



Avista submits Clean Energy Implementation Plan

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Plan sets course for equitable transition to clean energy

SPOKANE, Wash., Oct. 04, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- On October 1, [Avista Utilities](#), an operating division of [Avista Corp.](#) (NYSE: AVA), filed its first Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. Avista is the first utility to file a CEIP in the State of Washington.

Avista's CEIP is a road map of specific actions to be taken over the next four years (2022-2025) to show the progress being made toward clean energy goals established by the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA), which was passed by the Washington legislature and enacted into law in 2019. CETA requires electric supply to be greenhouse gas neutral by 2030 and 100% renewable or generated from zero-carbon resources by 2045.

"This plan builds upon our longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability," said Jason Thackston, Avista's senior vice president of energy resources. "Our own clean energy goals and those set forth in CETA are ambitious, but we are committed to finding a path to get there in a way that balances reliability and affordability. This CEIP includes benchmarks created with customer input that has been invaluable to this process and helps ensure we are benefitting all our customers."

In 2019, Avista announced its goal to serve its customers with 100 percent clean electricity by 2045 and to have a carbon-neutral supply of electricity by the end of 2027. More than half of Avista's current generating potential is clean hydropower, biomass, wind and solar.

The full CEIP is available to view on our website at www.myavista.com/CETA or on the UTC website at www.utc.wa.gov. The CEIP must show customers are benefiting from the transition to clean energy through:

- The equitable distribution of energy and non-energy benefits and reduction of burdens to named communities (i.e. communities who are either socially or economically disadvantaged or sensitive to health effects)
- Long-term and short-term public health and environmental benefits
- Energy security and resiliency

Some highlights of Avista's CEIP include:

- Beginning in 2022, Avista plans to serve 80 percent of its Washington customer demand with renewable energy, then increase this target by 5% every two years.
- To minimize Avista rate impacts as it transitions to clean energy, Avista proposes selling some of its renewable energy credits (RECs) on the behalf of customers through 2029. In 2030, Avista will retire 100% of attributes on behalf of its customers. Avista's proposed plan to sell these renewable attributes should lower rates by 1% each year.
- The plan sets energy efficiency targets to reduce customer load by approximately 2% over the next four years by savings 204,305 megawatt hours through incentives and programs to lower energy use without impacting the customer.
- Avista's demand response target is to lower peak demand by 30 megawatts in period of extreme heat or cold as an effort to eliminate the need for future resources.
- Avista has proposed a set of Customer Benefit Indicators (CBIs) to be used to ensure the equitable distribution of energy and non-energy benefits and reduction of burden to all customers and named communities. The CBIs were developed in coordination with Avista's newly formed Equity Advisory Group, existing advisory groups, interested stakeholders and customers.
- Avista has proposed a Named Communities Investment Fund in which, if approved, it would invest up to \$5 million annually in projects, programs, and initiatives that directly benefit customers residing in historically disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

About Avista Utilities

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 the operating division that provides electric service to 400,000 customers and natural gas to 367,000 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, 2020 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2021.

SOURCE: Avista Corporation

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