

BURMEISTER SMITH CHRISTY M
 Form 4
 January 12, 2011

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BURMEISTER SMITH CHRISTY M

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 1411 E MISSION AVE
 (Street)

SPOKANE, WA 99202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
AVISTA CORP [AVA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/11/2011

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Vice President and Controller

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Common Stock - Performance Shares | 01/11/2011 | | M | | 5,865 | A | (\$1) |
| Common Stock - Performance Shares | 01/11/2011 | | F | | 1,678 | D | \$22.95 |
| Common Stock held in 401(k) Investment | | | | | 7,543 | I | by Trustee |

Plan

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Conversion of 2008 Performance Shares | (1) | 01/11/2011 | | M | 5,100 | (1) (1) | Common Stock | 5,100 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BURMEISTER SMITH CHRISTY M 1411 E MISSION AVE SPOKANE, WA 99202 | | | Vice President and Controller | |

Signatures

/s/ Christy M
Burmeister-Smith 01/12/2011
**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Each performance share represented a contingent right to receive a share of Avista Common Stock upon Avista achieving a specified performance measure.
- (2) Shares withheld to pay income tax on Performance Shares acquired 1/11/2011

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Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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