

**NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE**

**September 6, 2022**

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, September 6, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Mitchell presiding.

The following were present:

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Brown-Bland  
Commissioner Clodfelter  
Commissioner Hughes  
Commissioner McKissick  
Commissioner Kemerait

**COMMISSION STAFF:** Mr. Watson, Mr. Green, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Harrod, Ms. Webb-Shackleford, Ms. Franke, Ms. Hilburn, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Gajda, Mr. McCoy

**PUBLIC STAFF:** Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Holt, Ms. Jost, Mr. Creech, Ms. Keyworth, Mr. T. Williamson, Mr. Junis, Ms. Darden, Mr. Houser, Ms. Bhatta

**ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

**COURT REPORTER:** Ms. Vines

**ELECTRIC***CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITY***Duke Energy Progress, LLC**

1. Docket No. SP-38027, Sub 0 – Application of Silkie Holdings, LLC, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a 60-MW solar photovoltaic facility in Richmond County, North Carolina and Registration Statement (*T. Williamson/Keyworth*)

On February 28, 2022, Silkie Holdings, LLC (Applicant) filed an application (Application) seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1(a) for construction of a 60-MW<sub>AC</sub> solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located near the intersection of Cognac Road and US Hwy 1, Rockingham, Richmond County, North Carolina. The Applicant plans to sell the electricity generated by this facility to Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP).

Also on February 28, 2022, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the Application and determined it to be in compliance with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-64. The Public Staff further stated that the registration statement contains the certified attestations required by Commission Rule R8-66(b).

The Public Staff recommended approval of the certificate and registration for the facility.

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

**WATER AND WASTEWATER***ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISION***Carolina Water Services, Inc.**

2. Docket No. W-354, Sub 401 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water from Charlotte Water in the Riverpointe Service Area in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina (*Bhatta/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the Riverpointe service area

in Mecklenburg County an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from Charlotte Water.

On August 26, 2022, CWSNC filed a revised verified petition with the Commission pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.11, requesting to withdraw and amend its previous petition and authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the Riverpointe service area in Mecklenburg County a decrease in the cost of purchasing water service from Charlotte Water.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed Charlotte Water's rates and the Company's request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this Order and require customer notice and customer refund including 10% interest in the amount of \$51,347.

Jo Anne Sanford, Principal at Sanford Law Office, PLLC, responded to questions from the Commission on behalf of the Applicant.

This item was taken to Executive Conference for further discussion and consideration.

3. Docket No. W-354, Sub 402– Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Increased Cost of Purchased Sewer Utility Service from Two Rivers Utilities in the Kings Grant Service Area in Gaston County, North Carolina (*Bhatta/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its sewer customers in the Kings Grant service area in Gaston County an increase in the cost of purchasing sewage treatment from Two Rivers Utilities.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed Two Rivers Utilities' rates and the Company's request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

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

4. Docket No. W-354, Sub 404 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water from City of Hendersonville in the High Vista Estates Service Area in Henderson County, North Carolina (*Bhatta/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the High Vista Estates service area in Henderson County an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from the City of Hendersonville.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the City of Hendersonville’s rates and the Company’s request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

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

5. Docket No. W-354, Sub 405 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility Services for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water and Sewer Services from Johnston County Department of Public Utilities in the White Oak Plantation, Lee Forest, Winston Plantation, and Winston Pointe Service Areas in Johnston County, North Carolina (*Bhatta/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company), filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the White Oak Plantation, Lee Forest, Winston Plantation, and Winston Pointe service areas in Johnston County an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from Johnston County Department of Public Utilities (Johnston County) and to its sewer customers in the White Oak Plantation, Lee Forest, and Winston Pointe service areas in Johnston County an increase in the cost of purchasing sewer service from Johnston County.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed Johnston County’s rates and the Company’s request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after September 1, 2022, and require customer notice.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff’s recommendations be adopted.

6. Docket No. W-354, Sub 407 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Decrease Rates for Water Utility Service for the Decreased Cost of Purchased Water from the Fayetteville Public Works Commission in Tanglewood South and Eastgate in Cumberland County, North Carolina (*Houser/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11 requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the Tanglewood South and Eastgate service areas in Cumberland County a decrease in the cost of purchasing water service from the Fayetteville Public Works Commission (PWC).

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the PWC’s rates and the Company’s request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff’s recommendations be adopted.

7. Docket No. W-354, Sub 408 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water from the Town of Franklin in the Riverbend Service Area in Macon County, North Carolina (*Houser/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the Riverbend service area in Macon County an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from the Town of Franklin (Franklin).

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed Franklin’s rates and the Company’s request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff’s recommendations be adopted.

8. Docket No. W-354, Sub 409 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water from the Town of Southern Pines in the Whispering Pines Service Area in Moore County, North Carolina (*Houser/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in the Whispering Pines service area in Moore County an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from the Town of Southern Pines.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the Town of Southern Pines' rates and the Company's request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

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

9. Docket No. W-354, Sub 410 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Sewer Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Sewer Service from the Metropolitan Sewerage District of Buncombe County in the Mt. Carmel Service Area in Buncombe County, North Carolina (*Houser/Feasel/Little*)

On July 21, 2022, Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC or Company) filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to sewer customers in the Mt. Carmel service area in Buncombe County an increase in the cost of purchasing sewage treatment from the Metropolitan Sewerage District of Buncombe County (MSD).

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed MSD's rates and the Company's request.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the tariff revision at the proposed rates for service rendered on and after the date of this order and require customer notice.

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

**Dillsboro Water Utilities, Incorporated**

10. Docket No. W-1327 Sub 2 – Application for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water and Sewer from the Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority in Its Service Area in Jackson County, North Carolina (*Darden/Coleman/Little*)

On July 12, 2022, Dillsboro Water Utilities, Inc. (Dillsboro or Company) filed a letter with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its water and sewer customers in the BP/Subway, Holiday Inn Express, Microtel and Dillsboro Crossing Apartments service areas in Jackson County an increase in the cost of purchasing water and sewer service from Tuckaseegee Water and Sewer Authority (TWSA). On July 22, 2022, Dillsboro filed a verification pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed TWSA's rates and the Company's request and recommended that Dillsboro be allowed to increase its water usage rate by \$0.48 per 1,000 gallons, from \$4.48 to \$4.96 per 1,000 gallons; its sewer usage rate by \$1.17 per 1,000 gallons, from \$4.15 to \$5.32 per 1,000 gallons; and its flat rate charged to Dillsboro Crossing Apartments by \$46.41 per month, from \$897.69 to \$944.10 per month.

The Public Staff recommended that the tariff revision be approved as modified and indicated that Dillsboro agrees with the Public Staff's recommended rates.

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

Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference of August 29, 2022 were approved.

Minutes prepared by Le Anne Ackerman.