



**NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC STAFF
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

January 11, 2024

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

Re: Docket No. W-218 Sub 592 – Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Approval of Rates to provide water utility service to The Sanctuary at Lake Wheeler in Wake County, North Carolina

Dear Ms. Dunston:

On January 9, 2023, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua) filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Approval of Rates (Application) to provide water utility service to The Sanctuary at Lake Wheeler in Wake County, North Carolina in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110. Aqua filed additional supplements or amendments to the application on May 11, 2023; June 14, 2023; and July 14, 2023. On July 25, 2023, the Public Staff filed a letter outlining the deficiencies in the Application and indicating that the Public Staff considers the Application incomplete. On July 31, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Finding Application Incomplete and Request for Additional Information. On December 13, 2023, Aqua filed additional information in response to the Public Staff's letter outlining deficiencies. On January 2, 2024, the Public Staff filed a letter with the Commission indicating that this docket now includes all the information required for a complete application.

On January 4, 2024, the Commission issued an Order Finding Application Complete and Requiring Public Staff to Provide Specific Application Data ordering the Public Staff to provide the Commission the information in the five enumerated paragraphs below. In response thereto, the Public Staff provides as follows:

Executive Director
(919) 733-2435

Accounting
(919) 733-4279

Consumer Services
(919) 733-9277

Economic Research
(919) 733-2267

Energy
(919) 733-2267

Legal
(919) 733-6110

Transportation
(919) 733-7766

Water/Telephone
(919) 733-5610

1. The number and type of customers to be served by Aqua:

Aqua proposes to serve 43 residential water customers.

2. The rates currently being charged to customers, including the docket number, if applicable, in which the current rates were approved by the Commission and the effective date(s) for the current rate:

There are currently no customers in the proposed service area.

3. The proposed rates Aqua seeks to charge if the Commission approves the issuance of a CPCN to Aqua for the provision of water utility service to The Sanctuary at Lake Wheeler in Wake County, North Carolina:

Aqua proposes to charge the same uniform rates approved in Docket No. W-218 Sub 573 (WSIP Rate Years 1-3) on July 31, 2023. The proposed rates listed on page 1 of the Amended Application filed on December 13, 2023 were Aqua's WSIP Rate Year 1 rates. WSIP Rate Year 2 began on January 1, 2024; as such, the proposed base charge and usage charges have been increased to \$21.70 and \$8.86 per 1,000 gallons, respectively.

4. If an increase in rates is proposed, provide the impact on the average monthly residential sewer bill under the proposed rates compared to current rates. For metered rates, indicate the average monthly usage used in your calculations:

Aqua does not propose a rate increase. There are currently no customers in the proposed service area.

5. Briefly summarize any pertinent points from the application such as a description of any planned capital improvements, the related dollar amounts, the estimated total impact on annual revenue requirement, and the estimated impact on the average monthly residential sewer bill.

The Application proposes to serve a new service area in Wake County, North Carolina. Per the Water Utility System Agreement, Aqua will purchase the water system from the developer for \$2,350 per single family residential equivalent with no connection fee. The Application states that Aqua's planned improvements are limited to routine replacement of pumps, motors, and piping.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Electronically submitted
/s/ Reita D. Coxton
Staff Attorney
reita.coxton@psncuc.nc.gov