STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 344

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North
Carolina, 2335 Saunders Road, Northbrook, Illinois
60062, for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates for
Water and Sewer Utility Service in All of its Service
Areas in North Carolina

MOTION FOR ORDER
EXCUSING
WITNESSES FROM
HEARING

NOW COMES THE PUBLIC STAFF - North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff), by and through its Chief Counsel, Antoinette R. Wike, and respectfully requests the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) to issue an order excusing the witnesses of the Public Staff from the October 20, 2015, evidentiary hearing in the above-captioned docket.

In support of this Motion, the Public Staff states the following:

- On August 21, 2015, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina,
 (CWSNC or Company) filed the direct testimony and exhibits of Company
 witnesses David Liskoff and Pauline M. Ahern.
- On August 27, 2015, the Company filed revised testimony of David
 Liskoff regarding Appendix A-1 of his direct testimony.
- 3 On September 2, 2015, the Public Staff and CWSNC filled a Stipulation regarding cost of capital and capital structure issues.

- 4. On October 2, 2015, the Chairman of the Commission entered a procedural order in this docket entitled *Order Rescheduling Evidentiary Hearing and Extending filing Dates*. In said Order, the Chairman granted the Joint Motion of CWSNC, Corolla Light Community Association, Inc. (Community Association), and the Pubic Staff (collectively, Parties or Stipulating Parties) to file recommended dates for evidentiary hearing and for filing of settlement-related testimony on or before Friday, October 9, 2015, and to convene the hearing scheduled for October 5, 2015, for receipt of customer testimony only. The Commission tentatively agreed to hold the morning of Tuesday, October 20, 2015, on its calendar for resumption of the evidentiary portion of the case pending receipt of the Parties' final recommendations.
- 5. On October 9, 2015, the Parties filed a Joint Motion Setting Forth Recommended Procedural Dates and to Excuse Witnesses. The Commission issued an Order on October 13, 2015, rescheduling the evidentiary hearing for October 20, 2015, adopting the procedural schedule proposed by the Stipulating Parties and excusing Company witnesses, David Liskoff and Pauline Ahern, from appearing at the October 20th evidentiary hearing.
- 6. On October 15, 2015, the Public Staff pre-filed the testimony and exhibits of Public Staff witnesses Windley Henry, Katherine A. Fernald, Fenge Zhang, Gina Y. Casselberry, and Calvin C. Craig, III. Also on that date, the Public Staff filed the Stipulation of Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina, Corolla Light Community Association, Inc. and the Public Staff, wherein the Stipulating Parties stated: they had reviewed the Public Staff's pre-filed testimony and

exhibits, which supported the Stipulation, and accepted the Public Staff's recommended revenue requirements, rate design, and other recommendations; the Stipulation reflected a settlement as to all the issues of the Stipulating Parties; the Stipulating Parties agreed that any Order approving rates and charges agreed to in the Stipulation may become the Final Order of the Commission upon issuance and they waived their right to file exceptions and appeal the Final Order of the Commission incorporating the matters stipulated therein; the Stipulating Parties agreed that all Company pre-filed testimony and exhibits, as well as the pre-filed testimony and exhibits filed by the Public Staff in support of the Stipulation, may be introduced into evidence without objection, and they waived their respective right to cross-examine all witnesses with respect to all such pre-filed testimony and exhibits.

- 7. The Public Staff recognizes that this request is contingent upon the Commission having no questions for their witnesses, and will have available any of the witnesses to answer any questions the Commission may have.
- 8. The Public Staff is authorized to represent that neither CWSNC nor the Community Association oppose this Motion.

WHEREFORE, the Public Staff requests that all of its witnesses Windley Henry, Katherine A. Fernald, Fenge Zhang, Gina Y. Casselberry, and Calvin C. Craig, III, be excused from appearing at the October 20, 2015, evidentiary hearing and that all of their pre-filed testimony and exhibits be copied into the record and received into evidence.

Respectfully submitted this, the 16th day of October 2015.

Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities

Commission

By: <u>Electronically submitted</u>

/s/ Gina C. Holt Staff Attorney

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this Motion for Order Excusing Witnesses from Hearing has been served on all parties of record or their attorneys, or both, by United States mail, first class or better; by hand delivery; or by means of facsimile or electronic delivery upon agreement of the receiving party.

This the 16th day of October, 2015.

/s/ Gina C. Holt