

AVISTA CORPORATION
dba Avista Utilities

RULE NO. 7 (continued)

DEPOSITS

3. The Company may continue holding a deposit until such time as credit is satisfactorily established or re-established. For purposes of this rule, credit shall be considered to be established or re-established if one year after a deposit is made except as outlined in Section C-2 of this rule:
 - a. The account is current;
 - b. Not more than two five-day disconnection notices were issued to the customer during the previous 12 months; and
 - c. The customer was not disconnected for nonpayment during the previous 12 months.
4. After satisfactory credit has been established or re-established, the deposit plus any accrued interest will be promptly refunded or credited to the customer's account. A customer is entitled to a refund upon request.
5. In the event the customer moves to a new address within the Company's service area, the deposit, plus accrued interest, will be transferred to the new account.
6. Deposits plus accrued interest can be refunded or credited, in whole or in part, to the customer's account at any time provided that procedures followed by the Company are non-discriminatory.
7. Unless otherwise specified by the customer, the Company will mail deposit refunds to the customer's last known address. Valid claims for payment of refunds will be promptly honored by the Company if received within one year of the date service is terminated. Funds held beyond one year will be disposed of in accordance with ORS 98.316.

D. Interest on Deposits for Residential and Non-Residential Service.

1. Each year, the Commission shall establish an annual interest rate that must be paid on customer deposits. The Commission will base the rate upon consideration of the effective interest rate for new issues of one-year Treasury Bills issued during the last week of October, the interest rate on the most recent issuance of one-year Treasury Bills, or the effective interest rate for the average yield of Treasury Bills of the closest term issued during the last week of October. This interest rate applies to deposits held during January 1 through December 31 of the subsequent year. The current interest rate is 4.5%.

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By Patrick Ehrbar, Director of Regulatory Affairs

