

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-218, SUB 553

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application by Aqua, North Carolina, Inc.,)	
for a Certificate of Public Convenience)	ORDER CANCELING PREFILING
and Necessity to Provide Water Utility)	OF TESTIMONY AND EXPERT
Service to Gardner Farms Subdivision,)	WITNESS HEARING
in Wake County, North Carolina, and for)	
Approval of Rates)	

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On July 28, 2022, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua) filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Approval of Rates (Application) seeking to provide water utility service to the Gardner Farms subdivision in Wake County, North Carolina. Aqua filed amended and supplemental information on January 31, 2024, and February 14, 2024.

On March 5, 2024, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearing and Establishing Discovery Guidelines (Scheduling Order), which among other things, scheduled a hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony on the Application to begin on May 20, 2024. The Scheduling Order also required Aqua to prefile direct testimony and exhibits by April 5, 2024, required the Public Staff and intervenors to prefile direct testimony and exhibits by April 22, 2024, and required Aqua to file any rebuttal testimony and exhibits by May 6, 2024.

On March 15, 2024, Aqua and the Public Staff (collectively, the Parties) filed a joint motion to cancel the requirement for prefiled testimony and cancel the expert witness hearing in this proceeding. In support of the motion, the Parties state that they have reached an agreement to recommend approval of the Application and, therefore, there are no issues to be resolved through the presentation of prefiled expert witness testimony. The Parties further state that the verified Application, as amended, provides a factual background sufficient to support approval without expert witness testimony. The Parties indicate that the Public Staff plans to submit this matter as an agenda item for the Commission's regular Staff Conference in lieu of a hearing. The Parties represent that excusing the requirement to prefile expert witness testimony will serve administrative efficiency and save time and costs.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to cancel the requirement for prefiled testimony in this matter and cancel the expert witness hearing scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 18th day of March 2024.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tamika D. Conyers". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk