

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE

June 7, 2021

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Mitchell, presiding. The remote meeting was conducted by use of simultaneous communication (via Webex) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.24, streamed live online, and available to the public.

The following were present during the entirety of the remote meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Brown-Bland
Commissioner Gray
Commissioner Clodfelter
Commissioner Duffley
Commissioner Hughes
Commissioner McKissick

COMMISSION STAFF: Ms. Lazo, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Jarvis, Mr. Mertz, Ms. Webb-Shackleford, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Condie, Ms. Barnes, Ms. Hilburn, Ms. Paschal, Ms. Zhang, Ms. Li, Ms. Jayasheela, Ms. Burns, Mr. Hardy, Mr. McCoy, Ms. Blue

PUBLIC STAFF: Ms. Downey, Ms. Culpepper, Mr. Creech, Ms. Coxton, Mr. Josey, Mr. Little, Mr. Maness, Mr. Meda, Mr. Brown, Mr. McLawhorn, Mr. Saillor, Mr. Lucas, Ms. Casselberry, Ms. Darden, Ms. Proffitt, Mr. Franklin

ATTORNEY GENERAL:

COURT REPORTER: Ms. Mitchell

C. COMMUNICATIONS**P1. FILING OF INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS BY FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CAROLINAS**

The following interconnection agreement and amendments were filed for Commission approval between March 17, 2021, and March 18, 2021:

Frontier Communications of the Carolinas LLC

Docket No. P-1488, Sub 46 – Agreement with Onvoy, LLC, filed on March 17, 2021.

Docket No. P-1488, Sub 47 – Amendment filed on March 17, 2021, to an existing interconnection agreement with Level 3 Communications, LLC (Level 3), originally approved in Docket No. P-19, Sub 399, on April 25, 2001. The amendment adds terms, conditions, and requirements regarding the provision of local number portability to Interconnected VoIP Providers in accordance with the Local Number Portability Obligations mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in FCC 15-70, released June 22, 2015.

Docket No. P-1488, Sub 48 – Amendment filed on March 18, 2021, to an existing interconnection agreement with Bandwidth.com CLEC, LLC, originally approved in Docket No. P-19, Sub 521, on May 15, 2008. The amendment adds terms and conditions required to implement the new caller ID authentication standards mandated by the FCC in its Proposed Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in FCC 12-42, in WC Docket Nos. 17-97 and 20-67, released March 31, 2020 (known as the FCC STIR/SHAKEN Order)

These filings were made in compliance with Commission Rule R17-4(d) and Sections 252(e) and 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Act provides for the filing of such agreements and amendments with the state commission and approval or rejection by the state commission within 90 days after filing. On June 18, 1996, the Commission issued an Order in Docket No. P-100, Sub 133, allowing interim operation under negotiated agreements filed as public records prior to Commission approval of the agreements.

The Public Staff has reviewed the filings and recommends Commission approval.

The Public Staff recommended that orders be issued approving the agreement and amendments effective on the date they were filed. The Public Staff has provided proposed orders to the Commission Staff.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

D. ELECTRIC

P1. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITY

The following application is for an amended certificate of public convenience and necessity for construction of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

Duke Energy Carolinas:

- Docket No. SP-8761, Sub 0 – Application of West River Solar, LLC, for an amended certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a 40-MW solar PV generating facility in Guilford County, North Carolina. An amendment is requested because (i) land has been added to the facility, (ii) the size of the project has been reduced from 50-MW to 40-MW, and (iii) control of the project changed on December 29, 2020.

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

The original CPCN was issued on February 28, 2017, and expires five years thereafter if construction has not begun unless it is revoked, pursuant to Commission Rule R8-64(d)(1), or renewed, pursuant to Commission Rule R8-64(d)(2). The requested amendment will not extend, or otherwise alter, the term of the CPCN.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order approving the application and issuing the requested amended certificate for the facility. A proposed order has been provided to the Commission Staff.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

E. WATER**P1. DOCKET NO. W-4, SUB 22 – JOYCETON WATER WORKS, INC. – REQUEST FOR TARIFF REVISION**

On April 26, 2021, Joyceton Water Works, Inc. (Applicant), filed a letter with the Commission seeking authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its customers in Caldwell County, North Carolina, the increased cost of purchasing water from the City of Lenoir (City). On May 21, 2021, the Applicant filed a verified petition with the Commission, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11. The City bills its customers in arrears, and its new rates are effective July 1, 2021. The Applicant serves approximately 110 customers.

The Public Staff has reviewed the Applicant's request and recommends approval of the following rates:

Monthly Metered Rates:	<u>Existing Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
First 3,000 gallons	\$10.51, minimum	\$10.63, minimum
Next 22,000 gallons	\$ 2.74/1,000 gallons	\$ 2.78/1,000 gallons
Next 475,000 gallons	\$ 2.55/1,000 gallons	\$ 2.59/1,000 gallons
Over 500,000 gallons	\$ 2.17/1,000 gallons	\$ 2.21/1,000 gallons

The new rates will increase the average residential monthly bill from \$11.88 to \$12.02, based on an average usage of 3,500 gallons.

The Public Staff recommended that an order be issued approving the tariff revision and requiring customer notice.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference for May 24, 2021, were approved.

Minutes prepared by Portia Barnes.