

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 181

In the Matter of)
)
AVISTA UTILITIES) ORDER
)
Proposed Tariff for Gas Service.)
Advice No. 07-09-G)

DISPOSITION: TARIFF SHEETS SUSPENDED

On October 12, 2007, AVISTA UTILITIES filed tariff sheets in Advice No. 07-09-G to be effective November 21, 2007. The terms of the proposed tariff sheets are set forth in the Staff Report dated October 25, 2007, attached as the Appendix to this order.

At its November 20, 2007, 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. 07-09-G filed by AVISTA UTILITIES is suspended for a period of time not to exceed nine months from November 21, 2007, the effective date of the tariff sheets.

Made, entered, and effective NOV 20 2007.



BY THE COMMISSION:

Becky L Baier
Becky Baier
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.

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: November 20, 2007**

REGULAR X CONSENT EFFECTIVE DATE November 21, 2007

DATE: October 25, 2007

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Judy Johnson *JJ*

THROUGH: *W* Lee Sparling and *EB* Ed Busch

SUBJECT: AVISTA UTILITIES: (Docket No. UG 181/Advice No. 07-09-G) Requests a general rate increase in the company's Oregon annual revenues of \$2,975,000, or 2.3 percent overall.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend that the Commission suspend Avista Utilities' application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 07-09-G.

DISCUSSION:

On October 12, 2007, Avista Utilities (Avista) filed Advice No. 07-09-G, an application for revised tariff schedules. The filing has been docketed as UG 181. The tariffs would implement a general rate revision, increasing Avista's revenues by \$2.975 million, or 2.3 percent overall. The percentage increases by rate class are 2.6 percent for residential customers, 1.8 percent for general service customers, 1.4 percent for large general service customers, and 9.4 percent for transportation 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 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.

Avista Docket UG 181/ Advice No. 07-09-G
October 25, 2007
Page 2

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Avista's application for revised tariff schedules in Advice No. 07-09-G (UG 181), with a proposed effective date of November 21, 2007, be suspended for nine months.

Avista 07-09-G