

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UG 519

In the Matter of

AVISTA CORPORATION DBA AVISTA UTILITIES,

Request for a General Rate Revision.

**MEMORANDUM ESTABLISHING
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

In a memorandum issued November 7, 2024, the ALJ requested that the parties confer and provide a proposed procedural schedule. In a November 21, 2024 filing, Avista Corporation, dba Avista Utilities provided a proposed procedural schedule on behalf of the company, Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, the Alliance of Western Energy Consumers, and Oregon Citizens' Utility Board. The procedural schedule as proposed by the parties is adopted as set forth below with minor modifications. In addition to the settlement updates included in the schedule, parties should plan to advise the Commission as soon as practicable when any settlement in principles is reached on any or all issues in order to determine whether any scheduling changes are appropriate.

Additional milestones related to intervenor funding deadlines are set forth in a separate table.

Any filings submitted in this proceeding are due by 3:00 p.m. in order to provide adequate processing time for the Filing Center. Filings submitted after 3:00 p.m. will be considered filed on the following business day.

EVENT	DATE
Encouraged deadline for Petitions to Intervene	January 15, 2025
Public Comment Hearing	TBD
Staff-led Environmental Justice Workshop ¹	TBD
Staff/Intervenors Opening Testimony	March 4, 2025
Settlement Conference	March 12, 2025
Settlement Status Update	March 19, 2025
Avista Reply Testimony	April 8, 2025
Data Request Response Time Reduced to Five Business Days	April 8, 2025
Settlement Conference	April 15, 2025
Settlement Status Update	April 22, 2025

¹ Workshop/Settlement conference dates are included in the schedule for the parties' convenience. The parties do not need Commission approval to reschedule workshops or settlement conferences.

Staff/Intervenors Rebuttal Testimony	May 6, 2025
Settlement Conference	May 9, 2025
Settlement Status Update	May 13, 2025
Avista Surrebuttal Testimony	May 15, 2025
Data Request Response Time Reduced to Three Business Days	May 20, 2025
Cross-examination Statements and Exhibits (all parties)	May 27, 2025
Evidentiary Hearing	May 29, 2025 (tentative)
Open Briefs (all parties)	June 17, 2025
Reply Briefs (all parties)	June 26, 2025
Oral Argument	July 8, 2025 (p.m.)
Target Order Date	August 25, 2025
Rate Effective Date	September 1, 2025

Justice Case Funding (Order No. 23-033) Milestones	Date
Notice of Intent and Request for Case Certification Due ²	January 15, 2025
Response to Notice of Intent	Within 14 days of filing of notice of intent
Budget Due	Within 30 days of order granting certification
Responses to Budget Due	Within 14 days of filing of budget
Intervenor Funding Issue Fund – Case-Certified Funding (Order No. 22-506) Milestones	Date
Notice of Intent and Request for Case Certification Due	With petition to intervene or notice of intervention
Response to Notice of Intent	Within 14 days of filing of notice of intent and request for case certification

Parties are reminded that attorneys not licensed in Oregon wanting to appear before the Commission in this docket must file an application for admission to appear pro hac vice.³

Dated: December 4, 2024.



Sarah Spruce
Administrative Law Judge

Attachment: Notice of Contested Case Rights and Procedures

² Proposed budget may be filed with the Notice of Intent and Request for Case Certification.

³ See UTCR 3.170, OAR 860-001-0320.

NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES

Oregon law requires state agencies to provide parties written notice of contested case rights and procedures. Under ORS 183.413, you are entitled to be informed of the following:

Hearing: The time and place of any hearing held in these proceedings will be noticed separately. The Commission will hold the hearing under its general authority set forth in ORS 756.040 and use procedures set forth in ORS 756.518 through 756.610 and OAR Chapter 860, Division 001. Copies of these statutes and rules may be accessed via the Commission's website at <https://www.oregon.gov/puc/Pages/default.aspx>. The Commission will hear issues as identified by the parties.

Right to Attorney: As a party to these proceedings, you may be represented by counsel. Should you desire counsel but cannot afford one, legal aid may be able to assist you; parties are ordinarily represented by counsel. The Commission Staff, if participating as a party in the case, will be represented by the Department of Justice. Generally, once a hearing has begun, you will not be allowed to postpone the hearing to obtain counsel.

Notice to Active Duty Servicemembers: Active Duty Servicemembers have a right to stay these proceedings under the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571 or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>. The Oregon Military Department does not have a toll free telephone number.

Administrative Law Judge: The Commission has delegated the authority to preside over hearings to Administrative Law Judges (ALJs). The scope of an ALJ's authority is defined in OAR 860-001-0090. The ALJs make evidentiary and other procedural rulings, analyze the contested issues, and present legal and policy recommendations to the Commission.

Hearing Rights: You have the right to respond to all issues identified and present evidence and witnesses on those issues. *See* OAR 860-001-0450 through OAR 860-001-0490. You may obtain discovery from other parties through depositions, subpoenas, and data requests. *See* ORS 756.538 and 756.543; OAR 860-001-0500 through 860-001-0540.

Evidence: Evidence is generally admissible if it is of a type relied upon by reasonable persons in the conduct of their serious affairs. *See* OAR 860-001-0450. Objections to the admissibility of evidence must be made at the time the evidence is offered. Objections are generally made on grounds that the evidence is unreliable, irrelevant, repetitious, or because its probative value is outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or undue delay. The order of presenting evidence is determined by the ALJ. The burden of presenting evidence to support an allegation rests with the person raising the allegation. Generally, once a hearing is completed, the ALJ will not allow the introduction of additional evidence without good cause.

Notice of Contested Case Rights and Procedures continued

Record: The hearing will be recorded, either by a court reporter or by audio digital recording, to preserve the testimony and other evidence presented. Parties may contact the court reporter about ordering a transcript or request, if available, a copy of the audio recording from the Commission for a fee set forth in OAR 860-001-0060. The hearing record will be made part of the evidentiary record that serves as the basis for the Commission's decision and, if necessary, the record on any judicial appeal.

Final Order and Appeal: After the hearing, the ALJ will prepare a draft order resolving all issues and present it to the Commission. The draft order is not open to party comment. The Commission will make the final decision in the case and may adopt, modify, or reject the ALJ's recommendation. If you disagree with the Commission's decision, you may request reconsideration of the final order within 60 days from the date of service of the order. *See* ORS 756.561 and OAR 860-001-0720. You may also file a petition for review with the Court of Appeals within 60 days from the date of service of the order. *See* ORS 756.610.