STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

STAFF CONFERENCE AGENDA May 3, 2021

IMPORTANT NOTE: STAFF CONFERENCE
WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND A LINK TO VIEW
THE MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON THE COMMISSION'S
WEBSITE, NCUC.NET

COMMISSION STAFF

NO AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC STAFF

C. COMMUNICATIONS

P1. DOCKET NO. P-100, SUB 133C – DESIGNATION OF CARRIER ELIGIBLE FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT **EXHIBIT NO. P-1**

E. WATER

- P1. DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 8 PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY EXHIBIT NO. P-2
- P2. DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 18 PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY EXHIBIT NO. P-3
- P3. DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 19 PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY EXHIBIT NO. P-4

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agenda – Commission Conference – May 3, 2021

FROM: PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission

C. COMMUNICATIONS

P1. <u>DOCKET NO. P-100, SUB 133C – DESIGNATION OF CARRIER ELIGIBLE FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT</u>

EXPLANATION: On January 6, 2021, Charter Fiberlink NC-CCO, LLC (Charter Fiberlink) and Time Warner Cable Information Services (North Carolina), LLC (TWCIS(NC)), collectively the "Charter Entities," filed a joint application, each seeking designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC). The Charter Entities need such a designation in order to qualify to receive federal Universal Service Fund support to provide voice and broadband services in certain areas defined by census blocks that lack these services and offer discounts to qualifying low income customers through the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Lifeline program. Under 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2), a provider of "universal service" must receive an ETC designation from the public utilities commission in the state for the areas in which the provider wishes to receive universal service support.

This is the first time the Charter Entities have applied for ETC status. In the January 6, 2021 application, the Charter Entities seek ETC designation for the census blocks specified in Exhibit A (Charter Fiberlink) and Exhibit B (TWCIS(NC)) of the application. Funding for those census blocks was awarded to CCO Holdings, LLC, through the Rural Digital Opportunities Fund (RDOF) auction, and was subsequently assigned to the Charter Entities.

Charter Fiberlink is a competing local provider (CLP) and was granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange and exchange access service within North Carolina on March 19, 2004, in Docket No. P-1299, Sub 1.

TWCIS(NC) is also a competing local provider (CLP) and was granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange and exchange access service within North Carolina on July 24, 2003, in Docket No. P-1262, Sub 1.

The Public Staff reviewed the joint application, supplement filings, and response to the Public Staff's data request. The Public Staff believes that the Charter Entities satisfy the requirements for designation as an ETC, including the provision of the supported services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and the facilities of other carriers, in accordance with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(1). Additionally, the Charter Entities indicated that they will advertise the availability of services using media of general distribution in the requested ETC designated service areas, as required

by 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(2). Lastly, the Public Staff believes that the Charter Entities are current with all Commission filing requirements necessary to operate as CLPs in North Carolina.

The Charter Entities proposed in their data response that if the FCC removes or alters the census blocks awarded to them, the affected company will notify the Commission of such changes, and propose that the ETC-designated service area be revised accordingly without further action from the Commission. The Public Staff does not object to this proposal.

EXHIBIT: A copy of the proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-1.

RECOMMENDATION: (Proffitt/Coxton) That the Commission issue an order (1) finding that Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) have met the requirements to serve as an ETC in the requested census blocks, and (2) designating each as an ETC as requested.

E. WATER

P1. <u>DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 8 – PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC – APPLICATION</u> FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

EXPLANATION: On May 8, 2018, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service in Wylie Branch Phases 1 and 2 (Wylie Branch), in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates.

Pluris Hampstead is currently billing 43 customers its current rates approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources (DWR) has issued Permit No. WQ0039933, dated May 4, 2018, to WQ0040107, dated August 7, 2018, to Pluris Hampstead. The permit is for the construction and operation of gravity sewer lines, a 375 gallon per minute (gpm) regional pump station (Phase 1) and a 240 gpm regional pump station (Phase 2), force mains to serve 72 three-bedroom residences as part of the Wylie Branch, Phase 1 and 166 three-bedroom residences as part of Phase 2, and the discharge of 25,920 gallons per day (gpd) and 59,760 of collected domestic wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system, respectively.

On February 1, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed the DWR permit and information in response to a public staff data request.

On April 2, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed the North Carolina Non-Warranty Deed for its sewage pump station lot serving Wylie Branch, completing the application.

Pluris Hampstead has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service (Agreement), dated February 20, 2018, with Island Creek Developers, LLC (Developer), by which the Developer will construct and install all of the sewer collection facilities at no charge to Pluris Hampstead. The Developer will pay a non-refundable sewer connection fee of \$3,200 per three-bedroom single-family equivalent (SFE) and an additional \$1,067 for each additional bedroom beyond a SFE.

On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The Agreement between Pluris Hampstead and the Developer was executed February 20, 2018, and as such, is not subject to the full gross-up requirements in the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order.

Pluris Hampstead holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina. Its record of service is satisfactory.

Pluris Hampstead has filed all exhibits required with the application.

The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in Wylie Branch, and recommends that the certificate of public convenience and necessity be issued.

The Public Staff recommends that the Commission require posting of bond in the amount of \$25,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$250,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$250,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

EXHIBIT: A copy of the proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-2.

RECOMMENDATION: (Casselberry/Morgan/Creech) That the Commission issue the proposed order granting the franchise and approving Pluris Hampstead's proposed rates.

P2. <u>DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 18 – PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC – APPLICATION</u> FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

EXPLANATION: On February 4, 2020, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service at 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17 (Scotts Hill Retail Center), Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates. The service areas are shown on plans filed with the application.

Pluris Hampstead is billing customers its current commercial rate approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources has issued Permit No. WQ0039933, dated May 4, 2018, to Scotts Hill, LLC (Scotts Hill), for the construction and operation of a 25 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve an existing three building complex as part of Scotts Hill Retail Center project, and for the discharge of 1,890 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

On March 31, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed an Agreement to Convey Lift Station and Grant Easements (Agreement), with Scotts Hill, dated July 1, 2020, completing its application.

Scotts Hill has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 31, 2016. Scotts Hill paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for six commercial taps.

On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The Agreement between Pluris Hampstead and Scotts Hill was executed on October 31, 2016, and as such, is not subject to the full gross-up requirements in the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order.

Pluris Hampstead holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina, and its record of service is satisfactory.

Pluris Hampstead has filed all exhibits required with the application.

The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service at 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17, Scotts Hill Retail Center, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and recommends approval of the CPCN.

The Public Staff recommends that the Commission require posting of bond in the amount of \$10,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the

Commission. Of this amount, \$275,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$225,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

EXHIBIT: A copy of the proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-3.

RECOMMENDATION: (Casselberry/Henry/Creech) That the Commission issue the proposed order granting the franchise and approving Pluris Hampstead's proposed rates.

P3. <u>DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 19 – PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC – APPLICATION</u> FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

EXPLANATION: On February 4, 2020, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service at 15441 Bailey Shoppes, 15489 Vantage Associates, 15395 Hampstead GoGas, and 15531 Hampstead United Methodist Church, US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates. The service areas are shown on plans filed with the application.

Pluris Hampstead is billing customers its current commercial rate approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources has issued the following permits:

Permit No. WQ0038859, dated January 5, 2017, to Bailey & Fuller Properties, LLC (Bailey), for the construction and operation of an 83 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve an existing 12,200 square foot shopping center with food service as part of the Bailey Shoppes at Hampstead project, and for the discharge of 1,600 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0038979, dated February 3, 2017, to Vintage Associates, LLC (Vintage), for the construction and operation of a 21 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve two retail facilities and restaurants as part of the Hampstead Center project, and for the discharge of 2,880 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0039852, dated March 27, 2018, to Hampstead United Methodist Church, Inc. (HUMC), for the construction and operation of a 10 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve HUMC, and for the discharge of 343 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0038833, dated February 13, 2017, to Quality Oil Company, LLC (QOC), for the construction and operation of a 28 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve an existing gas station as part of the Hampstead GoGas project, and for the discharge of 250 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

On October 29, 2020, Pluris Hampstead filed an Agreement and Conveying Lift Station and Granting Easements (Agreement), with Bailey, dated May 21, 2020, and on March 31, 2021, filed an Agreement to Convey Lift Station and Facilities and Grant Easements with Vintage, dated July 1, 2020, completing its application.

Bailey has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 31, 2016. Bailey paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for 9.3 commercial taps.

Vintage has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 14, 2016. Vintage paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for eight commercial taps.

HUMC satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on March 1, 2018. HUMC paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for two commercial taps. The lift station and service lateral on HUMC's property are not part of Pluris Hampstead's central wastewater main and are the responsibility of the owner, HUMC.

QOC satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 3, 2016. HUMC paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for one commercial tap. The lift station and service lateral on QOC's property are not part of Pluris Hampstead's central wastewater main and are the responsibility of the owner, QOC.

On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The four above-referenced Sewer Service Permits provided by Pluris Hampstead were executed prior to October 5, 2018, and as such, are not subject to the full gross-up requirements in the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order.

Pluris Hampstead holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina, and its record of service is satisfactory.

Pluris Hampstead has filed all exhibits required with the application.

The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service at 15441 Bailey Shoppes, 15489 Vantage Associates, 15395 Hampstead GoGas, and 15531 Hampstead United Methodist Church, US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and recommends approval of the CPCN.

The Public Staff recommends that the Commission require posting of bond in the amount of \$10,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$285,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$215,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

EXHIBIT: A copy of the proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-4.

RECOMMENDATION: (Casselberry/Henry/Creech) That the Commission issue the proposed order granting the franchise and approving Pluris Hampstead's proposed rates.

EXHIBIT NO. P-1 PAGE 1 OF 2

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. P-100, SUB 133C

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Designation of Carriers Eligible
for Universal Service Support

) ORDER DESIGNATING CHARTER FIBERLINK
) NC-CCO, LLC AND TIME WARNER CABLE
) INFORMATION SERVICES (NORTH
) CAROLINA), LLC, AS ELIGIBLE
) TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS

BY THE COMMISSION: On January 6, 2021, Charter Fiberlink NC-CCO, LLC (Charter Fiberlink) and Time Warner Cable Information Services (North Carolina), LLC (TWCIS(NC)), collectively the "Charter Entities," filed a joint application, each seeking designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support in the census blocks specified in Exhibit A (Charter Fiberlink) and Exhibit B (TWCIS(NC)) of the joint application.

The Charter Entities seek designation as ETCs for the purpose of qualifying to receive federal Universal Service Fund support to provide voice and broadband services in certain areas defined by census blocks that lack these services and to allow them to offer discounts to qualifying low income customers through the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Lifeline program. Under 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2), a provider of "universal service" must receive an ETC designation from the public utilities commission in the state for the areas in which the provider wishes to receive universal service support. Funding for those census blocks was awarded to CCO Holdings, LLC (CCO Holdings), through the Rural Digital Opportunities Fund (RDOF) auction. CCO Holdings then assigned the funding to its affiliates, the Charter Entities.

Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) are competing local providers (CLPs), granted certificates of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange and exchange access service within North Carolina on March 19, 2004, in Docket No. P-1299, Sub 1, and on July 24, 2003, in Docket No. P-1262, Sub 1, respectively. Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) each commit to provide service in their respective designated service areas using their own facilities or a combination of their own facilities and the facilities of other carriers, in accordance with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(1).

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Staff Conference on May 3, 2021.

The Public Staff investigated the joint application and stated that it believes that the Charter Entities satisfy the requirements for designation as ETCs, including the requirement to advertise willingly the availability of its services, including Lifeline, in their respective ETC-designated service areas. Furthermore, the Public Staff stated that it believes that Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) are current with all Commission filing requirements necessary to operate as CLPs in North Carolina.

The Charter Entities proposed in their data response that if the FCC removes or alters the census blocks awarded to the Charter Entities, the affected company would notify the Commission by filing in this docket a copy of the FCC's order. The Entities further proposed that such a filing would cause the census block to be revised or removed from the indicated company's ETC-designated service area without further action by the Commission. The Public Staff did not object to this proposal.

Accordingly, the Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order finding that Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) have each met the requirements to serve as an ETC in the requested census blocks specified in Exhibits A and B of the joint application, and designating Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) as ETCs for the census blocks as requested.

WHEREUPON, the Commission concludes:

- 1. That good cause exists to find Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) each meet the requirements to serve as an ETC in the requested census blocks;
- 2. That Charter Fiberlink and TWCIS(NC) are hereby designated as ETCs for those census blocks as requested; and
- 3. That if the FCC removes or alters the census blocks awarded to the Charter Entities, the affected company must notify the Commission by filing in this docket a copy of the FCC's order, and the affected census blocks will automatically be revised or removed from the indicated company's ETC-designated service area without further action by the Commission.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of May, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

EXHIBIT NO. P-2 PAGE 1 OF 6

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 8

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Notification by Pluris Hampstead, LLC, 5950)	
Berkshire Lane, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas,)	ORDER GRANTING
75225, for a Certificate of Public Convenience)	FRANCHISE, APPROVING
and Necessity to Provide Sewer Utility Service)	RATES, AND REQUIRING
in Wylie Branch, in Pender County, North)	CUSTOMER NOTICE
Carolina, and Approval of Rates)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On May 8, 2018, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service in Wylie Branch Phases 1 and 2 (Wylie Branch), in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates.

On February 1, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed the wastewater collection system extension permit from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources (DWR) and information in response to Public Staff Engineer Data Request No.1. On April 2, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed the North Carolina Non-Warranty Deed for its sewage pump station lot serving Wylie Branch, completing the application.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Staff Conference on April 26, 2021. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order granting franchise, approving rates, and notifying customers.

Based upon the verified application and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Pluris Hampstead is currently billing 43 customers its current rates approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.
- 2. DWR has issued permit number WQ0040107, dated August 7, 2018, to Pluris Hampstead. The permit is for the construction and operation of gravity sewer lines, a 375 gallon per minute (gpm) regional pump station (Phase 1) and a 240 gpm regional

EXHIBIT NO. P-2 PAGE 2 OF 6

pump station (Phase 2), force mains to serve 72 three-bedroom residences as part of the Wylie Branch, Phase 1 and 166 three-bedroom residences as part of Phase 2, and the discharge of 25,920 gallons per day (gpd) and 59,760 of collected domestic wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system, respectively.

- 3. Pluris Hampstead has entered into an Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Service (Agreement), dated February 20, 2018, with Island Creek Developers, LLC (Developer), by which the Developer will construct and install all of the sewer collection facilities at no charge to Pluris Hampstead. The Developer will pay a non-refundable sewer connection fee of \$3,200 per three-bedroom single-family equivalent (SFE) and an additional \$1,067 for each additional bedroom beyond a SFE.
- 4. On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The Agreement between Pluris Hampstead and the Developer was executed on February 20, 2018, and therefore is not subject to this requirement.
- 5. Pluris Hampstead holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina. Its record of service is satisfactory.
 - 6. CWSNC has filed all exhibits required with the application.
- 7. The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service in Wylie Branch, and recommended that the CPCN be issued.
- 8. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission require posting of bond in the amount of \$25,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$250,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$250,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing, the record in its entirety, and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that \$25,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to Wylie Branch Phases I and II; that the CPCN should be granted, the rates approved, and customers notified.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That \$25,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned bond surety is assigned to Wylie Branch. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$225,000.
- 2. That Pluris Hampstead is granted a CPCN to provide sewer utility service at Wylie Branch Phases I and II, Pender County, North Carolina.
 - 3. That Appendix A, attached hereto, constitutes the CPCN.
- 4. That the Schedule of Rates approved for Pluris Hampstead in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, dated November 13, 2020, is recognized as being applicable for service and is approved for service at Wylie Branch Phases I and II, Pender County, North Carolina.
- 5. That the Notice to Customers, attached hereto as Appendix B, be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by the Pluris Hampstead to all customers affected by the rates no later than 15 days after the date of this Order; and that Pluris Hampstead submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service properly signed and notarized not later than 30 days from the date of this Order.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE	E COMMISSION.
This the day of	, 2021.
	NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
	Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-2 PAGE 4 OF 6

APPENDIX A

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 8

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC

is granted this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

to provide sewer utility service

in

WYLIE BRANCH, PHASES I AND II

Pender County, North Carolina,

subject to any orders, rules, regulations, and conditions now or hereafter lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE O	COMMISSION.
This the day of	, 2021.
	NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
	Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-2 PAGE 5 OF 6

APPENDIX B

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 8

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has issued an Order granting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Pluris Hampstead, LLC to provide sewer utility service in Wylie Branch, Phases I and II, in Pender County, North Carolina. The Commission has approved the rates currently approved for Pluris Hampstead, LLC in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 8, effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Order:

Pluris Hampstead's approved rate for residential customers is as follows:

Monthly Residential Flat Rate: \$82.50

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the _____ day of ______, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Ι, _		, mailed with sufficient
postage or	r hand delivered to all affec	cted customers the attached Notice to Customers
issued by t	the North Carolina Utilities (Commission in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 8, and the
Notice was	s mailed or hand delivered b	by the date specified in the Order.
This	s the day of	, 2021.
		By:
		Signature
		Name of Utility Company
The	e above named Applicant, _	, personally
appeared I	before me this day and, bei	ng first duly sworn, says that the required Notice to
Customers	s was mailed or hand delive	ered to all affected customers, as required by the
Commission	on Order dated	in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 8.
Witr	ness my hand and notarial s	seal, this the day of, 2021.
		Notary Public
		Address
(SEAL)	My Commission Expires	: Date

EXHIBIT NO. P-3 PAGE 1 OF 4

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 18

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application by Pluris Hampstead, LLC, 5950)
Berkshire Lane, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas) ORDER GRANTING
75225, for a Certificate of Public Convenience) FRANCHISE AND
and Necessity to Provide Sewer Utility Service) APPROVING RATES
at 11207 and 11243 US Hwy 17, Scotts Hill)
Retail Center, Hampstead, in Pender County,)
North Carolina)

BY THE COMMISSION: On February 4, 2020, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service at 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17 (Scotts Hill Retail Center), Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates. The service areas are shown on plans filed with the application.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on May 3, 2021. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order granting the franchise and approving the proposed rates.

Based upon the verified application and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Pluris Hampstead presently holds wastewater franchises serving approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina, and its record of service is satisfactory.
- 2. Pluris Hampstead is billing customers its current commercial rate approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.
- 3. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources (DWR) has issued Permit No. WQ0039933, dated May 4, 2018, to Scotts Hill, LLC (Scotts Hill), for the construction and operation of a 25 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve the existing three building complex as part of the Scotts Hill Retail Center project, and the discharge of 1,890 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

- 4. On March 31, 2021, Pluris Hampstead filed an Agreement to Convey Lift Station and Facilities and Grant Easements (Agreement), with Scotts Hill, dated July 1, 2020, completing its application.
- 5. Scotts Hill has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 31, 2016. Scotts Hill paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for six commercial taps.
- 6. On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The Agreement between Pluris Hampstead and Scotts Hill was executed on October 31, 2016, and as such, is not subject to the full gross-up requirements in the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order.
 - 7. Pluris Hampstead has filed all exhibits required with the application.
- 8. The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service at 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17, Scotts Hill Retail Center, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and recommended approval of the CPCN.
- 9. The Public Staff recommended a bond in the amount of \$10,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$275,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$225,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing, the record in its entirety, and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission concludes that \$10,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17 (Scotts Hill Retail Center), Hampstead, that the new franchise should be granted, and that the requested rates should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That \$10,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned surety bond is assigned to 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$215,000.

EXHIBIT NO. P-3 PAGE 3 OF 4

- 2. That Pluris Hampstead is granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide sewer utility service at 11207 and 11234 US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina.
- 3. That Appendix A, attached hereto, constitutes the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.
- 4. That Pluris Hampstead's existing Schedule of Rates approved by Commission Order issued on November 13, 2020, in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, is approved for utility service at 11207 and 11243 US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.
This the day of, 2021.
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
Kimberlev A. Campbell. Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-3 PAGE 4 OF 4

APPENDIX A

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 18

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC

is granted this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

to provide sewer utility service

at

11207 US Highway 17, Hampstead 11243 US Highway 17, Hampstead

Pender County, North Carolina,

subject to any orders, rules, regulations, and conditions now or hereafter lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE CO	DMMISSION.
This the day of, 2021.	
	NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-4 PAGE 1 OF 5

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 19

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application by Pluris Hampstead, LLC, 5950)
Berkshire Lane, Suite 800, Dallas, Texas 75225, for) ORDER GRANTING
a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity) FRANCHISE AND
to Provide Sewer Utility Service at 15441 Bailey) APPROVING RATES
Shoppes, 15489 Vantage Associates, 15395)
Hampstead GoGas, and 15531 Hampstead United)
Methodist Church, US Hwy 17, Hampstead, in)
Pender County, North Carolina)

BY THE COMMISSION: On February 4, 2020, Pluris Hampstead, LLC (Pluris Hampstead), filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide sewer utility service at 15441 (Bailey Shoppes), 15489 (Vantage Associates), 15395 (Hampstead GoGas), and 15531 (Hampstead United Methodist Church), US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and for approval of rates. The service areas are shown on plans filed with the application.

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on May 3, 2021. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order granting the franchise and approving the proposed rates.

Based upon the verified application and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Pluris Hampstead presently holds wastewater franchises approximately 436 residential and 69 commercial customers in North Carolina, and its record of service is satisfactory.
- 2. Pluris Hampstead is billing customers its current commercial rate approved for its other service areas in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, effective November 13, 2020.

3. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources (DWR) has issued the following permits:

Permit No. WQ0038859, dated January 5, 2017, to Bailey & Fuller Properties, LLC (Bailey), for the construction and operation of an 83 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve an existing 12,200 square feet shopping center with food service as part of the Bailey Shoppes at Hampstead project, and for the discharge of 1,600 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0038979, dated February 3, 2017, to Vintage Associates, LLC (Vintage Associates), for the construction and operation of a 21 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve two retail facilities and restaurants as part of the Hampstead Center project, and for the discharge of 2,880 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0039852, dated March 27, 2018, to Hampstead United Methodist Church, Inc. (HUMC), for the construction and operation of a 10 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve the existing church, and for the discharge of 343 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

Permit No. WQ0038833, dated February 13, 2017, to Quality Oil Company, LLC (QOC), for the construction and operation of a 28 gallon per minute (gpm) lift station and wastewater collection extension to serve an existing gas station as part of the Hampstead GoGas project, and for the discharge of 250 gpd of collected domestic and commercial wastewater into Pluris Hampstead's existing sewerage system.

- 4. On October 29, 2020, Pluris Hampstead filed an Agreement to Convey Lift Station and Facilities and Grant Easements (Agreement), with Bailey, dated May 21, 2020, and on March 31, 2021, filed an Agreement with Vintage Associates, dated July 1, 2020, completing its application.
- 5. Bailey has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 31, 2016. Bailey paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for 9.3 commercial taps.

- 6. Vintage Associates has satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 14, 2016. Vintage paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for eight commercial taps.
- 7. HUMC satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on March 1, 2018. HUMC paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for two commercial taps. The lift station and service lateral on HUMC's property are not part of Pluris Hampstead's central wastewater main and are the responsibility of the owner, HUMC.
- 8. QOC satisfied Pluris Hampstead's requirements for sewer service and was provided a Sewer Service Permit by Pluris Hampstead on October 3, 2016. HUMC paid the approved tap fee of \$3,200 per single family equivalent (SFE) for one commercial tap. The lift station and service lateral on QOC's property are not part of Pluris Hampstead's central wastewater main and are the responsibility of the owner, QOC.
- 9. On August 26, 2019, in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57, the Commission issued its Order Addressing Federal Income Taxes on Contributions in Aid of Construction. Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of that Order provides that "all certificated water and wastewater companies shall collect from contributors the income tax on [Contributions in Aid of Construction] for new contributions contracted for on or after October 5, 2018 using the full gross-up method." The four above-referenced Sewer Service Permits provided by Pluris Hampstead were executed prior to October 5, 2018, and as such, are not subject to the full gross-up requirements in the Commission's August 26, 2019 Order.
 - 10. Pluris Hampstead has filed all exhibits required with the application.
- 11. The Public Staff is of the opinion that Pluris Hampstead has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide sewer utility service to provide sewer utility service at 15441 (Bailey Shoppes), 15489 (Vantage Associates), 15395 (Hampstead GoGas), and 15531 (Hampstead United Methodist Church), US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina, and recommended approval of the CPCN.
- 12. The Public Staff recommended a bond in the amount of \$10,000. Pluris Hampstead currently has \$500,000 of bonds posted with the Commission. Of this amount, \$250,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions, and \$250,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing the record in its entirety, and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission concludes that \$10,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to 15441 (Bailey Shoppes), 15489 (Vantage Associates),

EXHIBIT NO. P-4 PAGE 4 OF 5

15395 (Hampstead GoGas), and 15531 (Hampstead United Methodist Church), US Highway 17, Hampstead; that the new franchise should be granted; and that the requested rates should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That \$10,000 of Pluris Hampstead's unassigned surety bond is assigned to 15441, 15489, 15395, and 15531, US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$205,000.
- 2. That Pluris Hampstead is granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide sewer utility service at 15441, 15489, 15395, and 15531, US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina.
- 3. That Appendix A, attached hereto, constitutes the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.
- 4. That Pluris Hampstead's existing Schedule of Rates approved by the Commission Order issued on November 13, 2020, in Docket No. W-1305, Sub 12, is approved for utility service at 15441, 15489, 15395, and 15531, US Highway 17, Hampstead, in Pender County, North Carolina.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.
This the day of, 2021.
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

EXHIBIT NO. P-4 PAGE 5 OF 5

APPENDIX A

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. W-1305, SUB 19

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

PLURIS HAMPSTEAD, LLC

is granted this

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

to provide sewer utility service

at

15395 US Highway 17, Hampstead 15441 US Highway 17, Hampstead 15489 US Highway 17, Hampstead 15531 US Highway 17, Hampstead

Pender County, North Carolina,

subject to any orders, rules, regulations, and conditions now or hereafter lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.			
This the _	day of	, 2021.	

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Back to Agenda

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk