

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): September 1, 2005

**AVISTA CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Washington**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

**1-3701**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**91-0462470**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**1411 East Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**99202-2600**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 509-489-0500  
Web site: <http://www.avistacorp.com>

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(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))
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## Section 1 – Registrant’s Business and Operations

### Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

#### *Non-Employee Director Compensation*

On September 1, 2005, the Corporate Governance/Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors of Avista Corporation (Avista Corp.) approved new compensation, effective September 1, 2005, for non-employee directors of Avista Corp. It was noted that Avista director compensation was below the average of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, where compensation for directors is generally targeted. In addition, rather than continue reviewing compensation on a two-year basis, the Governance Committee agreed to review director compensation on an annual basis. The following table presents previous and new non-employee director compensation:

	<u>Previous Compensation</u>	<u>New Compensation</u>
Annual Retainer*	\$ 60,000	\$ 68,000
Board Meeting Fee	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500
Board Committee Meeting Fee	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500
Board Committee Chair Annual Retainer	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000
Board Audit Committee Chair Annual Retainer	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000

\* Annually, directors may elect to receive their annual retainer in cash, in Avista Corp. Common Stock, or in a combination of cash and Avista Corp. Common Stock.

## Section 9 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

#### (c) Exhibits

10.1 Avista Corporation Non-Employee Director Compensation.

**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: September 1, 2005

/s/ Gary G. Ely  
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Gary G. Ely  
Chairman of the Board, President and  
Chief Executive Officer

**Avista Corporation**  
**Non-Employee Director Compensation**

**(effective September 1, 2005)**

Directors who are not employees of the Company receive an annual retainer of \$68,000. Directors are also paid \$1,500 for each meeting of the Board of Directors or any Committee meeting of the Board. Directors who serve as Board Committee Chairs and, therefore, have added responsibility and time requirements associated with Board membership receive an additional \$5,000 annual retainer, with the exception of the Audit Committee Chair. The Audit Committee Chair receives an additional \$9,000 annual retainer. In addition, any non-employee director who also serves as director of a subsidiary of the Company receives from the Company a meeting fee of \$1,500 for each subsidiary Board meeting the director attends.

At the February 2005 Board meeting, the directors approved the elimination of the Non-Employee Director Stock Plan with respect to periods after December 31, 2004. Pursuant to Section 13 of the Plan, the Board had the discretion to terminate the Plan at any time. All amounts deferred on or before December 31, 2004 will be preserved and all existing elections with respect to those amounts will remain in effect. In accordance with the Plan as of December 31, 2004, those amounts will be paid when the Participant(s) ceases to be a Non-Employee Director of the Company. For years after 2004, the Board may, at its February meeting, allow directors to elect each year to receive their annual retainer in cash, in Company Common Stock, or in a combination of both cash and Common Stock.