

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 411
DOCKET NO. W-1148, SUB 22

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc.)	
of North Carolina, and Mountain Air Utilities)	ORDER EXCUSING WITNESSES,
Corporation for Authority to Transfer the)	ACCEPTING TESTIMONY,
Mountain Air Water and Wastewater Utility)	CANCELING EXPERT WITNESS
Systems and Public Utility Franchise in)	HEARING, AND REQUIRING
Yancey County, North Carolina, and for)	PROPOSED ORDERS
Approval of Rates)	

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On September 26, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC), and Mountain Air Utilities Corporation (Mountain Air), filed with the Commission an Application for Transfer of Public Utility Franchise and for Approval of Rates (Application) seeking authority to transfer the water and wastewater utility systems and public utility franchise serving the Mountain Air Development in Yancey County, North Carolina, from Mountain Air to CWSNC and approval of rates.

On June 5, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearings, Establishing Discovery Guidelines, and Requiring Customer Notice (Scheduling Order) scheduling, among other things, an expert witness hearing beginning at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

On August 11, 2022, CWSNC and the Public Staff requested that the Commission continue the expert witness hearing until the week of August 21, 2023. The Commission issued an order on August 14, 2023, continuing the expert witness hearing to Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

On August 18, 2023, CWSNC filed a Settlement Agreement and Stipulation (Stipulation) on behalf of CWSNC, Mountain Air, Mountain Air Property Owners Association, and the Public Staff (Stipulating Parties) resolving all contested issues in this transfer proceeding. Additionally, on August 18, 2023, CWSNC filed the Settlement Testimony and Exhibits of Matthew P. Schellinger, II, and the Public Staff filed the Joint Settlement Testimony of Lynn Feasel and D. Michael Franklin.

In conjunction with the filing of the Stipulation, the Stipulating Parties requested that the Commission excuse all witnesses from the expert witness hearing scheduled for

August 22, 2023, and that the prefiled testimony of those witnesses be accepted into the record as if given orally from the witness stand.

Based on the Stipulating Parties' request and the record, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to excuse all witnesses from testifying at the expert witness hearing and to receive the witnesses' prefiled testimony and exhibits into the record.

Further, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to cancel the expert witness hearing scheduled for August 22, 2023, and to require that the parties file proposed orders, or a joint proposed order, on or before Thursday, September 21, 2023.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 21st day of August, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tamika D. Conyers". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk