



## **Avista Corp. Completes New \$350 Million Line of Credit**

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SPOKANE, Wash., Dec 20, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Avista Corp. (NYSE: AVA) today announced that it has entered into a \$350 million five-year committed line of credit, replacing a 364-day agreement that would have expired May 5, 2005. The new five-year line of credit expires in December 2009.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20040128/SFW031LOGO> )

"We are extremely pleased to be able to renew our credit facility for a five-year time period," said Malyn Malquist, Avista Corp. senior vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer. "We believe this demonstrates recognition by our banks that Avista has made progress in restoring its financial health. The renewed credit facility will provide continued financial flexibility going forward and reinforce our strong relationship with our banking partners."

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 a company operating division that provides service to 325,000 electric and 300,000 natural gas customers in four western states. Avista's non-regulated subsidiaries include Avista Advantage and Avista Energy. Avista Corp.'s stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit [www.avistacorp.com](http://www.avistacorp.com).

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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 all of the factors discussed in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2003, and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2004.

SOURCE Avista Corp.

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