

Changes to Water and Sewer Rates
Docket No. W-218, Subs 629 and 631

*Application of Aqua North Carolina, Inc., for Authority to Adjust and Increase Rates for
Water and Sewer Utility Service in All Its Service Areas in North Carolina and for
Approval of a Water and Sewer Investment Plan*

and

Petition of Aqua North Carolina, Inc., for Approval of a Customer Assistance Program

Why am I receiving this notice?

On April 30, 2025, Aqua North Carolina, Inc. (Aqua), filed an application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting authority to increase the rates it charges its customers for water and sewer utility service in its service areas in North Carolina and approval of a water and sewer investment plan (WSIP). On February 20, 2026, after reviewing the filings made by Aqua and other interested parties, the Commission issued an Order approving a WSIP and approving the following water and sewer utility service rates for Rate Year 1 for Aqua's customers in the Fairways and Beau Rivage (The Cape) service areas in New Hanover County:

**WATER UTILITY SERVICE
WSIP RATE YEAR 1¹**

Monthly Metered Service (Residential and Commercial customers)

Base charge, per month (zero usage, based on meter size)

<1" meter	\$ 15.29
1" meter	\$ 38.23
1½" meter	\$ 76.45
2" meter	\$ 122.32
3" meter	\$ 229.35
4" meter	\$ 382.25
6" meter	\$ 764.50

Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 5.10
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Monthly Unmetered Service/REU (flat rate)

Residential Rate	\$ 43.61
Commercial customers (per *REU)	\$ 70.36
*(REU = Residential Equivalent Unit)	

1. Effective under Aqua's WSIP Rate Year 1 for service rendered on and after February 20, 2026, through December 31, 2026. You will receive additional notices reminding you of the rate changes approved for Rate Years 2 and 3 at least 30 days before the beginning of those rate years.

**SEWER UTILITY SERVICE
WSIP RATE YEAR 1²**

Monthly Metered Service (Residential and Commercial customers)

Base facility charge (zero usage, based on water meter size)

<1" meter	\$ 54.70
1" meter	\$ 136.75
1 1/2" meter	\$ 273.50
2" meter	\$ 437.60
3" meter	\$ 820.50
4" meter	\$1,367.50
6" meter	\$2,735.00

Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 7.33
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Monthly Unmetered Service (flat rate)

Residential customers	\$ 91.23
Commercial customers (per *REU)	\$ 146.07
*(REU = Residential Equivalent Unit)	

IMPACT ON AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL BILL

The impact on the average monthly metered residential bill is as follows:

	Metered <u>Water</u>	Metered <u>Sewer</u>
Average bill under prior rates	\$28.28	\$76.37
Average bill under approved rates	\$43.34	\$95.02

The average monthly residential bills listed above are based on an approximate average usage of 5,500 gallons per month.

2. Effective under Aqua's WSIP Rate Year 1 for service rendered on and after February 20, 2026, through December 31, 2026. You will receive additional notices reminding you of the rate changes approved for Rate Years 2 and 3 at least 30 days before the beginning of those rate years.

WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENT PLAN:

The Commission has authorized the WSIP rate making mechanism pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.1B and Commission Rule R1-17A. The WSIP allows Aqua to recover the reasonably known and measurable capital investments and anticipated reasonable and prudent expenses approved under the WSIP. The Commission has approved a three-year plan which includes proposed water and sewer capital investment projects, anticipated water and sewer expenses, and the proposed rates to be effective in each year of the WSIP. By law, any rate adjustment allowed under an approved WSIP shall not, on an annual basis for years two and three of the WSIP, exceed five percent of the utility's North Carolina service revenues for the preceding plan year. The Commission may, however, consider the addition of certain unplanned emergency capital investments even if such expenditures would cause the cap to be exceeded. Additional information regarding the WSIP is contained in the Commission's Order and can be accessed from the Commission's website at www.ncuc.gov, under Docket Information, using the Docket Search feature for docket number "W-218 Sub 629."

RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM:

The Commission authorized water and sewer system improvement charge (WSIC/SSIC) rate adjustment mechanism will not be in effect during Aqua's WSIP.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 6th day of July, 2026.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk