

DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSIONER HANSEN
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL**

FROM: SCOTT WOODBURY

DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2004

**SUBJECT: CASE NO. AVU-E-04-7 (Avista)
PETITION TO EXTEND IRP FILING DEADLINE**

On December 3, 2004, Avista Corp. dba Avista Utilities (Avista) filed a petition with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting authority to extend its 2005 IRP filing deadline from April 30, 2005 to September 1, 2005. Pursuant to Order No. 22299, Case No. U-1500-165, Avista is required to file a biennial resource management report (now IRP or Integrated Resource Plan) describing the status of the Company's electric resource planning.

As justification for the proposed delay in filing, Avista contends that its lead IRP analyst recently left the Company and its second analyst is retiring this month (December 2004). This, the Company states, has caused delays in completing IRP work products and the cancellation of some Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings. Avista's desire to provide adequate public participation through the TAC and a meaningful IRP process, will require an extension beyond April 30, 2005.

COMMISSION DECISION

Staff recommends that the Company requested delay in filing its 2005 IRP be granted without further notice or procedure. Does the Commission agree to Staff recommended handling of the Company's petition?

Scott D. Woodbury