### ON BEHALF OF AVISTA CORPORATION

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#### BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

| IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT        | ) |                      |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|--|--|
| APPLICATION OF HYDRO ONE LIMITED  | ) | CASE NO. AVU-E-17-09 |  |  |  |
| (ACTING THROUGH ITS INDIRECT      | ) | CASE NO. AVU-G-17-05 |  |  |  |
| SUBSIDIARY, OLYMPUS EQUITY LLC)   | ) |                      |  |  |  |
| AND                               | ) |                      |  |  |  |
| AVISTA CORPORATION                | ) | REBUTTAL TESTIMONY   |  |  |  |
| FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING PROPOSED | ) | OF                   |  |  |  |
| TRANSACTION                       | ) | JAMES D. SCARLETT    |  |  |  |

FOR HYDRO ONE LIMITED

| 1        | I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2        | Q. Please state your name, business address and present   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3        | position with Hydro One Limited.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4        | A. My name is James D. ("Jamie") Scarlett, and my   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5        | business address is 483 Bay Street, South Tower, 8th Floor,   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6        | Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P5. I am Executive Vice President and   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7        | Chief Legal Officer for Hydro One Limited ("Hydro One").  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8        | Q. Did you submit prefiled direct, rebuttal or  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9        | supplemental testimony in this proceeding?  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10       | A. Yes. I submitted supplemental testimony on September   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11       | 24, 2018.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12       | Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits that accompany your  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13       | testimony?  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14       | A. No.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15       | A table of contents for my testimony is as follows:   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 26       |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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### 1 Summary of Testimony

Q. Please summarize your testimony.

My testimony addresses the new and amended commitments 3 Α. developed by Hydro One, Avista, and Commission Staff to address 4 the potential for Provincial influence over Avista's operations 5 and rates; Hydro One's and Avista's conclusion that the set of 6 7 merger commitments developed in this proceeding address all risks of Provincial influence identified by Commission Staff; 8 9 Commission Staff's concerns regarding the notice provided by Hydro One and Avista regarding the Ontario election in June 2018 10 11 and the impacts on Hydro One's board and management; the facts relevant to the Commission's consideration of whether Idaho Code 12 § 61-327 applies to this transaction; and the facts and merger 13 commitments showing that all of the requirements in Idaho Code 14 15 § 61-328 have been met.

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# 17 II. NEW SETTLEMENT COMMITMENTS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS PROVINCE'S 18 MINORITY SHAREHOLDING IN HYDRO ONE

Q. Commission Staff testified that amendments to Stipulated Commitment Nos. 2 and 3 and a revision to the Delegation of Authority in the Merger Agreement help resolve concerns that the Province will attempt to influence the policies and actions of Avista as the largest shareholder of

> Scarlett, Supp. Reb. 2 Hydro One Limited

Avista's sole owner, Hydro One.<sup>1</sup> Can you provide more detail
 on those amendments and revisions and why they will protect

3 Avista from influence by the Province?

A. Hydro One and Avista worked with the Commission Staff and other parties to this proceeding to develop the following amendments to Stipulated Commitment Nos. 2 and 3 and the Delegation of Authority to protect Avista from influence by the Province:

• Amended Stipulated Commitment No. 2 - Executive Management: 9 Avista will seek to retain all current executive management 10 of Avista, subject to voluntary retirements that may occur. 11 This commitment will not limit Avista's ability to 12 13 determine its organizational structure and select and retain personnel best able to meet Avista's needs over 14 time. The Avista board retains the ability to dismiss 15 executive management of Avista and other Avista personnel 16 for standard corporate reasons-(subject to the. Any 17 decision to hire, dismiss or replace the Chief Executive 18 19 Officer of Avista shall be within the discretion of the Avista Board of Directors, and shall not require any 20 approval of Hydro One Limited ("Hydro One") for any hiring, 21 2.2 dismissal or replacement of the CEO); or any of its affiliates (other than Avista), notwithstanding anything 23 to the contrary in the merger agreement, and its exhibits 24 25 and attachments, between Hydro One and Avista.

26 Avista Employee Compensation: Any decisions regarding 27 Avista employee compensation shall be made by the Avista Board consistent with the terms of the Merger Agreement 28 between Hydro One and Avista, and current market standards 29 and prevailing practices of relevant U.S. electric and gas 30 31 utility benchmarks. The determination of the level of any 32 compensation (including equity awards) approved by the 33 Avista Board with respect to any employee in accordance

<sup>1</sup> AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Direct Testimony of Terri Carlock at pg. 7, lines 9-15 (Nov. 6, 2018) ("Carlock Direct Testimony").

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with the foregoing shall not be subject to change by Hydro
 One or the Hydro One Board.

• Amended Stipulated Commitment No. 3 - Board of Directors: 3 4 After the closing of the Proposed Transaction, Avista's 5 board will consist of nine (9) members, determined as follows: (i) two (2) directors designated by Hydro One who 6 are executives of Hydro One or any of its subsidiaries; 7 (ii) three (3) directors who meet the standards for 8 "independent directors" - under section 303A.02 of the New 9 York Stock Exchange Listed Company Manual (the "Independent 10 Directors") and who are citizens of the United States and 11 are and have been residents of the Pacific Northwest 12 region for at least two years, to be designated by Hydro 13 One (collectively, the directors designated in clauses (i) 14 15 and (ii) hereof, the "Hydro One Designees"), subject to 16 the provisions of Clause 2 of Exhibit A to the Merger Agreement; (iii) three (3) directors who as of immediately 17 prior to the closing of the Proposed Transaction are 18 members of the Board of Directors of Avista, including the 19 20 Chairman of Avista's Board of Directors (if such person is different from the Chief Executive Officer of Avista); and 21 (iv) Avista's Chief Executive Officer (collectively, the 22 23 directors designated in clauses (iii) and (iv) hereof, the "Avista Designees"). Avista and Hydro One shall consult 24 with each other prior to the designation of any Independent 25 The initial Chairman of Avista's post-closing Directors. 26 Board of Directors shall be the Chief Executive Officer of 27 Avista as of the time immediately prior to closing for a 28 one year term. If any Avista Designee resigns, retires or 29 otherwise ceases to serve as a director of Avista for any 30 reason, the remaining Avista Designees shall have the sole 31 right to nominate a replacement director to fill such 32 vacancy, and such person shall thereafter become an Avista 33 34 Designee.

The term "Pacific Northwest region" means the Pacific Northwest states in which Avista serves retail electric or natural gas customers, currently Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington<del>;</del>.

| 39 | The    | Indepe | endent   | Direc  | tors  | will  | . ha   | ve no  | o ma    | terial |
|----|--------|--------|----------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| 40 | relat  | ionshi | p with   | Hydro  | One   | and   | its    | subsid | diarie  | s and  |
| 41 | affil  | iated  | entities | s, the | Prov  | ince  | of O   | ntario | , or i  | Avista |
| 42 | and i  | ts sub | sidiarie | es and | affil | iated | l enti | ties c | current | tly or |
| 43 | within | n the  | previous | з 3 уе | ars.  | Form  | er di  | rector | s of i  | Avista |

who otherwise meet these qualifications qualify as
 Independent Directors.

3 • Amended Delegation of Authority -Clause 3: Sole Shareholder shall have the unfettered right to designate, 4 5 remove and replace the Sole Shareholder Designees as 6 directors of the Surviving Corporation with or without cause or notice at its sole discretion, subject to the 7 requirement that: (i) two (2) of such directors are 8 executives of Parent or any of its Subsidiaries and (ii) 9 three (3) of such directors are not officers, employees or 10 directors (other than as an independent director of the 11 Surviving Corporation) of Parent of any of its Affiliates 12 13 and Independent Directors who are citizens of the United States and are and have been residents of the Pacific 14 15 Northwest *PRegion* for at least two years, while such requirement is in effect (subject in the case of clause 16 (ii) hereof to Sole-Shareholder determining, in good faith, 17 that it is not able to appoint a non-employee resident an 18 Independent Director who is a citizen of the United States, 19 and resident of the Pacific Northwest +Region in a timely 20 manner, in which case Sole Shareholder may replace any such 21 director with an employee any person who is a citizen of 22 the United States, excluding any employee or executive of 23 Parent or any of its Subsidiaries other than Avista, on an 24 interim basis, not exceeding six months, after which 25 time Sole Shareholder shall replace any such interim 26 director with a non-employee an Independent Director who 27 28 is a citizen of the United States and is and has been a resident of the Pacific Northwest Region); for at least 29 30 two years). If, at any time a circumstance arises, and during the pendency of any such circumstance, whereby the 31 32 Province of Ontario ("Ontario") exercises its rights as a shareholder of Hydro One, uses legislative authority or 33 34 acts in any other manner whatsoever, that results, or would 35 result, in Ontario appointing nominees to the board of directors of Hydro One that constitute, or would constitute 36 a majority of the directors of such board, then Hydro One's 37 authority to replace an Independent Director on an interim 38 basis is suspended for the pendency of such circumstance. 39 40 For purposes of this modification to the Delegation of

Authority, the following definitions, which are set forth in the Delegation of Authority and Merger Agreement, will apply:

1 "Independent Directors" means any director of the Surviving 2 Corporation who (i) meets the standards for "independent director" under section 303A.02 of the New York Stock 3 Exchange Listed Company Manual with respect to Parent and 4 Subsidiaries, including the Surviving Corporation, 5 its 6 has no material relationship with Parent, (ii) its 7 Subsidiaries or affiliated entities currently or in the 8 prior three years, and (iii) if and to the extent required 9 with respect to a specific director, who meets such other 10 qualifications as may be required by any applicable state utility regulatory authority for an independent director. 11 12 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this definition of "Independent Director," (a) a director who also serves 13 14 as an independent director of the Surviving Corporation or any of its Subsidiaries or the Shareholder and who 15 16 otherwise satisfies the criteria set forth above for an "Independent may still 17 Director," be considered 18 independent within the meaning hereof, and (b) former officers of the Company or the Surviving Corporation, who 19 otherwise satisfy the criteria set forth above for an 20 "Independent Director," may still 21 considered be 22 independent within the meaning hereof. 23 "Pacific Northwest Region" means the Pacific Northwest 24 states in which the Surviving Corporation serves retail 25 electric or natural gas customers, currently Alaska, Idaho, 26 Montana, Oregon and Washington.

27 <u>"Parent" shall mean Hydro One Limited, a corporation</u> 28 organized under the laws of the Province of Ontario.

29 "Shareholder" shall mean Olympus Equity LLC, a Delaware 30 limited liability company.

31 "Shareholder Designees" shall mean (i) two (2) directors 32 designated by Shareholder who are executives of Parent or any of its Subsidiaries; (ii) three (3) Independent 33 Directors who are residents of the Pacific Northwest 34 Region, to be designated by Shareholder (the "Shareholder 35 Independent Directors"). [Note: for purposes of this 36 modification to the DoA, "Shareholder Designees" has the 37 same meaning as "Hydro One Designees" in Commitment No. 38 39 3.]

40 "Subsidiaries" when used with respect to any party hereto,
 41 shall mean any corporation, limited liability company,
 42 partnership, association, trust or other entity of which
 43 securities or other ownership interests representing more

Scarlett, Supp. Reb. 6 Hydro One Limited than 50% of the equity and more than 50% of the ordinary voting power (or, in the case of a limited partnership, more than 50% of the general partnership interests) are, as of such date, owned by such party or one or more Subsidiaries of such party or by such party and one or more Subsidiaries of such party.

"Surviving Corporation" shall mean Avista Corporation, a Washington corporation.

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Q. What other amendments and new commitments were added by the parties to this proceeding to address the risk of Provincial influence over Avista if the proposed transaction

13 (the "Proposed Transaction") is consummated?

A. Hydro One and Avista worked with the Commission Staff and other parties to this proceeding to develop the following amendments to Stipulated Commitment No. 1 and to create new Commitment 74 to protect Avista from influence by the Province:

• Amended Stipulated Commitment No. 1 - Authority Reserved: 18 Consistent with and subject to the terms of Exhibits A and 19 B to the Merger Agreement (referred to as "Delegation of 20 21 Authority") contained in Appendix 5 of the Joint Application, decision-making authority over commitments 2-22 23 15 below is reserved to the Board of Directors of Avista Corporation ("Avista") and not to Hydro One. Any change to 24 policies stated in commitments 2-15, plus 30 25 the 26 (Commission Enforcement of Commitments), 37 (Credit 27 Notification), 38 (Restrictions on Upward Ratings Dividends and Distributions), 43 (Independent Directors), 28 49 (No Amendment), 74 (Notice and Petition to Amend or 29 30 Alter), 75 (North American Free Trade Agreement), and 76 (Venue for and Resolution of Disputes), requires a two-31 32 thirds (2/3) vote of the Avista Board, provided that Avista 33 must obtain approval for such changes from all regulatory bodies with jurisdiction over the Commitments before such 34 35 changes can go into effect, and provide written notice to

all parties to Case No. AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 of such request for approval:

• New Commitment 74 - Notice and Petition to Alter or Amend: 3 If any event occurs that would have an effect on Avista's 4 5 operations and/or customer rates because of Avista's 6 corporate relationship with Hydro One, or affects Hydro 7 One's compliance with any commitment in this stipulation 8 (an "Event"), any of the parties to this proceeding may petition the Commission at any time to alter or amend the 9 final order in Case Nos. AVU-E-17-09 and AVU-G-17-05, and 10 neither Hydro One nor any of its subsidiaries, including 11 Avista, will oppose initiation of such a proceeding. Hydro 12 13 One or Avista will report to the Commission any material Event as soon as practicable. For purposes of the 14 15 Commitment 74, a material event means (i) an event that a 16 properly informed person would reasonably conclude would 17 have a significant effect on Avista's operations or customers' rates; or (ii) making it more probable than not 18 19 that Hydro One would be out of compliance with any Commitment herein. Nothing in this Commitment 74 shall be 20 21 interpreted to limit the positions or arguments that Avista or Hydro One may take or advance in any such proceeding, 22 23 including the right to argue that a petition presents insufficient grounds or evidence. Prior to filing a 24 25 petition with the Commission under this Commitment 74, a party must provide Hydro One and Avista at least 30 days 26 27 advance written notice and an opportunity to meet and confer about resolutions other than filing with the 28 Commission under this commitment. 29 Nothing in this commitment is intended to restrict the rights of the 30 31 parties to petition the Commission concerning its order(s) authority in this docket, or to limit the of 32 the 33 Commission.

Q. Do you agree with Commission Staff that there is a risk that the Province will influence Hydro One's selection of its three independent directors for the post-merger Avista board?<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 16, lines 6-9.

No. As discussed in more detail in Section IV of my 1 Α. 2 testimony, Section 2.1.3 of the Governance Agreement between 3 Hydro One and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Ontario dated November 5, 2015 (the "Governance Agreement")<sup>3</sup> states that "The 4 Province shall ... engage in the business and affairs of Hydro 5 One and the Hydro One Entities as an investor and not as a 6 The Province has reaffirmed this obligation in 7 manager." Section 16 of the July 11, 2018, Letter Agreement (the "July 8 2018 Letter Agreement") approved by Cabinet and entered into 9 between Hydro One and the Province.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, on November 10 7, 2018, Hydro One and Avista announced the five Independent 11 Directors that they have selected to serve on Avista's post-12 13 merger board if the Proposed Transaction is consummated. The Province played no role whatever in the selection of these 14 Independent Directors: 15

• Kristianne Blake (Avista selection): Ms. Blake serves on the current Avista Board of Directors as lead director and has been an Avista Director since 2000. She is a long-time resident of Spokane, Washington, and has a rich history of involvement in the Spokane community. She has been the president of the accounting firm of Kristianne Gates Blake, P.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Governance Agreement is Exh. No. 10, Schedule 3 to my supplemental testimony filed on September 24, 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The July 2018 Letter Agreement between Hydro One and Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Ontario was attached as Exh. No. 10, Schedule 1, to my supplemental testimony filed on September 24, 2018.

since 1987 and has an extensive background in public accounting. 1 2 She was a Certified Public Accountant for 33 years, and she 3 worked for 13 years for an international accounting firm. She has served for 22 years on various boards of public companies 4 and registered investment companies. 5 Ms. Blake is also currently serving as board chair for the Russell Investment 6 7 Company and the Russell investment Funds.

8 Donald Burke (Avista selection): Mr. Burke serves on 9 the current Avista Board of Directors as the chair of the audit committee and has been an Avista Director since 2011. 10 As a 11 director, he serves as the Board's designated financial expert. 12 He also currently serves as an independent director for the 13 Virtus mutual fund complex and Duff & Phelps closed-end funds 14 complex. From 2006 to 2010, Mr. Burke served as a trustee for 15 numerous global funds that were advised by BlackRock, Inc. From 16 2006 to 2009, he was a managing director of BlackRock and served 17 as the president and CEO of the BlackRock U.S. mutual funds. 18 this role, Mr. Burke was responsible for all of the In 19 accounting, tax and regulatory reporting requirements for over 20 300 open and closed-end mutual funds. Mr. Burke joined 21 BlackRock in connection with the merger with Merrill Lynch Investment Managers ("MLIM"), taking a lead role in the 22 23 integration of the two firms' operating infrastructures. While 24 at MLIM, Mr. Burke was the Head of Global Operations and Client

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Services and also served as the Treasurer and Chief Financial 1 Officer ("CFO") of the MLIM mutual funds. He brings significant 2 financial experience to the board from his years in public 3 accounting and his role as the treasurer and CFO of numerous 4 mutual funds. He has extensive board experience, having served 5 on the audit, compliance, governance & nominating, and contract 6 review committees of various boards. Through his service as an 7 Avista director, Mr. Burke has demonstrated his commitment to 8 the Pacific Northwest region. 9

Christine Gregoire (Hydro One selection): Ms. 10 Gregoire is the CEO for Challenge Seattle, an organization 11 comprised of 18 major international companies and non-profits 12 located in the Seattle region. Previously, she served for two 13 terms as Governor of the State of Washington with a \$32B biennial 14 budget and over 60,000 employees. In her first term as Governor, 15 she created the Department of Early Learning and led on reforms 16 17 to the K-12 system and investment in higher education. She led the state in a historical investment in infrastructure, 18 addressed the water wars in the state, led an historic number 19 20 of trade missions, reformed the foster care system to protect 21 children, and was among the first to lead in health care reform. 22 During her second term, Ms. Gregoire led the state in major 23 reforms, management and budgeting to position the state as one of the most financially secure to come out of the "Great 24

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Recession." Prior to becoming Governor, she served for three 1 2 terms as Washington Attorney General and, prior to becoming Attorney General, she served four years as the Director of the 3 4 State Department of Ecology. She is also a member of the Fred 5 Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and the Bipartisan Governors' Council, and she serves on the advisory boards of the William 6 7 D. Ruckelshaus Center and the Progressive Coalition for American Jobs. Ms. Gregoire recently completed her third year as Chair 8 9 on the National Export-Import Bank Advisory Board. She is a graduate of Gonzaga University School of Law, and she and her 10 husband also have a home in north Idaho. 11

Scott Maw (Hydro One selection): Mr. Maw serves on 12 the current Avista Board of Directors and has been an Avista 13 Director since 2016. He has been executive vice president and 14 15 CFO for Starbucks Coffee Company since February 2014. He is 16 responsible for Starbucks' Global Finance organization. Prior 17 to that, he served as senior vice president of Corporate Finance for Starbucks where he was responsible for corporate finance, 18 including accounting, tax, and treasury. Mr. Maw also had 19 20 oversight for all financial and securities-related regulatory 21 filings. He joined Starbucks as global controller in 2011. 22 Prior to joining Starbucks, Mr. Maw served as CFO of SeaBright 23 Insurance Company from 2010 to 2011. From 2008 to February 2010 he served as CFO of the Consumer Banking division of JPMorgan 24

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Chase & Co. He is a Seattle, Washington, resident with roots in
 Eastern Washington. He graduated from Deer Park High School,
 just north of Spokane, and is a graduate of Gonzaga University.

Marc Racicot (Hydro One selection): Mr. Racicot serves 4 on the current Avista Board of Directors and has been an Avista 5 Director since 2009. He served as president and CEO of the 6 American Insurance Association from August 2005 to February 7 Prior to that, he was a partner at the law firm of 8 2009. 9 Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP from 2001 to 2005. He is a former governor (1993 to 2001) and attorney general (1989 to 1993) of 10 the state of Montana. Mr. Racicot was nominated by President 11 12 Bush and unanimously elected to serve as the chair of the 13 Republican National Committee from 2002 to 2003 prior to assuming the position of chair of the Bush/Cheney Re-election 14 15 Committee from 2003 to 2004. He previously served as a director 16 for Siebel Systems, Allied Capital Corporation, Burlington 17 Northern Santa Fe Corporation, Plum Creek Timber Company, and 18 The Washington Companies, and he presently serves as a director 19 for Weyerhaeuser Company and Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance 20 Company. In addition, throughout his career Mr. Racicot has 21 strongly committed himself to children, education and community 22 issues. He was appointed to the board of The Corporation for 23 National and Community Service by President Clinton, and he has 24 also served on the boards of Carroll College, Jobs for America's

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Graduates, and United Way of Helena, Montana. He is a life long resident of Montana and a graduate of Carroll College.

Q. Please summarize the Stipulated Commitments in the April 13, 2018 Stipulation that were designed, well before the Ontario election, to prevent Provincial influence over Avista.

First, as established in the Stipulation filed with 6 Α. 7 this Commission on April 13, 2018, Avista will have a ninemember board separate from Hydro One that will govern Avista's 8 9 management and day-to-day operations. See Stipulated Commitment No. 3. Hydro One, not the Province, will select five of Avista's 10 11 directors. Three of these five directors must be independent under NYSE rules. Further, pursuant to the recent amendments 12 to Commitment No. 3 described above, those three directors must 13 be U.S. Citizens and residents of the Pacific Northwest for at 14 least two years. As a result, the Province will not be able to 15 exercise any control over Avista through selection of Avista's 16 board. 17

18 Second, Olympus Equity LLC's three-member board must 19 include one independent director. See Stipulated Commitment 20 No. 43.

21 Third, Hydro One is required to provide Avista with 22 sufficient equity to ensure that Avista's credit ratings remain 23 investment grade. This ensures that the Province cannot deprive

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Avista of its capital and assets for the benefit of the Province.
 See Stipulated Commitment No. 37.

Fourth, Avista will be prohibited from issuing dividends 3 if certain financial metrics relating to the equity floor, 4 5 credit ratings and debt coverage are not met. This prohibition operates to keep retained earnings at the Avista level, where 6 they will improve Avista's financial strength. 7 This, too, prevents the Province from depriving Avista of its capital and 8 assets for the benefit of the Province. 9 See Stipulated Commitment No. 38. 10

Fifth, Avista's utility assets can be pledged only for the benefit of Avista, not Hydro One. Therefore, the Province cannot strip Avista of is capital and assets for the benefit of the Province. *See* Stipulated Commitment No. 46.

15 Lastly, Hydro One and Avista, along with the rest of the 16 parties to the Stipulation and Settlement, developed the 17 Stipulation to ensure that Avista could not be negatively 18 impacted in any way by any of the political events described 19 below. Hydro One is legally obligated to comply with the Stipulation in this Case, the settlements it has reached in 20 21 Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Alaska, the Regulatory 22 Commission of Alaska's June 4, 2018, order approving this 23 merger, the Montana Public Service Commission's order approving this merger, and any orders approving this merger issued by this 24

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Commission, the Washington Utilities and Transportation
 Commission, and the Oregon Public Utility Commission.

3 All of the protections described above that have been built into the Stipulation to ensure that Avista will continue as a 4 stand-alone utility (e.g., Avista's financially sound, 5 independent board, financial ring-fencing, and capital support) 6 will bind Hydro One regardless of political developments. 7 Furthermore, through the Stipulation in this proceeding and the 8 settlements in Washington and Oregon, Hydro One and Avista have 9 agreed that none of the commitments in the settlements can be 10 amended without approval from Avista's state regulators. See 11 Stipulated Commitment Nos. 1, 30, 33, 49. 12

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## 14 III. STAFF'S LIST OF UNADDRESSED RISKS RELATED TO THE PROPOSED 15 TRANSACTION

Commission Staff asserts that the Province's ability 16 ο. to force the removal of the Hydro One Board, the retirement of 17 18 the CEO, and the passage of the Hydro One Accountability Act demonstrate that there are no bounds to the Province's ability 19 to influence Hydro One.<sup>5</sup> Do you agree with those conclusions? 20 21 Α. No. As will be described in greater detail in Section IV of this testimony, the removal of the Hydro One Board followed 22 all relevant and material aspects of the provisions in the 23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 14-15.

Governance Agreement and the retirement of Mayo Schmidt removed 1 uncertainty and was in the best interests of Hydro One. 2 In addition, the Province, in Section 16 of the July 2018 Letter 3 Agreement, ratified and reaffirmed its commitment to the 4 Governance Agreement, which remains in full force and effect. 5 As a result, the Governance Agreement remains a check on the 6 Province's ability to influence Hydro One. 7

Further, the Province's legislative authority over Hydro 8 One is limited to matters within the Province's jurisdiction. 9 This limitation was clear in the Hydro One Accountability Act: 10 It defined the term "subsidiary" to specifically exclude 11 application of the Act to Hydro One subsidiaries incorporated 12 13 in a jurisdiction outside of Canada. This is extremely important to consider in this proceeding, as the Province's 14 15 legislative authority simply does not extend to the operations 16 and rates of Avista. Rather, the operations and rates of Avista are strictly within the jurisdiction of the five states in which 17 Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Montana, and 18 Avista operates: Alaska. 19

To the extent that the Province could employ some other type of action to exercise influence over Hydro One to reach Avista, the previous section of this testimony explains how the new commitments negotiated by the parties to this proceeding since the Ontario election, as well as the Stipulated

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Commitments in the April 13, 2018, Stipulation will protect
 Avista from any direct influence from the Province.

Commission 3 Staff states that "the practical ο. implications of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) 4 and/or its successor, the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), 5 on Avista and its customers are unknown and unknowable."<sup>6</sup> Do 6 7 you agree with this characterization?

8 A. No. The established law and precedent regarding 9 NAFTA, particularly when coupled with the new Commitment 75 10 negotiated by the parties after I filed my Supplemental 11 Testimony on September 24, 2018, leave no reasonable doubt that 12 the Commission's authority will be unencumbered by NAFTA and 13 this merger.

Hydro One and Avista recognize and affirm in the Stipulated 14 Commitments that NAFTA does not curtail the authority of the 15 Commission to promulgate and enforce relevant rules 16 and regulations, that Hydro One and Avista explicitly recognize that 17 the Commission's authority over Avista's operations will remain 18 unchanged by the Proposed Transaction, that the parties will 19 20 comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and that Hydro 21 One and Avista recognize the Commission's jurisdiction. See Stipulated Commitment Nos. 20, 21, 23, 30, 31, 33, 75, and 76. 22

<sup>6</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 10, lines 22-25.

Q. Can you describe how new Commitment No. 75 fully
 protects Avista from any potential risk under NAFTA or the
 USMCA?

4 Α. First, Hydro One and Avista forego their rights to 5 bring any claim under NAFTA or similar provisions of the 6 anticipated successor to NAFTA, the United States Mexico Canada 7 Agreement (USMCA). Second, Hydro One will not support or voluntarily participate in any claims asserted by a third party. 8 9 Thus, Hydro One is barred from attempting to use NAFTA, so the Commission's jurisdiction over Avista is protected. 10 Finally, Hydro One will indemnify Avista from any damages payable by 11 12 Avista in respect of any such claim. With this indemnification 13 provision, in the very unlikely event that a third party somehow 14 prevails on a NAFTA claim, Avista will be held harmless:

15 75. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA): Hydro One and Avista commit to forego their rights 16 17 to bring any claim under NAFTA, or similar provision of the United States Mexico Canada 18 Agreement (USMCA) challenging, or seeking monetary 19 20 damages related to, any regulations, laws, orders or actions passed or taken by the State of Idaho or 21 any instrumentality thereof or the government of 22 23 the United States in relation to the production, transmission or distribution of electric power, 24 25 natural gas or other energy sources by Avista. In 26 the event that such a claim is brought under NAFTA 27 (or the USMCA) that involves or impacts Avista, 28 Hydro One commits that it will not voluntarily 29 participate in, support or otherwise encourage such 30 action. Hydro One will indemnify Avista from any 31 damages payable by Avista in respect of any such 32 claim as determined by a final non-appealable 33 judicial order.

1

We worked with Staff to develop this set of protections.

2

### 3 IV. NOTICE REGARDING ONTARIO ELECTION AND IMPACTS OF ELECTION 4 ON HYDRO ONE GOVERNANCE

5 Q. Please summarize questions that have been raised as 6 to whether Hydro One and Avista disclosed the potential impacts 7 of the Ontario Election on Hydro One in a timely manner and 8 whether Hydro One and Avista potentially misled the parties to 9 this proceeding regarding the relationship between Hydro One 10 and the Province of Ontario (the "Province").<sup>7</sup>

A. Commission Staff states: "it may be viewed by some that the Applicants did not adequately report in a timely manner and were not entirely forthcoming regarding the independence of Hydro One from the Province, Hydro One as a campaign issue in Ontario, and the impact of the election on Hydro One."<sup>8</sup>

Q. Commission Staff states that Hydro One and Avista should have notified them that Hydro One had become the subject of campaign promises leading up to the June 7, 2018, election. Commission Staff also states that Hydro One and Avista should have notified the Commission of the July 11, 2018, removal of the Hydro One Board and CEO before sending the July 18, 2018, letter to the Commission, Commission Staff and the other parties

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 10.

to this proceeding describing the events of July 11. Do you
 agree with these criticisms?<sup>9</sup>

In hindsight, we should have discussed with I do. 3 Α. the parties to this proceeding the campaign promises being made 4 by the Progressive Conservative Party and the New Democratic 5 Party prior to knowing the outcome of the June 7, 2018 election. 6 During the lead up to the election, however, Hydro One and 7 Avista simply could not predict the outcome of the election, 8 and for that reason waited for the election to occur. Although 9 the Progressive Conservative Party did not take office until 10 June 29, 2018, Hydro One and Avista did notify the Commission 11 and the parties of the potential impacts of the election on 12 Hydro One on June 20, 2018, 10 as discussed in greater detail 13 below, well in advance of any action by the Commission on the 14 their Joint Application. 15

Further, I also agree that Hydro One and Avista should have acted more quickly to notify the Commission and the parties after Hydro One entered into the July 2018 Letter Agreement with the Province to remove the Hydro One Board and arrange the retirement of the CEO. Although information like this cannot be released prematurely due to the impact that it could have on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 12-13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05, Avista and Hydro One Joint Comments in Support of Stipulation and Settlement (June 20, 2018) ("Joint Comments").

stock prices, Hydro One and Avista should have acted more
 quickly than July 18, 2018.

Did Hydro One and Avista fail to disclose the 3 ο. potential impacts of the Ontario election on Hydro One in a 4 timely manner or mislead the parties to this proceeding 5 regarding the relationship between Hydro One and the Province? 6 7 In fact, the opposite is true. Α. No. As the rest of my testimony will explain in greater detail, this proceeding 8 started in September 2017, well before any of Ontario's 9 parties started forming their 10 political platforms and campaigning for the June 2018 Ontario election. 11

As part of Hydro One's transition from being a Crown 12 13 Corporation to a public corporation through several public offerings commencing in the fall of 2015, Hydro One and the 14 Province entered into the Governance Agreement.<sup>11</sup> Section 2.1.3 15 16 of the Governance Agreement states that "The Province shall, 17 with respect to its ownership interest in Hydro One, engage in the business and affairs of Hydro One and the Hydro One Entities 18 as an investor and not as a manager." The Governance Agreement 19 20 also includes explicit provisions that limit the Province's role 21 as Hydro One's largest investor, which I will describe in more 22 detail below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The Governance Agreement is Exh. No. 10, Schedule 3 to my supplemental testimony filed on September 24, 2018.

Q. Did former CEO Mayo Schmidt's direct testimony filed on September 14, 2017, accurately describe the relationship between Hydro One and the Province?<sup>12</sup>

Α. Yes, Mr. Schmidt's September 14, 2017, direct 4 testimony accurately described the relationship between Hydro 5 One and the Province. As Commission Staff noted, Mr. Schmidt's 6 testimony stated: "Hydro One is now governed by an independent 7 board, other than myself as CEO, and a governance agreement that 8 ensures autonomous commercial operations, with the Province of 9 Ontario as an investor and not a manager."<sup>13</sup> Mr. Schmidt also 10 stated: "The Province of Ontario is a shareholder and pursuant 11 to its governance agreement with Hydro One it does not hold or 12 exercise any managerial oversight over Hydro One."14 13 On 14 September 14, 2017, these statements were true, and apart from 15 the enactment of the Hydro One Accountability Act this summer, 16 which gives the Province new regulatory oversight over executive 17 compensation at Hydro One, these statements remain true today. 18 As noted above, Section 2.1.3 of the Governance Agreement states that the Province shall act as an investor and not as a 19

20 manager of Hydro One. Pursuant to Section 16 of the July 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Direct Testimony of Mayo Schmidt at pg. 10 (Sept. 14, 2017) ("Schmidt Direct Testimony").
<sup>14</sup> Schmidt Direct Testimony at pg. 10.

Letter Agreement between Hydro One and the Province,<sup>15</sup> the
 Province ratified and reaffirmed its commitment to the
 Governance Agreement, which remains in full force and effect:

16. Reaffirmation: By entering into this Agreement, the 4 5 Province ratifies and reaffirms its obligations under the that, 6 Governance Agreement and agrees except as 7 specifically set out in this Agreement with respect to the subject matter hereof, (i) the execution, delivery and 8 effectiveness of this Agreement or any other documents 9 delivered in connection herewith shall not amend, modify 10 or operate as a waiver or forbearance of any right, power, 11 obligation, remedy or provision under the Governance 12 13 Agreement, and (ii) such agreement shall continue in full force and effect. 14

Mr. Schmidt's September 14, 2017, testimony explaining that the Province is an investor in, and not a manager of, Hydro One did not mislead the Commission or the parties to this proceeding.

Q. What happened in these proceedings after Mr. Schmidt
 filed his direct testimony on September 14, 2017?

A. After Hydro One and Avista submitted their Joint Application and direct testimony on September 14, 2017, the parties to this proceeding filed motions to intervene, and Hydro One and Avista responded to production requests. On April 4, 2018, the parties to this proceeding<sup>16</sup> had their first in-person settlement conference. During that settlement conference, the

<sup>15</sup> The July 2018 Letter Agreement is Exh. No. 10, Schedule 1 to my supplemental testimony filed on September 24, 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The Avista Customer Group and Idaho Department of Water Resources were not granted intervention in this proceeding until July 19, 2018, and July 20, 2018, respectively.

parties reached an agreement in principle. The parties then
 engaged in further settlement negotiations by email and phone
 to reach an all-party settlement that was filed with the
 Commission on April 13, 2018.

5 On May 16, 2018, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed 6 Settlement, Notice of Modified Procedure, Notice of Public 7 Hearings, and Notice of Amended Schedule, Order No. 34061. In 8 that order, the Commission directed Hydro One, Avista, and the 9 other parties to the settlement to file comments in support of 10 the settlement by June 20, 2018.

Q. Please describe the campaign leading up to the June
7, 2018 election in Ontario and the election results.

13 Α. At the same time that Hydro One, Avista, and the other 14 parties to this proceeding were negotiating the settlement 15 agreement that was filed with this Commission on April 13, 2018 (the "Stipulation"), the campaigns for the June 7, 2018 Ontario 16 election began in earnest. Hydro One became aware of the 17 18 Progressive Conservative Party's campaign promise to remove 19 Hydro One's CEO during a campaign event on April 10, 2018. The 20 campaign promise to remove Hydro One's CEO and Board of Directors was officially announced on April 12, 2018. 21

During April, May, and June, the Progressive Conservative Party, the incumbent Liberal Party, and the New Democratic Party were engaged in a hotly contested campaign to win the Ontario

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premiership and obtain a majority of the seats in the Ontario legislature. During this period, Hydro One was unsure how the campaign would unfold and which party would ultimately prevail on June 7, 2018. It was impossible to determine whether any of these parties had an interest in or the ability to follow through on their campaign promises prior to the election on June 7, 2018.

Q. When did Hydro One and Avista notify the Commission 9 and the parties to this proceeding that the Ontario election 10 might impact Hydro One?

A. Election campaigns in Canada are shorter than in the United States. Starting in June 2018, Hydro One and Avista informed the Commission of the recent political developments as it became clear they may impact Hydro One, well before any potential decision on the merger by the Commission.

On June 7, 2018, the Progressive Conservative Party, which 16 made campaign promises to remove Hydro One's CEO and Board of 17 18 Directors, won the premiership and a majority of the seats in the Ontario legislature. At our next opportunity in this 19 proceeding, Hydro One and Avista described the outcome of the 20 June 7, 2018, election and the potential risks to Hydro One in 21 22 our June 20, 2018, Joint Comments in Support of Stipulation and Settlement. 23

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Q. Do you believe that the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments in Support of the Stipulation and Settlement were misleading with respect to how the results of the Ontario election might impact Hydro One?<sup>17</sup>

5 Α. Not at all. The June 20, 2018, Joint Comments stated that "[a]lthough Hydro One's largest shareholder is the Province 6 of Ontario, the Province does not hold or exercise any 7 managerial oversight over Hydro One."18 On June 20, 2018, the 8 9 Governance Agreement remained in full force and effect, and the 10 new government of the Progressive Conservative Party had not taken any actions or engaged with Hydro One in any way to explain 11 if or how it was going to fulfill its campaign promises with 12 13 respect to Hydro One.

Commission Staff expressed concern that "in addressing 14 15 legitimate concerns of the impact of the Province of Ontario 16 could exercise over the operations and management of Hydro One, 17 the Applicants labeled the possibility of dismissing the Board 18 of Directors and CEO as 'hypothetical events,' even as such 19 events were in the processes of actually occurring."<sup>19</sup> Again, 20 at the time Hydro One and Avista submitted their Joint Comments on June 20, 2018, the new government of the Progressive 21 22 Conservative Party had not taken any actions or engaged with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11, lines 14-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11 (citing Joint Comments at pg. 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11 (citing Joint Comments at pg. 18).

Hydro One in any way to demonstrate whether or how it was going 1 to fulfill its campaign promises with respect to Hydro One. On 2 June 20, 2018, the possibility that the Province would exercise 3 its rights pursuant to Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement 4 to remove Hydro One's Board of Directors or would try to remove 5 Hydro One's CEO remained very much unknown and therefore were 6 "hypothetical events." As noted in my September 24, 2018, 7 Supplemental Testimony, the Progressive Conservative Party was 8 not sworn in as the new government until June 29, 2018. 9

We did our best in the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments, just 11 13 days after the June 7, 2018, election and before the new 22 government was even sworn in on June 29, 2018, to explain the 33 possible ways in which the new government could impact the 34 governance and management of Hydro One, or potentially Avista, 35 if the new government decided to follow through on its campaign 36 promises:

First, Hydro One and Avista attached a detailed 13-page report to the Joint Comments<sup>20</sup> that outlined (i) the history of the Province's relationship with Hydro One, (ii) the Province's role as Hydro One's largest shareholder under the Governance Agreement, including its role in selecting 40% of Hydro One's Board members and its right to seek

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05, Exhibit A to the Avista and Hydro One Joint Comments in Support of Stipulation and Settlement (June 20, 2018).

removal of Hydro One's entire Board of Directors pursuant to Section 4.7, (iii) the results of the June 7, 2018, Ontario election and a summary of the campaign promises leading up to the election, (iv) how the new government could carry out its campaign promises if it chose to do so, and (v) how fulfillment of these campaign promises could impact Avista if the merger was approved.

Second, the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments carefully
explained how the Stipulated Commitments included in the
April 13, 2018, Stipulation between the parties to this
proceeding would protect Avista from any negative impact
or influence by the new government if the new government
decided to follow through on its campaign promises to
remove the Hydro One Board and CEO.<sup>21</sup>

Third, the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments explained that
(i) Avista was not going to be owned by a foreign government
if the merger was approved, because Hydro One is an
investor-owned utility; and (ii) the Committee on Foreign
Investment in the United States already had concluded that
there was no risk to critical infrastructure in the United
States as a result of the transaction.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>21</sup> See Joint Comments at pgs. 16-19.

<sup>22</sup> See Joint Comments at pgs. 24-26, 28.

The Joint Comments' use of the term "hypothetical event," when read in context, clearly was not a dismissal<sup>23</sup> by Hydro One and Avista of the possibility that these events could occur. Rather, the Joint Comments made clear what could occur in the wake of the election:

The Province could trigger the provisions in 6 Article 4.7 of the Governance Agreement to 7 replace Hydro One's Board or the Province's 8 new leadership could introduce legislation for 9 10 the purpose of dismissing Hydro One's CEO or members of the Board. These are just 11 possibilities, but even if they were to come 12 13 to pass, Hydro One, Avista, and the other Parties in this Case have included governance 14 and financial ring-fencing in the Stipulation 15 that will protect Avista and its customers and 16 17 bolster the protections already provided by the Governance Agreement[.]<sup>24</sup> 18

Moreover, the Joint Comments explained that the possibility of 19 20 financial or operational changes at Hydro One impacting Avista and its service to customers was "a central theme during the 21 settlement negotiations involving all the Parties in this Case" 22 23 and "[t]he Parties developed Stipulated Commitments that ensure 24 Avista will remain a financially healthy, standalone utility after the merger regardless of any negative financial or 25 operational changes that could occur at Hydro One, whether the 26 result of the Ontario election or some other event."<sup>25</sup> The Joint 27 Comments also made clear that all of the Stipulated Commitments 28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11, lines 19-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Joint Comments at pg. 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Joint Comments at pg. 16.

1 that would protect Avista in the event that the Province took 2 any of the actions discussed would be binding on Hydro One 3 regardless of political developments and that none of the 4 commitments could be amended without approval from Avista's 5 regulators.<sup>26</sup>

In conclusion, the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments were as clear as possible at that time regarding the potential risks to Hydro One as of then, just thirteen days after a hard-fought campaign in which the outcome simply was not known in advance and nine days before the new government was even sworn in.

Q. Do you agree with Commission Staff's suggestion that the June 20, 2018, Joint Comments' characterization of the risks to Hydro One as "hypothetical events" was not accurate because the dismissal of the Hydro One Board of Directors and CEO were in the "process[] of actually occurring"?<sup>27</sup>

No. As I explained, under oath, in my September 24, 16 Α. 17 2018, Supplemental Testimony, it was not until July 4, 2018, 18 that discussions were held between representatives of the Hydro One Board and the new government of the Progressive Conservative 19 20 On July 5, 2018, discussions were held between Party. 21 independent legal counsel to the Hydro One Board and a 22 representative of the new government, and privileged and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Joint Comments at pgs. 18-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 11.

1 confidential discussions were held among the Hydro One Board 2 Chair, another representative of the Board, and the Board's 3 independent legal counsel. Subsequently, representatives of 4 the Hydro One Board, the Board's independent legal counsel, and 5 representatives of the government held various discussions and 6 meetings from July 6, 2018, through July 8, 2018.

discussions involved representatives from the 7 These Cabinet Office as well as representatives of the Ministry of 8 Energy, Northern Development and Mines, the Ministry of Finance, 9 and the Attorney General, and they led to the July 2018 Letter 10 Agreement.<sup>28</sup> The July 2018 Letter Agreement established (i) the 11 process for the orderly replacement of the Hydro One Board in 12 compliance with all relevant and material aspects of Section 13 4.7 of the Governance Agreement and (ii) the process by which 14 Hydro One's CEO Mayo Schmidt would retire. 15

All of this happened after June 20, 2018. On June 20, Hydro One and Avista simply did not know whether or how the new government would follow through on its campaign promises to remove the Hydro One Board and CEO. These were hypothetical events on June 20, as neither Hydro One nor the new government had taken any actions to make them real.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The July 2018 Letter Agreement between Hydro One and Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Ontario was attached as Exh. No. 10, Schedule 1, to my supplemental testimony filed on September 24, 2018.

Q. When did Hydro One and Avista notify the Commission and Commission Staff of (i) the new government's decision to exercise its rights to remove the Hydro One Board pursuant to Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement and (ii) the retirement of Hydro One's CEO?

On July 18, 2018, seven days after the public 6 Α. announcement by press release of the July 2018 Letter Agreement 7 between Hydro One and the Province, Hydro One and Avista 8 9 submitted a letter to the Commission explaining the July 2018 Letter Agreement and the next steps in replacing Hydro One's 10 Board and CEO. Further, this letter to the Commission also 11 explained that the new government had introduced the Hydro One 12 Accountability Act on July 16, 2018, to give the Province 13 regulatory oversight over the compensation structure for Hydro 14 15 One's executives.

Q. Do you believe that "all of the [Hydro One] Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) bowed to pressure from the Province of Ontario and resigned rather than being removed following the established shareholder voting process"?<sup>29</sup>

A. I would not characterize the events in that fashion.I believe the board members and CEO took steps that they properly

<sup>29</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 6, lines 12-16.

1 viewed as being in fundamental compliance with the Governance Agreement and in the best interests of Hydro One. Section 4.7 2 of the Governance Agreement sets out a process for the Province 3 to call for the removal of Hydro One's entire Board, with the 4 5 exception of the CEO, and at the Province's sole discretion, the Chair, which I described in my supplemental testimony filed 6 in this docket.<sup>30</sup> This process has been available to the Province 7 since the Governance Agreement was executed on November 5, 2015. 8 9 The removal and replacement of the Hydro One Board through 10 the July 2018 Letter Agreement complied with the process 11 outlined in Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement, with just one exception. Pursuant to the Province's and Hydro One's 12 13 authority to amend the Governance Agreement with mutual consent 14 (Section 26 of the Governance Agreement), the July 2018 Letter 15 Agreement dropped the step of convening a shareholders' meeting 16 (Sections 4.7.4 - 4.7.7 of the Governance Agreement). The 17 Province and Hydro One complied with all relevant and material aspects of Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement, but in order 18 19 to serve the best interests of the company, the Province and 20 Hydro One agreed to forego the requirement to hold a shareholders' meeting, which would have added approximately 60 21 22 days to the Board replacement process. Hydro One concluded it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Supplemental Testimony of James Scarlett at pgs. 4-6 (Sept. 24, 2018) ("Scarlett Supplemental Testimony").

was in its best interests to expedite the replacement process and reduce uncertainty, particularly since the Province holds a sufficient number of shares to determine the outcome of a shareholder vote under Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement. A shareholders' meeting would have served no useful purpose, but would have been damaging to Hydro One.

With respect to former CEO Mayo Schmidt's retirement, one 7 might perceive Mr. Schmidt's retirement as forced by the 8 9 Province due to the Progressive Conservative Party's campaign pledges to remove Mr. Schmidt. One might also take the position 10 that his retirement was in violation of Section 2.3 of the 11 Governance Agreement, which gives the Hydro One Board the sole 12 13 authority to appoint and terminate the CEO. This situation is more nuanced than that. 14

As noted above, the Province has the authority to call for 15 the removal and replacement of the entire Hydro One Board, with 16 17 the exception of the CEO, and at the Province's sole discretion, the Chair, pursuant to Section 4.7 of the Governance Agreement. 18 19 Furthermore, Section 3.3.2 of the Governance Agreement requires 20 that the Hydro One Board annually confirm the continued service 21 of the CEO through a two-thirds affirmative vote in a Special 22 Board Resolution at the Annual Confirmation Meeting. Rather than wait to see if the Province might introduce legislation to 23 24 terminate his employment, or Hydro One's new Board would either

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1 remove him immediately or fail to confirm his continued service 2 pursuant to Section 3.3.2 of the Governance Agreement, Mr. 3 Schmidt removed uncertainty by retiring.

One can fairly conclude that Mr. Schmidt realized he would 4 5 not be able to effectively continue as CEO without the support of Hydro One's single largest shareholder and he retired from 6 his positions, having determined that it would be in the best 7 interests of all concerned to do so. 8

- 9
- 10

#### COMPLIANCE WITH IDAHO CODE § 61-327 v.

Please summarize Commission Staff's position on 11 Q. 12 whether the Proposed Transaction complies with Idaho Code § 61-327.31 13

14 Α. Commission Staff asserts that because Hydro One's 15 largest shareholder is the Province, a governmental entity, 16 "Idaho Code § 61-327 may provide a total bar to the proposed merger."<sup>32</sup> 17

What does Idaho Code § 61-327 state? 0. 18

19 Α.

Idaho Code § 61-327 provides:

20 61-327. **Electric utility property** - Acquisition by certain public agencies prohibited. No title to or 21 interest in any public utility (as such term is defined 22 23 in chapter 1, title 61, Idaho Code) property located in 24 this state which is used in the generation, transmission, distribution or supply of electric power 25 and energy to the public or any portion thereof, shall 26

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 2-3.

1 be transferred or transferable to, or acquired by, 2 directly or indirectly, by any means or device 3 whatsoever, any government or municipal corporation, 4 quasi-municipal corporation, or governmental or 5 political unit, subdivision or corporation, organized or 6 existing under the laws of any other state; or any 7 person, firm, association, corporation or organization acting as trustee, nominee, agent or representative for, 8 9 or in concert or arrangement with, any such government or municipal corporation, guasi-municipal corporation, 10 or governmental or political unit, subdivision or 11 12 corporation; or any company, association, organization or corporation, organized or existing under the laws of 13 14 this state or any other state, whose issued capital stock, or other evidence of ownership, membership or 15 16 other interest therein, or in the property thereof, is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any such 17 government or municipal corporation, quasi-municipal 18 governmental or political 19 corporation, or unit, subdivision or corporation; or any company, association, 20 organization or corporation, organized under the laws of 21 any other state, not coming under or within the 22 definition of an electric public utility or electrical 23 corporation as contained in chapter 1, title 61, Idaho 24 Code, and subject to the jurisdiction, regulation and 25 control of the public utilities commission of the state 26 27 of Idaho under the public utilities law of this state; 28 provided, nothing herein shall prohibit the transfer of any such property by a public utility to a cooperative 29 electrical corporation organized under the laws of 30 31 another state, which has among its members mutual 32 nonprofit cooperative electrical corporations or 33 organized under the laws of the state of Idaho and doing 34 business in this state, if such public utility has 35 obtained authorization from the public utilities 36 commission of the state of Idaho pursuant to section 61-37 328, Idaho Code.

38

Q. Do you agree with Staff's contention that Idaho Code

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§ 61-327 could bar to the Proposed Transaction?<sup>33</sup>

<sup>33</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 2-3.

I do not believe that Idaho Code § 61-327 bars or even 1 Α. applies to the Proposed Transaction. This question has also 2 been addressed by Avista's and Hydro One's expert witness David 3 Leroy, who is sponsoring his independent legal opinion in that 4 regard, as well as by Avista's Senior Director of Government 5 Relations, Mr. Collins Spraque in his supplemental testimony, 6 together with any argument by counsel for Applicants. 7

Q. What facts are relevant to the Commission's assessment of whether the Proposed Transaction is barred by Idaho Code § 61-327?

11 A. A number of facts are relevant to determining whether 12 Idaho Code § 61-327 bars or even applies to the Proposed 13 Transaction, which I will address in this section of my 14 testimony.

Q. Please describe the nature of the Proposed
 Transaction.

A. It is a merger. An indirect subsidiary of Hydro One will merge with and into Avista. Avista will be the surviving corporation.

20 Q. Will Avista Corporation continue to exist as a 21 distinct legal entity?

A. Yes. The same corporation will continue to exist. Avista will have its own board of directors and its own CEO. It will operate as a stand-alone utility.

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Q. What will happen to Avista's property and other
 assets?

A. None of Avista's property or other assets will change hands. Avista will continue to own, control, and operate all of the assets it has for the provision of electric and gas service in Idaho and other states in the U.S. Pacific Northwest.

Q. If Hydro One is not acquiring Avista's assets, what
is Hydro acquiring?

9 A. Hydro One, through an indirect subsidiary, is 10 essentially buying all the shares of Avista's stock from 11 Avista's current shareholders. Thus, Hydro One is acquiring 12 property from investors in Avista. It is not buying any of 13 Avista's own property.

Q. After the merger is complete, could Hydro One require Avista to transfer any of its utility assets to Hydro One or anyone else?

17 Α. No. That is impossible for several reasons. 18 Stipulated Commitment 46 expressly prohibits any pledge of 19 Avista's utility assets for the benefit of any entity other than Avista. And Avista's board retains broad control over utility 20 21 operations. For example, Avista (and not Hydro One) determines 22 Avista's organizational structure; has sole authority over the hiring and firing of Avista's CEO and other Avista personnel; 23 selects its representatives to its board; plans its operations; 24

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invests in economic development including property
 acquisitions; funds innovation activities; and negotiates labor
 agreements. See Stipulated Commitments 2-13.

Q. Can Hydro One force action by Avista's board?
A. No. Only two members of Avista's nine-member board
are Hydro One executives or employees. See Stipulated
Commitment 3.

Q. As a result of the merger, will there be any direct or indirect transfer of title to or an interest in any type of property that is used by Avista to generate, transmit, distribute or supply electric power?

A. No, there will be no transfer of property. Avista will retain all of its property. Furthermore, no interest in Avista's property will be transferred to, or acquired by, Hydro One as a result of the Proposed Transaction.

16 Q. Who will own Avista after the merger has been 17 completed?

A. The immediate owner will be Olympus Equity LLC, a Delaware limited liability company. The ultimate owner will be Hydro One because Olympus Equity LLC is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Hydro One.

Q. Is Hydro One a Governmental Entity, assuming that "Governmental Entity" means any government or municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or governmental or

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political unit, subdivision or corporation, organized or existing under the laws of any other state; or any person, firm, association, corporation or organization acting as trustee, nominee, agent or representative for, or in concert or arrangement with, any such government or municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or governmental or political unit, subdivision or corporation?

8 A. No. Hydro One is a corporation formed under the laws 9 of Ontario, much as Avista is (and will remain) a corporation 10 formed under the laws of Washington.

Does Hydro One have issued capital stock?

12 A. Yes. Hydro One has issued capital stock, which is 13 traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX).

Q.

11

14 Q. Is Hydro One's capital stock owned or controlled, 15 directly or indirectly, by a Governmental Entity?

A. A number of investors, including some investors that are governmental entities, own some of Hydro One's capital stock. No single investor owns or controls all or even a majority of Hydro One's capital stock. Thus, no investor has a controlling interest in Hydro One.

Q. Among your investors, which Governmental Entity is
 the largest?

A. The largest is the Province, which currently ownsapproximately 47% of Hydro One's stock. After completion of the

Scarlett, Supp. Reb. 41 Hydro One Limited merger, the Province will own less than 43% of Hydro One's
 stock.

# Q. Please describe the role of the Province with respect 4 to Hydro One.

5 The role of the Province with respect to Hydro One is Α. established by the Governance Agreement that was entered into 6 in 2015.<sup>34</sup> The Governance Agreement between Hydro One and the 7 Province of Ontario is a binding contract that was a pre-8 9 requisite for Hydro One's successful Initial Public Offering ("IPO"). Neither the Province nor any other major investor has 10 any representatives on the Hydro One Board. Instead, with the 11 exception of the CEO, all directors must be independent of Hydro 12 One and the Province. (Governance Agreement ("GA") 4.2.2; 13 4.2.3). Directors must be high-quality, reputable, experienced 14 leaders with the requisite skills, board experience, time, and 15 motivation for an operation of Hydro One's size and scope. 16 Directors are also chosen in light of Hydro One's core operating 17 principles. (GA 4.2.1). Directors must meet the requirements 18 of corporate and securities laws and any stock exchange on which 19 Hydro One securities are listed. (GA 4.2.4). 20

The Province nominates four of the ten directors (other than the CEO), while Hydro One's Governance Committee nominates

 $^{\rm 34}$  Scarlett Supplemental Testimony, Exh. No. 10, Schedule 3.

six of the ten. (GA 4.1). The Board itself chooses the CEO, who serves as the 11<sup>th</sup> member of the Board. The Province does have the authority to require resignation of all Board members, but if it does so, it still can appoint only forty percent of the new Board members, and all Board members must meet independence and other qualifications.

7 The Governance Agreement establishes that the Board is responsible for the management of or supervising the management 8 of Hydro One's business and affairs. (GA 2.1.2). The Governance 9 10 Agreement states that the Province will be involved in Hydro 11 One as an investor and not as a manager. (GA 2.1.3). Hvdro 12 One neither takes direction nor seeks consent for its operations from the Province, outside of the defined regulatory and 13 14 oversight authority that the government has over the all 15 utilities operating in Ontario. (GA 2.1.3; 2.2).

Several provisions in the Governance Agreement limit the Province's shareholder rights:

18 • The Province cannot initiate fundamental changes to 19 Hydro One described in Part XIV of the Business 20 Corporations Act (Ontario) (e.g., amendment to 21 articles, continuance, arrangements, and 22 amalgamations). (GA 2.5). The Province may vote its 23 shares as it sees fit in the event a fundamental 24 change is initiated by another shareholder. (GA 2.5).

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The Province cannot solicit (either on its own or
acting with others) any person to exercise rights as
a shareholder in a manner that the Province would be
prohibited from doing directly. (GA 2.6).

5

### Q. Does the Province control Hydro One's stock?

6 Α. No, it does not. It currently owns less than 50% of the stock and, upon closing of the Proposed Transaction, its 7 ownership share will be less than 43%. More than half of Hydro 8 9 One's stock is and will be owned by investors other than the 10 Province. The Governance Agreement<sup>35</sup> expressly prohibits the 11 Province from acquiring additional issued shares if that would 12 result in the Province having control over more than 45% of any class or series of shares. (GA 2.7). 13

## 14 Q. Is Hydro One's property owned or controlled, directly 15 or indirectly, by a Governmental Entity?

A. No. Hydro One wholly owns and controls all of its own property. None of Hydro One's investors owns or controls any of Hydro One's property. The shares that investors own prepresent an ownership interest in the company as a whole. No shareholder holds any interest in any Hydro One property.

Q. If the merger is completed, what role would the
 Province have with Avista?

<sup>35</sup> Scarlett Supplemental Testimony, Exh. No. 10, Schedule 3.

1 Α. The Province would have no ownership of or control over Avista. It would receive no revenues from Avista. To the 2 extent Hydro One makes dividends to its investors, regardless 3 of the source of Hydro One's funds, the Province and other 4 5 investors will receive dividends proportionate to their ownership interests. The absence of control is reinforced by 6 the Avista Board structure, where only two of nine board members 7 will be executives or employees of Hydro One, as well as the 8 9 Hydro One board structure, where no board members may be executives or employees of the Province. 10

11 Q. Does Hydro one serve as a trustee, nominee, agent or 12 representative for, or in concert or arrangement with, the 13 Province?

A. No, Hydro One does not serve in such a role. These are legal concepts that would need to be established by relevant facts. There is no evidence to suggest that any supporting facts exist.

Q. Will Hydro One and its affiliates in the chain of ownership between Hydro One and Avista be subject to the jurisdiction, regulation, and control of the Commission under the public utilities law of this state?

A. Yes, Hydro One and its affiliates in the ownership chain will be subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under Idaho law as set forth in the Master List of Commitments. See

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1 Stipulated Commitment Nos. 20 (State Regulatory Authority and Jurisdiction); 21 (Compliance with Existing Commission Orders); 2 23 (Audit, Access to and Maintenance of Books and Records); 30 3 (Commission Enforcement of Commitments); 31 (Submittal to State 4 5 Court Jurisdiction for Enforcement of Commission Orders); 33 (Commitments Binding); 74 (Notice and Petition to Alter or 6 7 Amend); and 76 (Venue for and Resolution of Disputes). As recognized and affirmed by Commission Staff, the Commission will 8 9 retain regulatory jurisdiction over Avista after the Proposed Transaction just as it has in the past. Nothing about the 10 11 Proposed Transaction changes the Commission's jurisdiction over Avista's rates and quality of service.<sup>36</sup> 12

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#### VI. COMPLIANCE WITH IDAHO CODE § 61-328

Q. Does Commission Staff conclude that the Proposed
 Transaction complies with Idaho Code § 61-328?<sup>37</sup>

A. Yes. Commission Staff concludes that (i) the Proposed Transaction is consistent with the public interest (Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(a)),<sup>38</sup> (ii) Avista's cost of and rates for supplying service will not be increased by reason of the Proposed Transaction (Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(b)),<sup>39</sup> and (iii) Hydro One

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 5, lines 4-16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 3-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 4, lines 11-25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pgs. 3-5.

1 has the bona fide intent and financial ability to operate and 2 maintain Avista in the public service (Idaho Code § 61-3 328(3)(c)).<sup>40</sup>

With respect to Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(a), Commission Staff 4 note that although the public interest requirement is judged 5 based on a "no harm" standard, the parties<sup>41</sup> negotiated 6 Stipulated Commitments to ensure that Avista's customers will 7 "receive a net overall financial benefit"42 -- a step above and 8 9 beyond "no harm." With respect to Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(b), Commission Staff emphasizes that "[a]ny customer rate increase 10 must be approved by the Idaho Commission before Avista can 11 increase rates to Idaho Avista customers,"43 thereby ensuring 12 13 that Avista's cost of and rates for supplying service will not be increased by reason of the Proposed Transaction. 14

Q. Do you agree with Commission Staff that the Proposed
 Transaction complies with Idaho Code § 61-328?

17 A. Yes.

Q. Which of the Stipulated Commitments in Exhibit 101 to
 Terri Carlock's Direct Testimony ensures that the Proposed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 4, lines 19-25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> As noted above, the Avista Customer Group and Idaho Department of Water Resources ("IDWR") were not granted intervention in this proceeding until July 19, 2018, and July 20, 2018, respectively. The Avista Customer Group has not joined the Stipulated Settlement. IDWR settled its concerns with the Proposed Transaction in a separate agreement with Hydro One and Avista that is attached to the Stipulated Commitments. <sup>42</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 7, lines 20-23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Carlock Direct Testimony at pg. 3, lines 14-16.

Transaction is consistent with the public interest (Idaho Code
 § 61-328(3)(a))?

Hydro One, Avista, Commission Staff, Clearwater Paper 3 Α. Corporation ("Clearwater"), Idaho Forest Group, LLC ("Idaho 4 Forest Group"), Idaho Conservation League ("ICL"), the Community 5 6 Action Partnership Association of Idaho ("CAPAI"), and the Washington and Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers 7 ("WNIDCL") agreed to numerous Stipulated Commitments that ensure 8 that the public interest will be served by the Proposed 9 Transaction. 10

11 The following Stipulated Commitments ensure that Avista's 12 Idaho customers will continue to receive safe and reliable 13 service after the Proposed Transaction is consummated:

• 15 - Safety and Reliability Standards and Service 14 Quality Measures: Avista is working with Commission 15 Staff to develop performance standards, customer 16 quarantees, and a reporting mechanism 17 for its customers in Idaho that are similar to Avista's 18 Service Quality Performance Standards, 19 Customer Guarantees, and a Service Quality Measure Report Card 20 in Washington. 21

22 • 28 - Participation in National and Regional Forums:
 23 Avista will continue to participate in national and

Scarlett, Supp. Reb. 48 Hydro One Limited regional forums to protect the interest of its
 customers.

The following Stipulated Commitments ensure that Avista's Idaho customers will receive benefits after the Proposed Transaction is consummated:

- 6 • 19 - Rate Credits: See Lopez Rebuttal Testimony. 7 • 58 - Funding for Energy Efficiency, Weatherization, Conservation, and Low-Income Assistance Programs: 8 \$5.3 million in funding over a 10-year period for 9 energy efficiency, weatherization, conservation, and 10 low-income assistance programs under the direction of 11 the Efficiency, Weatherization, Conservation, and 12 Low-Income Assistance Committee ("EWCL"). 13
- 62 Addressing Other Low-Income Customer Issues:
   Avista will continue to work with low-income agencies
   to address issues of low-income customers.

63 - Fee Free Payment Program: Avista will continue
to offer the Fee Free Payment Program to its
residential customers.

The following Stipulated Commitments ensure that several programs designed to assist Avista's customers will be enhanced after the Proposed Transaction is consummated:

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• 67 - Service Rules for Gas Utilities: Process to 1 review the Commission's Service Rules for Gas 2 (IDAPA 31.31.01) to determine 3 Utilities which provisions should be retained and/or modified. 4 - Meters: Process to review Avista's meter • 68 5 placement and protection policies and practices. 6 The following Stipulated Commitments ensure benefits to 7 the environment after the Proposed Transaction is consummated: 8 9 • 52 - Renewable Energy Resources: Avista will continue to offer renewable power programs in consultation with 10 stakeholders. 11 • 55 - Transport Electrification: Avista will initiate 12 a stakeholder process within 60 days of the close of 13 the Proposed Transaction to explore opportunities for 14 transport electrification that benefits all Idaho 15 16 customers. 17 • 56 - Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Initiatives: Avista 18 will continue to work with interested parties on its Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Initiatives. 19 • 57 - Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report: Avista will 20 report greenhouse gas emissions as required. 21 • 58 - Funding for Energy Efficiency, Weatherization, 22 23 Conservation, and Low-Income Assistance Programs:

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1 \$5.3 million in funding over a 10-year period for 2 energy efficiency, weatherization, conservation, and 3 low-income assistance programs under the direction of 4 the EWCL.

5 The following Stipulated Commitments ensure that the 6 communities in which Avista operates will receive benefits after 7 the Proposed Transaction is consummated:

11 - Community Contributions: For five (5) years after
the close of the Proposed Transaction, Avista will
maintain a \$4 million annual budget for charitable
contributions, and additionally, a \$2 million annual
contribution will be made to Avista's charitable
foundation.

12 - Community Involvement: Avista will maintain its
 existing levels of community involvement.

59 - Clearwater Paper DSM Assistance: Avista will
support efforts with Clearwater Paper to qualify
certain projects for DSM funding under Tariff Schedule
90, and a portion of the costs will be considered for
funding under Stipulated Commitment No. 58.

60 - Idaho Forest Group (IFG) DSM Assistance: Avista
 will support efforts with IFG to qualify certain
 projects for DSM funding under Tariff Schedule 90,

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- and a portion of the costs will be considered for
   funding under Stipulated Commitment No. 58.
- 61 Community Contributions: Avista will make a \$7
  million one-time contribution to Avista's charitable
  foundation.
- 6 64 Improve Penetration of Low-Income Programs: Hydro
   7 One and Avista will continue to work to improve the
   8 penetration rate of low-income programs.
- 9 65 Tribal Communities: Avista will reach out to
  10 tribal communities to encourage participation of
  11 members of such communities in receiving the benefits
  12 of this settlement.
- 70 Montana Community Transition Fund: Hydro One will
   arrange funding of \$3 million towards a Colstrip
   community transition fund.
- 71 Colstrip Transmission Planning: Avista will work
   with others to resolve questions regarding new
   generation once Colstrip Units 3 and 4 retire, and
   work with Commission Staff and stakeholders to
   determine the transition plan and impacts to Idaho
   ratepayers prior to any closure of Colstrip Units 3
   and 4.

Scarlett, Supp. Reb. 52 Hydro One Limited 72 - Contract Labor: All employees, contractors, and
 subcontractors of Avista shall be paid a fair and
 competitive wage.

The Rebuttal Testimony of Chris Lopez for Hydro One, filed November 14, 2018 ("Lopez Rebuttal Testimony"), lists additional commitments that ensure the Proposed Transaction is in the public interest.

Q. Besides these Stipulated Commitments, what factors demonstrate that the Proposed Transaction is consistent with the public interest (Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(a))?

11 Α. Hydro One's strong balance sheet and credit ratings, the similarities in the areas served by Hydro One and Avista, 12 and the two utilities' shared values and culture make Hydro One 13 an excellent parent company for Avista, which is a relatively 14 small utility in a time of consolidation in the energy industry. 15 These factors are detailed in former Hydro One CEO Mayo 16 Schmidt's direct testimony,<sup>44</sup> Christopher Lopez's direct<sup>45</sup> and 17 supplemental testimony,<sup>46</sup> and Scott Morris' direct<sup>47</sup> 18 and supplemental testimony.48 19

<sup>44</sup> Schmidt Direct Testimony at pgs. 26-29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Direct Testimony of Christopher F. Lopez at pgs. 8-10, 13-14, 15-16 (Sept. 14, 2017).

 $<sup>^{46}</sup>$  AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Supplemental Testimony of Christopher F. Lopez at §§ III-IV (Sept. 24, 2018).

 $<sup>^{47}</sup>$  AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Direct Testimony of Scott L. Morris at pgs. 12-17 (Sept. 14, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> AVU-E-17-09/AVU-G-17-05 - Supplemental Testimony of Scott L. Morris at § II (Sept. 24, 2018).

Q. Which of the Stipulated Commitments in Exhibit 101 to Terri Carlock's Direct Testimony ensures that Avista's cost of and rates for supplying service will not be increased by reason of the Proposed Transaction (Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(b))?

A. Please see the Lopez Rebuttal Testimony.

Q. Which of the Stipulated Commitments in Exhibit 101 to
Terri Carlock's Direct Testimony ensures that Hydro One has the
bona fide intent and financial ability to operate and maintain
Avista in the public service (Idaho Code § 61-328(3)(c))?

10 A. Please see the Lopez Rebuttal Testimony and the 11 Rebuttal Testimony of Tom Woods for Hydro One, filed November 12 14, 2018.

13 Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

14 A. Yes, it does.

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