

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

**STAFF CONFERENCE AGENDA
January 21, 2020**

COMMISSION STAFF

NO AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC STAFF

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TO: Agenda – Commission Conference – January 21, 2020

FROM: PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission

C. COMMUNICATIONS

P1. FILING OF INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BY CITIZENS TELEPHONE COMPANY

EXPLANATION: The following interconnection agreement was filed for Commission approval on October 16, 2019:

Citizens Telephone Company

Docket No. P-12, Sub 117 – Agreement with Teleport Communications America, LLC

This filing was made in compliance with Commission Rule R17-4(d) and Sections 252(e) and 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act). The Act provides for the filing of such agreements and amendments with the state commission and approval or rejection by the state commission within 90 days after filing. If the agreement or amendment is not approved or rejected within 90 days after filing, it is deemed approved pursuant to Section 252(e)(4) of the Act. The Agreement became effective January 14, 2020. On June 18, 1996, the Commission issued an Order in Docket No. P-100, Sub 133, allowing interim operation under negotiated agreements filed as public records prior to Commission approval of the agreements.

The Public Staff has reviewed this filing and recommends Commission approval.

RECOMMENDATION: (Proffitt) That an order be issued approving the agreement effective on the date it was filed. The Public Staff has provided a copy of the proposed order to the Commission's Legal Staff.

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D. ELECTRIC

P1. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITIES

EXPLANATION: The following applications seeking certificates of public convenience and necessity pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 for construction of solar photovoltaic electric generating facilities were filed pursuant to Commission Rule R8-64.

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC:

- Docket No. SP-7950, Sub 0 – Application of Yadkin Solar Farm, LLC, for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 5-MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Yadkin County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)
- Docket No. SP-8216, Sub 0 – Application of Longleaf Pine Solar Farm, LLC, for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 5-MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Davie County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)
- Docket No. SP-13695, Sub 0 – Application of Orion Renewable Resources LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 80-MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Stanly County, North Carolina

Duke Energy Progress, LLC:

- Docket No. SP-8218, Sub 0 – Application of Plott Hound Solar, LLC, for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 5-MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Craven County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)
- Docket No. SP-8274, Sub 0 – Application of Williams Solar, LLC, for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a 5-MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility in Johnston County, North Carolina (registration statement issued previously)

The Public Staff has reviewed the applications and determined that they comply with the requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

Unless otherwise noted, each applicant has filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility. The registration statement includes certified attestations, as required by Commission Rule R8-66(b), 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. Gen. Stat. §. 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.

RECOMMENDATION: (D. Williamson/Thomas/Lawrence) That the Commission issue orders approving the applications and issuing the requested certificates for these facilities. Proposed orders have been provided to the Commission Staff.

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E. WATER

P1. DOCKET NO. W-218, SUB 526 – AQUA NORTH CAROLINA, INC. – APPLICATION FOR RATE INCREASE

EXPLANATION: On December 31, 2019, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua), filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to increase its rates for providing water and sewer utility service in all of its service areas in North Carolina. Aqua serves approximately 80,978 water customers and 19,583 sewer customers in 51 counties throughout the State of North Carolina.

Aqua's uniform water and sewer rates, Brookwood water rates, and Fairways water and sewer rates have been in effect since December 18, 2018.

The Public Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order establishing a general rate case and suspending rates. The Public Staff will provide the Commission with a proposed order scheduling hearings and requiring customer notice once hearing dates and locations have been determined.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-1.

RECOMMENDATION: (Junis/Jayasheela/Jost) That the Commission issue the proposed order establishing a general rate case and suspending rates.

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-218, SUB 526

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application by Aqua North Carolina, Inc., 202)
MacKenan Court, Cary, North Carolina 27511, for) ORDER ESTABLISHING
Authority to Increase Rates for Water and Sewer) GENERAL RATE CASE
Utility Service in All Service Areas in North Carolina) AND SUSPENDING RATES

BY THE COMMISSION: On December 31, 2019, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua), filed an application with the Commission seeking authority to increase its rates for providing water and sewer utility service in all of its service areas in North Carolina in Docket No. W-218, Sub 526. Aqua serves approximately 80,978 water customers and 19,583 sewer customers in 51 counties throughout the State of North Carolina.

Aqua's uniform water and sewer rates, Brookwood water rates, and Fairways water and sewer rates have been in effect since December 18, 2018.

The Commission is of the opinion that the application constitutes a general rate case and that the proposed new rates should be suspended pending investigation.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That this proceeding is declared a general rate case pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-137.
2. That the proposed new rates are suspended for up to 270 days pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-134.
3. That the test year period is established as the twelve-month period ending September 30, 2019.
4. That the Commission shall issue an order scheduling hearings and requiring customer notice at a later date.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the ____day of January 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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