

1 PLACE: Dobbs Building, Raleigh, North Carolina

2 DATE: June 23, 2020

3 DOCKET NO: W-218, Sub 526

4 TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

5 BEFORE: Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Application by Aqua North Carolina, Inc.,

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202 MacKenan Court, Cary, North Carolina 27511,

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for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates for

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Water and Sewer Utility Service in All of Its

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Service Areas in North Carolina

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VOLUME 1

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2 FOR AQUA NORTH CAROLINA, INC.:

3 No attorney present

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5 FOR THE USING AND CONSUMING PUBLIC:

6 William E. Grantmyre, Esq.

7 Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission

8 4326 Mail Service Center

9 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

P R O C E E D I N G S

COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Good morning.

Let's come to order and go on the record. I am
Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland, the presiding
Commissioner for this hearing.

I now call for hearing Docket Number W-218,
Sub 526, In the Matter of Application by Aqua North
Carolina, Inc., 202 MacKenan Court, Cary, North
Carolina 27511, for Authority to Increase Rates for
Water and Sewer Utility Service in All of Its Service
Areas in North Carolina.

Pursuant to the State Government Ethics Act,
I am aware of the duty of Commissioners to avoid
conflicts of interest, and I state for the record that
I have no known conflict of interest with respect to
this docket.

On December 31st, 2019, Aqua North Carolina,
Inc., Aqua or Company, filed an Application with the
Commission seeking authority to increase its rates for
water and sewer utility service in all of its service
areas in North Carolina.

On February 14th, 2020, the Commission
issued an Order Establishing General Rate Case,
Scheduling Hearings and Requiring Customer Notice.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 The Order scheduled six public hearings throughout the
2 Company's service territory for the purpose of hearing
3 from customers regarding the Company's Application and
4 quality of service, and scheduled a hearing in Raleigh
5 to begin on June 23rd, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. for the
6 purpose of receiving testimony from the parties'
7 expert witnesses.

8 By Order of the Commission issued on
9 March 31, 2020, the public hearings were postponed
10 following issuance of Governor Roy Cooper's Executive
11 Order No. 116 which declared a State of Emergency in
12 North Carolina to coordinate responsive and protective
13 actions to prevent the spread of Coronavirus,
14 COVID-19, and which restricted public gatherings in an
15 effort to contain the spread of the Coronavirus. The
16 postponed public hearings will be rescheduled in the
17 near future by Order of the Commission.

18 In the continuing effort to comply with the
19 March 31 Executive Order and subsequent Executive
20 Orders designed to have state residents and state
21 agencies limit unnecessary person-to-person contact in
22 work places and other locations where people gather,
23 the Presiding Commissioner has excused the witnesses
24 and counsel for the Company and the intervening party

1 in this docket from attending the hearing today.

2 Intervening parties are the Public Staff and the
3 Attorney General's Office.

4 Before I proceed further, one counsel has
5 made an appearance and for the record he may state his
6 appearance at this time.

7 MR. GRANTMYRE: Good morning, Commissioner
8 Brown-Bland. My name is William Grantmyre, Public
9 Staff, Legal. We represent the Using and Consuming
10 Public. Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Good morning,
12 Mr. Grantmyre. It's good to see you here.

13 At this time, due to the State of Emergency
14 relating to COVID-19, this proceeding is now recessed
15 and will resume on Monday, July 6th, 2020, at 1:30
16 p.m. for the receipt of expert witness testimony by
17 virtual means using the WebEx electronic platform.
18 The link and any necessary instruction, which will
19 allow the public to view and follow the hearing, will
20 be posted on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net
21 prior to the resumption of the proceeding.

22 Mr. Grantmyre, do you have anything to bring
23 to the Commission's attention prior to it's --

24 MR. GRANTMYRE: No.

1 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: So at this moment
2 this hearing is recessed and we will resume on
3 July 6th.

4 (The hearing was adjourned at 9:40 a.m., and set to
5 reconvene on Monday, July 6th, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KIM T. MITCHELL, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that
the Proceedings in the above-captioned matter were
taken before me, that I did report in stenographic
shorthand the Proceedings set forth herein, and the
foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription
to the best of my ability.

Kim T. Mitchell

Kim T. Mitchell
Court Reporter