UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 16, 2014

AVISTA CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<u>Washington</u> (State of other jurisdiction of

incorporation)

1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: Web site: http://www.avistacorp.com

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) <u>99202-2600</u>

<u>91-0462470</u>

(Zip Code)

<u>509-489-0500</u>

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

[] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

[] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

<u>1-3701</u> (Commission file number)

Section 8 – Other Events

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On December 16, 2014, Avista Corporation (Avista Corp. or the Company) issued a press release announcing that the Board of Directors of the Company has approved the repurchase of up to 800,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock through a share repurchase plan, commencing on January 2, 2015, and continuing through March 31, 2015.

The previously authorized share repurchase plan for the repurchase of up to 4,000,000 shares of the Company's outstanding common stock that was announced by the Company on June 13, 2014 will terminate as originally planned on or before December 31, 2014.

A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 and the information relating to the stock repurchase program contained there is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press release dated December 16, 2014, which is being filed pursuant to Item 8.01.

Neither the filing of any press release as an exhibit to this Current Report nor the inclusion in such press release of a reference to Avista Corp.'s Internet address shall, under any circumstances, be deemed to incorporate the information available at such Internet address into this Current Report. The information available at Avista Corp.'s Internet address is not part of this Current Report or any other report furnished or filed by Avista Corp. with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

AVISTA CORPORATION

(Registrant)

Date: December 16, 2014

/s/ Mark T. Thies

Mark T. Thies Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer



Contact:

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Avista Corp. Announces First Quarter 2015 Stock Repurchase Program

SPOKANE, Wash. – **Dec. 16, 2014**: Avista Corp. (NYSE: AVA) today announced that its board of directors has approved the repurchase of up to 800,000 shares of the company's outstanding common stock, commencing on Jan. 2, 2015, and continuing through March 31, 2015. The number of shares repurchased will be in addition to the number of shares repurchased under the repurchase program currently in effect, which expires on Dec. 31, 2014.

The company has entered into an agreement with a broker-dealer designed to comply with Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Repurchases will be made by the broker-dealer at its discretion, consistent with pricing, timing and volume limitations contained in the agreement and the regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Repurchases will be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. The agreement will expire on March 31, 2015, but it could be terminated by the company before that date. There is no assurance that the goal of repurchasing 800,000 shares will be achieved.

On June 13, 2014, the company announced that the board of directors of the company had approved the repurchase of up to 4 million shares of Avista's outstanding common stock, with repurchases beginning July 7, 2014 and continuing no longer than Dec. 31, 2014. Through Dec. 16, 2014, Avista has repurchased 2,529,615 shares under this repurchase program at a total cost of \$79.9 million and an average cost of \$31.57 per share. Parameters for the first quarter 2015 program are similar to the 2014 program.

About Avista

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 368,000 customers and natural gas to 325,000 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 1.5 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 <u>www.avistacorp.com</u>.

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, 2013 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended Sept. 30, 2014.

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