STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1333, SUB 0 DOCKET NO. W-1130, SUB 11

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application by Currituck Water and Sewer, LLC,)	
4700 Homewood Court, Suite 108, Raleigh,)	ORDER GRANTING PUBLIC
North Carolina 27609, and Sandler Utilities at)	STAFF'S MOTION FOR
Mill Run, LLC, 448 Viking Drive, Suite 220,)	EXTENSION OF TIME TO
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452, for Authority to)	OBJECT TO DISCOVERY
Transfer the Sandler Utilities at Mill Run)	NUNC PRO TUNC
Wastewater System and Public Utility Franchise)	
in Currituck County, North Carolina, and for)	
Approval of Rates)	

BY THE CHAIR: On May 19, 2021, Currituck Water and Sewer, LLC (Currituck) and Sandler Utilities at Mill Run, LLC (Sandler) filed with the Commission an Application for Transfer of Public Utility Franchise and for Approval of Rates, seeking authority to transfer the wastewater utility system and public utility franchise serving Eagle Creek Subdivision, Eagle Creek Golf Club and Grill, and Moyock Middle School in Currituck County, North Carolina, from Sandler to Currituck and approval of rates (the Joint Application).

On November 18, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearings, Establishing Discovery Guidelines, and Requiring Public Notice (Scheduling Order) requiring, among other things, that the Public Staff and intervenors file direct testimony and exhibits on or before February 24, 2022; that Currituck and Sandler (collectively, the Companies) file their rebuttal testimony and exhibits, if any, by March 16, 2022. The Scheduling Order also required that formal discovery requests of the Public Staff and other intervenors shall be served no later than five calendar days after the filing of that party's testimony and the party served shall have up to three business days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than nine calendar days after the filing of that party's testimony. No parties filed to intervene in this docket.

On February 24, 2022, the Public Staff filed a motion for an extension of time to file testimony and exhibits to March 2, 2022, and for an extension of the discovery request and response deadlines for the Public Staff's direct testimony using the same timeframe set forth in Discovery Guideline 4 of the Scheduling Order. In its Motion, the Public Staff stated that it is awaiting past-due information from Currituck that is necessary and material to the direct testimony the Public Staff intends to file regarding the Joint Application.

On February 25, 2022, the Commission issued an Order Granting Public Staff's Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony and Exhibits and Extension of Discovery Deadlines Nunc Pro Tunc (Extension Order). The Extension Order extended the deadline for filing the Public Staff's testimony and exhibits to March 2, 2022, and the deadline for filing the Companies' rebuttal testimony and exhibits, if any, to March 22, 2022.

The Public Staff filed direct testimony on March 2, 2022, and the Companies served the Public Staff with discovery on March 7, 2022, within the five days prescribed by the Extension Order.

On March 10, 2022, the Public Staff filed a motion requesting an extension of time to file objections to discovery from March 10, 2022 to March 15, 2022. In its motion, the Public Staff stated that Currituck served the Public Staff with an eight-page data request consisting of 75 questions, some containing subparts, which requests a substantial amount of information. The Public Staff explained that due to the press of other matters and the magnitude of Currituck's discovery request, it needs additional time to review and respond to all discovery requests and file objections, if any, to specific discovery requests.

In its Motion, the Public Staff stated that it has contacted counsel for the Companies, and they have no objection to the extension of time.

Based on the foregoing and the entire record herein, the Chair finds good cause to extend the deadline for the Public Staff to file objections to discovery to March 15, 2022, while preserving the remaining procedural dates and deadlines as required by the Scheduling Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 11th day of March, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Erica N. Green, Deputy Clerk