

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF OREGON**

UG 186

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
AVISTA UTILITIES	)	
	)	ORDER
Proposed Tariff for Gas Service.	)	
Advice No. 09-03-G	)	
	)	

**DISPOSITION: TARIFF SHEETS SUSPENDED**

On June 25, 2009, Avista Utilities filed tariff sheets in Advice No. 09-03-G to be effective July 27, 2009. The terms of the proposed tariff sheets are set forth in the Staff Report dated June 25, 2009, attached as the Appendix to this order.

At its July 16, 2009, public meeting, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon found good and sufficient cause exists to investigate the propriety and reasonableness of the tariff sheets pursuant to ORS 757.210 and 757.215. The Commission ordered suspension of the advice pending that investigation.

IT IS ORDERED that Advice No. 09-03-G filed by Avista Utilities is suspended for a period of time not to exceed nine months from July 27, 2009, the effective date of the tariff sheets.

Made, entered, and effective JUL 17 2009.



BY THE COMMISSION:

Becky L. Beier  
Becky Beier  
Commission Secretary

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480-183.484.

## ITEM NO. 1

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
 STAFF REPORT  
 PUBLIC MEETING DATE: July <sup>16</sup>14, 2009

REGULAR  CONSENT  EFFECTIVE DATE July 27, 2009

DATE: June 25, 2009

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Judy Johnson *JJ*

THROUGH: <sup>*in*</sup> Lee Sparling and <sup>*EB*</sup> Ed Busch

SUBJECT: AVISTA UTILITIES: (Docket No. UG 186/Advice No. 09-03-G) Requests a general rate revision.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

I recommend that the Commission suspend Avista Utilities' application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 09-03-G.

**DISCUSSION:**

On June 25, 2009, Avista Utilities (Avista or company) filed Advice No. 09-03-G, an application for revised tariff schedules. The filing has been docketed as UG 186. The tariffs would implement a general rate revision, increasing Avista's revenues by \$14.21 million, or 11.6 percent overall. The percentage increases by rate class are 12.5 percent for residential customers, 10.6 percent for general service customers, and 4.4 percent for large general service customers.

Staff recommends the Commission suspend the tariffs for investigation. Suspending the tariffs will allow the Commission to evaluate the reasonableness of the company's proposed rates. ORS 757.215(1) allows the Commission to suspend the proposed rates an additional three months if it finds the investigation will not be completed by the end of the initial six-month suspension period. Due to the size of the increase and the complexity of the case, Staff believes there is sufficient cause for the Commission to determine that the investigation cannot be completed within the initial suspension period, and the additional three-month suspension should be approved at this time.

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**PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Avista's application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 09-03-G (UG 186), with a proposed effective date of July 27, 2009, be suspended for nine months.

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