



Avista Receives Commission Decision in Oregon Natural Gas Rate Case

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SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 22, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Avista's (NYSE:AVA) natural gas rate case has concluded with an order from the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC) that approves the all-party settlement filed in May 2017.

The Commission approved rates designed to increase annual billed revenues by 3.7 percent or \$3.5 million. A rate adjustment of \$2.6 million will be effective Oct. 1, 2017, and a second adjustment of \$0.9 million will be effective Nov. 1, 2017 to cover specific capital projects identified in the settlement agreement, which are expected to be completed in October.

"The Commission's decision represents positive outcomes for our customers, the company and our shareholders," said Dennis Vermillion, Avista Corp. senior vice president and president of Avista Utilities. "It supports Avista's efforts to continue to make key capital investments in our natural gas utility infrastructure as well as recover the operating costs of serving our customers."

The Commission's decision reflects a 9.4 percent return on equity (ROE), and a 50 percent equity layer. The rate of return is 7.35 percent.

Including both the Oct. 1 and Nov. 1 rate adjustments, a residential customer using an average of 47 therms per month would see a \$1.57 per month increase, or 2.8 percent, for a revised monthly bill of \$57.75, effective by Nov. 1, 2017. The bill change reflects an increase in the monthly basic charge from \$9.00 to \$10.00.

The actual percentage increase will vary by customer class and will depend on how much energy a customer uses.

Avista serves approximately 99,000 customers in Oregon.

About Avista Corp.

Avista Corp. is an energy company involved in the production, transmission and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. [Avista Utilities](#) is our operating division that provides electric service to 378,000 customers and natural gas to 342,000 customers. Its service territory covers 30,000 square miles in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and parts of southern and eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.6 million. Alaska Energy and Resources Company is an Avista subsidiary that provides retail electric service in the city and borough of Juneau, Alaska, through its subsidiary [Alaska Electric Light and Power Company](#). Avista stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit www.avistacorp.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements regarding the company's current expectations. Forward-looking statements are all statements other than historical facts. Such statements speak only as of the date of the news release and are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the company's control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations. These risks and uncertainties include, in addition to those discussed herein, all of the factors discussed in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2016 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2017.

SOURCE: Avista Corporation

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