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JUN 2 2 2016

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 20, 2016

W354-16-152412

Scott Seifer
Carolina Beach, NC
Email: seifer220@gmail.com

W-354 SUB 344

Dear Mr. Seifer:

Thank you for your email regarding the recent notice of increase in your water rates. The Public Staff appreciates your concern and hopes to explain how these rates were determined. The <u>partial</u> water and sewer rate increases were approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in the Carolina Water Service, Inc., of North Carolina's (CWSNC) last general rate increase in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344. The partial increases granted to CWSNC were the result of a lengthy proceeding that culminated in a settlement agreement between the Public Staff and CWSNC and a December 7, 2015, Order setting forth in detail all of the evidence relied upon by the Commission to justify the approved rate changes. The record of the entire proceeding entered in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344 can be reviewed on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net, under the "Docket Search" function.

In making its rulings in general rate case proceedings, the Commission has a responsibility to both the consumers and the public utilities; and, pursuant to Chapter 62, the Public Utilities Act of the North Carolina General Statutes, the Commission must regulate in a manner designed to follow and implement the policies of the State of North Carolina. Among its numerous responsibilities, the Commission must provide fair regulation of the public utilities under its jurisdiction in the interest of the public while ensuring that rates and charges are reasonable and just for services provided to customers by public utilities. The general rate case ratemaking procedures set out in NC General Statute 62-133 provide that the Commission must set rates which will protect both the right of a public utility to earn a fair rate of return on its invested capital for its shareholders and ensure its financial integrity, while also protecting the right of the utility's customers to pay a rate which reasonably and fairly reflects the cost of service rendered on their behalf.

The duty of the Public Staff is to review, investigate, and make appropriate recommendations to the Commission with respect to the reasonableness of rates charged or proposed to be charged by any public utility, and the quality of service furnished or proposed to be furnished by any public utility. The Public Staff intervenes on behalf of the using and consuming public in all Commission proceedings affecting the rates or service of any public utility. This proceeding involved an extensive investigation of CWSNC's financial and operational data by the Public Staff. The supporting details underlying the investigation and the Public Staff's recommendations can be reviewed through the Commission's website, docket-search feature.

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Accounting (919) 733-4279

Consumer Services (919) 733-9277 Electric (919) 733-4326

Natural Gas (919) 733-2267

Mr. Seifer June 20, 2016 Page Two

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The Public Staff understands your concern about the impact of the approved rate increase on the monthly bills you are now receiving. We encourage you to make your thoughts known via e-mail, letter, or personal appearance at a customer hearing if CWSNC files a future rate increase application so that your position will be part of the official record upon which the Commission makes its decision on the request.

Sincerely

Vickie Debnam, Director Consumer Services

CC:

Chief Clerk (w/original letter)

Public Staff-Water Division (w/copy of letter)
Public Staff-Accounting Division (w/copy of letter)
Public Staff-Legal Division (w/copy of letter)

From: Scott Seifer [mailto:seifer220@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:32 PM

To: Consumer.Services <Consumer.Services@psncuc.nc.gov>

Subject: Proposed water/sewer rate increases - Carolina Beach, NC

Good afternoon,

I have a basic question at this time as our town is planning and proposing a major infrastructure project for our water and sewer lines throughout the town. Would any rate increases for citizens in their water bill be reviewed and/or require approval from the NCUC or any other agency prior to being implemented?

The current proposal has water/sewer rates almost tripling from \$47 a month to \$127 a month over a 6 year span.

Thank you,

Scott Seifer

Carolina Beach, NC

919-632-4401



NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 20, 2016

W354-16-152411

Anne McGarry

Email: ajmcg128@yahoo.com

Dear Ms. McGarry:

Thank you for your email regarding the recent notice of increase in your water rates. The Public Staff appreciates your concern and hopes to explain how these rates were determined. The <u>partial</u> water and sewer rate increases were approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in the Carolina Water Service, Inc., of North Carolina's (CWSNC) last general rate increase in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344. The partial increases granted to CWSNC were the result of a lengthy proceeding that culminated in a settlement agreement between the Public Staff and CWSNC and a December 7, 2015, Order setting forth in detail all of the evidence relied upon by the Commission to justify the approved rate changes. The record of the entire proceeding entered in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344 can be reviewed on the Commission's website at <u>www.ncuc.net</u>, under the "Docket Search" function.

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Ms. McGarry June 20, 2016 Page Two

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Vickie Debnam, Director Consumer Services

CC:

Chief Clerk (w/original letter)
Public Staff-Water Division (w/copy of letter)
Public Staff-Accounting Division (w/copy of letter)

Public Staff-Legal Division (w/copy of letter)

From: Annie McGarry [mailto:ajmcg128@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 12:09 PM

To: Consumer.Services < Consumer.Services@psncuc.nc.gov>

Subject: Utilities Inc water fee hike

The water company here in this subdivision, Abington, in Kernersville, NC, 27284, has raised their fees to an outrageous extent. Also, I received a notice from them in late March that we shouldn't have been drinking the water in early March, as they detected coliform bacteria (which indicates the presence of fecal bacteria.) I am in the process of medical treatment for this, since it affects the young, the old and the immune compromised.

Considering how expensive our water is now, a group of neighbors are writing you to complain about the rate hike, and I want to add my voice to this. Situations like this one are the reason our country had anti-monopoly laws in the first place. Please help!



NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 20, 2016

W354-16-152409

Jerry Donahue 7600 Fording Bridge Road Kernersville, NC 27284

Dear Mr. Donahue:

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Mr. Donahue June 20, 2016 Page Two

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Sincerely

Vickie Debnam, Director Consumer Services

cc: Chief Clerk (w/original letter)

Public Staff-Water Division (w/copy of letter)
Public Staff-Accounting Division (w/copy of letter)
Public Staff-Legal Division (w/copy of letter)

Submit By E-Mail

Print Form

Revision Date: November 15, 2010

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION - PUBLIC STAFF INFORMAL COMPLAINT FORM

If your services are in danger of disconnection please call (919) 733-9277 or (866) 380-9816, for immediate assistance, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Required fields are marked wit	th a red aste	erisk (*)								
Utility Type*	☐Electric ☐ Natural Gas ☐ Telephone ☑Water									
Utility Company Name*	Utilities Inc									
Contacted Company?*	Yes **No **If NO please contact the company first. Account Number* 5482700000					000				
Name Appearing on Billing Statement*	Jerry Don	ahue								
Are You Listed on Account*	●Ye:	s No	□No Name of Complainant* Jerry Donahue							
Service Address*	7600 Ford	ding Bridge Ro	ad							
City*	Kernersvi	lle	State* NC				Zip Code* 27284		27284	
Mailing Address*	7600 Fording Bridge Road									
City*	Kernersville		State*	NC			Zip Code*		27284	
Primary Phone #*	336-595-1680		Secondary Phone #*			! *	336-816-0707			
Email Address*	jdonahue@triad.rr.com									
**If telephone company; ph	one num	ber experier	ncing pro	blem	**	0.150 (0.11 Hay 81)	an Marin			
Nature of your complaint* (If additional space is needed please continue on an additional sheet of paper) Company's response to complaint*		per gallon rates increased by 18% water quality is abysmal, virtually undrinkable, stains clotns, corrodes porcelan, probable health risks no response								
Company o response to complaint										
Desired Resolution*		reverse these extreme rate increases and reimburse customers for price gouging public service commission start looking out for the public good and stand up to these quasi utility consortium's								
Additional Comments*	the US attorney general may view this as a RICO case. (racketeering influenced crime organization)									
Printed Name: Gerald Do	n n Ponton	r			Date	: 2/1	0/16	_		

Consumer.services@psncuc.nc.gov

North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff – Consumer Services Division 4326 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4326 Fax: (919)733-4744 Phone: (919) 733-9277 Toll Free: (866) 380-9816



NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 20, 2016

W354-16-152408

David Badgett 6170 Tennyson Drive Kernersville, NC 27284

Dear Mr. Badgett:

Thank you for your email regarding the recent notice of increase in your water rates. The Public Staff appreciates your concern and hopes to explain how these rates were determined. The <u>partial</u> water and sewer rate increases were approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in the Carolina Water Service, Inc., of North Carolina's (CWSNC) last general rate increase in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344. The partial increases granted to CWSNC were the result of a lengthy proceeding that culminated in a settlement agreement between the Public Staff and CWSNC and a December 7, 2015, Order setting forth in detail all of the evidence relied upon by the Commission to justify the approved rate changes. The record of the entire proceeding entered in Docket No. W-354, Sub 344 can be reviewed on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net, under the "Docket Search" function.

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Mr. Badgett June 20, 2016 Page Two

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Print Form

Revision Date: November 15, 2010

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION - PUBLIC STAFF

INFORMAL COMPLAINT FORM

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Utility Type*	☐Electric ☐ Natural Gas ☐ Telephone ☑Water								
Utility Company Name*	Utilites, Inc								
Contacted Company?*	**If NO p		**No e company first.		Account Numbe		er*	er* 4223700000	
Name Appearing on Billing Statement*	David Bad	dgett							
Are You Listed on Account*	●Ye	s No	Name of Complainant*				David Badgett		
Service Address*	6170 Tennyson Drive								
City*	Kernersvi	lle	State*	NC			Zip Code*		27284
Mailing Address*	6170 Ten	6170 Tennyson Drive							
City*	Kernersville		State*	NC			Zip	Code*	27284
Primary Phone #*	336-423-3	3776	Second	ndary Phone #*			336-423-3776		
Email Address*	badgett.david@gmail.com								
**If telephone company; phone number experiencing problem **									
Nature of your complaint* (If additional space is needed please continue on an additional sheet of paper)		Our rates for base residential water and base residential sewer were increased by 49% each. Our community has a private water system that is managed by Utilities, Inc. The quality of the water is subpar, the water pressure is low, and the pipes are not up to code according to the city of Winston Salem whom we have tried to lobby to take over our water and sewer system.							
Company's response to complaint*		The utility commission approved the charges.							
Desired Resolution*		Due to the subpar water quality and the age of the pipes, I do not want to pay for a 49% increase when we are not getting any additional service.							
Additional Comments*		Our pump stations and water treatment center are located in the community. There is no visible work going on to update the dated pipes or deal with the water quality. I don't mind paying extra to alleviate these problems but do not want to pay for the same subpar service.							

David Badgett Printed Name:

Digitally signed by david.badgett@trussway.com
DN: cn=david.badgett@trussway.com
Signature:
Date: 2016.02.09 15:54:08 -05'00'

Consumer.services@psncuc.nc.gov

North Carolina Utilities Commission Public Staff - Consumer Services Division 4326 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4326

02/09/2016 Date:

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