program in conjunction with meter test program requirements. An electronic flag will alert the service person if a meter is eligible to be included in the year's test program. The service person will have the option to override the electronic flag if work load at the time does not lend itself to pulling that meter for testing.

(T)

3) An individual meter test result of more than 10% error shall be declared a uniquely defective test and disregarded. A substitute test will be made with meter selected by random sample methods.

iii. Test result analysis: two analysis results will determine the acceptability of a lot.

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RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

- 1) The "standard deviation – *double* specification limit method with variability unknown" as detailed in the Standard shall be used to determine the overall acceptability of a meter type lot. AQL for analysis will equal **10**. Equal weight shall be given to both the upper and lower specification limit (i.e., fast and slow meters are weighted equally). The results of the "Open Test" and the "Check Test" will be averaged; the resulting average number will be the data point for inclusion in analysis of meter type performance.
 - a) It is the intent of this rule to accomplish testing to verify, with approximately 90% certainty, that the proportion of non-conforming meters does not exceed **10%** of any installed meter population.
 - b) It is further the intent of this specification to verify through continued testing that the long-term proportion of non-conforming meters does not exceed **10%**.

- 2) The "standard deviation – *single* specification limit method with variability unknown" as detailed in the Standard shall be used to determine the acceptability of a meter type lot in the fast direction (disadvantageous to the Customer). AQL for analysis will equal **10.0**. The results of the "Open Test" and the "Check Test" will be averaged; the resulting average number will be the data point for inclusion in analysis of meter type performance.
 - a) It is the intent of this rule to accomplish testing to verify, with approximately 90% certainty, that the proportion of non-conforming meters to the fast direction is less than **10%** of any installed meter population.
 - b) It is further the intent of this specification to verify through continued testing that the long-term proportion of non-conforming meters does not exceed **10%**.

- 3) The intent of the analysis rules contained herein applied to the Standard using Table A-3 and Table A-1 yields: sample size code letters B through P: AQL = 10.0. Table A-3 of the Standard is utilized to determine the applicable AQL curve per the intent of the testing described above. When this point lies between standard

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METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

AQL curves on Table A-3, the AQL curve to be applied shall be chosen per Table A-1 of the Standard.

- iv. Inspection levels:
 - 1) Normal inspection is the default level of inspection and shall be per the procedures contained in the Standard utilizing tables A-2, A-3, and B-3.
 - 2) Reduced inspection shall be per the procedures contained in the Standard utilizing tables A-2, A-3, and B-4.

- v. Inspection levels for existing meter types with 5 year test histories are eligible for reduced testing per guidelines contained within the Standard. Analysis of test results for the time prior to adoption of this tariff for defined populations may be used to determine application of switching rules.

- vi. Switching rules:
 - 1) Normal to Reduced: Switching rules for transition from normal to reduced inspection shall be applied if the preceding 5 lots have been on normal inspection and none have been rejected.
 - a) This is a modification to the guidelines contained in A10.3.3 of the Standard. Five lots passing normal inspection have been specified in lieu of ten to reflect the historically slow changing performance of installed equipment.

- vii. Discontinuance of random sampling; failure of meter population. A meter population shall be declared defective and removed from service when:
 - 1) An annual inspection of a population is not accepted based on AQL of 10.0 for overall performance (double specification limit), or
 - 2) An annual inspection of a population under normal inspection are found to be non-conforming fast meters in excess of OAR 860-023-0015 tolerances based on an AQL value of 10.0 (single specification limit).

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METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

- viii. Tested meters found to be outside the tolerances of OAR 860-23-0015 shall be adjusted to 100% plus or minus 0.5% with no greater than 0.7% spread before returning to service. If the meter cannot be adjusted to these standards it shall be removed from service and inventory; the Company will pursue compensation under any applicable manufacturer warranties. .
- d. Installed diaphragm meters, greater than 1000 CFH.
 - i. Meters 1001 CFH through 3000 CFH are inspected and proved every five (5) years or sooner.
 - ii. Meters larger than 3000 CFH are inspected and proved every five (5) years or sooner.
 - iii. All meters shall be tested against metering tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015.
 - iv. Meters found to be outside of tolerance shall be adjusted to 100% plus or minus 0.5%, with no greater spread than 0.7%, or will be removed from service and inventory; the Company will pursue compensation under any applicable manufacturer warranties.
- e. Installed rotary meters shall be inspected and tested every five (5) years or sooner by differential testing or using proving equipment.
 - i. Meters inspected by differential testing shall confirm that the meter is performing within 150% of the manufacturer's specification for differential pressure at the operating pressure.
 - ii. Every meter tested by proving shall confirm that the meter is operating within the tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015. Meters found to be outside of tolerance shall be adjusted to be not more than 2.0% slow or fast, or will be removed from service and inventory the Company will pursue compensation under any applicable manufacturer warranties.
- f. Installed turbine meters.
 - i. Installed single rotor turbine meters shall be inspected and spin tested annually and determined to be within the manufacturer's acceptability limits. Turbine meters failing the spin test shall be removed from the field and repaired prior to any subsequent installation.

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RULE NO. 18 (continued)
METER TESTS AND ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

- ii. Installed auto adjust meters shall be inspected annually and determined to be operating within the manufacturer's acceptability limits. Meter Delta A (ΔA), the difference between the main and sensing rotor pulses, that exceed the manufacturer's recommended operating parameters shall be repaired or replaced. (M)
- iii. Turbine meters are proof tested against metering tolerances of OAR 860-023-0015. (T)
- iv. Meters found to be outside of tolerance shall be adjusted to 100% plus or minus 0.5%, with no greater spread than 0.7%, or will be removed from service and inventory; the Company will pursue compensation under any applicable manufacturer warranties. (N)
(N)

4. **Meter Test Equipment and Application**

Meters shall be tested on either a Sonic Nozzle, Bell Prover, or Transfer Prover. (T)

- a. Roots 10-M Transfer Prover. The accuracy of the testing equipment is ascertained through: i) Monthly in-house self-testing procedures, and ii) Sending of Standard Meter Module to the manufacturer for periodic calibration. The period between factory calibration shall not exceed five (5) years.
- b. American Meter Sonic Nozzle Prover and American Meter Bell Prover. The accuracy of the testing equipment is ascertained through an automatic test diagnostic, which is completed each time the prover is powered on. The test equipment shall be factory calibrated every two (2) years. (T)

C. ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR METER ERROR

Billing adjustments due to fast meters will be calculated on the basis that the meter should be 100% accurate. For the purpose of billing adjustment, the average error of the check rate and the open rate flow will be used.

- 1. Fast Meters: When, upon test, any meter is found to be registering more than 2% fast, the Company will refund or credit to the Customer the amount of the overcharge based on corrected meter readings. The period of time over which a refund is to be calculated is described in Rule No. 9 Section C.1. (M)

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SCHEDULE 486

TAX CUSTOMER CREDIT – OREGON

APPLICABILITY:

Adjustments under this schedule are applicable to all bills calculated under all schedules of this Tariff.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this rate credit is to reflect the benefits attributable to a change in accounting for federal income tax expense from the normalization method to the flow-through method for certain "non-protected" plant basis adjustments.

MONTHLY RATE:

The Commodity Charge per therm of the individual rate schedules are to be reduced by the following amounts:

<u>Rate Schedule</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Schedule 410	\$0.03306 per Therm
Schedule 420	\$0.01848 per Therm
Schedule 424/425	\$0.00341 per Therm
Schedule 439/440	\$0.00244 per Therm
Schedule 444	\$0.00368 per Therm
Schedule 456	
1 st 10,000 Therms	\$0.00346 per Therm
Next 20,000 Therms	\$0.00208 per Therm
Next 20,000 Therms	\$0.00171 per Therm
Next 200,000 Therms	\$0.00134 per Therm
Over 250,000 Therms	\$0.00068 per Therm

(R)

(R)

TERM:

The Tax Customer Credit will be in effect for a ten-year period ending August 21, 2032.

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

This schedule is subject to the General Rules and Regulations contained in this tariff and to those prescribed by regulatory authorities.

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