

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1263, SUB 4

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Application by JPC Utilities, LLC, for)	ORDER CANCELING PUBLIC
Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates)	WITNESS HEARING,
for Water and Wastewater Utility Service)	RESCHEDULING
in its service areas in Guilford County,)	EXPERT WITNESS HEARING,
North Carolina)	AMENDING CERTAIN FILING
)	DATES, AND REQUIRING
)	CUSTOMER NOTICE

BY THE CHAIR: On September 6, 2023, JPC Utilities, LLC (Applicant or JPC), filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to increase its rates for providing water and wastewater utility service in its service areas in Guilford County, North Carolina. The Applicant provides water utility service to approximately 68 metered commercial customers and wastewater utility service to approximately 57 metered commercial customers. This is the first time the Applicant has come before the Commission requesting an adjustment and increase in its rates.

On October 3, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Establishing General Rate Case and Suspending Rates, which declared this proceeding to be a general rate case and suspended the proposed new rates for up to 270 days pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-137 and 134, respectively.

On October 10, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearings, Establishing Discovery Guidelines, and Requiring Customer Notice (Scheduling Order) which among other things, scheduled the public witness hearing for Wednesday, January 17, 2024, in Greensboro, North Carolina (subject to cancellation if no significant protests are received) and the expert witness hearing for Tuesday, March 5, 2024, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

On January 4, 2024, the Public Staff filed a motion to cancel the public witness hearing scheduled for January 17, 2024, in Greensboro, North Carolina. In its motion, the Public Staff stated that one consumer statement has been filed in connection with this matter which identified concerns with the proposed rates. The Public Staff commented that the issue set forth in the consumer statement of position is well explained and can be considered on the merits by the Commission. The Public Staff stated that it is unaware of any other customer protests or comments made in connection with this matter.

Based on the foregoing, the Chair finds good cause to grant the Public Staff's motion and cancel the public hearing scheduled for January 17, 2024, in Greensboro,

North Carolina and to require that JPC provide customer notice of such cancellation. Further, due to a Commission scheduling conflict, the Chair finds good cause to reschedule the expert witness hearing from March 5, 2024, to Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 10:00 am, in Commission Hearing Room 2115 (previously scheduled in Commission Hearing Room 2160), Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. As a result of this change, the Chair also finds good cause to modify various testimony filing dates and other pertinent dates contained in the Scheduling Order related to this proceeding as set forth herein. Finally, the Chair requires that JPC provide notice to all affected customers regarding the new date for the expert witness hearing.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the public hearing for the purpose of receiving public witness testimony from JPC's service area customers presently scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the Guilford County Courthouse, Courtroom 1C, 201 South Eugene Street (Main Entrance), Greensboro, North Carolina 27401, shall be, and hereby is, canceled;
2. That the Application is scheduled for an expert witness hearing beginning at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, and continuing as necessary until its conclusion. The hearing will be held in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27603;
3. That the parties shall comply with the discovery guidelines established in the Scheduling Order and shall work in a cooperative manner as to discovery;
4. The Public Staff and intervenors, if any, shall file their testimony on or before Wednesday, January 31, 2024, which is at least 30 days prior to the expert witness hearing, and JPC shall file its rebuttal testimony, if any, on or before Monday, February 26, 2024, which is at least 15 days prior to the expert witness hearing;
5. That JPC shall consult with all other parties and file, no later than Wednesday, March 6, 2024, a list of witnesses to be called at the expert witness hearing, the order of witnesses, and each party's estimated time for cross-examination. If the parties cannot agree, the remaining parties shall, no later than Friday, March 8, 2024, make a filing indicating their points of disagreement with JPC's filing;
6. That an officer or representative of JPC is required to appear before the Commission at the time and place of the expert witness hearing to testify concerning any of the information contained in the Application;
7. That all parties filing supporting exhibits in Excel format shall provide the Commission Staff electronic versions of the exhibits filed in native Excel format, including all of the supporting tabs and formulas, within 3 days of the filing of such exhibits and that the Applicant and all other parties filing exhibits and workpapers that include tables of

numbers and calculations shall provide the Public Staff and any other party upon request an electronic version of all such exhibits and workpapers, with formulas intact;

8. That all parties filing supporting exhibits in PDF format shall provide to the Commission Staff electronic versions of the exhibits filed in native Excel format via email at NCUCexhibits@ncuc.net, where applicable, including all of the supporting tabs and formulas, within 3 days of the filing of such exhibits; and that JPC Utilities, LLC, and all other parties filing exhibits and workpapers that include tables of numbers and calculations shall provide the Public Staff and any other party upon request an electronic version of all such exhibits and workpapers, with formulas intact; and

9. That a copy of this Order shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by JPC to all affected customers no later than five days after the date of this Order and that JPC shall submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service, properly signed and notarized, not later than seven days after the date of this Order.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 5th day of January, 2024.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tamika D. Conyers".

Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers a copy of the order issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-1263, Sub 4, and the Notice was mailed or hand delivered by the date specified in the Order.

This the ____ day of _____, 2024.

By: _____
Signature

Name of Utility Company

The above named Applicant, _____, personally appeared before me this day and, being first duly sworn, says that a copy of the order was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers, as required by the Commission Order dated _____ in Docket No. W-1263, Sub 4.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this the ____ day of _____, 2024.

Notary Public

Printed Name

(SEAL) My Commission Expires: _____
Date