

INFORMATION SHEET

PRESIDING: Commissioner Brown-Bland; Chair Mitchell; Commissioners Gray and Clodfelter

PLACE: Guilford County Courthouse, High Point, NC

DATE: Tuesday, July 9, 2019

TIME: 7:08 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

DOCKET NO.: G-9, Sub 743

COMPANY: Piedmont Natural Gas Company, LLC

DESCRIPTION: Application of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., for an Adjustment of Rates, Charges, and Tariffs Applicable to Service in North Carolina, Continuation of its IMR Mechanism, Adoption of an EDIT Rider, and Other Relief

VOLUME: 1

OFF

APPEARANCES

FOR PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, LLC:

James H. Jeffries, IV, Esq.

OFF

FOR THE USING AND CONSUMING PUBLIC:

Elizabeth Culpepper, Esq.

WITNESSES

See attached.

OFF

EXHIBITS

Preschle Exhibit 1 – Identified/Admitted

---

EMAIL DISTRIBUTION

PUBLIC COPY: Jeffries – 1; Culpepper – 1

CONFIDENTIAL COPY:

REPORTED BY: Kim Mitchell

DATE FILED: July 26, 2019

TRANSCRIPT PAGES: 57

PREFILED PAGES: --

TOTAL PAGES: 57

**FILED**

**JUL 26 2019**

Clerk's Office  
N.C. Utilities Commission

1 PLACE: Guilford County Courthouse  
2 High Point, North Carolina  
3 DATE: Tuesday, July 9, 2019  
4 TIME: 7:08 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.  
5 DOCKET NO: G-9, Sub 743  
6 BEFORE: Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland, Presiding  
7 Chair Charlotte A. Mitchell  
8 Commissioner Lyons Gray  
9 Commissioner Daniel G. Clodfelter

10  
11 **IN THE MATTER OF:**

12 Application of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.,  
13 for an Adjustment of Rates, Charges, and Tariffs  
14 Applicable to Service in North Carolina, Continuation  
15 of its IMR Mechanism, Adoption of an EDIT Rider,  
16 and Other Relief

17  
18 VOLUME 1  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2

3 **FOR PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS:**

4 James H. Jeffries, IV, Esq.

5 McGuireWoods LLP

6 201 North Tryon Street, Suite 3000

7 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202-2146

8

9 **FOR THE USING AND CONSUMING PUBLIC:**

10 Elizabeth Culpepper, Esq.

11 Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission

12 4326 Mail Service Center

13 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S :

WILLIAM GAY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	13
JAMIQUE CHESTNUT	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	16
Examination by Commissioner Clodfelter.....	18
Examination by Commissioner Brown-Bland.....	19
GEORGE DIMOCK	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	21
JOHN WIGODSKY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	23
Cross Examination by Mr. Jeffries.....	26
GAYLE TUCH	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	29
GUS PRESCHLE	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	35
VIRGINIA DANCY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	41
Examination by Commissioner Brown-Bland.....	44
KAY STUART	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	45
Examination by Commissioner Brown-Bland.....	48
SAM ASTUTO	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	51
HENRY RIPP	
Direct Examination by Ms. Culpepper.....	54

E X H I B I T S

IDENTIFIED / ADMITTED

Preschle Exhibit 1.....	40/40
-------------------------	-------

Submitted by Gus Preschle for Docket and Sub 743

# Devastated N.C. town still reeling from Florence

The Associated Press

TRENTON — Nine months after Hurricane Florence inundated much of eastern N.C., the tiny town of Trenton is still struggling to rebuild as a new hurricane season begins.

The Jones County courthouse and jail have yet to reopen. Judges hear cases in county office buildings and inmates are housed in another county. Even the mayor has yet to move back into her house.

"It's a slow process when you've got so many people displaced and only so many people to work," Mayor Darlene Spivey said. "It's mentally and physically exhausting. ... It's just more than I ever could have fathomed."

The stately courthouse rises over Trenton's main street of brick storefronts, a bank branch, restaurant and gas station, along with several churches and a cemetery. The Trent River flows several blocks away.

The September 2018 hurricane turned downtown into a shallow lake of muddy water, flooding 106 homes — all but about 20 of the town's households.

All told, Florence caused \$22 billion in damage in North Carolina, according to the National Hurricane Center. A state tally counts 45 storm-related deaths. In Jones County, numerous water rescues were performed as the Trent River overflowed its banks.

With the start of hurricane season June 1, the threat of another round of storms worries Sharon Metts, 81, who had never seen the home where she's lived since 1965 flood before Florence. She recently moved back in after a charity replaced flooring, dry-wall and cabinets.

"I'm afraid of them now," she said of hurricanes, standing on a porch that was submerged by several feet of water. "It's been in the backyard; it's been under the house. But never like this."

Town Clerk Glenn Spivey, who's married to the mayor, fears that as many as half the town's flooded homes could qualify for a government buyout that would preclude rebuilding.

A visitor can walk most of the residential streets of one-story houses with large lawns in an afternoon. During a recent tour, Glenn Spivey pointed out several homes already vacated for



**Town manager Glenn Spivey crosses Jones Street in Trenton. Eight months after Hurricane Florence inundated North Carolina, communities such as Trenton illustrate the slow and uneven pace of recovery.**

good and several others with FEMA trailers parked outside.

If more people leave permanently, it would be "rough, rough," he said.

"You're losing money as far as sewer users. The county's losing water users. Plus, we're all going to lose tax base," he said.

Fifty-five homes with Trenton addresses are being evaluated for federal hazard mitigation funds, though some may be outside of town limits, according to state emergency management officials. The Federal Emergency Management Agency hazard mitigation program includes buyouts, elevating houses or other flood-proofing repairs. Across Jones County, 111 homeowners have sought expedited buyouts because of Florence, more than any other North Carolina county, according to a joint state-federal notice.

It's not clear when buyouts will be approved, but FEMA already has paid county residents \$33 million in aid, loans and insurance payouts. As of May, 37 county households were still staying in FEMA trailers or other temporary units.

Standing on bare sub-flooring with building supplies stacked against the walls of his house, Glenn Spivey said that because he and his wife had flood insurance, they got checks quickly from their insurer. But finding contractors proved much more difficult.

He said contractors would tell him: "You're No. 200 on my list" or "You're No. 150."

Construction workers have gravitated to bigger cities, he said, owing to a combination of deeper pockets, larger neighborhoods and more

To the south in Wilmington, where media outlets positioned themselves for live-shots during the hurricane's arrival, tree-removal and construction crews began arriving from other states hours after landfall.

Jones County is also one of six North Carolina counties without a newspaper, according to a University of North Carolina study. The county also has no local television stations.

"The more word you can get out, the better off you are, especially when it comes to financial resources," said Scot Murphy, who leads M2 Network, a local Christian charity repairing homes and businesses. "Getting the money to rebuild is really important."

Faith-based charities have spread the word through their own networks, offering hope for some homeowners.

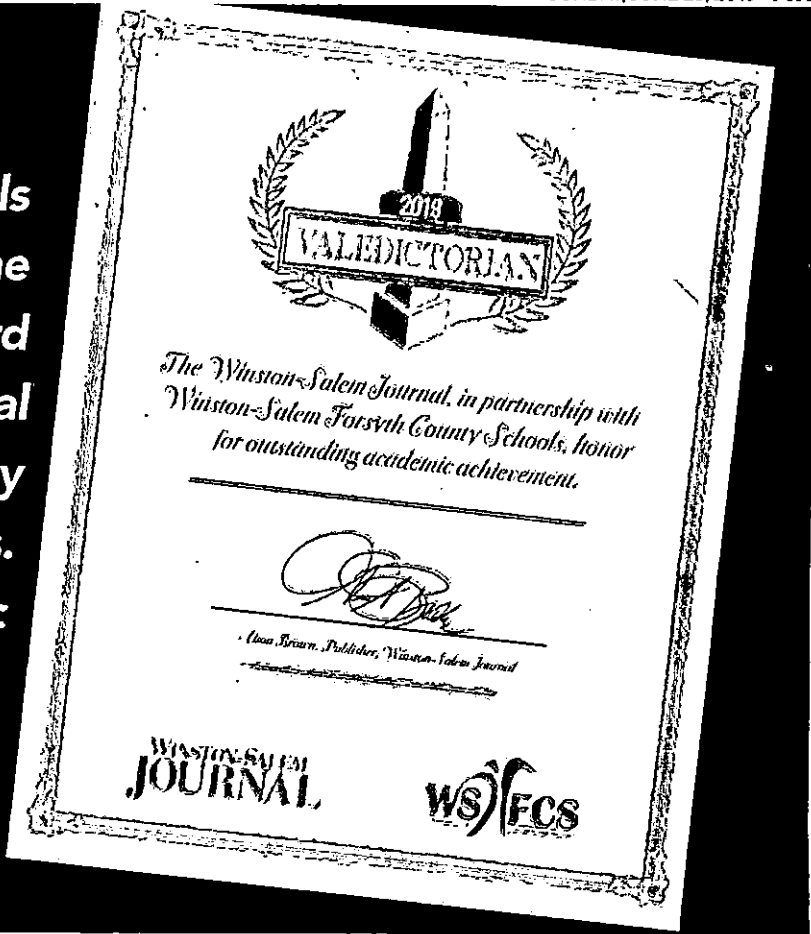
Freddie Lee Mundine, 83, spent six months staying with relatives after Florence filled his home with 3 feet (0.9 meters) of water. But church-related charity workers, coupled with FEMA assistance, allowed him to return recently, sleeping on an air mattress while he replaces ruined furniture.

"The church did most of the work," he said.

Metts, who lacked flood insurance and feared having to abandon her home, said workers from Christian Aid Ministries found out about her "by word of mouth" and made her house livable.

"We decided we weren't going to be able to (rebuild), but then they came and offered to help."

schools  
of the  
Award  
dividual  
quality  
chools.  
ademic  
ntinue



## RONALD W. REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL



S. LI

**SUNNIE LI > QPA 4.8833**

**Major Awards, Honors and Societies:** Montague Award, National Honor Society, All National Concert Band, National Merit Finalist, All State Orchestra, John Philip Sousa Band Award, Girl Scouts Silver Award, NC Governor's School

**College Plans:** UNC Chapel Hill, Biology Major

**Parents:** Jie Zhang and Yabing Li

## WALKERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL



A. ALEXANDER

**ASHLEY ALEXANDER > QPA 4.3649**

**Major Awards, Honors and Societies:** Montague Award, Student Body President, National Honor Society, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), Spanish Honors Society, Senior Deans, Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Spirit Club, Cross Country/ Track Team.

**College Plans:** The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/ Nursing

**Parents:** Nick & Amanda Alexander

## WEST FORSYTH HIGH SCHOOL



**MEREDITH LEIGH ROBBINS > QPA 4.6552**

**Major Awards, Honors and Societies:** Math Honor Society, Senior Lobbyist for Youth and Government, Secretary of Math Honor Society Varsity Swimming, Assistant Head Swim Coach for Clemmons West Swim Team, Novant Health Junior Volunteer Leader Junior Marshall 2018-2019 Perfect SAT Math Score, West Forsyth Scholarship (nominated and funded by Winston-Salem Foundation Nellie Mae Foundation), 2018 National Latin

**NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**PUBLIC STAFF - APPEARANCE SLIP**

DATE July 9, 2019 DOCKET #: G-9, Sub 743

PUBLIC STAFF MEMBER Elizabeth Culpepper

ORDER FOR TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY TO BE **EMAILED** TO THE  
 PUBLIC STAFF - PLEASE INDICATE YOUR DIVISION AS WELL AS  
 YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW:

ACCOUNTING \_\_\_\_\_  
 WATER \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMMUNICATIONS \_\_\_\_\_  
 ELECTRIC \_\_\_\_\_  
 GAS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TRANSPORTATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 ECONOMICS \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEGAL elizabeth.culpepper@psncuc.nc.gov  
 CONSUMER SERVICES \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: Electronic Copies of the regular transcript can be obtained from the NCUC web site at HTTP://NCUC.commerce.state.nc.us/docksrch.html under the respective docket number.

<sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Number of copies of confidential portion of regular transcript (assuming a confidentiality agreement has been signed). Confidential pages will still be received in paper copies.

\*\*\*PLEASE INDICATE BELOW WHO HAS SIGNED A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT. IF YOU DO NOT SIGN, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THE CONFIDENTIAL PORTIONS!!!!

Elizabeth A. Culpepper  
 Signature of Public Staff Member

V1052

# NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

## APPEARANCE SLIP

DATE: 7/9/19 DOCKET NO.: G-9, SUB 743  
ATTORNEY NAME and TITLE: JAMES H. JEFFRIES IV  
FIRM NAME: MCGUIRE WOODS LLP  
ADDRESS: 201 N. TRYON STREET, SUITE 3000  
CITY: CHARLOTTE STATE: NC ZIP CODE: 28202-2146  
APPEARING FOR: PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC

APPLICANT: ☒ COMPLAINANT: ☐ INTERVENOR: ☐  
PROTESTANT: ☐ RESPONDENT: ☐ DEFENDANT: ☐

**PLEASE NOTE:** Non-confidential transcripts may be accessed by visiting the Commission's website at <https://ncuc.net>. Hover over the Dockets tab, select Docket Search from the drop-down menu, and enter the docket number.

**Electronic transcripts are available at a charge of \$5.00 per transcript**

To order an electronic transcript, please provide an email address and sign below:

Email: JEFFRIES@MCGUIREWOODS.COM

To order an electronic **confidential transcript**, please check the box and sign below:

☐ Yes, I have signed the Confidentiality Agreement.

SIGNATURE: [Signature]

(Signature required for distribution of ALL transcripts)