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AVISTA CORP Form 8-K March 19, 2008

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): March 14, 2008

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.)

99202-2600

(Zip Code)

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

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 509-489-0500

Web site: http://www.avistacorp.com

 $(Former\ name\ or\ former\ address,\ if\ changed\ since\ last\ report)$

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)

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- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Section 1 Registrant s Business and Operations

<u>Item 1.01</u> <u>Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.</u>

On March 14, 2008, Avista Corporation (the Company), Avista Receivables Corporation (ARC) and a third-party financial institution amended a Receivables Purchase Agreement. The most significant amendment was to extend the termination date from March 17, 2008 to March 13, 2009. The Receivables Purchase Agreement was originally entered into on May 29, 2002 and provides the Company with cost-effective funds for working capital requirements, capital expenditures and other general corporate needs. ARC is a wholly owned, bankruptcy-remote subsidiary of the Company formed in 1997 for the purpose of acquiring or purchasing interests in certain accounts receivable, both billed and unbilled, of the Company. Under the Receivables Purchase Agreement, ARC can sell without recourse, on a revolving basis, up to \$85.0 million of those receivables. ARC is obligated to pay fees that approximate the purchaser s cost of issuing commercial paper equal in value to the interests in receivables sold. On a consolidated basis, the amount of such fees is included in other operating expenses of the Company.

Section 2 Financial Information

Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant. See description of the amendment to a Receivables Purchase Agreement under Item 1.01.

Section 9 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (d) Exhibits
- 10.1 Amendment No. 7, dated as of March 14, 2008, to the Receivables Purchase Agreement, dated as of May 29, 2002, among Avista Receivables Corporation, as Seller, Avista Corporation, as Servicer and Ranger Funding Company, LLC (formerly known as Receivables Capital Company LLC), as Conduit Purchaser and Bank of America, N.A., as Committed Purchaser and as Administrator.

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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: March 19, 2008 /s/ Malyn K. Malquist
Malyn K. Malquist
Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer