STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1297, SUB 14

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	`	
MRT-1, LLC,)	
Compla	inant))
)	ORDER HOLDING PROCEEDING
V.)	IN ABEYANCE AND REQUIRING
)	STATUS UPDATE
Harkers Island Sewer Company,)	
Respor	ident)	

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: This is a complaint proceeding between MRT-1, LLC (Complainant)¹ and Harkers Island Sewer Company (Respondent). The Complaint was filed on May 2, 2019.

On December 18, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearing, Establishing Procedural Schedule, and Adopting Discovery Guidelines. That Order, among other things, set the matter for hearing on April 27, 2021, for the purpose of receiving evidence.

On April 16, 2021, the Public Staff filed a Notice of Intervention², Mediation, and Request for Continuance in Complaint Proceeding. In its filing, the Public Staff indicated that it joined with the other parties in requesting a continuance from April 27 to allow time for the mediation.

On April 19, 2021, the Commission issued an order suspending the then current procedural schedule, continuing the hearing scheduled for April 27, and requiring the Public Staff and the parties to file jointly a status report regarding the mediated settlement discussions and the likelihood that the matter would proceed to hearing. On June 2, 2021, the Public Staff filed a report indicating that mediation had not resolved the dispute and that an evidentiary hearing would be necessary.

Subsequently on June 15, 2021, the Public Staff filed a request that this proceeding be held in abeyance until August 8, 2021, to allow Respondent to complete ongoing discussions regarding the possible sale of the utility to one of several larger

¹ MRT-1, LLC was substituted as Complainant by Commission Order dated October 22, 2020.

² The Public Staff's intervention is recognized pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-15(d) and Commission Rule R1-19(e).

Commission-regulated wastewater public utilities already in operation along the North Carolina coast. The Public Staff represented in its request that both Complainant and Respondent consent to holding this proceeding in abeyance.

Based on the filings in this docket and the representations of the Public Staff, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to hold this proceeding in abeyance until further order of the Commission, and to require the Public Staff and the parties to file with the Commission joint or separate reports updating the status of efforts to find a resolution of the issues raised by the Complaint that is appropriate and in the public interest on or before August 11, 2021.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 16th day of June, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk

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