

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 642

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc., for Annual Review of Gas Costs Pursuant to G.S. 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(6)	) ) ) ) )	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO EXCUSE WITNESSES IN PART AND PROVIDING NOTICE OF COMMISSION QUESTIONS
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BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On June 1, 2022, Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. (PSNC), filed testimony and exhibits (testimony) of Glory J. Creel and Rose M. Jackson in the above-captioned docket relating to an annual review proceeding pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(6).

On June 8, 2022, the Commission issued an Order scheduling this docket for a hearing to be held on August 9, 2022.

On July 8, 2022, Haw River Assembly (HRA) filed a Petition to Intervene, which was granted by the Commission by order issued on July 15, 2022.

On July 25, 2022, the Public Staff filed testimony of Dustin R. Metz, Shawn L. Dorgan, Sonja R. Johnson, and Jordan A. Nader.

On August 3, 2022, PSNC and the Public Staff (Movants), filed a joint motion requesting that the Commission excuse PSNC's witnesses and the Public Staff's witnesses from attending the hearing, and that the Commission receive their prefiled testimony into evidence. Movants stated that there are no matters in dispute between PSNC and the Public Staff, and that Movants have no cross-examination questions for each other's witnesses. Further, Movants stated that they consulted with counsel for HRA and have been authorized to state that HRA does not object to Movants' motion.

Based on Movants' motion and the record, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to grant the motion in part by excusing the Public Staff's witnesses from attending the hearing on August 9, 2022. However, with respect to PSNC's witnesses Creel and Jackson, the Commission needs additional testimony from witness Creel about some of the information contained in her exhibits, and from witness Jackson about PSNC's capacity shortfall shown as starting in the 2021-22 winter season. As a result, the motion to excuse PSNC's witnesses Creel and Jackson will be denied.

In addition, because the Commission's questions for witness Creel will be based in part on her testimony in PSNC's 2021 annual review the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to give PSNC advance notice of the subject matter of the Commission's questions for witness Creel, as set forth in Attachment A to this Order.

Finally, the Presiding Commissioner notes that the above identified areas of questioning may not be the sole subjects on which the Commission will request further testimony from PSNC's witnesses Creel and Jackson.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the Public Staff's witnesses Metz, Dorgan, Johnson, and Nader are hereby excused from attending the hearing on August 9, 2022, and their prefiled testimony and exhibits will be admitted into evidence at the hearing;
2. That the request to excuse PSNC witnesses Creel and Jackson is denied, and they shall be required to attend and testify at the hearing on August 9, 2022; and
3. That at the hearing on August 9, 2022, PSNC witness Creel shall be prepared to testify regarding the subjects set forth in Attachment A to this Order, and PSNC witness Jackson shall be prepared to testify about PSNC's capacity shortfall shown as starting in the 2021-22 winter season.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 5th day of August, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk

## ATTACHMENT A

### Subject Matter of Commission's Questions for PSNC Witness Creel

1. Comparing the schedules filed in this proceeding with those filed in last year's annual review of gas costs, Docket No. G-5, Sub 635 (Sub 635), the Commission notes that Gas Loss-Facilities Damage set forth on Schedule 4 of Creel Exhibit 1 in Sub 635 is not shown on this year's schedules. Explain this change and why it was not noted in testimony regarding accounting changes occurring during the review period in either Sub 635 or in the present docket.

2. It appears to the Commission that for most months of the Sub 635 and present review periods, the dollar amount Facilities Damages shown on Schedule 3 were determined by applying the applicable benchmark cost of gas to the Facilities Damages volumes shown on Schedule 10. However, the Commission noted some amounts that require explanation. Explain why the amounts shown on Schedule 3 in the present docket for the months of June through September of 2021 are the same as the amounts shown on Schedule 3 in Sub 635 for the months of June through September of 2020. Also, explain why the calculated cost of gas for March 2020, October 2021 and November 2021 do not agree with the benchmark cost of gas for those months.

3. With respect to information provided on Other Cost of Gas Charges (Credits) shown on Schedule 4, the Commission notes that in both the current docket and Sub 635 Public Staff witness Dorgan discussed various components but did not address the amounts shown for the Integrity Management Tracker (IMT) deferral. Explain why this and other non-gas items such as Customer Utilization Tracker (CUT) are reflected in Other Cost of Gas.