

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. W-1146, SUB 15

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application by Total Environmental Solutions,)
Inc., for Authority to Amend Its Tariff to) ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
Increase Rates for Water Utility Service for the) REVISION AND REQUIRING
Increased Cost of Purchased Water from) CUSTOMER NOTICE
Franklin County in Lake Royale Subdivision in)
Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina)

BY THE COMMISSION: On September 28, 2023, Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. (TESI or Company), filed a verified petition with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11 requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to its metered water customers in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from Franklin County. Section 62-133.11(a) provides that the Commission shall allow a water or sewer utility to adjust its rates approved pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133 to reflect changes in its costs based solely on changes in the rates imposed by third-party suppliers of purchased water or sewer service.

TESI stated in its petition that effective in its November billing, Franklin County increased its multi-user charge per connection from \$13.80 per connection to \$15.46 per connection and its consumption charge from \$7.21 per 1,000 gallons to \$8.08 per 1,000 gallons. TESI requested to increase its base charge by \$3.82 from \$31.83 to \$35.65 and its usage charge by \$0.87 per 1,000 gallons from \$7.21 to \$8.08.

TESI's current water service rates became effective on September 27, 2023, pursuant to the Commission's Order Approving Tariff Revision and Requiring Customer Notice issued in Docket No. W-1146, Sub 14.

The Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) presented this matter at the Commission's Staff Conference on November 6, 2023. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed TESI's request and recommends that TESI be allowed to increase its rates as shown below for service rendered on and after the date of this Order. The Public Staff further stated that TESI does not object to the Public Staff's recommendation.

<u>Monthly Metered Water Rates:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Base Charge, zero usage	\$ 31.83	\$ 33.49
Usage Charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 7.21	\$ 8.08

Under the new rates, the average residential customer's monthly water bill will increase by \$4.27, from \$53.46 to \$57.73, based upon 3,000 gallons of usage.

Based upon the foregoing, the Commission finds that TESI should be allowed to pass through the costs associated with the increased purchased water expense.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That Total Environmental Solutions, Inc., is granted a revision to Appendix A of its tariff for water utility service in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties in which it purchases and resells water from Franklin County, as set forth herein;
2. That the revised Appendix A attached hereto is approved and deemed filed with the Commission pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-138. This Schedule of Rates shall become effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Order; and
3. That the Notice to Customers, attached hereto as Appendix B, shall be mailed with sufficient postage or hand delivered by the Company to all its affected customers in Lake Royale Subdivision contemporaneously with the next billing of customers, and that the Company shall submit to the Commission the attached Certificate of Service, properly signed and notarized, no later than ten days after the date of the next billing.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 6th day of November, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk

Chair Charlotte A. Mitchell and Commissioner Jeffrey A. Hughes did not participate in this decision.

SCHEDULE OF RATES

for

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS, INC.

for providing water and sewer utility service in

LAKE ROYALE SUBDIVISION

Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina

Monthly Metered Water Utility Service:

Base charge, zero usage	\$ 33.49
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 8.08

Monthly Metered Sewer Utility Service (based upon metered water utility service):

Base charge, per water meter size:	
Less than 1"	\$164.50
1"	\$246.75
2"	\$411.25
Usage charge, per 1,000 gallons	\$ 49.03

Water Availability Rate: ^{1/} \$ 22.95 per year

Connection Charge:

Water	\$300.00
Sewer	Actual cost of connection ^{2/}

Reconnection Charge:

If water service cut off by utility for good cause: ^{3/}	\$ 14.35
If water service discontinued at customer's request: ^{3/}	\$ 14.35

Reconnection Charge (continued):

If sewer service is disconnected by utility for good cause by disconnecting water: ^{4/}	None
If sewer service is disconnected by utility for good cause by any method other than noted above: ^{4/}	Actual Cost

<u>Bills Due:</u>	On billing date
<u>Bills Past Due:</u>	25 days after billing date
<u>Billing Frequency:</u>	Shall be monthly for service in arrears
<u>Availability Rate Billing Frequency:</u>	Shall be annually
<u>Finance Charge for Late Payment:</u>	1% per month will be applied to the unpaid balance of all bills still past due 25 days after billing date.

^{1/} All availability charges accrued to a lot with no service connection after January 1, 2001, will be satisfied before an application for service to the lot will be accepted by Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. Regardless of customer status, a lot with no service connection will accrue the applicable annual fee for the availability of service.

^{2/} Including all materials, labor, site and roadway restoration, and inspection costs.

^{3/} Customers who ask to be reconnected within nine months of disconnection will be charged \$18.37 per month for the service periods that they were disconnected.

^{4/} If service is disconnected at the customer's request and reinstated less than nine months from the date of disconnection, the customer will be responsible for all monthly customer base charges that have been applicable during that period. Those charges, including any disconnect and reconnect fees, are due and payable before service is restored.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
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RALEIGH**

**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS
DOCKET NO. W-1146, SUB 15
BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has granted Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. (TESI), an increase in its water base and usage charges for customers in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties, North Carolina.

TESI filed a verified petition with the Commission pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.11 requesting authority to amend its tariff for the purpose of passing along to water customers in Lake Royale Subdivision in Franklin and Nash Counties an increase in the cost of purchasing water service from Franklin County. N.C.G.S. § 62-133.11(a) provides that the Commission shall allow a water or sewer utility to adjust its rates approved pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133 to reflect changes in its costs based solely on changes in the rates imposed by third-party suppliers of purchased water or sewer service.

The Public Staff reviewed TESI's petition and recommended that TESI be allowed to increase its base charge by \$1.66 from \$31.83 to \$33.49 per month, and its water usage rate by \$0.87 per 1,000 gallons, from \$7.21 to \$8.08 per 1,000 gallons, effective for service rendered on and after the date of this Notice.

The new base charge and water usage rate will increase the average residential monthly water bill by \$4.27, from \$53.46 to \$57.73, based on 3,000 gallons of usage.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 6th day of November, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tamika D. Conyers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T".

Tamika D. Conyers, Deputy Clerk