## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 344

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## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina, 2335 Saunders Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062, for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility Service in All of Its Service Areas in North Carolina

ORDER RESCHEDULING EVIDENTIARY HEARING, ADOPTING PROCEDURAL DATES, AND EXCUSING WITNESSES

BY THE CHAIRMAN: On October 9, 2015, the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff), Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company), and Corolla Light Community Association, Inc. (CLCA), (collectively, "the Parties") filed a Joint Motion Setting Forth Recommended Procedural Dates and to Excuse Witnesses (Joint Motion). In the Joint Motion, the Parties requested that the Commission reschedule the evidentiary hearing in this docket for October 20, 2015, and adopt the procedural dates as set forth in the Joint Motion.

In support of the Joint Motion, the Parties stated:

1. On October 2, 2015, the Commission issued an Order Rescheduling Evidentiary Hearing and Extending Filing Dates. In the October 2, 2015 Order, the Commission delayed the evidentiary portion of the October 5, 2015 hearing until a date to be determined by the Commission, approved an extension of time for the Parties to finalize and file a stipulation and settlement agreement and supporting testimony, authorized the October 5, 2015 hearing to be convened for the receipt of customer testimony only, and required the Parties to file recommended dates for the evidentiary hearing and for the filing of settlement-related testimony on or before Friday, October 9, 2015.

2. The Parties have resolved all issues in this case, anticipate receiving all requisite information from the Company to support additional plant items by October 9, 2015, propose to file a stipulation and settlement agreement and supporting testimony in support of said stipulation and agreement with the Commission on or before Friday, October 16, 2015, and requested that the evidentiary hearing date be rescheduled for the morning of Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

3. On August 21, 2015, the Company pre-filed the testimony of David Liskoff and Pauline M. Ahern in support of the Company's rate case application. The Public Staff and CLCA consent to Company witnesses Liskoff and Ahern being excused from appearing at the evidentiary hearing and waive their right to cross examine those witnesses if the Parties have filed a final stipulation and settlement agreement with the Commission by the evidentiary hearing date and/or the Commission does not request the witnesses appearance at the hearing.

4. The Company will have Martin J. Lashua, CWSNC's Vice President for Operations in North Carolina present and available to respond to any questions that the Commission may have if these witnesses are excused from appearing at the evidentiary hearing,.

5. By law, pursuant to G.S. 62-135, CWSNC would be entitled to put temporary rates under bond into effect on November 29, 2015, if a final order has not, as of that date, been issued by the Commission. Because the Company is requesting that the time for evidentiary hearing be rescheduled for October 20, 2015, i.e., 15 calendar days beyond the original scheduled October 5, 2015 hearing date, the Company agrees to extend the date upon which it would have been entitled to place temporary rates in effect under bond pursuant to G.S. 62-135 by 15 calendar days until Monday, December 14, 2015.

After carefully considering the Joint Motion, the record proper, and the agreement by the Company to extend the date upon which it would have been entitled to place temporary rates in effect under bond pursuant to G.S. 62-135 by 15 calendar days until Monday, December 14, 2015, the Chairman finds that good cause exists to grant the Joint Motion.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the Parties shall file a stipulation and settlement agreement and testimony in support of said agreement with the Commission on or before Friday, October 16, 2015.

2. That the evidentiary hearing in this docket is rescheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

3. That Company witnesses David Liskoff and Pauline M. Ahern shall be excused from appearing at the October 20, 2015 hearing and their testimony and exhibits shall be admitted as evidence and copied into the record of this case if the Parties file a final stipulation and settlement agreement with the Commission by October 16, 2015 and/or Company witnesses Liskoff and Ahern are not asked to attend the hearing by the Commission.

4. That the Company shall be entitled to put temporary rates into effect under bond on December 14, 2015, if a final order has not been issued in this docket by that date.<sup>1</sup>

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the <u>13<sup>th</sup></u> day of October, 2015.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Jackie Cox, Deputy Clerk

 $<sup>^1\,</sup>$  As noted above, the Company agreed to extend the date upon which it could place temporary rates in effect under bond pursuant to G.S. 62-135 by 15 calendar days until Monday, December 14, 2015.