AVISTA CORP Form SC 13G/A February 13, 2003

QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G/A

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 3)*

AVISTA CORPORATION
(Name of Issuer)
Common Stock, no Par Value
(Title of Class of Securities)
05379B107
(CUSIP Number)
December 31, 2002
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement) Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:
o Rule 13d-1(b)
ý Rule 13d-1(c)
o Rule 13d-1(d)
*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.
The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).
CUSIP No. <u>05379B107</u>
Names of Reporting Persons. I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).
Cascade Investment, L.L.C.

2.	Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)	(a) (b)	0 0	
3.	SEC Use Only			•
4.	Citizenship or Place of Organization			-
	State of Washington			_
	per of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting in With:	5.	Sole Voting Power	•
			2,982,200	
		6.	Shared Voting Power	
			-0-	
		7.	Sole Dispositive Power	1
			2,982,200	
		8.	Shared Dispositive Power	•
			-0-	
9.	Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Repo	orting I	Person	•
	2,982,200			
10.	Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes	Certaiı	n Shares (See Instructions) o	1
11.	Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)			•
	6.2%			
12.	Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)			•
	СО			
			2	•
CUSI	P No. <u>05379B107</u>			
				_

	William H. Gates III		
2.	Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)	(a) (b)	0 0
3.	SEC Use Only		
4.	Citizenship or Place of Organization		
	United States of America		
	per of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting in With:	5.	Sole Voting Power
			2,982,200
		6.	Shared Voting Power
			-0-
		7.	Sole Dispositive Power
			2,982,200
		8.	Shared Dispositive Power
			-0-
9.	Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Repo	rting F	Person
	2,982,200		
10.	Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes (Certair	n Shares (See Instructions) o
11.	Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)		
	6.2%		
12.	Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)		
	IN		

Item 1.

(a) Name of Issuer

	Avista						
(b)	Addres	ss of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices	•				
	1411 E	ast Mission Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99202					
Item 2.			•				
(a)	Name o	of Person Filing					
	Cascad	le Investment, L.L.C. ("Cascade") and William H. Gates III ("Gates")					
(b)	Addres	ss of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence					
		le 2365 Carillon Point, Kirkland, Washington 98033 One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052					
(c)	Citizen	ship					
	St	le is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the ate of Washington. s a citizen of the United States of America.					
(d)	Title of	f Class of Securities					
	Commo	Common Stock, no Par Value					
(e)	CUSIP	Number					
	05379E	3107					
Item 3.			•				
	Not Appl	icable.					
		4					
Item 4. O) Wnership	p					
(a)	Amoun	nt beneficially owned:					
		2,982,200*					
(b)	Percent	t of class:	1				
		6.2%					
(c)	Numbe	er of shares as to which the person has:					
	(i)	Sole power to vote or to direct the vote					
		2,982,200*					
	(ii)	Shared power to vote or to direct the vote					

		-U-
	(iii)	Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of
		2,982,200*
	(iv)	Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of
		-0-
*	Larson, Cas	neld by Cascade may be deemed to be beneficially owned by William H. Gates III as the sole member of Cascade. Michael scade's manager and executive officer, has voting and investment power with respect to the Common Stock held by Ir. Larson disclaims beneficial ownership of the Common Stock beneficially owned by Cascade and Mr. Gates.
Item 5.	Ownership o	of Five Percent or Less of a Class
Not	Applicable.	
Item 6.	Ownership o	of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person
Not	Applicable.	
		ion and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Iding Company
Item 8.]	Identificatio	n and Classification of Members of the Group

Item 8. Id

Not Applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not Applicable.

5

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

6

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

February 12, 2003		
	Date	
CASCADE INVESTMENT, L.L.C.		
By:	/s/ MICHAEL LARSON	
	Name: Michael Larson Title: Manager	
WILLIAM H. GATES III		
By:	/s/ MICHAEL LARSON	
	Name: Michael Larson* Title: Attorney-in-fact	

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

We, the signatories of the statement to which this Joint Filing Agreement is attached, hereby agree that such statement is filed, and any amendments thereto filed by either or both of us will be filed, on behalf of each of us.

February 12, 2003				
	Date			
CASCADE INVESTMENT, L.L.C.				
Ву:	/s/ MICHAEL LARSON			
	Name: Michael Larson Title: Manager			
WILLIAM H. GATES III				
By:	/s/ MICHAEL LARSON			
	Name: Michael Larson* Title: Attorney-in-fact			

Duly authorized under Special Power of Attorney appointing Michael Larson attorney-in-fact, dated March 14, 2001, by and on behalf

,

on March 19, 2001, SEC File No. 005-52919, and incorporated by reference herein.

of William H. Gates III, filed as Exhibit B to Cascade's Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 13D with respect to Pan American Silver Corp.

QuickLinks

SIGNATURE JOINT FILING AGREEMENT