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 12, 2016

AVISTA CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

incorporation)

<u>1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington</u> (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: Web site: http://www.avistacorp.com <u>1-3701</u> (Commission file number) <u>91-0462470</u> (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> <u>99202-2600</u> (Zip Code)

509-489-0500

(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))

Section 7 – Regulation FD Disclosure

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On December 13, 2016 and December 14, 2016, management of Avista Corporation (Avista Corp. or the Company) will be participating in meetings with investors and analysts in New York, New York. The same business update presentation will be used at all of the meetings. A copy of the business update presentation is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and is available in the "Investors" section of Avista Corp.'s website at http://investor.avistacorp.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=97267&p=irol-calendarpast.

As part of this update, Avista Corp. expects to confirm earnings guidance for 2016. The 2016 earnings guidance was included in Avista Corp.'s third quarter of 2016 earnings release furnished on Form 8-K on November 1, 2016. The 2016 earnings guidance is subject to the risks, uncertainties and other factors set forth or referred to in such earnings release, the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2016.

The information in this report, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, nor shall it be incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Business update presentation dated December 2016, which is being furnished pursuant to Item 7.01.

The inclusion in this Current Report or in Exhibit 99.1 of a reference to Avista Corp.'s Internet address shall not, 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 12, 2016

/s/ Marian M. Durkin

Marian M. Durkin Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary and Chief Compliance Officer



Positioned for performance: An overview of Q3 2016 and beyond

December 2016

NYSE: AVA

www.avistacorp.com

All forward-looking statements are Avista management's present expectations of future events and are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements.

For more information on such factors and uncertainties, consult Avista's most recent form 10-K and 10-Q, which are available on our website at <u>www.avistacorp.com</u>



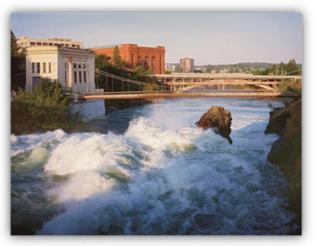
Strong and stable utility core

Avista Utilities

- Regulated electric and natural gas operations
- Serves customers in Washington, Idaho and Oregon
- Contributes about 95% of earnings

Alaska Electric Light & Power Company (AEL&P)

- Regulated electric operations
- Serves customers in City and Borough of Juneau



Long history of service, trust, innovation and collaboration

Photo: Spokane River Upper Falls



Steadily building long-term value

Projecting long-term earnings and dividend growth of 4% to 5%

| Avista Utilities | 5% to 6% rate base growth through utility capital investments Upgrading infrastructure Grid modernization Customer and load growth ~1% |
|--------------------------|---|
| AEL&P | Strong near-term rate base growth through investment in generation Customer and load growth ~1% Planning to bring natural gas to Juneau |
| Strategic Investments | Developing platforms for future growth Targeting expanded natural gas services via LNG* Exploring data science and advanced analytics Investing in emerging technologies |

Reliably building value for our customers, investors, communities and employees

*LNG: Liquefied natural gas

AVISTA

Avista Utilities

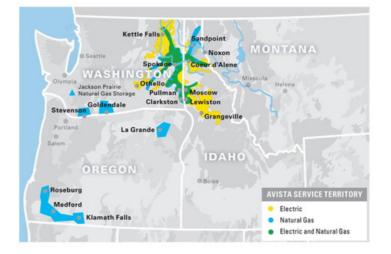
Significant investments in utility infrastructure



Solid foundation and continued commitment to innovation

Providing safe and reliable service for 127 years

- Diverse customer base
 - 30,000 square mile service territory
 - Service area population 1.6 million
 - 375,000 electric customers
 - 335,000 natural gas customers
- Strong customer focus
 - 90% percent or better customer satisfaction ratings every year since 1999
 - Developing key customer initiatives
- Invested in our communities
 - More than \$1.5 million per year in charitable donations and over 48,000 volunteer hours from our employees



Information as of Dec. 31, 2015

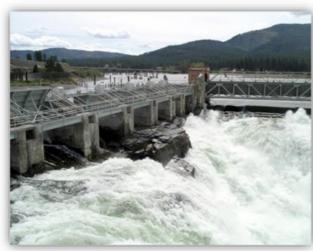




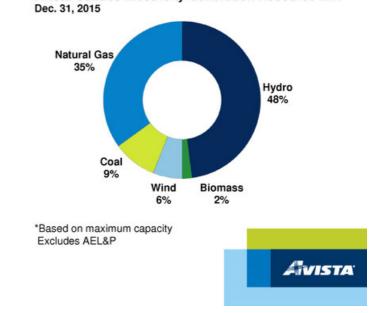
A responsible mix of generation

Founded on clean, renewable hydropower

- Strategy is to control a portfolio of resources that responsibly meet our long-term energy needs
- Long resources through 2020; plan to add 96 MW natural gas peaker by the end of 2020
- Exceeds Washington state's 15% Renewable Portfolio Standard for the next 20 years



Post Falls Dam, Idaho

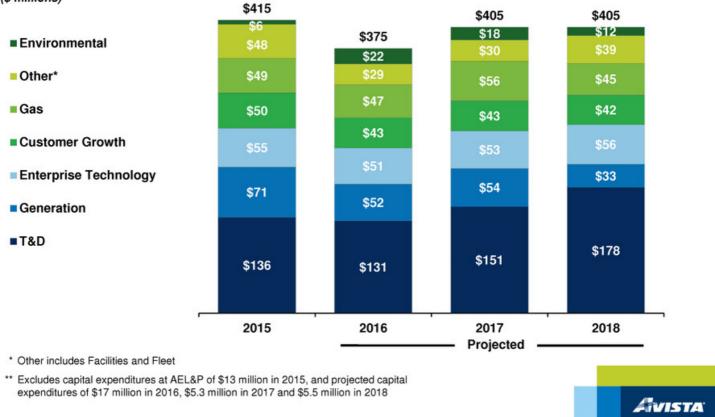


Avista Utilities Electricity Generation Resource Mix*

Significant investments to upgrade all systems

5% to 6% rate base growth

Avista Utilities Capital Expenditures** (\$ millions)



Investing in our utility

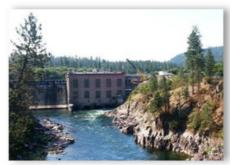
Preserving and enhancing service reliability



Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)



Aldyl A Natural Gas Pipe Replacement



Nine Mile Falls Rehab



Grid Modernization



Little Falls Plant Upgrade



Driving effective regulatory outcomes

Continued recovery of costs and capital investments

Washington



- Feb. 19, 2016, filed an electric and natural gas rate request with a proposed 18-month rate plan designed for new rates effective Jan. 1, 2017, and Jan. 1, 2018. Under this plan, we would not file a rate case for new rates to be effective prior to July 1, 2018.
- Request designed to increase annual electric revenues by 7.6% or \$38.6 million, and annual natural gas revenues by 2.8% or \$4.4 million effective Jan. 1, 2017.
- The request also includes a secondstep increase on Jan. 1, 2018, designed to increase electric revenues by 3.9% or \$10.3 million, and natural gas revenues by 1.0% or \$0.9 million, for the January through June 2018 period.
- Request based on 48.5% equity ratio and a 9.9% return on equity.

Idaho

- Oct. 24, 2016, filed an all-party settlement agreement designed to increase annual electric base revenues by 2.5% or \$6.3 million; plus continued recovery of \$4.1 million of costs related to Palouse Wind Project through the PCA mechanism.
- Based on a 9.5% return on equity with a 50.0% common equity ratio.
- New rates would be effective Jan. 1, 2017.

Oregon

- Nov. 30, 2016, filed a natural gas rate request to increase revenues by 9% or \$8.5M.
- Request based on 50% equity ratio and 9.9% return on equity.
- The PUC has up to 10 months to review and rule; if approved, new rates would take effect no later than Oct. 1, 2017.

Alaska



- Sept. 16, 2016, filed an electric general rate request to increase revenues by 8.1% or \$2.8 million.
- An interim rate increase of 3.86% or \$1.3 million was effective Nov. 23, 2016.
- An additional \$2.9 million annually from interruptible service was approved to reduce overall revenue requirement from \$5.7 million to \$2.8 million.
- Request based on a 58% equity ratio and a 13.8% return on equity.
- The RCA has approximately 15 months to rule on the permanent rate increase.





Alaska Electric Light & Power Company (AEL&P)

Growing the utility core



Diversifying our utility footprint



Oldest regulated electric utility in Alaska, founded in 1893

- Serves 17,000 electric customers in the City and Borough of Juneau, meeting nearly all of its energy needs with hydropower
- One of the lowest-cost electric utilities in the state
- Approved capital structure of 53.8% equity and an authorized return on equity of 12.875%



Juneau, Alaska





Opportunity to drive additional growth in Alaska

Planning to bring natural gas to Juneau

- Continuing to work through the key issues
 - Seek low-cost debt financing through mechanisms provided by Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority (AIDEA)
 - Exploring alternative ways to pay for customers' conversion costs
- Next Step
 - File and obtain from the regulatory commission of Alaska a non-conditional Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity



Juneau, Alaska



Strategic Investments

Developing platforms for future growth



Creating new growth platforms

- Expand natural gas services via LNG
 - Salix (subsidiary)
 - Generation diesel substitution
 - Marine fueling
 - Rail fueling
- Targeted investments
 - Energy Impact Partners
 - Private equity fund that invests in emerging technologies, products, services, and business models throughout electricity supply chain with a collaborative, strategic investment approach
 - Plum Energy
 - Small LNG project investments
 - TROVE
 - Leverage AMI, consumer and other data through predictive analytics











Financial

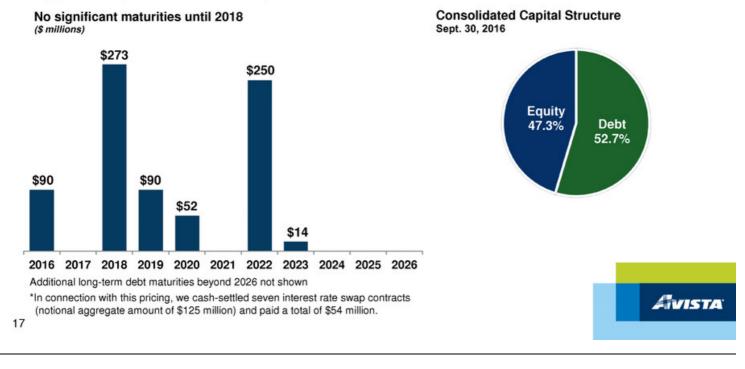
Performance Metrics



Prudent balance sheet and liquidity

\$139.8 million of available liquidity at Avista Corp. as of Sept. 30, 2016

- Executed a \$70.0 million term loan agreement with an expiration date of Dec. 30, 2016, which was used to repay a portion of \$90.0 million bond maturity in August
- In August priced \$175 million of Avista Corp. first mortgage bonds with a coupon of 3.54%* and maturity date of December 2051. Expect to issue December 2016
- Issued 1.6 million shares of common stock under our sales agency agreements for total net proceeds of approximately \$66 million as of Sept. 30, 2016



Continued long-term earnings growth

Total Earnings per Diluted Share Attributable to Avista Corporation

| Business Segments | Q3 2016 | Q3 2015 |
|---------------------|----------|---------|
| Avista Utilities | \$0.20 | \$0.20 |
| AEL&P | \$0.01 | \$0.01 |
| Other | \$(0.02) | - |
| TOTAL – Diluted EPS | \$0.19 | \$0.21 |



Growth for 2016

| 2016 Earnings Guidance | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Avista Utilities | \$1.91 - \$2.05 | | |
| AEL&P | \$0.09 - \$0.13 | | |
| Other | \$(0.04) - \$(0.02) | | |
| Consolidated | \$1.96 - \$2.16 | | |

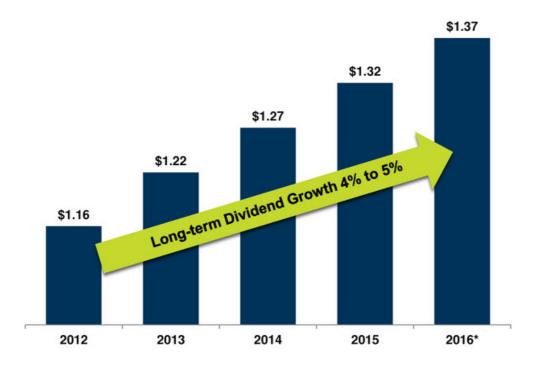
Guidance Assumptions

- Our outlook for Avista Utilities assumes, among other variables, normal precipitation and temperatures for the remainder of the year.
- Our outlook for AEL&P assumes, among other variables, normal precipitation, temperatures and hydroelectric generation for the remainder of the year.
- Our guidance range for Avista Utilities encompasses expected variability in power supply costs and the application of the ERM to that power supply cost variability.
- The midpoint of our guidance range for Avista Utilities does not include any benefit or expense under the ERM. In 2016 we expect to be in a benefit position under the ERM.



Stable and growing dividend

Dividend growth expected to keep pace with long-term earnings growth



*Current quarterly dividend of \$0.3425 annualized

Aivista

An attractive investment

- Strong and responsible core utility
 - Investing substantially to modernize infrastructure and upgrade systems
 - Steady returns and attractive dividend yield*
 - One of the greenest utilities in the U.S.**
- Focus on utility growth
 - Selective acquisitions
 - Developing new products and services and supporting economic development throughout service area
 - LDC opportunity in Juneau
- Positioning for the future
 - Strategically investing in ways to extend access to natural gas via LNG, leverage AMI data through applied analytics, gain insight into leading-edge energy solutions
 - Track record of innovation (e.g. Itron, ReliOn, Ecova)
 - * Dividend yield 3.3% based on stock price as of Sept. 30, 2016
 - ** Source: Benchmarking Air Emissions of the 100 Largest Power Producers in the United States, NRDC, July 2015 LDC: Local distribution company

Photo: Cabinet Gorge Dam



21



Reliably building value for our customers, investors, communities and employees

AVISTA

We welcome your questions

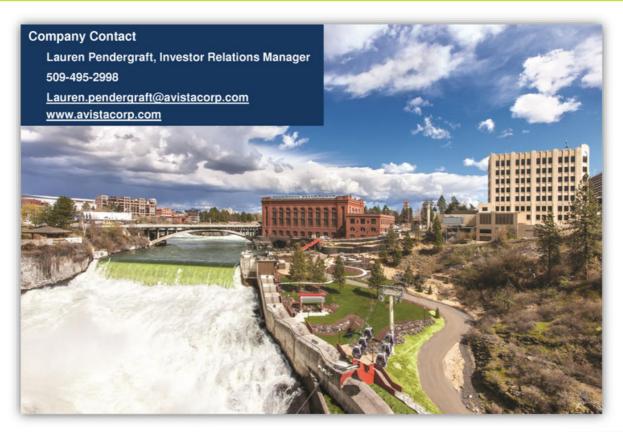


Photo: Huntington Park, Spokane, Wash.

AVISTA