

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1300, SUB 60

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application by Old North State Water)
Company, LLC, 3212 6th Avenue South,)
Suite 200, Birmingham, Alabama 35222,)
for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates)
for Water Utility Service in All Its Service)
Areas in North Carolina)
	ORDER RESCHEDULING
	EXPERT WITNESS HEARING
	AND EXTENDING TIME TO
	PROVIDE TESTIMONY

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On September 21, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Establishing Discovery Guidelines, Scheduling Hearings, and Requiring Public Notice. The Order, in part, scheduled deadlines for the filing of testimony on the application of Old North State Water Company, LLC (ONSWC or Company) to adjust and increase its rates for providing water utility service in all of its service areas in North Carolina (Application) and scheduled a hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony to be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

On October 27, 2021, ONSWC and the Public Staff filed a Joint Motion to Extend Testimony Filing Deadlines and Reschedule Expert Witness Hearing. In the motion, ONSWC noted that it has received extensive Public Staff data requests and that the responses to the data requests are necessary for the Public Staff to complete its investigation and analysis of the Company's Application. ONSWC stated that has retained an experienced regulatory accountant to address these data requests. The motion requests that the hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony be rescheduled, and that the deadlines for filing testimony be extended to reflect the new hearing date.

ONSWC further notes that it will waive its rights to put rates into effect under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-134 if the dates are extended and acknowledges that the rate increase approved in the final order of the Commission cannot exceed the \$512,619 in additional revenues noted in its initial Application. ONSWC also stated its intent to later file a motion to request interim rates under bond, and requested that any public notice required by the rescheduling of the hearing be combined with the public notice required with its forthcoming request for interim rates.

Based on the record as a whole and the joint motion of ONSWC and the Public Staff, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to reschedule the hearing for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony originally scheduled for Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. to Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., and extend the time to provide testimony.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That a hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, solely for the purpose of receiving expert witness testimony from the parties' witnesses, and will continue as required for testimony and cross-examination of expert witnesses for the Company, the Public Staff, and other intervenors;
2. That the Commission will determine not only the justness and reasonableness of the Company's overall requested changes in rates, but also the appropriate level of rates to be established for each individual rate class;
3. That the test period to be used by all parties in this proceeding shall be the 12-month period ending on December 31, 2020, with appropriate adjustments;
4. That the parties shall comply with the discovery guidelines established in the Commission's September 21, 2021 Order and shall work in a cooperative manner as to discovery;
5. That, subject to the provisions of N.C.G.S. § 62-133(c) and Commission Rule R1-17, the Company's updates to its actual revenues, expenses, rate base, and cost of capital for the period ending August 31, 2021, shall be filed on or before November 23, 2021;
6. That petitions to intervene in this proceeding shall be filed pursuant to Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19 no later than Tuesday, February 1, 2022;
7. That the direct testimony and exhibits of the Public Staff and other intervenors shall be filed on or before Tuesday, February 1, 2022, and that the rebuttal testimony and exhibits of ONSWC, if any, shall be filed on or before Tuesday, February 15, 2022;
8. That the Company shall consult with all other parties and file, no later than Friday, February 18, 2022, a list of witnesses to be called at the expert witness hearing, the order of witnesses, and each party's estimated time for cross-examination. If the parties cannot agree, the remaining parties shall, no later than Tuesday, February 22, 2022, make a filing indicating their points of disagreement with the Company's filing;
9. That all parties filing supporting exhibits in PDF format shall provide to the Commission Staff electronic versions of the exhibits filed in native Excel format via email at NCUCexhibits@ncuc.net, where applicable, including all of the supporting tabs and formulas, within three days of the filing of such exhibits; and that the Company and all other parties filing exhibits and workpapers that include tables of numbers and calculations shall provide the Public Staff and any other party upon request an electronic version of all such exhibits and workpapers, with formulas intact; and

10. That a notice to customers shall be approved by subsequent order of the Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 16th day of November, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joann R. Snyder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joann" being more prominent.

Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk