

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**STAFF CONFERENCE AGENDA
September 25, 2023
Commission Hearing Room 2115, 10:00 a.m.**

ELECTRIC

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

Piedmont EMC

1. Docket No. SP-53441, Sub 0 – Application of Solaris Solar, Inc. for a certificate of public convenience and necessity and registration statement to construct a 10-MW solar photovoltaic generating facility in Caswell County, North Carolina (Lawrence/Keyworth)

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation

2. Docket No. EC-67, Sub 52 – Application of NCEMC for a certificate of public convenience and necessity and registration statement to construct a 100-kW solar photovoltaic generating facility in Bladen County, North Carolina (Lawrence/Creech)

NATURAL GAS

CUSTOMER USAGE TRACKER

Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc.

3. Docket No. G-5, Sub 665 – Application of PSNC for approval of bi-annual adjustment of rates under Rider C (Customer Usage Tracker Mechanism) (Patel/Johnson/Holt)

BUDGET BILLING TARIFF

Frontier Natural Gas Company

4. Docket No. G-40, Sub 170 – Application of Frontier Natural Gas Company for Approval of its Budget Billing Tariff Revision (Nader/Patel/Culpepper)

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT

Frontier Natural Gas Company

5. Docket No. G-40, Sub 174 – Application of Frontier Natural Gas Company for an Adjustment of its Rates and Charges to Track Changes in its Wholesale Costs of Gas (*Nader/Patel/Holt*)

WATER AND WASTEWATER

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISION AND REQUIRING CUSTOMER NOTICE

Total Environmental Solutions, Inc.

6. Docket No. W-1146, Sub 14 – Verified Petition to Amend Its Tariff to Charge Rates for Water Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water From Franklin County in Lake Royale in Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina (*Houser/Jost*)

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISION AND REQUIRING CUSTOMER NOTICE

MECO Utilities, Inc.

7. Docket No. W-1166, Sub 21 – Verified Petition to Amend Its Tariff to Charge Rates for Water and Sewer Utility Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased Water and Sewer Service from the Town of Cary in the Mobile Home Estates Mobile Home Park service area in Wake County, North Carolina (*Houser/Bernier*)

NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO BEGIN WATER AND SEWER UTILITY OPERATIONS IN CONTIGUOUS SERVICE AREA

Aqua North Carolina, Inc.

8. Docket No. 218, Sub 542 – Notification of Intention to Begin Operations in Contiguous Service Area to Provide Water and Wastewater Utility Service in Whitley Corner at Flowers Plantation (*Bhatta/Feasel/Jost*)

The Public Staff recommends approval of the preceding agenda items as described above and reflected in proposed orders provided to the Commission Staff.

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. SP-53441, SUB 0

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Solaris Solar Inc. for a Certificate)	ORDER ISSUING CERTIFICATE
of Public Convenience and Necessity to)	AND ACCEPTING
Construct a 10-MW Solar Facility in Caswell)	REGISTRATION OF NEW
County, North Carolina)	RENEWABLE ENERGY
)	FACILITY

BY THE COMMISSION: On June 5, 2023, Solaris Solar Inc. (Applicant) filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1(a) for construction of a 10-MW solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located at 173 Oakus Page Road, Reidsville, Caswell County, North Carolina (Application). The Applicant plans to sell the electricity to Piedmont Electric Cooperative (Piedmont).

Contemporaneously with the Application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility. The registration statement included certified attestations that: (1) the facility is in substantial compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources; (2) the facility will be operated as a new renewable energy facility; (3) the Applicant will not remarket or otherwise resell any renewable energy certificates sold to an electric power supplier to comply with N.C.G.S. § 62-133.8; and (4) the Applicant will consent to the auditing of its books and records by the Public Staff insofar as those records relate to transactions with North Carolina electric power suppliers.

On July 13, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Publication of Notice.

On August 15, 2023, the State Clearinghouse filed comments. Because of the nature of the comments, the cover letter indicated that no further State Clearinghouse review action by the Commission was required for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

On August 29, 2023, the Applicant filed an affidavit of publication from the Caswell Messenger stating that the publication of notice was completed on August 16, 2023. In the same docket entry, the Applicant filed a verified certificate of service stating that the application and the related public notice were provided to Piedmont on July 14, 2023.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated that it 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). Therefore, the Public Staff recommended approval of the certificate and registration for the facility.

After careful consideration, the Commission finds good cause to approve the application and issue the attached certificate for the proposed solar photovoltaic generating facility. The Commission further finds good cause, based upon the foregoing and the entire record in this proceeding, to accept registration of the facility as a new renewable energy facility. The Applicant shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year and is required to participate in the NC-RETS REC tracking system (<http://www.ncrets.org>) in order to facilitate the issuance of renewable energy certificates.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the application of Solaris Solar Inc. for a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, approved;
2. That Appendix A shall constitute the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued to Solaris Solar Inc. for the 10-MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located at 173 Oakus Page Road, Reidsville, Caswell County, North Carolina;
3. That the registration statement filed by Solaris Solar Inc. for its solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located in Caswell County, North Carolina, as a new renewable energy facility shall be, and is hereby, accepted;
4. That Solaris Solar Inc. shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year; and
5. That Solaris Solar Inc. shall renew this certificate by re-compliance with the requirements set forth in Commission Rule R8-64 if it does not begin construction within five years after the issuance of the certificate.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

OFFICIAL COPY

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APPENDIX A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. SP-53441, SUB 0

Solaris Solar Inc.
114 National Highway
Thomasville, North Carolina 27360

is hereby issued this

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
PURSUANT TO N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1**

for an 10-MW_{AC} solar photovoltaic generating facility

to be located at

173 Oakus Page Road, Reidsville, Caswell County, North Carolina

subject to all orders, rules, regulations and conditions
as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made
by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. EC-67, SUB 52

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of North Carolina Electric)	
Membership Corporation for a Certificate of)	ORDER ISSUING CERTIFICATE
Public Convenience and Necessity to)	AND ACCEPTING
Construct a Solar Photovoltaic Electric)	REGISTRATION OF NEW
Generating Facility in Bladen County, North)	RENEWABLE ENERGY
Carolina, and Registration as a New)	FACILITY
Renewable Energy Facility)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On May 18, 2023, the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC or Applicant) filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-61 authorizing the construction and completion of the 100-kW_{AC} York Substation Solar Electric Facility (Facility) located on Four County Electric Membership Corporation (FCEMC) property at 14313 US 701 Hwy N, Garland, Bladen County, North Carolina. Due to the Facility's location on a parcel of land owned by FCEMC and the plan for the Facility to be used as a community solar facility, NCEMC requested that, pursuant to Commission Rules R1-30 and R1-7, the Commission provide a limited waiver from the requirements in Commission Rule R8-61(b) and accept the application without requiring prefiled testimony.

Contemporaneously with the application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.8(l) and Commission Rule R8-66. The registration statement included certified attestations that: (1) the facility is in substantial compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources; (2) the facility will be operated as a new renewable energy facility; (3) the Applicant will not remarket or otherwise resell any renewable energy certificates sold to an electric power supplier to comply with N.C.G.S. § 62-133.8; and (4) the Applicant will consent to the auditing of its books and records by the Public Staff insofar as those records relate to transactions with North Carolina electric power suppliers.

On August 4, 2023, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Publication of Notice.

On September 7, 2023, the Applicant filed an affidavit of publication from The Bladen Journal stating that the publication of notice was completed on September 1, 2023. No complaints have been received.

On September 15, 2023, the State Clearinghouse filed comments. Because of the nature of the comments, the cover letter indicated that no further State Clearinghouse review action by the Commission was required for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. 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 R8-61. The Public Staff further stated that the registration statement contains the certified attestations required by Commission Rule R8-66(b). Therefore, the Public Staff recommended approval of the certificate and registration for the facility.

After careful consideration, the Commission finds good cause to approve the application as filed and issue the attached certificate for the proposed solar photovoltaic generating facility. The Commission further finds good cause, based upon the foregoing and the entire record in this proceeding, to accept registration of the facility as a new renewable energy facility. The Applicant shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year and is required to participate in the NC-RETS REC tracking system (<http://www.ncrets.org>) in order to facilitate the issuance of renewable energy certificates.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the application of NCEMC, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be, and is hereby, approved.
2. That Appendix A shall constitute the certificate of public convenience and necessity issued to NCEMC, for the 100-kW_{AC} solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located at 14313 US 701 Hwy N, Garland, Bladen County, North Carolina.
3. That the registration statement filed by NCEMC for its solar photovoltaic facility located in Bladen County, North Carolina, as a new renewable energy facility, shall be, and is hereby, accepted.
4. That NCEMC shall annually file the information required by Commission Rule R8-66 on or before April 1 of each year.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the __ day of September 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

APPENDIX A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. EC-67, Sub 52

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation
3400 Sumner Boulevard
Raleigh, NC 27616

is hereby issued this

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
PURSUANT TO G.S. 62-110.1**

for a 100-kW_{AC} solar photovoltaic generating facility

to be located at

14313 US 701 Hwy N, Garland, in Bladen County, North Carolina,

subject to all orders, rules, regulations and conditions
as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made
by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the __ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-5, SUB 665

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Public Service Company of)	ORDER APPROVING
North Carolina, Inc., for Approval of Bi-Annual)	RATE ADJUSTMENTS
Adjustment of Rates Under Rider C to its Tariff)	EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

BY THE COMMISSION: On September 15, 2023, Public Service Company of North Carolina, Inc. (PSNC or Company) filed an application pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 62-133.7 and 62-133.4, and Rider C of the Company's Tariffs requesting authority to adjust its rates effective October 1, 2023, to implement new temporary increments and decrements in its rates for residential, small general service, and medium general service customers (Application).

PSNC's Application complies with its Rider C Customer Usage Tracker (CUT) mechanism, which is based on the Customer Usage Deferred Account balances as of July 31, 2023. The Company's Application provided supporting calculations in Schedule A.

According to the CUT, PSNC is required to compare actual residential and small and medium general service margins with the margins contained in the most recent Commission-approved rates. PSNC is to then apply, on a bi-annual basis, for authority to implement temporary rate increments or decrements (temporaries) to collect or refund any differences in the Customer Usage Deferred Account.

The proposed CUT temporaries, as well as the existing CUT temporaries and the corresponding rate changes, expressed in dollars per dekatherm (\$/dt), are as follows:

Rate Class and Schedule	Customer Usage Deferred Account Balance at 7/31/2023 (\$)	Rate Case Volumes (dts)	Proposed CUT Temporaries (\$/dts)	Existing CUT Temporaries (\$/dts)	Change in CUT Temporaries (\$/dts)
Residential (101)	\$38,303,624	32,508,084	\$1.1783	\$0.3087	\$0.8696
Residential Hi-Efficiency (102)	\$616,872	729,308	\$0.8458	\$0.0013	\$0.8444
Sm Gen Service (125)	\$9,292,929	13,582,178	\$0.6842	\$0.3445	\$0.3397
Sm Gen Service Hi-Efficiency (127)	\$8,015	121,304	\$0.0661	(\$0.1521)	\$0.2182
Med.Gen. Service(140)	\$451,065	3,582,856	\$0.1259	(\$0.0549)	\$0.1808

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated it had reviewed the application and proposed rate adjustments, found them to be in compliance with PSNC's tariffs, and recommended approval as filed.

Based upon review of the application and the recommendation of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed rate adjustments should be allowed to become effective as filed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That PSNC is authorized to implement the proposed rate changes as contained in the body of this Order based on its Customer Usage Deferred Account balances as of July 31, 2023, effective for service rendered on and after October 1, 2023.
2. That PSNC shall file its revised tariffs consistent with Ordering Paragraph 1 within five days of the date of this Order.
3. That PSNC shall give notice to its customers of the rate changes authorized in this Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-40, SUB 170

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Frontier Natural Gas Company to) Amend its Budget Billing Tariff	ORDER APPROVING BUDGET BILLING TARIFF REVISIONS
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BY THE COMMISSION: On September 14, 2023, Frontier Natural Gas Company (Frontier or Company) filed a petition pursuant to the provisions of Commission Rule R6-5.1 seeking authorization from the Commission to amend its Budget Billing tariff (Petition).

In its Petition, Frontier stated that it seeks approval to revise its Budget Billing tariff to expand the opportunity for qualified customers to seek participation in the Budget Billing program at any time during the year, rather than only in May. Frontier proposes to expand the program to include commercial and full requirements customers that use less than 5,000 therms per year. Frontier further stated that its proposal provides an additional mechanism for its customers to manage and address increased usage and pricing during the winter heating season compared to other parts of the year, and that the tariff revisions should have no negative impact on non-participating customers.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated that Frontier and the Public Staff had extensive discussions about the revisions to its tariff. Based upon its investigation and review of the Petition, the Public Staff recommended approval of the proposed tariff revisions as filed.

Based upon the review of the Petition and the recommendation of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed tariff revisions should be allowed to become effective as filed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That Frontier is authorized to amend its Budget Billing tariff as reflected in Exhibit 2 to the Petition.
2. That Frontier shall file a revised tariff consistent with Ordering Paragraph 1 within five days of the date of this Order.

3. That Frontier shall give notice to its customers of the tariff revisions allowed in this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-40, SUB 174

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Frontier Natural Gas Company) for an Adjustment of Its Rates and Charges to) Track Changes in Its Wholesale Costs of Gas))	ORDER ALLOWING RATE CHANGES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023
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BY THE COMMISSION: On September 15, 2023, Frontier Natural Gas Company (Frontier or Company) filed an application pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.4, Commission Rule R1-17(k)(3), and Appendix A of Frontier's Gas Service Rules & Regulations, seeking authority to increase its sales rates from \$4.75 per dekatherm (dth) to \$5.95 per dth effective October 1, 2023.

In this application, Frontier proposes a change in its Benchmark City Gate Delivered Cost of Gas (Benchmark) from the current rate of \$4.75 per dth¹ to \$5.95 per dth. Frontier states that the purpose of the increase is to keep collections of commodity gas costs in line with projected commodity gas costs. Frontier projects it will materially under-collect its cost of gas in the immediate future if its current Benchmark is not changed.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the application and the rate changes reflected on Exhibit A and recommended approval as filed.

Based upon the review of the application and the recommendation of the Public Staff, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed rate changes should be allowed to become effective as filed.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That Frontier is authorized to increase its sales rates from \$4.75 per dth to \$5.95 per dth effective for service rendered on and after October 1, 2023.
2. That Frontier shall file revised tariffs consistent with Ordering Paragraph 1 within five days of the date of this Order.

¹ Frontier's Benchmark Cost of Gas was last adjusted by Order dated April 24, 2022, in Docket No. G-40, Sub 172.

3. That Frontier shall give notice to its customers of the rate changes allowed in this Order.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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TESI's current water service rates became effective on January 1, 2017, pursuant to the Commission's Order Approving Tariff Revision and Requiring Customer Notice issued in Docket Nos. W-1146, Sub 11, and M-100, Sub 138, on December 12, 2016. Franklin County has increased its rates since January 1, 2017, however, TESI has not previously requested to pass through those prior increases.

The Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed TESI's request and recommended that TESI be allowed to increase its rates as shown below for service rendered on and after the date of this order. The Public Staff further stated that TESI has agreed with the Public Staff's recommendation.

<u>Monthly Metered Water Rates:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Base Charge, zero usage	\$ 29.03	\$ 31.83
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 6.02	\$ 7.21

Under the new rates, the average residential customer's monthly water bill will increase by \$6.40, from \$47.09 to \$53.49, based upon 3,000 gallons of usage.

Based upon the foregoing, the Commission finds that TESI should be allowed to pass through the costs associated with the increased purchased water expense.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. is granted a revision to Appendix A of its tariff for water utility service in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties in which it purchases and resells water from Franklin County, as set forth herein;
2. That the revised Appendix A attached hereto is approved and deemed filed with the Commission pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-138. This Schedule of Rates shall become effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Order; and
3. That the Notice to Customers attached hereto as Appendix B shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by the Company to all its affected customers in Lake Royale Subdivision contemporaneously with the next billing of customers, and that the Company shall submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service, properly signed and notarized, no later than ten days after the date of the next billing.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

SCHEDULE OF RATES

for

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

for providing water and sewer utility service in

LAKE ROYALE SUBDIVISION

Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina

Monthly Metered Water Utility Service:

Base charge, zero usage	\$ 31.83
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 7.21

Monthly Metered Sewer Utility Service (based upon metered water utility service):

Base charge, per water meter size:	
Less than 1"	\$164.50
1"	\$246.75
2"	\$411.25
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 49.03

Water Availability Rate: ^{2/} \$ 22.95 per year

Connection Charge:

Water	\$300.00
Sewer	Actual cost of connection ^{3/}

Reconnection Charge:

If water service cut off by utility for good cause: ^{4/}	\$ 14.35
If water service discontinued at customer's request: ^{4/}	\$ 14.35

Reconnection Charge (continued):

If sewer service is disconnected by utility for
good cause by disconnecting water: ^{5/} None

If sewer service is disconnected by utility for
good cause by any method other than noted above: ^{5/} Actual Cost

<u>Bills Due:</u>	On billing date
<u>Bills Past Due:</u>	25 days after billing date
<u>Billing Frequency:</u>	Shall be monthly for service in arrears
<u>Availability Rate Billing Frequency:</u>	Shall be annually
<u>Finance Charge for Late Payment:</u>	1% per month will be applied to the unpaid balance of all bills still past due 25 days after billing date.

^{1/} No longer applicable.

^{2/} All availability charges accrued to a lot with no service connection after January 1, 2001, will be satisfied before an application for service to the lot will be accepted by Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. Regardless of customer status, a lot with no service connection will accrue the applicable annual fee for the availability of service.

^{3/} Including all materials, labor, site and roadway restoration, and inspection costs.

^{4/} Customers who ask to be reconnected within nine months of disconnection will be charged \$18.37 per month for the service periods that they were disconnected.

^{5/} If service is disconnected at the customer's request and reinstated less than nine months from the date of disconnection, the customer will be responsible for all monthly customer base charges that have been applicable during that period. Those charges, including any disconnect and reconnect fees, are due and payable before service is restored.

APPENDIX B

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
DOCKET NO. W-1146, SUB 14
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Notice is given that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has granted Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. (TESI), an increase in its water usage charge for customers in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina.

TESI filed a verified petition with the Commission pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to water customers in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from Franklin County. N.C.G.S. § 62-133.11(a) provides that the Commission shall allow a water or sewer utility to adjust its rates approved pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133 to reflect changes in its costs based solely on changes in the rates imposed by third-party suppliers of purchased water or sewer service.

The Public Staff reviewed TESI's petition and recommended that TESI be allowed to increase its base charge by \$2.80 from \$29.03 to \$31.83 per month, and its water usage rate by \$1.19 per 1,000 gallons, from \$6.02 to \$7.21 per 1,000 gallons, effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Notice.

The new base charge and water usage rate will increase the average residential monthly water bill by \$6.40, from \$47.09 to \$53.49, based on 3,000 gallons of usage.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers the attached Notice to Customers issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-1146, Sub 14 and the Notice was mailed or hand delivered by the date specified in the Order.

This the ____ day of _____, 2023.

By: _____
Signature

Name of Utility Company

The above named Applicant, _____, personally appeared before me this day and, being first duly sworn, says that the required Notice to Customers was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers, as required by the Commission Order dated _____ in Docket No. W-1146, Sub 14.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this the ____ day of _____, 2023.

Notary Public

Printed Name

(SEAL) My Commission Expires: _____
Date

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1166, SUB 21

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application by MECO Utilities, Inc., Post Office)	
Box 2369, Swansboro, North Carolina 28584-)	
2369, for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to)	ORDER APPROVING
Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility)	TARIFF REVISION
Service for the Increased Cost of Purchased)	AND REQUIRING
Water and Sewer from the Town of Cary in)	CUSTOMER NOTICE
Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park in Wake)	
County, North Carolina)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On August 2, 2023, MECO Utilities, Inc. (MECO) 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 approximately 270 customers in Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park in Wake County, North Carolina, the increase in costs of purchasing water and sewer services from the Town of Cary (Town). Section 62-133.11(a) provides that the Commission shall allow a water or sewer utility to adjust its rates approved pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133 to reflect changes in its costs based solely on changes in the rates imposed by third-party suppliers of purchased water or sewer service.

MECO stated in its petition that, effective July 1, 2023, the Town increased its rates for water usage to \$5.72 per 1,000 gallons, and for sewer usage to \$10.91 per 1,000 gallons.

MECO's current rates were put into effect on August 12, 2019, by the Commission's Order Approving Tariff Revision and Requiring Customer Notice in Docket No. W-1166, Sub 19. The Town increased its rates several times after MECO's current rates were put into effect; however, MECO did not request to pass through those prior increases.

MECO requests that it be allowed to increase its rates as shown below:

<u>Monthly Metered Water Rates:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Base Charge, zero usage	\$ 14.06	\$ 14.06
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 6.99	\$ 7.18

Monthly Metered Sewer Rates:

Base Charge, zero usage	\$ 10.45	\$ 10.45
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 13.20	\$ 13.56

Under the new rates, the average residential customer's combined monthly water and sewer bill will increase by \$2.04, from \$99.21 to \$101.25, based upon 3,700 gallons of usage.

The Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the Town's rates and MECO's request and 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.

Based upon the foregoing, the Commission finds that MECO should be allowed to pass through the costs associated with the increased purchased water and sewer expense.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That MECO Utilities, Inc. is granted a revision to its tariff for water and sewer utility service in the Mobile Home Estates Mobile Home Park service area in Wake County in which it purchases and resells water and sewer service from the Town of Cary, as set forth herein;
2. That the revised Schedule of Rates, attached hereto as Appendix A, is approved and deemed filed with the Commission pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-138. This Schedule of Rates shall become effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Order; and
3. That the Notice to Customers, attached hereto as Appendix B, shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by MECO Utilities, Inc., to all its customers in Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park contemporaneously with the next billing of customers, and that MECO Utilities, Inc., shall submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service, properly signed and notarized, no later than ten days after the date of the next billing.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

SCHEDULE OF RATES

for

MECO UTILITIES, INC.for providing water and sewer utility service inMOBILE ESTATES MOBILE HOME PARK

Wake County, North Carolina

Monthly Metered Water Service:

Base Charge, zero usage	\$14.06
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 7.18

Monthly Metered Sewer Service:

Base Charge, zero usage	\$10.45
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$13.56

Reconnection Charge:

If water utility service is cut off by utility for good cause (Rule 7-20), or	^{1/}
If water utility service is discontinued at customer request, or	^{1/}
If sewer utility service is discontinued for good cause (Rule R10-16e)	^{1/}
^{1/} If reconnection is made during <u>scheduled working hours</u>	\$15.00
If reconnection is made <u>after-hours</u> on normal workdays	\$30.00
If reconnection is made in an <u>emergency action</u> on weekends or holidays	\$30.00

Note: [Commission Rule R10-16(f): Whenever sewer service is discontinued for any reason, the utility shall send a report of termination of service to the local county board of health.]

<u>Returned Check Charge:</u>	\$25.00
<u>Bills Due:</u>	On billing date
<u>Bills Past Due:</u>	15 days after billing date
<u>Billing Frequency:</u>	Shall be monthly for service in arrears
<u>Finance Charge for Late Payment:</u>	1% per month will be applied to the unpaid balance of all bills still past due 25 days after billing date.

APPENDIX B

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
DOCKET NO. W-1166, SUB 21
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Notice is given that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has granted MECO Utilities, Inc. (MECO), an increase in its water and sewer usage charges for customers in Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park in Wake County, North Carolina.

MECO filed a verified petition with the Commission pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11, requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to water customers in Mobile Estates Mobile Home Park in Wake County an increase in the cost of purchasing water and sewer service from the Town of Cary. Section 62-133.11(a) provides that the Commission shall allow a water or sewer utility to adjust its rates approved pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133 to reflect changes in its costs based solely on changes in the rates imposed by third-party suppliers of purchased water or sewer service.

The Public Staff reviewed MECO's petition and recommended that MECO be allowed to increase its water usage rate by \$0.19 per 1,000 gallons, from \$6.99 to \$7.18 per month, and its sewer usage rate by \$0.36 per 1,000 gallons, from \$13.20 to \$13.56 per 1,000 gallons, effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Notice.

The water and sewer usage rates will increase the average residential monthly water bill by \$2.04, from \$99.21 to \$101.25, based on 3,700 gallons of usage.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of September, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers a copy of the Order issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-1166, Sub 21, and such Order was mailed or hand delivered by the date specified in the Order.

This the ____ day of _____, 2023.

By: _____
Signature

Name of Utility Company

The above named Applicant, _____, personally appeared before me this day and, being first duly sworn, says that the required copy of the Commission Order was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers, as required by the Commission Order dated _____ in Docket No. W-1166, Sub 21.

Witness my hand and notarial seal, this the ____ day of _____, 2023.

Notary Public

Printed Name

(SEAL) My Commission Expires: _____

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-218, SUB 542

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Notification by Aqua North Carolina, Inc.,)	
202 MacKenan Court, Cary, North Carolina)	
27511, of Intention to Begin Operations in an)	ORDER RECOGNIZING
Area Contiguous to a Present Service Area to)	CONTIGUOUS EXTENSION
Provide Water and Sewer Utility Service for)	AND APPROVING RATES
Whitley Corner at Flowers Plantation)	
Subdivision in Johnston County, North Carolina)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On September 24, 2021, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua) filed a Notification of Intention to Begin Operations in Area Contiguous to Present Service Area (Notification) to provide water and sewer utility service in Whitley Corner at Flowers Plantation subdivision (Whitley Corner) in Johnston County, North Carolina. Whitley Corner is contiguous to Aqua's Forrest at Flowers Plantation service area recognized in Docket No. W-218, Sub 522. Aqua filed amendments to the Notification on May 17, 2023, and June 29, 2023. Aqua proposes to charge the rates currently approved for its Flowers Plantation Master System service areas.

The Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) presented this matter at the Commission's Regular Staff Conference on September 25, 2023. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order recognizing the contiguous extension and approving the requested rates.

Based on the verified Notification and the entire record in this matter, the Commission makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Aqua presently holds water franchises serving approximately 84,000 customers and sewer franchises serving approximately 21,000 customers throughout North Carolina. Aqua's record of service is satisfactory.

2. Aqua presently serves 111 water and sewer customers in Whitley Corner. Aqua expects eventually to serve 279 water and sewer customers in Whitley Corner. The service area is shown on plans filed with the Notification.

3. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources, Public Water Supply Section issued a plan approval letter for Whitley Corner

as a part of Water System No. NC0351195, Flowers Plantation water system. The plans are approved under serial number 20-00923, dated December 16, 2020.

4. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources issued permit number WQ0042115 dated December 21, 2020, for the construction and operation of Whitley Corner wastewater collection system extension.

5. Aqua entered into an Agreement dated November 6, 2020, with Dan Ryan Builders – North Carolina, LLC (Developer), under which: (1) the Developer is installing the water and wastewater utility systems; (2) Aqua is purchasing the water system from Developer for \$400 per single-family residential equivalent (SFRE), payable quarterly based on the number of water service meters installed during the previous quarter; (3) Aqua is acquiring the wastewater system from the Developer at no cost; (4) the Developer is paying Aqua a water capital cost recovery charge equal to the water capital recovery charge Johnston County (County) charges Aqua under the Bulk Water Agreement between Aqua and the County at the time the plat is recorded with the County; (5) the Developer is paying Aqua a purchased bulk wastewater capacity fee equal to the bulk purchased wastewater capacity fee the County charges Aqua under the Bulk Water Agreement between Aqua and the County at the time the plat is recorded with the County; (6) the Developer is paying Aqua a wastewater capital recovery fee equal to the wastewater capital recovery fee the County charges Aqua under the Bulk Water Agreement between Aqua and the County at the time the plat is recorded with the County; (7) Aqua is paying Johnston County an amount equal to the total of the water capital cost recovery charge, purchased bulk wastewater capacity fee, and wastewater capital recovery fee that Aqua will receive from the Developer; and (8) Aqua is requesting Commission approval to charge its current tariff, including its approved meter fee.

6. The charges and fees in effect at the time the plat was recorded are as follows: the applicable water capital cost recovery charge was \$6.25 per gallon for the first 61 lots and \$7.00 per gallon for the remaining lots based on 180 gallons per day (gpd) per SFRE gallon for the first 61 lots and \$7.00 per gallon for the remaining lots; the purchased bulk wastewater capacity fee was \$11.00 per gallon based on a flow rate of 180 gpd per SFRE; and the wastewater capital recovery fee was \$220.41 per SFRE.

7. Aqua has filed all required exhibits with the Notification.

8. Aqua has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide water and sewer utility service in this franchise location.

9. Aqua proposes to charge Whitley Corner its uniform statewide water and sewer utility service rates approved in Docket No. W-218, Sub 573, except for the bulk purchased water system usage rate from Johnston County approved in Docket No. W-218, Sub 600.

10. The Public Staff recommended that Aqua be required to post a \$20,000 bond for Whitley Corner. Aqua currently has \$13,000,000 of bonds posted with the

Commission. Of this amount, \$12,520,000 of bond surety is assigned to specific subdivisions and \$480,000 of bond surety is unassigned.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing and the recommendations of the Public Staff, the Commission concludes that \$20,000 of Aqua's unassigned bond surety should be assigned to the contiguous extension; that the contiguous extension by Aqua in Whitley Corner should be recognized as meeting the Commission's criteria for the extension; that the meter installation fee and capacity fees for water and sewer utility service should be approved; and that the requested rates should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That \$20,000 of Aqua's unassigned bond surety is assigned to Whitley Corner. The remaining unassigned bond surety shall be \$460,000;
2. That the contiguous extension of water and sewer utility service from Forrest at Flowers Planation into Whitley Corner, in Johnston County, North Carolina, is recognized as meeting the Commission's criteria for the extension pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-110(a), and Appendix A attached hereto constitutes Aqua's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity covering the contiguous extension;
3. That Aqua's existing Schedule of Rates approved on July 31, 2023, in Docket No. W-218, Sub 573, and on September 19, 2023, in Docket No. W-218, Sub 600, are approved for water and sewer utility services in Whitley Corner;
4. That a meter installation fee of \$70 and capacity fees of \$6.25 per gallon per day of capacity for the first 61 lots and \$7.00 for the remaining lots for water utility service are approved for Whitley Corner;
5. That a connection fee of \$220.41 per single-family residential equivalent connection and a capacity fee of \$11.00 per gallon per day of capacity for sewer utility service are approved for Whitley Corner;
6. That Aqua shall follow applicable state and federal laws and Commission guidance with respect to income tax gross-up on contributions in aid of construction per orders issued in Docket No. W-100, Sub 57;
7. That Aqua shall file, within 14 days of their availability, complete and final copies of all appendices, exhibits, and schedules to the Agreement with the Developer including, but not limited to, deeds, easements, warranties, bills of sale, and written certifications of cost; and
8. That Aqua shall file, within 14 days of their availability, copies of documents showing that Aqua has acquired ownership or control of all components of the system

and the land on which it is situated, including, but not limited to, bills of sale and properly recorded deeds and easements.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____ day of _____, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

APPENDIX A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-218, SUB 542

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

AQUA NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

is given this acknowledgement of
contiguous extension to the
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110(a)

to provide water and sewer utility service

in

WHITLEY CORNER AT FLOWERS PLANATION
Johnston 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 _____, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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