

Edward S. Finley, Jr., PLLC
2024 White Oak Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27608
919-418-4516
edfinley98@aol.com
(N.C. Bar No. 6149)

February 21, 2024

Ms. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
Mail Service Center 4325
Raleigh NC 27699 -4300

RE: Docket Nos. W-1343, Sub 1

Dear Ms. Dunston:

Please accept for filing the following document in the above captioned docket: Notice to Customers. In decretal paragraph 13 of the Commission's February 14, 2024 Order in this docket the Commission required that "GWWTP shall consult with the Public Staff to develop a Notice to Customers to be delivered to all affected customers and shall file the proposed Notice to the Customers for approval by the Commission no later than three business days after the date of this Order." GWWTP was required to draft a notice with certain provisions that differed from the recitation set forth in the Commission's February 14, 2024 Order. GWWTP provided this draft notice to the Public Staff on February 16, 2024. The Public Staff replied with its recommended edits on February 20, 2024. The attached notice incorporates the provisions of the draft notice from GWWTP and accepts the edits proposed by the Public Staff on February 20, 2024. Please approve the attached Notice for mailing to customers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter

Sincerely,
Edward S. Finley, Jr.
Counsel for GWWTP, LLC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and exact copy of the foregoing submission of Notice as required by Commission Order of February 14, 2024 in this docket was duly served upon parties of record either by depositing same in a depository of the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid, or by electronic delivery.

This the 21st day of February 2024.

Edward S. Finley, Jr.,

/s/ Edward S. Finley, Jr.

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COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
DOCKET NO. W-1343, SUB 1**

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that GWWTP, LLC (GWWTP), Post Office Box 90, Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, 27948, filed an Application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Approval of Rates (Application) seeking authority to provide wastewater utility service to the Ginguite Woods Subdivision in Dare County, North Carolina, and approval of rates.

By Commission order issued on January 12, 2024, GWWTP was appointed as the emergency operator of the Ginguite Woods wastewater utility system effective January 1, 2024. As the emergency operator, GWWTP currently serves 38 residential customers in the Ginguite Woods subdivision. The Ginguite mixed-use area is in development and currently has no customers. The current interim rates for GWWTP were approved in Docket No. W-1139, Sub 4, effective January 12, 2024.

To date GWWTP has made approximately \$440,000 of capital upgrades and upon acquisition, plans to make an additional \$600,000 in capital improvements, including \$500,000 for back-end replacement of the sewer plant and \$100,000 in additions and updates to be done after back-end replacement is complete due to the age of the sewer plant. According to GWWTP, these improvements, as well as others, are necessary to ensure proper operation of the Ginguite Woods wastewater system and to provide safe and reliable service to customers. Such investments in the Ginguite Woods system will eventually result in a rate increase, which will be subject to Commission review and approval in a future rate case.

EFFECT OF RATES:

Upon acquisition of the Ginguite Woods system, GWWTP proposes to charge \$172.82 per SFE (SFE = 225 GPD). Based on a decrease from the currently approved interim rate, the proposed rate would result in a monthly decrease of \$7.18 per REU from the interim rates, or a 4% decrease.

The present and proposed rates are as follows:

Present

Proposed

OFFICIAL COPY

Feb 21 2024

<u>Monthly Sewer Utility Service:</u>		
Residential Flat Rate	\$180.00 per SFE	\$172.82 per SFE
<u>Connection Charge:</u>		\$3,500 per SFE
<u>Reconnection Charge:</u>		
If sewer utility service is cut off by utility:		\$15.00

PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Commission has scheduled the following hearings on the Application:

Public witness hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024, to be held in the Dare County Courthouse, 962 Marshall C Collins Drive, Courtroom B, Manteo, North Carolina, 27954. This hearing may be cancelled if no significant protests are received through the submission of consumer statements on or before Friday, March 8, 2024.

The public witness hearing on Monday, March 18, 2024, will be solely for the purpose of receiving the testimony of customers in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g). The Commission reserves the right to limit testimony at the public witness hearing pursuant to Commission Rule R1-21(g)(5).

Expert witness hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, and continuing as necessary until concluded. The hearing will be held in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. The hearing scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024, shall be conducted solely for the purpose of receiving testimony of GWWTP, LLC, the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff), and any other parties of record.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Consumer statements to the Public Staff should include the customer's name, contact information, and any information that the writer wishes to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter, and such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. Consumer statements may also be faxed to (919) 715-6704.

Consumer statements may be submitted to the Commission via the web form at <https://www.ncuc.gov/contactus.html>. Consumer statements are not evidence unless those persons appear at a public witness hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their consumer statements.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, c/o Utilities Section, 9001 Mail

Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-9001. Written statements may also be e-mailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov.

Persons desiring to intervene in this proceeding as formal parties of record should file a petition to intervene pursuant to Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19, not later than Monday, March 11, 2024. Such petitions should be filed with the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses to be presented by intervenors should also be filed with the Commission on or before Friday, April 5, 2024.

Information regarding this proceeding can also be accessed from the Commission's website at www.ncuc.gov under Docket Number "W-1343 Sub 1."

This the ____ day of _____, 2024.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers copies of the attached Notice to Customers issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-1343, Sub 1, and the Notice was mailed or hand delivered by the date specified in the Order.

This the _____ day of _____ 2024.

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-1343, Sub 1.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this the _____ day of _____ 2024.

Notary Public

Address

(SEAL) My Commission Expires:

Date