

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 363
DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 364
DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 365

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 363)

)
In the Matter of)
Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc.)
of North Carolina, 4944 Parkway Plaza)
Boulevard, Suite 375, Charlotte, North)
Carolina, 28217, for an Accounting Order to)
Defer Incremental Storm Damage Expenses)
Incurred as a Result of Hurricane Florence)

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DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 364)

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In the Matter of)
Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc.)
of North Carolina, 4944 Parkway Plaza)
Boulevard, Suite 375, Charlotte, North)
Carolina, 28217, for Authority to Adjust and)
Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility)
Service in All of its Service Areas in North)
Carolina.)

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DOCKET NO. W-354, SUB 365)

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In the Matter of)
Application by Carolina Water Service, Inc.)
of North Carolina, 4944 Parkway Plaza)
Boulevard, Suite 375, Charlotte, North)
Carolina, 28217, for Accounting Order to)
Defer Post-In-Service Depreciation and)
Financing Costs Related to Major New)
Projects That Are or Will Be In-Service)
Prior to the Date of An Order in Petitioner's)
Pending Base Rate Case)

ORDER CONSOLIDATING
DOCKETS

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On June 28, 2019, in Docket W-354, Sub 365 (Sub 365), Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina (CWSNC), filed a Petition for an Accounting Order to Defer Post-In-Service Depreciation and Financing Costs

Relating to Major New Projects. In its Sub 365 Petition, CWSNC described the four major new projects for which the Company is requesting authority to defer the incremental post-in-service depreciation expense and financing costs. They are, specifically: (1) Connestee Falls wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Buncombe County; (2) Nags Head WWTP in Dare County; (3) Fairfield Mountain automated meter reading (AMR) meters installed in Transylvania County; and (4) Connestee Falls AMR meters installed in Buncombe County.

Also, on June 28, 2019, in Docket No. W-354, Sub 364 (Sub 364 Rate Case), CWSNC filed a Petition for Application for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates for Water and Sewer Utility Service in All of its Service Areas in North Carolina.

On November 15, 2019, CWSNC filed a request for an Order consolidating Docket Nos. W-354, Subs 364 and 365.

CWSNC states that the Sub 365 docket has, to date, not been formally consolidated with the Sub 364 Rate Case, although both the Company and the Public Staff have treated and addressed the Sub 365 issues in testimony as being subject to decision by the Commission in the Sub 364 Rate Case. CWSNC further states that the Public Staff supports this request for consolidation of the Sub 365 and Sub 364 Rate Case dockets and that the Corolla Light Community Association, Inc. does not oppose the request.

No persons have sought to intervene in the Sub 365 docket.

Based upon the foregoing, the Presiding Commissioner concludes that the rate case proceeding is the proper forum to discuss the issues in dispute concerning CWSNC's proposed deferred post-in-service depreciation and financing costs relating to the four major new projects described herein, review the evidence for developing a reasonable analysis based on the resulting impacts, and decide the contested issues relating to proposed deferred post-in-service depreciation and financing costs relating to the four major new projects. Therefore, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to consolidate CWSNC's Sub 365 docket with CWSNC's Sub 364 general rate case application.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That CWSNC's request in Docket No. W-354, Sub 365 for approval of deferred post-in-service depreciation and financing costs relating to major new projects shall be, and is hereby, consolidated with CWSNC's general rate case application in Docket No. W-354, Sub 364; and

2. That those persons who have been granted admission pro hac vice in Docket No. W-354, Sub 365 shall be allowed to fully participate in Docket No. W-354, Sub 364.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 19th day of November, 2019.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberley A. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk