

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**STAFF CONFERENCE AGENDA
February 15, 2021**

***IMPORTANT NOTE: STAFF CONFERENCE
WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND A LINK TO VIEW
THE MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON THE COMMISSION'S
WEBSITE, NCUC.NET***

COMMISSION STAFF

NO AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC STAFF

D. ELECTRIC

- P1. DOCKET NO. E-34, SUB 51 – NEW RIVER LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT AND COAL ASH COST RECOVERY FACTORS **EXHIBIT NO. P-1**
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E. WATER

- P1. DOCKET NO. W-1049, SUB 26 – A&D WATER SERVICES, INC. – ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER TO OWNER EXEMPT AND REQUIRING CUSTOMER NOTICE **EXHIBIT NO. P-2**
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- P3. DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 16 – PLURIS, LLC – NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BEGIN SEWER UTILITY OPERATIONS IN CONTIGUOUS SERVICE AREA **EXHIBIT NO. P-4**

TO: Agenda – Commission Conference – February 15, 2021

FROM: PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission

D. ELECTRIC

P1. DOCKET NO. E-34, SUB 51 – NEW RIVER LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT AND COAL ASH COST RECOVERY FACTORS

EXPLANATION: On November 5, 2020, New River Light and Power Company (NRLP or the Company) filed its annual initial request for an adjustment to its rates and charges for purchased power (the Purchased Power Adjustment or PPA), pursuant to the Commission's *Order Approving Rate Increase and Annual Procedure* issued on December 22, 2010, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 38, its *Order Accepting Stipulation and Granting Increase in Rates* issued March 29, 2018, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 46, and its *Order Granting Extension of Time and Permanent Change in Effective Date of Purchased Power Adjustments* issued January 23, 2019, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 48. In its initial filing, NRLP presented a preliminary PPA factor of (\$0.000677) per kilowatt-hour (kWh), excluding the North Carolina regulatory fee, or (\$0.000678) per kWh, including the regulatory fee. The Company stated that this rate was the preliminary calculation of the PPA factor to be included in rates effective March 1, 2021. The preliminary PPA factor contained elements of the Company's proposed recovery of coal ash costs, as first approved by the Commission in Sub 46 and in subsequent annual PPA/coal ash cost recovery (CACR) rider proceedings.

On February 9, 2021, NRLP filed its final proposed PPA factor, including an experience modification factor (EMF) based on total actual purchased power revenues and costs for the period January through December 2020. The PPA factor requested in the final filing is a decrement totaling (\$0.000120) per kWh (excluding the regulatory fee), consisting of two elements: (1) an estimated decrease in purchased power costs for the period March 2021 through February 2022 of (\$0.003191) per kWh, and (2) an EMF increment of \$0.003071 per kWh. NRLP states that when calculated to include the regulatory fee, the PPA factor totals (\$0.000120) per kWh, which results in an increase in total purchased power rates of \$ 0.003063 per kWh above the PPA factor approved by the Commission in the last PPA proceeding, Docket No. E-34, Sub 50.

As part of its February 9, 2021 filing, NRLP is also requesting approval of a CACR factor of \$0.003836 per kWh (excluding the regulatory fee). When the regulatory fee is included, the proposed CACR factor is \$0.003841 per kWh, a \$0.000500 per kWh increase over the CACR factor currently in effect. NRLP has determined the factor by calculating (1) the sum of its actual uncollected coal ash costs through December 2020, (2) expected coal

ash costs from January 2021 through December 2021, and (3) interest on the estimated cumulative uncollected balances throughout the period, and then using these amounts to determine the estimated CACR factor that will reduce the uncollected balance to zero by the service date of February 28, 2022. This estimate, with any appropriate interest calculated, will be subject to adjustment in future NRLP PPA/CACR rider proceedings. The CACR factor includes estimated accrued interest on the accumulated unrecovered coal ash costs at the FERC interest rate calculated as set forth in Section 35.19a of the FERC Regulations and published quarterly.

Finally, in its February 9, 2021 filing, NRLP proposes to revise all of its retail rate schedules as approved in Sub 46, including its outdoor lighting schedules, to incorporate the (\$0.000120) per kWh PPA factor and the \$0.003841 per kWh CACR factor, both including the regulatory fee. The Company states that the combined proposed factors, if approved by the Commission, will increase typical monthly bills for its customers from the rates approved in Sub 50 by a range of 3.5% (for residential customers) to 6.0% (for Appalachian State University).

As part of the requested change in rates for this PPA, due to a current staffing transition, NRLP also requests extra time to provide notice to its customers. NRLP proposes to distribute customer notices in the upcoming billing cycles over the next month. NRLP states that the extra time would allow it to properly notice its customers without adversely impacting its ability to carry out its daily service requirements. The Public Staff does not object to this proposal.

The Public Staff has reviewed NRLP's calculations for the PPA and CACR factors, and has determined that the proposed factors have been calculated accurately and in a reasonable manner, given the projections of purchased power and coal ash costs, and are consistent with previous NRLP PPA and CACR factor requests approved by the Commission, as well as the stipulation between NRLP and the Public Staff approved by the Commission in Docket No. E-34, Sub 46. The Public Staff has determined that the factors have been appropriately calculated to take account of the effective date of the rates of March 1, 2020, in Sub 50, and March 1, 2021, in this proceeding. Based on its review, the Public Staff recommends approval of the PPA and CACR factors to become effective for service rendered on or after March 1, 2021.

During the course of the Public Staff's review, it and NRLP discussed the potential impact on NRLP's coal ash costs of the recently filed joint coal ash settlement in the Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC) rate cases, if approved by the Commission. The impact of the settlement on NRLP is not currently known or measurable. The Public Staff recommends that if the proposed settlement is accepted by the Commission and results in a decrease of coal ash costs to NRPL customers, NRPL be allowed to file a request with the Commission to adjust the CACR rate to refund to customers any overcollections due to the coal ash settlement, in a manner generally similar to that approved for mid-year refunds considered in a previous NRLP PPA proceeding, Docket No. E-34, Sub 40, with specific characteristics of the refund to be determined at the time any filing is made and considered by the Commission. It is the Public Staff's understanding that NRPL agrees with this recommendation.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as [Exhibit No. P-1](#).

RECOMMENDATION: (Li/Saillor/Culpepper) That the Commission issue the proposed order approving NRLP's proposed PPA and CACR riders without public hearing to be effective for service rendered on or after March 1, 2021, as well as the Public Staff's recommendation regarding adjustment to the CACR rate if the DEC coal ash settlement is approved by the Commission. The approval of this Rider should be without prejudice to the right of any party to take issue with it in a general rate case.

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P2. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITIES

EXPLANATION: The following applications seek certificates of public convenience and necessity for construction of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facilities, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

Duke Energy Progress:

- Docket No. SP-3557, Sub 1 – Application of Fresh Air Energy XI, LLC, for an amended certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a 5-MW solar PV facility in Lenoir County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)
- Docket No. SP-6224, Sub 0 – Application of Pine Valley Solar Farm, LLC, for renewal of a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a 4.995-MW solar PV facility in Moore County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)

The Public Staff has reviewed the applications and determined that they comply with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

RECOMMENDATION: (Gilbert/Lucas) That the Commission issue orders approving the applications and issuing the requested amended certificates for the facilities. Proposed orders have been provided to the Commission Staff.

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E. WATER

P1. DOCKET NO. W-1049, SUB 26 – A&D WATER SERVICES, INC. – ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER TO OWNER EXEMPT AND REQUIRING CUSTOMER NOTICE

EXPLANATION: On September 28, 2020, A&D Water Services, Inc. (A&D or Applicant), and the Town of Rosman (Town or Rosman) filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to transfer A&D's water and wastewater utility services for the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision to Rosman, which is exempt from Commission regulation. A&D provides water and wastewater utility services in Transylvania County to approximately 94 residential and 12 commercial customers in the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision and to one commercial customer located along US Highway 64, northwest of Club Drive. A&D also provides water-only service to approximately 220 residential customers in Sapphire Lakes Subdivision.

On November 16, 2020, the Commission issued its Order Requiring Customer Notice, specifying that the matter may be determined without public hearing if no significant protests are received subsequent to customer notice. By its certificate of service dated November 19, 2020, and filed with the Commission on November 20, 2020, A&D stated that the Notice to Customers was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers. As of February 8, 2021, no customer protests have been received by the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff).

A&D entered into an Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement with the Town in July, 2020,¹ by which the Town agreed to purchase the assets of the water and wastewater utility systems servicing the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision for \$200,000. The agreement does not obligate the Town to improve the system, but only to maintain the system as it presently exists. The transfer closed on July 31, 2020, and the Town has been billing customers for service rendered on and after August 1, 2020.

The A&D water utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision is approved by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Division of Water Resources, under system number NC0188127. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that while A&D has had some reporting issues, A&D has performed well with the maintenance and operation of the water utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision.

The water utility system operated by the Town is approved by DEQ, Division of Water Resources under system number NC0188115. DEQ completed a sanitary survey of the Rosman water utility system in 2019 and performed a follow-up visit in 2020. The survey and follow-up identified five equipment-related items for Rosman to address. Of the equipment items, one item identified in the 2019 sanitary survey was still not resolved at the time of the 2020 follow-up visit. The more significant of the equipment issues is that the wells are pumping at capacity. DEQ recommended that either an additional water source be developed or that improvements be made to the existing system so wells are

¹ The specific date of the Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement was not indicated.

pumping more efficiently and in compliance with state rules governing public water systems. These equipment-related issues do not directly impact the water utility system serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision, which is separate from the Town's water utility system that was the subject of DEQ's above-referenced survey and follow-up.

The A&D wastewater utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision are regulated by DEQ under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit numbers NC0059421 and NC0059439. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that the performance of the wastewater utility service for Sapphire Lakes Subdivision is acceptable, with no chronic items of significance reported. DEQ also indicates that the wastewater utility systems for Sapphire Lakes Subdivision are much smaller and simpler than the wastewater utility system operated by the Town. DEQ further indicates that, as with many other small package plants in the area, many of the system components are aging and experiencing significant wear.

The wastewater utility system operated by the Town is regulated by DEQ, under NPDES permit number NC0021946. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that several years ago, Rosman had a significant problem meeting effluent limits, primarily due to high strength waste being trucked in from an industry not connected to the system. DEQ indicates that those issues have been corrected and that the facility is now in compliance and no longer experiencing issues. DEQ does not anticipate additional chronic problems with the Rosman wastewater system, provided that the equipment is operated correctly. DEQ does not have any specific concerns regarding Rosman's ability to operate the wastewater utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision in compliance with NPDES discharge permits.

A&D's water and wastewater utility rates were approved in Docket No. W-1049, Sub 19, by the Commission's Order Approving Tariff Revision and Requiring Customer Notice, dated December 6, 2016, and became effective on January 1, 2017. The Town has developed specific rates for the residential and commercial customers of the Sapphire Lakes water and wastewater utility systems. The Town applies the same rates for residential and commercial customers. The Town Board of Aldermen would have the right to modify or adjust rates in the future.

A&D's Commission-approved water and wastewater rates, and the Town's water and wastewater rates are as follows:

<u>Water Utility Service:</u>	<u>A&D Rates</u>	<u>Town Rates</u>
Monthly Metered Water Rates:		
Base Charge		
Residential, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 10.52	N/A
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00
Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$ 52.60	N/A
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00

Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.34	\$ 5.50
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Wastewater Utility Service:

Monthly Flat Rate for Residential Wastewater Service:	\$ 41.21	N/A
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Monthly Metered Wastewater Rates:

Base Charge		
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 30.45	N/A

Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$152.26	N/A
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Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 6.90	\$ 6.50
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Based on 2,800 gallons of usage, the monthly residential water and wastewater bill would increase from \$61.08 to \$69.60. The monthly residential water only bill would increase from \$19.87 to \$29.40. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a standard meter would decrease from \$111.72 to \$69.60. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a 2-inch meter would decrease from \$233.53 to \$69.60.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as [Exhibit No. P- 2](#).

RECOMMENDATION: (Franklin/Morgan/Creech) That the Commission issue the proposed order approving the transfer and requiring customer notice.

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P2. DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 15 – PLURIS, LLC – NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BEGIN SEWER UTILITY OPERATIONS IN CONTIGUOUS SERVICE AREA

EXPLANATION: On May 8, 2018, Pluris, LLC (Pluris), filed a notification of intention to begin sewer utility operations in Stonebay Townhomes, in Onslow County, North Carolina, which is contiguous to Pluris's The Quarters at Stones Bay Apartments service area, and for approval of rates. Pluris expects to eventually serve 89 multi-family residential customers in Stonebay Townhomes. Pluris proposes to charge the rates currently approved for the service area.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, has issued permit number WQ0040280, dated October 11, 2018, for the construction and operation of the Stonebay Townhomes wastewater collection system extension.

Pluris has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service dated April 2, 2018, with Stonebay Developers, LLC (Developer). Pluris agrees to provide sewer utility service to Stonebay Townhomes and Developer agrees to construct at Developer's cost the entire collection system and the interconnection to Pluris's existing collection system. The Developer will pay a non-refundable sewer connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or single-family equivalent. Pursuant to the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, a utility is not required to collect gross-up on CIAC from a contributor (Developer) unless contributions were contracted for on or after October 5, 2018.

Pluris presently holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 4,572 customers throughout North Carolina. Pluris's record of service is satisfactory.

Based on the foregoing, the Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in this contiguous area and recommends that the contiguous extension be recognized. The Public Staff further recommends that the Commission require posting of a \$10,000 bond for the contiguous extension of Stonebay Townhomes. Pluris currently has \$360,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$280,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$80,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as [Exhibit No. P-3](#).

RECOMMENDATION: (Darden/Henry/Luhr) That the Commission issue the proposed order recognizing the contiguous extension.

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P3. DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 16 – PLURIS, LLC – NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BEGIN SEWER UTILITY OPERATIONS IN CONTIGUOUS SERVICE AREA

EXPLANATION: On December 6, 2018, Pluris, LLC (Pluris), filed a notification of intention to begin sewer utility operations in Oyster Landing Townhomes, in Onslow County, North Carolina, which is contiguous to Pluris's Oyster Landing Subdivision service area, and for approval of rates. Pluris expects to eventually serve 59 multi-family residential customers in Oyster Landing Townhomes. Pluris proposes to charge the rates currently approved for the service area.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, has issued permit number WQ0035837, dated April 9, 2012, for the construction and operation of the Oyster Landing Townhomes wastewater collection system extension.

Pluris has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service dated March 8, 2012, with Beaver Creek Investors, Inc. (Developer). Pluris agrees to provide sewer utility service to Oyster Landing Townhomes, and Developer agrees to construct at Developer's cost the entire collection system and the interconnection to Pluris's existing collection system. The Developer will pay a sewer connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or single family equivalent. Pursuant to the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, a utility is not required to collect gross-up on CIAC from a contributor (Developer) unless contributions were contracted for on or after October 5, 2018.

Pluris presently holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 4,572 customers throughout North Carolina. Pluris's record of service is satisfactory.

Based on the foregoing, the Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in this contiguous area and recommends that the contiguous extension be recognized. The Public Staff further recommends that the Commission require posting of a \$10,000 bond for the contiguous extension of Oyster Landing Townhomes. Pluris currently has \$360,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$280,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$80,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as [Exhibit No. P-4](#).

RECOMMENDATION: (Darden/Chiu/Luhr) That the Commission issue the proposed order recognizing the contiguous extension.

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-34, SUB 51

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Application by New River Light & Power Company for Approval of Purchased Power Adjustment and Coal Ash Cost Recovery Factors)	ORDER APPROVING PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT AND COAL ASH COST RECOVERY FACTORS
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BY THE COMMISSION: On November 5, 2020, New River Light and Power Company (NRLP or the Company) filed its annual initial request for an adjustment to its rates and charges for purchased power (the Purchased Power Adjustment or PPA), pursuant to the Commission's *Order Approving Rate Increase and Annual Procedure* issued on December 22, 2010, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 38, its *Order Accepting Stipulation and Granting Increase in Rates* issued March 29, 2018, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 46, and its *Order Granting Extension of Time and Permanent Change in Effective Date of Purchased Power Adjustments* issued January 23, 2019, in Docket No. E-34, Sub 48. In its initial filing, NRLP presented a preliminary PPA factor of (\$0.000677) per kilowatt-hour (kWh), excluding the North Carolina regulatory fee, or (\$0.000678) per kWh, including the regulatory fee. The Company stated that this rate was the preliminary calculation of the PPA factor to be included in rates effective March 1, 2021. The preliminary PPA factor contained elements of the Company's proposed recovery of coal ash costs, as first approved by the Commission in Sub 46 and in subsequent annual PPA/coal ash cost recovery (CACR) rider proceedings.

On February 9, 2021, NRLP filed its final proposed PPA factor, including an experience modification factor (EMF) based on total actual purchased power revenues and costs for the period January through December 2020. The PPA factor requested in the final filing is a decrement totaling (\$0.000120) per kWh (excluding the regulatory fee), consisting of two elements: (1) an estimated decrease in purchased power costs for the period March 2021 through February 2022 of (\$0.003191) per kWh, and (2) an EMF increment of \$0.003071 per kWh. NRLP states that when calculated to include the regulatory fee, the PPA factor totals (\$0.000120) per kWh, which results in an increase in total purchased power rates of \$ 0.003063 per kWh above the PPA factor approved by the Commission in the last PPA proceeding, Docket No. E-34, Sub 50.

As part of its February 9, 2021 filing, NRLP is also requesting approval of a CACR factor of \$0.003836 per kWh (excluding the regulatory fee). When the regulatory fee is

included, the proposed CACR factor is \$0.003841 per kWh, a \$0.000500 per kWh increase over the CACR factor currently in effect. NRLP has determined the factor by calculating (1) the sum of its actual uncollected coal ash costs through December 2020, (2) expected coal ash costs from January 2021 through December 2021, and (3) interest on the estimated cumulative uncollected balances throughout the period, and then using these amounts to determine the estimated CACR factor that will reduce the uncollected balance to zero by the service date of February 28, 2022. This estimate, with any appropriate interest calculated, will be subject to adjustment in future NRLP PPA/CACR rider proceedings. The CACR factor includes estimated accrued interest on the accumulated unrecovered coal ash costs at the FERC interest rate calculated as set forth in Section 35.19a of the FERC Regulations and published quarterly.

Finally, in its February 9, 2021 filing, NRLP proposes to revise all of its retail rate schedules as approved in Sub 46, including its outdoor lighting schedules, to incorporate the (\$0.000120) per kWh PPA factor and the \$0.003841 per kWh CACR factor, both including the regulatory fee. The Company states that the combined proposed factors, if approved by the Commission, will increase typical monthly bills for its customers from the rates approved in Sub 50 by a range of 3.5% (for residential customers) to 6.0% (for Appalachian State University).

As part of the requested change in rates for this PPA, due to a current staffing transition, NRLP also requests extra time to provide notice to its customers. NRLP proposes to distribute customer notices in the upcoming billing cycles over the next month. NRLP states that the extra time would allow it to properly notice its customers without adversely impacting its ability to carry out its daily service requirements. The filing states that Public Staff does not object to this proposal.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's regular Staff Conference on February 15, 2021, and stating that it had reviewed NRLP's calculations for the PPA and CACR factors, and determined that the proposed factors have been calculated accurately and in a reasonable manner, given the projections of purchased power and coal ash costs, and are consistent with previous NRLP PPA and CACR factor requests approved by the Commission, as well as the stipulation between NRLP and the Public Staff approved by the Commission in Docket No. E-34, Sub 46. The Public Staff stated that it had also determined that the factors have been appropriately calculated to take account of the effective date of the rates of March 1, 2020, in Sub 50, and March 1, 2021, in this proceeding. Based on its review, the Public Staff recommended approval of the PPA and CACR factors to become effective for service rendered on or after March 1, 2021.

The Public Staff also stated that during the course of its review, it and NRLP discussed the potential impact on NRLP's coal ash costs of the recently filed joint coal ash settlement in the Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC) rate cases, if approved by the

Commission. The impact of the settlement on NRLP is not currently known or measurable. The Public Staff recommended that if the proposed settlement is accepted by the Commission and results in a decrease of coal ash costs to NRPL customers, NRPL be allowed to file a request with the Commission to adjust the CACR rate to refund to customers any overcollections due to the coal ash settlement, in a manner generally similar to that approved for mid-year refunds considered in a previous NRLP PPA proceeding, Docket No. E-34, Sub 40, with specific characteristics of the refund to be determined at the time any filing is made and considered by the Commission. The Public Staff stated that it is its understanding that NRPL agrees with this recommendation.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission concludes that the proposed PPA and CACR factors should be approved without public hearing, subject to refund of any amounts subsequently found to be unjust or unreasonable upon protest and hearing, and subject to the requirements set forth in the Ordering Paragraphs below.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That, effective with service rendered on and after March 1, 2021, NRLP is authorized to adjust its base rates to reflect a PPA factor of (\$0.000120) per kWh (both including and excluding the regulatory fee), resulting in an increase of \$0.003063 per kWh in the PPA factor including regulatory fee.
2. That, effective with service rendered on and after March 1, 2021, NRLP is authorized to implement the CACR factor of \$0.003836 per kWh (excluding the regulatory fee) and \$0.003841 per kWh (including the regulatory fee), resulting in an increase of \$0.000500 per kWh in the CACR factor.
3. That the rates authorized by this Order are subject to refund of any amounts which may subsequently be found unjust and unreasonable after public hearing.
4. That NRLP shall file copies of its approved rates, as modified herein, within 10 days of the date of this Order.
5. That the Notice to the Public attached as Appendix A be mailed by separate mail or bill insert by NRLP to all its customers and that said Notice be mailed not later than the date of the mailing for NRLP's final billing cycle of March 2021.
6. That the Notice to the Public be published by NRLP at its own expense in newspapers having general coverage in its North Carolina service area once a week for two consecutive weeks, the first Notice appearing not later than seven days following the date of this Order, and said Notice covering no less than one-quarter of a page.

7. That NRPL is permitted to file an application for a mid-year adjustment to adjust its rates to reflect the impact of the proposed DEC coal ash settlement, if accepted by the Commission, in a manner generally similar to the filings it has previously made in Docket No. E-34, Sub 40.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the _____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

**DOCKET NO. E-34, SUB 51
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that New River Light and Power Company (NRLP or the Company) has requested the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) to approve an adjustments to its purchased power adjustment (PPA) factor, and the coal ash cost recovery (CACR) factor, for service rendered on and after March 1, 2021, to pass through to its customers the cost of purchased power and coal ash cleanup costs from its wholesale power supplier, Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation (BREMCO).

The amount of the increase to NRLP's customers resulting from the combined new PPA and CACR factors will be approximately \$742,164 per year. The increase will be applied to NRLP's customers as uniform increases to the kilowatt-hour (kWh) energy charge. The increment in revenue produced by the increase will be the same as the increase in the combined cost of purchased power and coal ash cleanup from BREMCO, adjusted for the effects of the utility regulatory fee. The proposed increase of \$0.003063 per kWh (PPA) and the proposed increase of \$0.000500 per kWh (CACR) will result in an increase in the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kWh from \$102.78 to \$106.34. The approximate percentage increases in customers' bills, by rate schedule, are as follows (actual percentages may differ depending on specific customers' usage amounts):

Residential	3.5%
Schedule G (Commercial)	3.6%
Schedule GL (Large Commercial)	4.9%
Schedule GLH (Commercial Demand	
High Load Factor)	5.0%
Schedule A (App. State Univ.)	6.0%

The Commission has concluded that the PPA and CACR factors requested by NRLP are reasonable, in that they are based solely on the level of purchased power and coal ash cleanup expenses that have been incurred and are expected to be incurred by the Company.

Therefore, the Commission has approved NRLP's requests without public hearing, subject to refund of any amounts which should subsequently be found to be unjust or unreasonable after any public hearing in this matter that may subsequently be held by the Commission, as described below.

Persons desiring to intervene in this matter as formal parties of record should file a motion under Commission Rules R1-6, R1-7, and R1-19 not later than 45 days after the date of this notice. Persons desiring to present testimony or evidence at a hearing should so advise the Commission. Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their position in the matter should address their statements to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. However, such written statements cannot be considered competent evidence unless those persons appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements. If a significant number of requests for a public hearing are received within 45 days after the date of this notice, the Commission may schedule a public hearing.

The Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission is authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information which the writer wishes to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter, and such statements should be addressed to Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the _____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(SEAL)

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1049, SUB 26

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Application by A&D Water Services, Inc., Post)	
Office Box 1407, Pisgah Forest, North Carolina)	ORDER APPROVING
28768, for Transfer of the Water and)	TRANSFER TO OWNER
Wastewater Utility Systems Serving Sapphire)	EXEMPT AND REQUIRING
Lakes Subdivision in Transylvania County,)	CUSTOMER NOTICE
North Carolina to the Town of Rosman, Owner)	
Exempt)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On September 28, 2020, A&D Water Services, Inc. (A&D or Applicant), and the Town of Rosman (Town or Rosman) filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to transfer A&D's water and wastewater utility services for the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision to Rosman, which is exempt from Commission regulation. A&D provides water and wastewater utility services in Transylvania County to approximately 94 residential and 12 commercial customers in the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision and to one commercial customer located along US Highway 64, northwest of Club Drive. A&D also provides water-only service to approximately 220 residential customers in Sapphire Lakes Subdivision.

On November 16, 2020, the Commission issued its Order Requiring Customer Notice, specifying that the matter may be determined without public hearing if no significant protests are received subsequent to customer notice. By its certificate of service dated November 19, 2020, and filed with the Commission on November 20, 2020, A&D stated that the Notice to Customers was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers. As of February 8, 2021, no customer protests have been received by the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff).

On the basis of the information provided in the application, the recommendations of the Public Staff, and the records of the Commission, the Commission makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A&D entered into an Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement with the Town on July 2020,¹ by which the Town agreed to purchase the assets of the water and wastewater utility systems servicing the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision for \$200,000. The agreement does not obligate the Town to improve the system, but only to maintain the system as it presently exists. The transfer closed on July 31, 2020, and the Town has been billing customers for service rendered on and after August 1, 2020.

2. The A&D water utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision is approved by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Division of Water Resources, under system number NC0188127. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that while A&D has had some reporting issues, A&D has performed well with the maintenance and operation of the water utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision.

3. The water utility system operated by the Town is approved by DEQ, Division of Water Resources under system number NC0188115. DEQ completed a sanitary survey of the Rosman water utility system in 2019, and performed a follow-up visit in 2020. The survey and follow-up identified five equipment-related items for Rosman to address. Of the equipment items, one item identified in the 2019 sanitary survey was still not resolved at the time of the 2020 follow-up visit. The more significant of the equipment issues is that the wells are pumping at capacity. DEQ recommended that either an additional water source be developed or that improvements be made to the existing system so wells are pumping more efficiently and in compliance with state rules governing public water systems. These equipment-related issues do not directly impact the water utility system serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision, which is separate from the Town's water utility system that was the subject of DEQ's above-referenced survey and follow-up.

4. The A&D wastewater utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision are regulated by DEQ under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit numbers NC0059421 and NC0059439. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that the performance of the wastewater utility service for Sapphire Lakes Subdivision is acceptable, with no chronic items of significance reported. DEQ also indicated that the wastewater utility systems for Sapphire Lakes Subdivision are much smaller and simpler than the wastewater utility system operated by the Town. DEQ further indicated that, as with many other small package plants in the area, many of the system components are aging and experiencing significant wear.

5. The wastewater utility system operated by the Town is regulated by DEQ, under NPDES permit number NC0021946. DEQ has informed the Public Staff that

¹ The specific date of the Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement was not indicated.

several years ago, Rosman had a significant problem meeting effluent limits, primarily due to high strength waste being trucked in from an industry not connected to the system. DEQ indicated that those issues have been corrected and that the facility is now in compliance and no longer experiencing issues. DEQ does not anticipate additional chronic problems with the Rosman wastewater system, provided that the equipment is operated correctly. DEQ does not have any specific concerns regarding Rosman's ability to operate the wastewater utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision in compliance with NPDES discharge permits.

6. A&D's water and wastewater utility rates were approved in Docket No. W-1049, Sub 19, by the Commission's Order Approving Tariff Revision and Requiring Customer Notice, dated December 6, 2016, and became effective on January 1, 2017. The Town has developed specific rates for the residential and commercial customers of the Sapphire Lakes water and wastewater utility systems. The Town applies the same rates for residential and commercial customers. The Town Board of Aldermen would have the right to modify or adjust rates in the future.

7. A&D's Commission-approved water and wastewater rates, and the Town's water and wastewater rates are as follows:

<u>Water Utility Service:</u>	<u>A&D Rates</u>	<u>Town Rates</u>
Monthly Metered Water Rates:		
Base Charge		
Residential, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 10.52	N/A
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00
Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$ 52.60	N/A
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.34	\$ 5.50
<u>Wastewater Utility Service:</u>		
Monthly Flat Rate for Residential Wastewater Service:	\$ 41.21	N/A
Monthly Metered Wastewater Rates:		
Base Charge		
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 30.45	N/A

Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$152.26	N/A
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 6.90	\$ 6.50

8. Based on 2,800 gallons of usage, the monthly residential water and wastewater bill would increase from \$61.08 to \$69.60. The monthly residential water only bill would increase from \$19.87 to \$29.40. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a standard meter would decrease from \$111.72 to \$69.60. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a 2-inch meter would decrease from \$233.53 to \$69.60.

9. On November 16, 2020, the Commission issued its Order Requiring Customer Notice, specifying the matter may be determined without public hearing if no significant protests are received subsequent to customer notice. By its certificate of service dated November 19, 2020, and filed with the Commission on November 20, 2020, A&D stated that the Notice to Customers was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers. As of February 8, 2021, no customer protests have been received by the Public Staff.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing and the recommendation of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that the transfer should be approved and that notice confirming transfer should be required. Further, the Commission finds and concludes that A&D should provide written notification to the Commission within ten days from the date of this Order that closing of the transfer of the water and wastewater utility systems servicing Sapphire Lakes Subdivision has been completed. The Commission finds and concludes that upon receipt of such written notification, that the franchise granted to A&D for the Sapphire Lakes water and wastewater utility systems should be considered canceled and that the \$20,000 surety bond posted with the Commission should be released to A&D.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That A&D Water Services, Inc., is hereby authorized to transfer the water and wastewater utility systems serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision in Transylvania County, North Carolina, to the Town of Rosman, an owner exempt from Commission regulation;

2. That A&D Water Services, Inc., shall provide notification to the Commission within ten days from the date of this Order that closing of the transfer of water and wastewater utility systems serving the Sapphire Lakes Subdivision to the Town of Rosman has been completed;

3. That the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide water and wastewater utility services granted to A&D for Sapphire Lakes Subdivision shall be canceled on the date which A&D files with the Commission written notification that the closing of the transfer of the water and wastewater utility systems serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision has been completed;

4. That the surety bond held by the Commission shall be released to A&D Water Services, Inc., upon receipt of written notification to the Commission that closing of the transfer of the water and wastewater utility systems serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision has been completed;

5. That the Notice to Customers, attached as Appendix A, shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by A&D to all customers in Sapphire Lakes Subdivision within 30 days from the date of this Order; and

6. That A&D shall submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service properly signed and notarized not later than 45 days from the date of this Order.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
DOCKET NO. W-1049, SUB 26
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has approved the transfer of the water and wastewater utility systems serving Sapphire Lakes Subdivision in Transylvania County, North Carolina to the Town of Rosman, North Carolina.

A&D's Commission-approved water and wastewater rates, and the Town's water and wastewater rates are as follows:

<u>Water Utility Service:</u>	<u>Rates</u>	A&D Rosman <u>Rates</u>
Monthly Metered Water Rates:		
Base Charge		
Residential, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 10.52	N/A
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00
Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$ 52.60	N/A
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 25.00
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.34	\$ 5.50
<u>Wastewater Utility Service:</u>		
Monthly Flat Rate for Residential Wastewater Service:	\$ 41.21	N/A
Monthly Metered Wastewater Rates:		
Base Charge		
Residential, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, first 2,000 gallons	N/A	\$ 35.00
Commercial, standard meter, zero usage	\$ 30.45	N/A

Commercial, 2-inch meter, zero usage	\$152.26	N/A
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APPENDIX A
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Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 6.90	\$ 6.50
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Based on 2,800 gallons of usage, the monthly residential water and wastewater bill would increase from \$61.08 to \$69.60. The monthly residential water only bill would increase from \$19.87 to \$29.40. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a standard meter would decrease from \$111.72 to \$69.60. The monthly commercial water and wastewater bill for a 2-inch meter would decrease from \$233.53 to \$69.60.

Under the terms of the Asset Sale and Purchase Agreement entered into between A&D and the Town, by which the Town purchased the Sapphire Lakes water and wastewater utility system assets, the Town is not obligated to improve the system, but is required to maintain the system as it presently exists. The Town Board of Alderman continues to have the right to modify or adjust rates in the future.

ISSUE BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

This the ____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers the attached Notice to Customers issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-1049, Sub 26, and the Notice was mailed or hand delivered by the date specified in the Order.

This the _____ day of _____ 2021.

By: _____
Signature

Name of Utility Company

The above named Applicant, _____, personally appeared before me this day and, being first duly sworn, says that the required Notice to Customers was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers, as required by the Commission Order dated _____ in Docket No. W-1049, Sub 26.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this the _____ day of _____ 2021.

Notary Public

Address

Date

(SEAL) My Commission Expires:

[Back to Agenda](#)

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 15

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Notification by Pluris, LLC, 2100 McKinney Avenue,)	ORDER RECOGNIZING
Suite 1550, Dallas, Texas, 75056, of Intention to)	CONTIGUOUS
Begin Operations in Contiguous Service Area to)	EXTENSION AND
Provide Sewer Utility Service in Stonebay)	APPROVING RATES
Townhomes in Onslow County, North Carolina, and)	
for Approval of Rates)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On May 8, 2018, Pluris, LLC (Pluris), filed a notification of intention to begin sewer utility operations in Stonebay Townhomes, which is contiguous to Pluris's The Quarters at Stones Bay Apartments service area, in Onslow County, North Carolina. Pluris proposes to charge the rates currently approved for the service area.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on February 15, 2021.

Based upon the verified notification and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Pluris presently holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 4,572 customers throughout North Carolina. Pluris's record of service is satisfactory.
2. The service area is shown on plans filed with this notification. Pluris expects to eventually serve 89 multi-family sewer customers in Stonebay Townhomes.
3. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, has issued permit number WQ0040280, dated October 11, 2018, for the construction and operation of the Stonebay Townhomes wastewater collection system extension.

4. Pluris has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service dated April 2, 2018, between Pluris and Stonebay Developers, LLC (Developer), the developer of Stonebay Townhomes. Pluris agrees to provide sewer utility service to Stonebay Townhomes, and the Developer agrees to construct at Developer's cost the entire collection system and the interconnection to Pluris' existing collection system. The Developer will pay a non-refundable sewer connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or single-family equivalent (SFE). Pursuant to the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, a utility is not required to collect gross-up on CIAC from a contributor (Developer) unless contributions were contracted for on or after October 5, 2018.

5. Pluris has filed all exhibits required with the notification.

6. Pluris has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in this franchise location.

7. The Public Staff recommended that Pluris be required to post a \$10,000 bond for Stonebay Townhomes. Pluris currently has \$360,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$280,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$80,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that \$10,000 of Pluris's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to the contiguous extension, that the contiguous extension by Pluris in Stonebay Townhomes should be recognized, and that the requested rates should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That \$10,000 of Pluris's unassigned surety bond is assigned to Stonebay Townhomes. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$60,000 (a total of \$20,000 is being assigned concurrently in Docket No. W-1282, Subs 15 and 16).

2. That the contiguous extension of sewer utility service from The Quarters at Stones Bay Apartments service area into Stonebay Townhomes in Onslow County, North Carolina, is recognized as meeting the Commission's criteria for the extension.

3. That Appendix A constitutes the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity covering the contiguous extension.

4. That Pluris's existing Schedule of Rates approved by Commission Order issued on November 22, 2016, in Docket No. W-1282, Sub 11 is approved for sewer utility service in Stonebay Townhomes.

5. That a connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or SFE is approved for Stonebay Townhomes.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

APPENDIX A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 15

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

PLURIS, LLC

is granted this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

to provide sewer utility service

in

Stonebay Townhomes

Onslow County, North Carolina,

subject to any orders, rules, regulations,
and conditions now or hereafter lawfully made
by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of _____, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

SCHEDULE OF RATES

PLURIS, LLC

providing sewer utility service in

ALL OF ITS SERVICE AREAS IN

Onslow County, North Carolina

Monthly Residential Flat Rate: \$58.08 per unit

Monthly Non-Residential Metered Rates:

Base charge, zero usage	\$28.27 minimum
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 9.02

Reconnection Charge:

If sewer service cut off by utility for good cause	Actual cost
--	-------------

(Customers shall be given a written estimate of the actual costs prior to disconnection. An actual invoice of the costs shall be given to the customer following disconnection.)

Connection Fee:

With a road bore or without a road bore	\$3,600 per single family equivalent (SFE)
---	--

- A. SFE is defined as a three-bedroom home not on the barrier island, a three-habitable room home on the barrier island, or a multi-family residence unit up to three bedrooms. An amount of \$1,200 per each additional bedroom not on the barrier island and each additional habitable room on the barrier island above the SFE will be added to the base SFE connection fee. The \$1,200 is calculated by dividing the SFE connection fee of \$3,600 by either three bedrooms or three-habitable rooms to get to the per room fee cost. In no event shall the connection fee be less than \$3,600 per connection.

Examples: The connection fee for a non-barrier island four-bedroom residence or a four-habitable-room barrier island residence is \$3,600 plus \$1,200 or \$4,800. The connection fee for a five-bedroom non-barrier island residence or five-habitable-room barrier island residence is \$3,600 plus \$2,400 or \$6,000.

- B. The connection fee for non-residential customers shall be calculated by multiplying the connection fee by the determined number of SFEs. For SFEs non-residential customers, a SFE shall be determined by taking the design flow capacity for each non-residential customer, as set forth in Administrative Code 15A NCAC 02T .0114, and dividing that design flow capacity by 360.

Simplex Pump Station Charge:

The simplex pump station charge shall be the actual costs of labor and materials for installation of the simplex pump station and service line. This charge shall be in addition to the connection fee and any road bore charge. The installed simplex pump station shall consist of a 2460LSG, 2460LSGX Series Omnivore 2hp Simplex Grinder Package or such other equivalent as approved by Pluris. The customer may, after having received a quote from Pluris, choose to have a licensed contractor perform the installation of the simplex grinder station and service line at the customer's sole expense, provided that the installation shall be in accordance with Pluris's standards. Once the simplex grinder station and all related work is approved by Pluris, the customer shall transfer the associated permit to Pluris, and Pluris shall assume responsibility for maintenance, repair, and replacement of the grinder pump.

Simplex Grinder Pump Repair Charge:

Once the grinder pump is initially installed, it will be the responsibility of Pluris to maintain, repair, and replace the grinder pump. However if damage to the grinder pump is shown to be due to homeowner negligence, the homeowner will be liable for the cost of the repair or replacement of the grinder pump.

Road Bore Charge:

The road bore charge shall be the actual costs of labor and materials for the road boring. This charge shall be in addition to the connection fee and any simplex pump station charge. The customer may choose to have a licensed contractor

EXHIBIT NO. P-3
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APPENDIX B
PAGE 3 OF 3

perform the road bore at the customer's sole expense, provided that the road bore and all related work shall be in accordance with Pluris's standards.

The above connection fees, Simplex Pump Station Charge, and Road Bore Charge do not apply to future connections for which prepaid connection fees have been received prior to the date of this Order.

Main Extension Recovery Fee: \$500 per Residential Equivalent Unit (REU) connection

- A. Applies to third party developers or lot owners connecting to a 12 inch force main from NC Highway 210 along NC Highway 172 west to the Oyster Landing Subdivision and east to South Bridge at Everett Creek Subdivision.
- B. Main extension recovery fee to be collected by Utility and paid to: Oyster Landing, LLC, developer of Oyster Landing Subdivision, and Southbridge at Everett's Creek, LLC, developer of South Bridge at Everett's Creek Subdivision, as reimbursement for funds advanced to the Utility for construction of the force main.

Bills Due: On billing date

Bills Past Due: 15 days after billing date

Billing Frequency:

Flat Rate Customers Shall be monthly for service in advance

Metered Customers Shall be monthly for service in arrears

Finance Charge for Late Payment: 1% per month will be applied to the unpaid balance of all bills still past due 25 days after billing date.

Returned Check Charge: \$25.00

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 16

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Notification by Pluris, LLC, 2100 McKinney Avenue,)
Suite 1550, Dallas, Texas, 75056, of Intention to)
Begin Operations in Contiguous Service Area to)
Provide Sewer Utility Service in Oyster Landing)
Townhomes in Onslow County, North Carolina, and)
for Approval of Rates)
	ORDER RECOGNIZING
	CONTIGUOUS
	EXTENSION AND
	APPROVING RATES

BY THE COMMISSION: On December 6, 2018, Pluris, LLC (Pluris), filed a notification of intention to begin sewer utility operations in Oyster Landing Townhomes, which is contiguous to Pluris's Oyster Landing Subdivision service area, in Onslow County, North Carolina. Pluris proposes to charge the rates currently approved for the service area.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on February 15, 2021.

Based upon the verified notification and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Pluris presently holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 4,572 customers throughout North Carolina. Pluris's record of service is satisfactory.
2. The service area is shown on plans filed with this notification. Pluris expects to eventually serve 59 multi-family sewer customers in Oyster Landing Townhomes.
3. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, has issued permit number WQ0035837, dated April 9, 2012, for the construction and operation of the Oyster Landing Townhomes wastewater collection system extension.

4. Pluris has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service dated March 8, 2012, between Pluris and Beaver Creek Investors, Inc. (Developer), the developer of Oyster Landing Townhomes. Pluris agrees to provide sewer utility service to Oyster Landing Townhomes, and the Developer agrees to construct at Developer's cost the entire collection system and the interconnection to Pluris' existing collection system. The Developer will pay a sewer connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or single-family equivalent (SFE). Pursuant to the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, a utility is not required to collect gross-up on CIAC from a contributor (Developer) unless contributions were contracted for on or after October 5, 2018.

5. Pluris has filed all exhibits required with the notification.

6. Pluris has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in this franchise location.

7. The Public Staff has recommended that Pluris be required to post a \$10,000 bond for Oyster Landing Townhomes. Pluris currently has \$360,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$280,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$80,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that \$10,000 of Pluris's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to the contiguous extension, that the contiguous extension by Pluris in Oyster Landing Townhomes should be recognized, and that the requested rates should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That \$10,000 of Pluris's unassigned surety bond is assigned to Oyster Landing Townhomes. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$60,000 (a total of \$20,000 is being assigned concurrently in Docket No. W-1282, Subs 15 and 16).

2. That the contiguous extension of sewer utility service from the Oyster Landing Subdivision service area into Oyster Landing Townhomes in Onslow County, North Carolina, is recognized as meeting the Commission's criteria for the extension.

3. That Appendix A constitutes the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity covering the contiguous extension.

EXHIBIT NO. P-4
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4. That Pluris's existing Schedule of Rates approved by Commission Order issued on November 22, 2016, in Docket No. W-1282, Sub 11 is approved for sewer utility service in Oyster Landing Townhomes.

5. That a connection fee of \$3,600 per connection or SFE is approved for Oyster Landing Townhomes.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-4
PAGE 4 OF 7

APPENDIX A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1282, SUB 16

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

PLURIS, LLC

is granted this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

to provide sewer utility service

in

Oyster Landing Townhomes

Onslow County, North Carolina,

subject to any orders, rules, regulations,
and conditions now or hereafter lawfully made
by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of _____, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

SCHEDULE OF RATES

PLURIS, LLC

providing sewer utility service in

ALL OF ITS SERVICE AREAS IN

Onslow County, North Carolina

Monthly Residential Flat Rate: \$58.08 per unit

Monthly Non-Residential Metered Rates:

Base charge, zero usage	\$28.27 minimum
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 9.02

Reconnection Charge:

If sewer service cut off by utility for good cause	Actual cost
--	-------------

(Customers shall be given a written estimate of the actual costs prior to disconnection. An actual invoice of the costs shall be given to the customer following disconnection.)

Connection Fee:

With a road bore or without a road bore	\$3,600 per single family equivalent (SFE)
---	--

- A. SFE is defined as a three-bedroom home not on the barrier island, a three-habitable room home on the barrier island, or a multi-family residence unit up to three bedrooms. An amount of \$1,200 per each additional bedroom not on the barrier island and each additional habitable room on the barrier island above the SFE will be added to the base SFE connection fee. The \$1,200 is calculated by dividing the SFE connection fee of \$3,600 by either three bedrooms or three-habitable rooms to get to the per room fee cost. In no event shall the connection fee be less than \$3,600 per connection.

Examples: The connection fee for a non-barrier island four-bedroom residence or a four-habitable-room barrier island residence is \$3,600 plus \$1,200 or \$4,800. The connection fee for a five-bedroom non-barrier island residence or five-habitable-room barrier island residence is \$3,600 plus \$2,400 or \$6,000.

- B. The connection fee for non-residential customers shall be calculated by multiplying the connection fee by the determined number of SFEs. For SFEs non-residential customers, a SFE shall be determined by taking the design flow capacity for each non-residential customer, as set forth in Administrative Code 15A NCAC 02T .0114, and dividing that design flow capacity by 360.

Simplex Pump Station Charge:

The simplex pump station charge shall be the actual costs of labor and materials for installation of the simplex pump station and service line. This charge shall be in addition to the connection fee and any road bore charge. The installed simplex pump station shall consist of a 2460LSG, 2460LSGX Series Omnivore 2hp Simplex Grinder Package or such other equivalent as approved by Pluris. The customer may, after having received a quote from Pluris, choose to have a licensed contractor perform the installation of the simplex grinder station and service line at the customer's sole expense, provided that the installation shall be in accordance with Pluris's standards. Once the simplex grinder station and all related work is approved by Pluris, the customer shall transfer the associated permit to Pluris, and Pluris shall assume responsibility for maintenance, repair, and replacement of the grinder pump.

Simplex Grinder Pump Repair Charge:

Once the grinder pump is initially installed, it will be the responsibility of Pluris to maintain, repair, and replace the grinder pump. However if damage to the grinder pump is shown to be due to homeowner negligence, the homeowner will be liable for the cost of the repair or replacement of the grinder pump.

Road Bore Charge:

The road bore charge shall be the actual costs of labor and materials for the road boring. This charge shall be in addition to the connection fee and any simplex pump station charge. The customer may choose to have a licensed contractor

EXHIBIT NO. P-4
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APPENDIX B
PAGE 3 OF 3

perform the road bore at the customer's sole expense, provided that the road bore and all related work shall be in accordance with Pluris's standards.

The above connection fees, Simplex Pump Station Charge, and Road Bore Charge do not apply to future connections for which prepaid connection fees have been received prior to the date of this Order.

Main Extension Recovery Fee: \$500 per Residential Equivalent Unit (REU) connection

- C. Applies to third party developers or lot owners connecting to a 12 inch force main from NC Highway 210 along NC Highway 172 west to the Oyster Landing Subdivision and east to South Bridge at Everett Creek Subdivision.
- D. Main extension recovery fee to be collected by Utility and paid to: Oyster Landing, LLC, developer of Oyster Landing Subdivision, and Southbridge at Everett's Creek, LLC, developer of South Bridge at Everett's Creek Subdivision, as reimbursement for funds advanced to the Utility for construction of the force main.

Bills Due: On billing date

Bills Past Due: 15 days after billing date

Billing Frequency:

Flat Rate Customers Shall be monthly for service in advance

Metered Customers Shall be monthly for service in arrears

Finance Charge for Late Payment: 1% per month will be applied to the unpaid balance of all bills still past due 25 days after billing date.

Returned Check Charge: \$25.00