

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-71, SUB 12

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application by Ridgecrest Water Utility,)
Post Office Box 128, Ridgecrest, North)
Carolina 28770, for Authority to Increase)
Rates for Water Utility Service in its)
Ridgecrest Service Area in Buncombe)
County, North Carolina)
	ORDER CANCELING
	HEARING AND REQUIRING
	CUSTOMER NOTICE

BY THE CHAIRMAN: On October 30, 2017, in the above-captioned docket, Ridgecrest Water Utility (Company) filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to increase its rates for water utility service in its Ridgecrest service area in Buncombe County, North Carolina. By Order dated November 28, 2017, the Commission declared the proceeding to be a general rate case and suspended the proposed new rates for up to 270 days. By Order dated December 18, 2017, the Commission scheduled a public hearing for March 29, 2018, in Courtroom 1A of the Buncombe County Courthouse, 60 Court Plaza, Asheville, North Carolina. The hearing was scheduled subject to cancellation if no significant protests were received by February 2, 2018.

On February 16, 2018, the Public Staff filed a Motion to Cancel Hearing. In its motion, the Public Staff stated that the Company had filed the requisite Certificate of Service, which attested that all customers received notice of the rate increase and the hearing; it had received only one customer complaint; and that it believes it will be able to reach an agreement with the Company in this matter.

Based upon the foregoing, the Commission is of the opinion that the hearing scheduled for March 29, 2018, should be canceled and customer notice should be required.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the public hearing previously scheduled for Thursday, March 29, 2018, in Courtroom 1A of the Buncombe County Courthouse, 60 Court Plaza, Asheville, North Carolina, is canceled.

2. That a copy of this Order shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by Ridgecrest Water Utility to all customers in the above-captioned service area no later than March 8, 2018, and that the Company shall submit to the Commission the

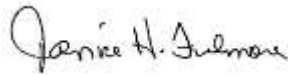
attached Certificate of Service properly signed and notarized not later than March 15, 2018.

3. That a further order of the Commission addressing the applied for rate increase shall be issued at a later date.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 23rd day of February, 2018.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Janice H. Fulmore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, _____, mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered to all affected customers the attached Order Canceling Hearing and Requiring Customer Notice issued by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Docket No. W-71, Sub 12, by the date specified in the Order.

This the _____ day of _____, _____.

By: _____

Signature

Name of Utility Company

The above named Applicant, _____, personally appeared before me this day and, being first duly sworn, says that the Order Canceling Hearing and Requiring Customer Notice was mailed or hand delivered to all affected customers, as required by the Commission Order dated _____ in Docket No. W-71, Sub 12.

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

Notary Public

Printed Name

(SEAL) My Commission Expires: _____

Date