

1 STAFF CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

2 CHAIR MITCHELL: Good morning. Let's come  
3 to order and go on the record, please. I'm Charlotte  
4 Mitchell, Chair of the Utilities Commission. With me  
5 this morning are Commissioners Brown-Bland,  
6 Clodfelter, Duffley, Hughes, McKissick, and Kemerait.

7 In compliance with the State Government  
8 Ethics Act, I remind Members of the Commission of  
9 their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire,  
10 at this time, as whether any member of the Commission  
11 has a known conflict with respect to matters coming  
12 before us this morning.

13 (No response)

14 CHAIR MITCHELL: The record will reflect  
15 that no conflicts have been identified, so we'll  
16 proceed with Public Staff, Item No. 1.

17 MS. PROFFITT: Good morning. My name is  
18 Karen Proffitt with the Public Staff Water, Sewer, and  
19 Telephone Division. My communication's Item P1  
20 concerns the Annual State Certification of the  
21 Eligible Telecommunications Carriers or ETCs to  
22 Continue to Receive Federal Universal Service  
23 High-Cost Support. The 18 ETCs specified in my item  
24 have filed sworn affidavits attesting that all Federal

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1 High-Cost Support funding has been and will be used  
2 only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading  
3 facilities and services for which the support is  
4 intended.

5 The Public Staff recommends that pursuant to  
6 the FCC's Section § 54.314 Regulations and the Telecom  
7 Act of 1996, the Commission submits certification to  
8 the FCC and Universal Service Administrative Company  
9 by October the 31st, 2022 so that the name carriers  
10 may receive Federal Universal Service High-Cost  
11 Support for calendar year 2023.

12 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Move approval of  
13 the Public Staff recommendation.

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Second.

15 CHAIR MITCHELL: It's been moved and  
16 seconded that the item be approved as recommended by  
17 the Public Staff. Are there any questions or  
18 discussion on the motion?

19 (No response)

20 CHAIR MITCHELL: Hearing none, all in favor,  
21 indicate with an aye.

22 (All Commissioners say Aye)

23 CHAIR MITCHELL: Is there anyone opposed?

24 (No response)

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1 CHAIR MITCHELL: Motion carries. Thank you,  
2 Ms. Proffitt. Next up, Public Staff, Item 2.

3 MS. BHATTA: Good morning, everyone. My  
4 name is Shashi Bhatta, Engineer, Public Staff, with  
5 Water, Sewer, and Telephone Division. Item No. 2,  
6 Docket No. W-354, Sub 379, Carolina Water Service,  
7 Inc. of North Carolina filed a Notification of  
8 Intention to Begin Operations in an area Contiguous to  
9 a Present Service Area to Provide Water and Sewer  
10 Service, utility services, for Amber Ridge area in  
11 Wake County.

12 Please note that the proposed Order in the  
13 agenda packet has the proposed service area as Amber  
14 Ridge Subdivision. But because of the existing Amber  
15 Ridge Subdivision service area, the Public Staff and  
16 the Company have notified Commission Staff the  
17 proposed area, service area, should be referred to as  
18 Amber Ridge Area A.

19 The Public Staff recommends that the  
20 Commission issue the proposed Order recognizing the  
21 continuous extension and approving rates.

22 COMMISSIONER HUGHES: Move approval.

23 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Second.

24 CHAIR MITCHELL: It's been moved and

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1 seconded that the item be approved as recommended by  
2 the Public Staff. Questions or discussion?

3 (No response)

4 CHAIR MITCHELL: Hearing none, all in favor,  
5 indicate with an aye.

6 (All Commissioners say aye)

7 CHAIR MITCHELL: Is there anyone opposed?

8 (No response)

9 CHAIR MITCHELL: Motion carries. Thank you,  
10 Ms. Bhatta. Commission has before us our minutes of  
11 September 12th, 2022 Staff Conference for approval.  
12 I'll take a motion.

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Move approval.

14 COMMISSIONER DUFFLEY: Second.

15 CHAIR MITCHELL: It's been moved and  
16 seconded that the minutes be approved. Questions,  
17 discussion?

18 (No response)

19 CHAIR MITCHELL: All in favor, indicate with  
20 an aye.

21 (All Commissioners say aye)

22 CHAIR MITCHELL: Is there anyone opposed?

23 (No response)

24 CHAIR MITCHELL: Those minutes are approved.

1 Just checking in to see if there's any additional  
2 business for the Commission this morning.

3 (No response)

4 CHAIR MITCHELL: I'm not seeing anything, so  
5 we will be adjourned. Let's go off the record,  
6 please.

7 -----  
8 WHEREUPON, this conference is adjourned.  
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10  
11 C E R T I F I C A T E

12 I, TONJA VINES, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the  
13 proceedings in the above-captioned matter were taken  
14 before me, that I did report in stenographic shorthand  
15 the Proceedings set forth herein, and the foregoing  
16 pages are a true and correct transcription to the best  
17 of my ability.

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21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Tonja Vines  
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