



**Community Impact Analysis  
of Ash Basin Closure Options  
at the Cliffside Steam Station**





## **Community Impact Analysis of Ash Basin Closure Options at the Cliffside Steam Station**

Prepared on behalf of Duke Energy Carolinas,  
LLC

Prepared by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.M. Morrison".

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

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AADT	annual average daily traffic
AOW	area of wetness
ASOS	Automated Surface Observing System
BCF	bioconcentration factor
CAMA	North Carolina Coal Ash Management Act
CAP	corrective action plan
CCP	coal combustion products
CCR	coal combustion residuals
CCR Rule	EPA Coal Combustion Residuals Rule of 2015
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CIP	cap in place
COI	constituent of interest
COPC	chemical of potential concern
CSA	comprehensive site assessment
CSS	Cliffside Steam Station
DPM	diesel particulate matter
Duke Energy	Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
DSAY	discounted service acre-year
ELCR	excess lifetime cancer risk
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERA	ecological risk assessment
HEA	habitat equivalency analysis
HHRA	human health risk assessment
HI	hazard index
HQ	hazard quotient
LOAEL	lowest-observed-adverse-effects level
MOVES	Mobile Vehicle Emissions Simulator
NEBA	net environmental benefit analysis
NCDEQ	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
NCDOT	North Carolina Department of Transportation
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAEL	no-observed-adverse-effects level
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPP	net primary productivity
NRDA	natural resource damage assessment
OSAT-2	Operational Science Advisory Team-2
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REL	reference exposure level
RfD	reference dose
SOC	Special Order by Consent
TRV	toxicity references value
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority

## Limitations

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This report sets forth my conclusions, which are based on my education, training, and experience; field work; established scientific methods; and information reviewed by me or under my direction and supervision. These conclusions are expressed to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty. The focus of this report is on local community impacts. I have, therefore, not attempted to evaluate broader environmental impacts, such as impacts from greenhouse gas emissions, that would be associated with each closure option.

The conclusions in this report are based on the documents made available to me by Duke Energy or collected as part of my investigation. I reserve the right to supplement my conclusions if new or different information becomes available to me. As an example, the excavation option presented in this report assumes that landfilling of excavated ash can be accommodated within the boundaries of the currently permitted landfill space. The currently permitted landfill space was sized to accommodate future ash production and did not include the addition of excavated ash from the Cliffside Steam Station (CSS) ash basins. If additional landfill space is required to accommodate both excavated ash and future ash production, then additional habitat destruction would be necessary, and that impact has not been factored into this analysis.

# Executive Summary<sup>1</sup>

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In 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a rule called the “Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals [CCR] from Electric Utilities” (CCR Rule), which, among other things, regulates closure of coal ash impoundments in the United States. Closure of coal ash impoundments in North Carolina is further regulated by the North Carolina Coal Ash Management Act of 2014 (CAMA) as amended by H.B. 630, Sess. L. 2016-95. Under both the North Carolina CAMA and the federal CCR Rule, there are two primary options for closure of an ash impoundment:

- “Cap in place” (CIP) closure involves decanting the impoundment and placing a low-permeability liner topped by appropriate cap material, soil, and grass vegetation over the footprint of the ash to restrict vertical transport of water through the ash, as well as a minimum of 30 years of post-closure care, which requires the implementation of corrective action measures if and as necessary;
- Excavation closure involves decanting the impoundment, excavating all ash in the basin, transporting the ash to an appropriate, permitted, lined landfill, and restoring the site.

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC’s (Duke Energy’s) Cliffside Steam Station (CSS), also known as the Rogers Energy Complex, has historically had two unlined, onsite inactive ash basins (Units 1–4 inactive ash basin and Unit 5 inactive ash basin) and one unlined, onsite active ash basin. Ash from the Units 1–4 ash basin has been completely excavated, and the area repurposed, while the Unit 5 inactive ash basin has been covered with a layer of topsoil and vegetation (SynTerra 2018a). Two unlined dry ash storage areas are also located within the active ash basin. Duke Energy operates a separate onsite, lined landfill, the Coal Combustion Products (CCP) Landfill, at CSS.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that this Executive Summary does not contain all of the technical evaluations and analyses that support the conclusions. Hence, the main body of this report is at all times the controlling document.

Duke Energy has evaluated two representative closure options for the Unit 5 inactive ash basin—CIP and excavation. Three representative closure options have been evaluated by Duke Energy for the active ash basin—CIP, excavation to an onsite landfill, and hybrid closure—the latter of which involves excavating and consolidating ash within the basin footprint to reduce the spatial area of CIP closure. I have evaluated every combination of those closure options for each basin. The administrative process for selecting an appropriate closure plan for the ash basins is ongoing.

The purpose of my report is to examine how the local community’s environmental health and environmental services<sup>2</sup> are differently affected by each closure option as currently defined and to evaluate these differences in a structured framework that can support decision-making in this matter.

## **Environmental Decision-Making**

Environmental decision-making involves understanding complex issues that concern multiple stakeholders. Identifying the best management alternative often requires tradeoffs among stakeholder values. These tradeoffs necessitate a transparent and systematic method to compare alternative actions and support the decision-making process. My analyses in this matter have used a net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) framework (Efroymsen et al. 2003, 2004) to compare the relative risks and benefits from CIP closure, excavation closure, or a hybrid CIP and excavation closure of the ash basins at CSS. The NEBA framework relies on scientifically supported estimates of risk to compare the reduction of risk associated with chemicals of potential concern (COPCs)<sup>3</sup> under different remediation and closure alternatives alongside the creation of any risk during the remediation and closure, providing an objective, scientifically structured foundation for weighing the tradeoffs between remedial and closure alternatives.

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<sup>2</sup> Environmental services, or ecosystem services, are ecological processes and functions that provide value to individuals or society (Efroymsen et al. 2003, 2004).

<sup>3</sup> COPCs are “any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance found in air, water, soil or biological matter that has a harmful effect on plants or animals”  
([https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor\\_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=Eco%20Risk%20Assessment%20Glossary](https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=Eco%20Risk%20Assessment%20Glossary)).

Despite the scientific basis of the risk characterization process used in NEBA, stakeholders in any environmental decision-making scenario may place different values on different types of risk (i.e., stakeholders may have different priorities for the remediation and closure). NEBA does not, by design, elevate, or increase the value of, any specific risk or benefit in the framework. The purpose of NEBA is to simultaneously and systematically examine all tradeoffs that affect the services provided to humans and the ecosystem by the environment under remediation and closure, allowing decision-makers to more fully understand all potential benefits and risks of each alternative.

NEBA and similar frameworks have been used extensively by regulatory agencies such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and EPA to support evaluating tradeoffs in mitigation (e.g., NOAA 1990), remediation (e.g., U.S. EPA 1988, 1994), and restoration (e.g., NOAA 1996). The National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1502) relies on a structured framework to conduct environmental assessments and produce environmental impact statements; these analyses evaluate potential adverse effects from development projects and identify alternatives to minimize environmental impacts and/or select mitigation measures. Natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) utilizes a structured process to estimate environmental injury and lost services and to identify projects that restore the impacted environment and compensate the public for the lost environmental services (e.g., NOAA 1996). The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remedial investigation/feasibility study process uses a set of evaluation criteria to identify remediation projects for contaminated sites that meet remediation objectives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost (U.S. EPA 1988). Within the Superfund Program, EPA has also recognized the importance of remediation that comprehensively evaluates cleanup actions “to ensure protection of human health and the environment and to reduce the environmental footprint of cleanup activities to the maximum extent possible” (U.S. EPA 2010).

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) recently used a structured framework to compare the impacts and benefits of ash basin closure alternatives at ten of its facilities (TVA 2016). Through a NEBA-like analysis, the TVA identified “issue areas,” such as air quality, groundwater, vegetation, wildlife, transportation, and noise, and created a summary table that



provided a side-by-side comparison of the impacts of “no action,” “closure-in-place,” and “closure-by-removal” actions. As a result of this analysis, TVA identified “closure-in-place” as “its preferred alternative” for all ten facilities stating, “[t]his alternative would achieve the purpose and need for TVA’s proposed actions and compared to Closure-by-Removal with less environmental impact, shorter schedules, and less cost” (TVA 2016). The CSS ash basin closure presents similar “issue areas” that can benefit from a similar, systematic analysis of net benefits resulting from closure activities.

## **Linking Stakeholder Concerns to NEBA**

To better understand stakeholder concerns related to closure of the ash basin at CSS, I reviewed written communications about ash pond closure plans for CSS submitted to and summarized by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ 2016). From this review, I identified the following categories of stakeholder concerns:

- Drinking water quality
- Groundwater quality
- Surface water quality
- Fish and wildlife
- Maintaining property value
- Preservation of natural beauty
- Recreational value
- Swimming safety
- Failure of the ash impoundment
- Risk created by the closure option outweighing risk from contamination.

The primary concerns expressed by community stakeholders involve perceived risks from exposure to CCR constituents that could negatively affect environmental services that benefit the local community: provision of safe drinking water and food, safe recreational enjoyment (hunting, fishing, swimming), and protection of natural beauty and biodiversity.<sup>4</sup> Potential

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<sup>4</sup> Biodiversity is the variety of plants and animals present at a location. Protection of biodiversity refers to provision of habitat and related functions capable of sustaining biological populations.

hazards to the community associated with closure activities include physical disturbance of existing habitats; air pollution from diesel emissions resulting from transportation activities; and traffic, noise, and accidents that could result in property damage, injuries, and fatalities. Table ES-1 links concerns over CCR exposure and potential hazards created by ash basin closure to environmental services that could be affected by closure activities.

**Table ES-1. Relationships between environmental services and concerns to the local community associated with CCR and ash basin closure hazards**

	Environmental Services							
	Safe drinking water quality	Safe surface water quality	Safe air quality	Safe food quality	Protection of biodiversity	Recreation	Natural beauty	Safe community environment
<b>CCR Concerns</b>								
Drinking water contamination	X	X						X
Groundwater contamination	X	X						X
Surface water contamination	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Fish/wildlife contamination				X	X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting property value	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting natural beauty					X		X	X
Contamination impacting recreational enjoyment		X			X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting swimming safety		X				X	X	X
Failure of the ash impoundment	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
<b>Closure Hazards</b>								
Habitat loss		X	X		X	X	X	
Contamination of air			X		X	X		X
Noise, Traffic, Accidents						X		X

In recognition of the potential discrepancy between stakeholder priorities and the broad and balanced treatment of service risks and benefits in NEBA, I organized the NEBA analysis around the following five objectives for ash basin closure that recognize stakeholder concerns while being consistent with the methods and purpose of NEBA:

1. Protect human health from CCR constituent exposure
2. Protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure
3. Minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure
4. Minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure
5. Maximize local environmental services.

In my analysis, I linked environmental services to the local community that could be potentially impacted by ash basin closure and the identified objectives of ash basin closure, and I identified attributes and comparative metrics<sup>5</sup> that characterize the condition of the environmental services (Efroymsen et al. 2003, 2004).

I used human health attributes (e.g., risk to onsite construction workers, risk to offsite swimmers) and risk quotients (hazard index [HI], excess lifetime cancer risk [ELCR]) to evaluate whether there would be a potential impact to environmental services related to safe water, air, and food under each ash basin closure option. I also used human health attributes to evaluate whether there would be an impact to air quality during closure activities. I used ecological health attributes (e.g., risk to birds, mammals) and risk quotients (hazard quotients [HQs]) to evaluate whether there would be a potential impact to environmental services related to safe surface water and food and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty under the ash basin closure options. I evaluated risk and disturbance associated with traffic and accidents using transportation metrics and trucking logistics (e.g., number of truck miles driven) associated with each closure option to evaluate potential impacts to community safety. I used net primary productivity (NPP)<sup>6</sup> and discounted service acre-years (DSAYs)<sup>7</sup> to characterize

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<sup>5</sup> For purposes of this analysis, an attribute is a feature that characterizes environmental services and may be impacted by a closure option. Comparative metrics are features of the attribute (e.g., risk quotients, acreage of habitat) that can be measured and compared between alternatives.

<sup>6</sup> NPP represents the mass of chemically fixed carbon produced by a plant community during a given time interval. It reflects the rate at which different ecosystems are able to sequester carbon, which is related to mitigating climate change ([https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2\\_M\\_PSN](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2_M_PSN)).

differences in the environmental services that derive from habitats (e.g., protection of biodiversity, natural beauty) and that would be impacted by ash basin closure activities. Finally, I assembled all attributes, services, and objectives within a full NEBA to examine which of the closure options best maximizes environmental services for the local community. The metrics I used are scientifically appropriate and commonly applied metrics to evaluate risk to humans and the environment (U.S. EPA 1989, 1997, 2000; NHTSA 2016) and to quantitatively measure differences in environmental services associated with impact and restoration (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated; Efroymsen et al. 2003, 2004).

Of note, my analysis did not consider the risks involved with onsite construction activities. For example, I did not attempt to evaluate occupational accidents created by onsite construction and excavation. Nor did I attempt to evaluate emissions associated with onsite construction activities. Finally, I did not attempt to consider the risk created by disturbing the ash basin and exposing it to the elements during excavation activities.

Some stakeholders also expressed concern over safety of the ash impoundment dam (NCDEQ 2016). The most recent dam safety report produced by Amec Foster Wheeler (2018) and submitted to NCDEQ indicates “the construction, design, operation, and maintenance of the CCR surface impoundments have been sufficiently consistent with recognized and generally accepted engineering standards for protection of public safety and the environment” (Browning and Thomas 2018).

Several possible options for closure of the ash basin at CSS were identified by Duke Energy and summarized in (Table ES-2). I used these options in the NEBA to examine how different closure possibilities impact environmental services to the local community.

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<sup>7</sup> DSAYs are derived from habitat equivalency analysis (HEA). HEA is an assessment method that calculates debits based on services lost and credits for services gained from a remediation action (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated). A discount rate is used to standardize the different time intervals in which the debits and credits occur, and in doing so, present the service debits and credits at present value. The present value of the services is usually expressed in terms of discounted service acre-years of equivalent habitat, or DSAYs, which provide a means to compare the different service levels of affected habitat acres (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated).

**Table ES-2. Ash basin closure options provided by Duke Energy (2018)**

Closure Option Unit 5/Active Basins	Description	Closure Duration (years) <sup>a,c</sup>	Construction Duration (years) <sup>b,c</sup>
CIP/CIP	CIP both Unit 5 and active ash basins	6	3
CIP/Excavation	CIP Unit 5 basin; excavate active basin to an onsite landfill	9	6
CIP/Hybrid	CIP Unit 5 basin; partially excavate to consolidate ash and CIP consolidated ash	8	5
Excavation/CIP	Excavate Unit 5 basin; CIP active basin	6	3
Excavation/Excavation	Excavate both Unit 5 and active ash basins	9	6
Excavation/Hybrid	Excavate Unit 5 basin; partially excavate to consolidate ash and CIP consolidated ash	8	5

<sup>a</sup> Includes pre-design investigation, design and permitting, site preparation, construction, and site restoration.

<sup>b</sup> Includes only site preparation, construction, and site restoration.

<sup>c</sup> Duration estimates assume simultaneous closure of the Unit 5 and active ash basins. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer.

## NEBA Risk Ratings

NEBA organizes environmental hazard and benefit information into a unitless metric that represents the degree and the duration of impact from remediation and closure alternatives. One approach to structure this analysis is to create a risk-ranking matrix that maps the proportional impact of a hazard (i.e., risk) with the duration of the impact, which is directly related to the time to recovery (Robberson 2006). The risk-ranking matrix used for this application of NEBA is provided in Table ES-3. In this application, the matrix uses alphanumeric coding to indicate the severity of an impact: higher numbers and higher letters (e.g., 4F) indicate a greater extent and a longer duration of impact. Shading of cells within the matrix supports visualization of the magnitude of the effect according to the extent and duration of impact.<sup>8</sup> When there is no meaningful risk, the cell is not given an alphanumeric code. Relative risk ratings for each attribute and option examined were assembled into objective-specific summaries to compare the

<sup>8</sup> Categories and shading as defined in the risk-ranking matrix are based on best professional judgment and used for discussion of the relative differences in relative risk ratings. Alternative risk matrices and resulting NEBA classifications are explored in Appendix E.

net benefits of the closure options. All closure options in the NEBA were evaluated against current conditions as a “baseline” for comparison.

**Table ES-3. Risk-ranking matrix for impacts and risk from closure activities. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

		Duration of Impact (years)			
		10–15 (4)	5–9 (3)	1–4 (2)	<1 (1)
% Impact	No meaningful risk	--	--	--	--
	<5% (A)	4A	3A	2A	1A
	5–19% (B)	4B	3B	2B	1B
	20–39% (C)	4C	3C	2C	1C
	40–59% (D)	4D	3D	2D	1D
	60–79% (E)	4E	3E	2E	1E
	>80% (F)	4F	3F	2F	1F

NEBA analysis of possible closure options for the ash basin at CSS helps both Duke Energy and other stakeholders understand the net environmental benefits from the closure option configurations that were examined. If a closure option that is preferred for reasons not considered in the NEBA does not rate as one of the options that best maximizes environmental services to the local community, closure plans for that option can be re-examined, and opportunities to better maximize environmental benefits can be identified (e.g., including an offsite habitat mitigation project to offset environmental services lost from habitat alteration). The NEBA can then be re-run with the updated plan to compare the revised closure plan with other closure options.

The following is a summary of my conclusions and supporting analyses, which are structured around the five objectives identified above.

**Conclusion 1: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of human health.**

The first objective for ash basin closure, *to protect human health from CCR constituent exposure*, is represented by environmental services that provide safe drinking water, safe

groundwater, safe surface water, safe food consumption, and safe recreation. For purposes of the NEBA, these safety considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Provision of alternate drinking water supplies to public and private well water supply users within a 0.5-mile radius of CSS (Holman 2018);
2. Concentrations of CCR constituents of interest (COIs)<sup>9</sup> in drinking water wells that could potentially affect local residents and visitors, as characterized by HDR (2015a) and SynTerra (2018a) in the Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA); and
3. Risk to various human populations from CCR exposure, as characterized in the updated human health and ecological risk assessment conducted by SynTerra (2018b; Appendix B).

Based on these analyses, no CCR impacts to drinking water and no meaningful risk to humans from CCR exposure were found under current conditions<sup>10</sup> or under any closure option. Using the NEBA framework and relative risk ratings, these results are summarized in Table ES-4 within the objective of protecting human health from exposure to CCR constituents.

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<sup>9</sup> COIs are constituents relevant to analysis of potential exposure to CCR constituents but are not necessarily associated with risk to human or ecological receptors.

<sup>10</sup> SynTerra's updated human health risk assessment (HHRA) considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps (or areas of wetness [AOWs]) at CSS was not evaluated in the HHRA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable Special Order by Consent (SOC) that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2). The SOC requires Duke Energy to accelerate the schedule for decanting the ash basin to "substantially reduce or eliminate" seeps that may be affecting state or federal waters; the SOC also requires Duke Energy to take appropriate corrective actions for any seeps remaining after decanting is complete to ensure the remaining seeps are managed "in a manner that will be sufficient to protect public health, safety, and welfare, the environment, and natural resources" (EMC SOC WQ S17-009).



**Table ES-4. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to humans from CCR exposure in drinking water, surface water, groundwater, food, and recreation**

Objective	Protect Human Health from CCR						
Hazard	Exposure to CCR						
Potentially Affected Populations	Local Residents/Visitors	Onsite Construction Workers	Offsite Recreational Swimmers	Offsite Recreational Waders	Offsite Recreational Boaters	Offsite Recreational Fishers	Offsite Subsistence Fishers
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>							
Baseline	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/CIP	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/CIP	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

“--” indicates “no meaningful risk.”

Current conditions and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe drinking water, safe surface water, safe food, and safe recreation, satisfying the first objective of ash basin closure—to *protect human health from CCR constituent exposure*.

**Conclusion 2: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of ecological health.**

The second objective for ash basin closure, *to protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure*, is represented by environmental services that provide safe surface water, safe food consumption, and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Risk to ecological receptors from CCR exposure, as characterized by SynTerra (2018b; Appendix B) in the updated human health and ecological risk assessment; and
2. Aquatic community health in the Broad River as reported in the 2010 environmental monitoring report (Coughlan et al. 2010).

From my review of these analyses, no evidence of impacts to ecological receptors from CCR exposure was identified under current conditions<sup>11</sup> or under any closure option, and the Broad River continues to support a healthy aquatic community. Using the NEBA framework and relative risk ratings, these results are summarized in Table ES-5 within the objective of protecting ecological health from exposure to CCR constituents.

Current conditions and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe surface water, safe food consumption, and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty, satisfying the second objective of ash basin closure—*to protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure*.

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<sup>11</sup> SynTerra’s updated ecological risk assessment (ERA) considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps (or AOWs) at CSS was not evaluated in the ERA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable SOC that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2). The SOC requires Duke Energy to accelerate the schedule for decanting the ash basin to “substantially reduce or eliminate” seeps that may be affecting state or federal waters; the SOC also requires Duke Energy to take appropriate corrective actions for any seeps remaining after decanting is complete to ensure the remaining seeps are managed “in a manner that will be sufficient to protect public health, safety, and welfare, the environment, and natural resources” (EMC SOC WQ S17-009).

**Table ES-5. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to ecological resources from CCR exposure in surface water, soil, sediment, and food**

Objective	Protect Ecological Health from CCR				
Hazard	Exposure to CCR				
Potentially Affected Populations	Fish Populations	Aquatic Omnivore Birds (mallard)	Aquatic Piscivore Birds (great blue heron)	Aquatic Herbivore Mammals (muskrat)	Aquatic Piscivore Mammals (river otter)
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>					
Baseline	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/CIP	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/CIP	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

**Conclusion 3: All closure options for the CSS ash basins create similar levels of disturbance to communities.**

The third objective for ash basin closure, *to minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure*, is represented by environmental services that provide safe air quality and a safe community environment. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Health risks from diesel exhaust emissions to the community living and working along transportation corridors during trucking operations to haul

materials to and from the ash basin, as evaluated through the application of diesel truck air emissions modeling and human health risk assessment; and

2. The relative risk for disturbance and accidents resulting from trucking operations affecting residents living and working along transportation corridors during construction operations, as evaluated by comparing the relative differences in trucking operations between the closure options.

From these analyses, no meaningful health risk is expected from diesel exhaust emissions under any closure option, but all closure options are expected to produce community disturbance in the form of noise, traffic congestion, and risk of traffic accidents.

I used the number of trucks per day passing<sup>12</sup> a receptor along a near-site transportation corridor to examine the differences in noise and traffic congestion under the closure options. I compared the increase in the average number of trucks hauling materials to CSS under the closure options<sup>13</sup> to the current number of truck passes for the same receptor. I specified a baseline level of truck passes<sup>14</sup> on the transportation corridor under current conditions of 97 passes per day. Based on the assumed 97-truck-per-day baseline level and the number of truck trips per day from Duke Energy's projections (Duke Energy 2018), all options would have an impact of 15% or less (CIP/CIP = 14%, CIP/Excavation = 9%, CIP/Hybrid = 9%, Excavation/CIP = 15%, Excavation/Excavation = 9%, Excavation/Hybrid = 10%) on noise and traffic congestion. I input these percent changes to the risk-ranking matrix (Table ES-3) along with the total duration of trucking activities (Table ES-2) to evaluate which of the closure options best minimizes human disturbances.

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<sup>12</sup> Truck passes per day resulting from closure activities are calculated as the total number of loads required to transport earthen fill, geosynthetic materials, and other materials multiplied by two to account for return trips. The resulting total number of passes is then divided evenly among the total number of months of construction time multiplied by 26 working days per month.

<sup>13</sup> Truck trips to haul ash were not included in the estimate for CSS ash basin closure because trucks hauling ash would not leave CSS property and would not affect community receptors along the transportation corridors.

<sup>14</sup> A baseline estimate of trucking passes per day for transportation corridors near CSS was derived from North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) data of annual average daily traffic (AADT) at thousands of locations across the state and the proportion of road miles driven by large trucks in North Carolina (See Appendix E for details).

I also evaluated risk of traffic accidents by comparing the average number of annual offsite road miles driven between closure options relative to an estimate of the current average road miles driven in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina. I specified a current, or baseline, level of annual road miles driven along the transportation corridor near CSS of 60.4 million miles,<sup>15</sup> and the road miles driven under the closure options are from the trucking projections provided by Duke Energy (2018). Using the 60.4-million-truck-miles baseline assumption, all closure options have a relative risk rating of <5% (CIP/CIP = 0.1%, CIP/Excavation = 0.05%, CIP/Hybrid = 0.06%, Excavation/CIP = 0.11%, Excavation/Excavation = 0.06%, Excavation/Hybrid = 0.07%). These relative risk ratings appear to be insensitive to lower assumed baseline annual truck miles (Appendix E).

Table ES-6 summarizes the NEBA relative risk ratings based on the trucking projections and implementation schedules provided by Duke Energy (2018) for the objective of minimizing disturbance to humans during closure. Unlike the results from the evaluation of objectives 1 and 2 for ash basin closure, which showed no difference in environmental services under any closure option, all closure options create disturbance and risk to human populations; however, the cumulative impact to the community is relatively similar based on the trucking projections and implementation schedules provided by Duke Energy (2018).

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<sup>15</sup> To estimate the number of baseline truck miles, I multiplied the number of total vehicle miles traveled in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties (NCDMV 2017) by the average 6.9% contribution of trucks to total AADT in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties (NCDOT 2015).

**Table ES-6. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to communities during closure activities. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

<b>Objective</b>	Minimize Human Disturbance		
<b>Hazard</b>	Noise and Traffic Congestion	Traffic Accidents	Air Pollution
<b>Potentially Affected Populations</b>	Local Residents/Visitors	Local Residents/Visitors	Reasonable Maximum Exposure
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>			
Baseline	baseline	baseline	baseline
CIP/CIP	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--
CIP/Excavation	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
CIP/Hybrid	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
Excavation/CIP	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--
Excavation/Excavation	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
Excavation/Hybrid	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--

“--” indicates “no meaningful risk.”

All closure options support safe air quality from diesel truck emissions along the transportation routes; however, each creates a comparable level of disturbance and risk that could adversely impact community safety. Thus, all closure options similarly satisfy the third objective of ash basin closure—to minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.

## **Conclusion 4: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce no net environmental disturbance.**

The fourth objective for ash basin closure, *to minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure*, is represented by two environmental services: protection of biodiversity and natural beauty. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on differences in the NPP of impacted habitats under the closure options, as estimated by the number of DSAYs calculated by a habitat equivalency analysis (HEA).

The results of the HEA indicate that all but one closure option produce a net gain in environmental services as indicated by a positive DSAY total. Only CIP closure of both ash basins (CIP/CIP) results in a net loss of environmental services due primarily to reduced NPP services provided by a grass cap,<sup>17</sup> which adversely affects the level of environmental services provided by the ash-impacted habitat such that environmental services produced after closure will not compensate for the service losses resulting from the closure. The differences in NPP services are summarized in Table ES-7. A full description of the methods, assumptions, results, and sensitivity analyses for the HEA are provided in Appendix D and E.

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<sup>17</sup> An open field provides a relatively lower NPP service level than forest habitat (40% of forest NPP; Ricklefs 2008), and since a grass cap requires periodic maintenance mowing, for purposes of the HEA it was assumed never to reach a level of NPP service equivalent to an open field. Grass cap was assigned a post-closure service level of 8%, with full service attained in 2 years.

**Table ES-7. Summary of NPP DSAYs for closure options (Unit 5 Inactive Basin Closure/Active Basin Closure)**

		CIP/CIP	CIP/Excavation	CIP/Hybrid	Excavation/CIP	Excavation/Excavation	Excavation/Hybrid
<b>Ash basin losses</b>	Open field	-334	-334	-334	-334	-334	-334
	Grass Cap	-83	-83	-83	-101	-101	-101
	Open Water	-114	-114	-114	-113	-113	-113
	Wetland						
	Broadleaf Forest	-172	-172	-172	-181	-181	-181
	Needleleaf Forest	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79
	Scrub/Shrub	-150	-150	-150	-205	-205	-205
	Wetland Forest	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24
	<b>Total losses</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-1,037</b>	<b>-1,037</b>	<b>-1,037</b>
<b>Ash basin post-closure gains</b>	Open field				53	53	53
	Grass Cap	273	104	226	169		121
	Open Water						
	Wetland						
	Broadleaf Forest	339	1541	617	1,126	2,329	1,404
	Needleleaf Forest	116	528	211	385	797	481
	Scrub/Shrub				82	82	82
	Wetland Forest	3	16	6	12	24	14
	<b>Total gains</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>2,189</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,827</b>	<b>3,284</b>	<b>2,156</b>
<b>Landfill/borrow losses</b>	Forest	-29	-1,200	-29	-556	-1,727	-556
	Open field						
	Grass Cap	-4			-4		
	<b>Total losses</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>-1,200</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>-560</b>	<b>-1,727</b>	<b>-556</b>
<b>Landfill/borrow post-closure gains</b>	Forest	23	23	23			
	Open Field						
	Grass Cap	3	75		42	114	39
	<b>Total gains</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss per Option</b>	<b>-231</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>601</b>	

**Note:** DSAYs for specific habitat types are reported here rounded to the nearest whole number. As such, the net gain/loss per option differs slightly from the sum of the individual DSAYs reported in the table.

Closure duration estimates assume simultaneous closure of the EAB and WAB. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer and change the results of the HEA.



The impact of closure on environmental services was computed as the percentage difference in net DSAYs produced by the closure option and the baseline DSAYs (or the absolute value of the DSAY losses). The DSAY losses represent the NPP services that would have been produced by the ash basin, borrow areas, and landfills but for the project closure. The DSAY gains represent the NPP services restored after project closure plus any future gains realized from existing habitats before remediation begins. The sum of DSAY losses and gains represents the net change of NPP services for the project resulting from closure. Dividing the closure option net DSAYs by the absolute value of the DSAY losses provides a percentage of the impact. From these calculations, CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP) will have a 23% impact,<sup>18</sup> while all other closure options will have no net adverse impact on NPP services and will, in fact, increase net NPP services. These percent impacts were input to the risk-ranking matrix (Table ES-3) along with the duration of the closure activities (Table ES-2) to visualize, within the NEBA framework, which of the closure options best minimizes environmental disturbances (Table ES-8).

Within the objective of minimizing environmental disturbance from closure, my analyses indicate that all but one closure option produce a net benefit in habitat-derived environmental services; however, CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP) decreases habitat-derived environmental services. Thus, all closure options except CIP/CIP satisfy the fourth objective of ash basin closure—*to minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure*.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> As discussed below, this habitat impact could be offset with an appropriate reforestation project.

<sup>19</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.

**Table ES-8. Summary of relative risk ratings for habitat changes that affect protection of biodiversity and natural beauty. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

Objective	Minimize Environmental Disturbance
Hazard	Habitat Change
Attribute	DSAYs
Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)	
Baseline	baseline
CIP/CIP	<b>2C</b>
CIP/Excavation	--
CIP/Hybrid	--
Excavation/CIP	--
Excavation/Excavation	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

## **Conclusion 5: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce comparable environmental services.**

Identifying environmental actions that maximize environmental services (the fifth objective for ash basin closure) is a function of NEBA (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004) and the overarching objective that encompasses each of the other four objectives and all of the environmental services that have been considered to this point.

I organized my analyses around the following five objectives for ash basin closure, and I found the following:

1. Protect human health from CCR constituent exposure  
*All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of human health.*
2. Protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure  
*All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of ecological health.*
3. Minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure  
*All closure options create similar levels of disturbance to communities.*
4. Minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure  
*Most closure options produce no net environmental disturbance.*
5. Maximize environmental local services  
*Most closure options produce comparable environmental services.*

Table ES-9 summarizes the relative risk ratings for all attributes and objectives that have been considered. From this analysis, which is based on a scientific definition of risk acceptability and includes no value weighting, all closure options, with the exception of CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP), produce comparable environmental benefits, similarly satisfying the fifth objective of ash basin closure—to *maximize local environmental services*.

As noted previously, NEBA analysis provides an opportunity to better understand the net environmental benefits of possible closure options. If Duke Energy’s preferred closure option for reasons not considered in the NEBA does not best maximize environmental services to the local community as currently defined, the NEBA results provide insight into how environmental services could be improved for that closure option. For instance, if Duke Energy’s preferred closure option for CSS is CIP closure of both basins but the HEA results for the currently defined CIP closure option estimates a net environmental service loss of 231 DSAYs, Duke Energy could consider incorporating into an updated CIP closure plan for CSS a mitigation project that compensates for the net environmental service losses projected from the currently defined CIP closure option. As an example, if Duke Energy started a reforestation project outside of the ash basin in 2023 (when onsite preparation of the ash basins begins), the reforestation project would gain 23.6 DSAYs/acre over the lifetime of the site (150 years in the HEA), requiring an approximate 9.8 acre project to compensate for the 231 DSAY loss projected in the HEA. Re-analysis of the HEA component of the NEBA for the updated possible closure options would then result in no net environmental losses (as NPP services) from habitat alteration of the basins for any currently defined closure options.

By looking at a wide variety of attributes that represent a number of different environmental services that directly link to local stakeholder concerns for the CSS ash basins, I conclude, with a reasonable degree of scientific certainty, that all closure options except CIP of both basins (CIP/CIP) provide similar net environmental services and disturbance to the community and the environment.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.

**Table ES-9. NEBA for closure of the ash basins at CSS.**  
 Darker shading and higher alphanumeric codes indicate greater impact.

Objective	Protect Human Health from CCR							Protect Ecological Health from CCR					Minimize Human Disturbance			Minimize Environmental Disturbance
	Exposure to CCR							Exposure to CCR					Noise and Traffic Congestion	Traffic Accidents	Air Pollution	Habitat Change
Hazard	Local Residents/Visitors	Onsite Construction Workers	Offsite Recreational Swimmers	Offsite Recreational Waders	Offsite Recreational Boaters	Offsite Recreational Fishers	Offsite Subsistence Fishers	Fish Populations	Aquatic Omnivore Birds (mallard)	Aquatic Piscivore Birds (great blue heron)	Aquatic Herbivore Mammals (muskrat)	Aquatic Piscivore Mammals (river otter)	Local Residents/Visitors	Local Residents/Visitors	Reasonable Maximum Exposure	DSAYs
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>																
Baseline	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	baseline	baseline	baseline	baseline
CIP/CIP	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--	<b>2C</b>
CIP/Excavation	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--	--
CIP/Hybrid	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--	--
Excavation/CIP	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--	--
Excavation/Excavation	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

# 1 Qualifications

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I am a senior managing scientist in the Ecological and Biological Sciences Practice at Exponent, a scientific and engineering consulting firm. I am a professional ecologist, toxicologist, and biologist with more than 20 years of experience studying the relationship between human activities and effects on natural resources and people. I have Doctor of Science and Master of Science degrees in environmental health from the Harvard University School of Public Health. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Rhodes College. My academic and professional training includes a broad background in topics ranging from biology, ecology, toxicology, epidemiology, pollution fate and transport, and statistical analysis. Key areas of my practice involve the use of structured frameworks for evaluating multiple lines of evidence to assess causation of environmental impacts and to weigh the benefits and consequences of decisions that affect ecological and human health.

Decision support projects I have conducted include the following:

- Net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) to facilitate the selection of a remediation plan for a lead contaminated river and to support closure option analysis for several coal ash basins;
- Developing beach management tools to improve public advisories related to elevated fecal bacteria from sewage contamination at recreational beaches;
- Selecting cleanup thresholds for sediment remediation that quantitatively weigh the tradeoff between sensitivity and specificity of potential thresholds to meet cleanup objectives;
- Natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) to support injury quantification and restoration selection; and
- Review and testimony on the sufficiency of environmental impact analysis to support development planning.

Projects I have been involved in have concerned coal ash basin closures, oil spills, sewage releases, heavy metal contamination, development planning, and various industrial and municipal facilities that have generated complex releases to the aquatic environment. A list of

my publications, presentations, and cases for which I have written expert reports, been deposed, and/or provided trial testimony is provided in my *curriculum vitae*, included as Appendix A of this report.

## **2 Assignment and Retention**

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I was asked to examine how local environmental health and environmental services are differently affected under potential closure options for the coal ash basins at Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's (Duke Energy's) Cliffside Steam Station (CSS) and to evaluate these differences in a structured framework that can support decision-making. My assignment included review of the comprehensive site assessment (CSA) and corrective action plan (CAP) documents for CSS, as well as documents available through the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's (NCDEQ's) website and documents prepared as part of Duke Energy's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting. I visited CSS on September 6, 2018, and I reviewed expert reports prepared for related matters involving CSS. A list of the primary documents I relied upon is provided in Section 3 of this report.

### 3 Reliance Materials

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In the process of conducting my analyses, I have reviewed many documents. Of those, I have relied most on the following reports and documents. Technical (scientific literature) references are cited in subsequent sections of this report and listed in Section 12.

- Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA) for the Cliffside Steam Station, including all updates (HDR 2015a, 2016b; SynTerra 2018a)
- Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Cliffside Steam Station, including all updates (HDR 2015b, 2016a)
  - Baseline Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment for the Cliffside Steam Station (HDR 2016c [Appendix F of CAP 2])
- 2010 environmental monitoring report for the Broad River (Coughlan et al. 2010)
- North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Rogers Meeting Officer Report (NCDEQ 2016)
  - Attachment V. Written Public Comments Received
  - Attachment VIII. Public Comment Summary Spreadsheet
- Updated Baseline Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (SynTerra 2018b; Appendix B)
- Closure logistics estimates (Duke Energy 2018).



## 4 Introduction

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In 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a rule called the “Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System; Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals [CCR] from Electric Utilities” (CCR Rule), which, among other things, regulates closure of coal ash impoundments in the United States. Closure of coal ash impoundments in North Carolina is further regulated by the North Carolina Coal Ash Management Act of 2014 (CAMA), as amended by H.B. 630, Sess. L. 2016-95. Under both the North Carolina CAMA and the federal CCR Rule, there are two primary options for closure of an ash impoundment:

- “Cap in place” (CIP) closure involves decanting the impoundment and placing a low permeability liner topped by appropriate cap material, soil, and grass vegetation over the footprint of the ash to restrict vertical transport of water through the ash, as well as a minimum of 30 years of post-closure care, which requires the implementation of corrective action measures if and as necessary;
- Excavation closure involves decanting the impoundment, excavating all ash in the basin, transporting the ash to an appropriate, permitted, lined landfill, and restoring the site.

Duke Energy has evaluated two representative closure options for the Unit 5 inactive ash basin—CIP and excavation. Three representative closure options have been evaluated by Duke Energy for the active ash basin—CIP, excavation to an onsite landfill, and hybrid closure—the latter of which involves excavating and consolidating ash within the basin footprint to reduce the spatial area of CIP closure. I have evaluated every combination of these closure options for each basin. The administrative process for selecting an appropriate closure plan is ongoing.

The purpose of my report is to examine how the local community’s environmental health and environmental services<sup>21</sup> are differently affected by each closure option as currently defined and

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<sup>21</sup> Environmental services, or ecosystem services, are ecological processes and functions that provide value to individuals or society (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004).

to evaluate these differences in a structured framework that can support decision-making in this matter.

## **4.1 Site Setting**

CSS is a coal-fired electricity generating facility in Rutherford and Cleveland counties in North Carolina. CSS is located on the southern bank of the Broad River and is approximately 1,000 acres in area (HDR 2015a) (Figure 4-1).

CSS began operation in 1940 with Units 1–4. Unit 5 began operation in 1972, and Unit 6 in 2008. Historically, there were three ash basins at CSS: the currently inactive and excavated Units 1–4 ash basin, the inactive Unit 5 ash basin, and the active ash basin (Figure 4-1). Excavation of the Units 1–4 ash basin was completed in March 2017, with the excavated ash moved to the onsite, lined, permitted Coal Combustion Products (CCP) landfill. Two lined basins and a wastewater treatment plant are currently being constructed within the footprint of the former Units 1–4 ash basin. The Unit 5 ash basin was retired in 1980 when it reached capacity; it is currently covered with a layer of topsoil and vegetation and used as a lay down area (SynTerra 2018a). The active ash basin was constructed in 1975 and currently receives inflows from the Unit 5 fly ash and bottom ash handling systems, cooling tower blowdown, stormwater runoff from yard drainage, coal pile runoff, gypsum pile runoff, limestone pile runoff, landfill leachate, and wastewater streams from various sources on site (SynTerra 2018a). An unlined dry ash storage area is located within and beyond the northwestern portion of the active ash basin boundary. Ash produced by Unit 6 is currently dry-handled and deposited in the onsite CCP landfill. The Unit 5 inactive ash basin contains approximately 806,000 tons of ash, and the active ash basin contains approximately 5,400,000 tons of ash (SynTerra 2018a). Effluent from CSS’s active ash basin is discharged under NPDES (NPDES Outfall 002) to the Broad River, which flows to the north of CSS (Figure 4-1).





CSS is located in an ecological transitional zone between the Appalachian Mountains and the Atlantic coastal plain.<sup>22</sup> Historically, much of the region was transformed from oak-hickory-pine forests to farmland and more recently from farmland back to woodlands characterized by successional pine and hardwood forest (Griffith et al. 2002). I observed forest, field, scrub/shrub,<sup>23</sup> and open water habitat areas onsite during my September 6, 2018 visit (Figure 4-2).

The area surrounding CSS consists of the Broad River, undeveloped land, and residential properties (SynTerra 2018a). The Broad River is described as offering “miles of gentle white water, class I and II rapids, in the southern part of Rutherford County.”<sup>24</sup> The Broad River Paddle Trail, developed by the Rutherford Outdoor Coalition, covers 41 miles and includes 12 trail segments starting at the Lake Lure Dam upstream of CSS and ending at the Broad River Greenway downstream of CSS.<sup>25</sup> Public fishing and paddling access is available at the U.S. Highway 221-A bridge over the Broad River on Duke Energy property; primary fished species at this location include largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), muskellunge (stocked; *Esox masquinongy*),<sup>26</sup> redbreast sunfish (*Lepomis auratus*), smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*), and white bass (*Morone chrysops*).<sup>27</sup> Images of the Broad River adjacent to CSS are shown in Figure 4-2.

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<sup>22</sup> CSS is located in the Southern Outer Piedmont based on EPA’s ecoregion classification system. <https://www.epa.gov/eco-research/ecoregions>

<sup>23</sup> Scrub/shrub habitat is characterized by low, woody plants.

<sup>24</sup> [http://www.lakelureland.com/rutherford\\_county/rutherford\\_county\\_nc\\_lakes\\_rivers.htm](http://www.lakelureland.com/rutherford_county/rutherford_county_nc_lakes_rivers.htm)

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.rutherfordoutdoor.org/trails/board-river-paddle-trail>

<sup>26</sup> Muskellunge are not stocked in the Broad River. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission stocks muskellunge in the French Broad, Nolichucky, and New rivers as well as Lake Adger, an impoundment on the Green River, which merges with the Broad River upstream of CSS (N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission 2010).

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.ncpaws.org/wrcmapbook/FishingAreas.aspx>



Figure 4-2. Forest, field, scrub/shrub, and open water habitat at CSS, September 6, 2018. (a) Forest with scrub/shrub habitat looking north toward the active ash basin. (b) Forest, field, scrub/shrub, and open water habitat looking southeast over the western portion of the active ash basin from the dry ash storage area. (c) Two white tail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and a turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*) at the edge of forest habitat west-northwest of the active ash basin near the Broad River. (d) Forest and open water habitat at the eastern portion of the active ash basin, looking southeast from the north dam adjacent to the Broad River. (e) Forest and open water habitat along Suck Creek, which flows through CSS to the north and drains into the Broad River. (f) Broad River at NPDES Outfall 002.

## 4.2 Closure of the Ash Impoundments at CSS

Coal ash, or CCR, includes fly ash, bottom ash, boiler slag, and flue gas desulfurization material (U.S. EPA 2017c). CCR are derived from the inorganic minerals in coal, which include quartz, clays, and metal oxides (EPRI 2009). Fine-grained, amorphous particles that travel upward with flue gas are referred to as fly ash, while the coarser and heavier particles that fall to the bottom of the furnace are called bottom ash (EPRI 2009). The chemical composition of coal ash is similar to natural geologic materials found in the earth's crust, but the physical and chemical properties of coal ash vary depending on the coal source and the conditions of coal combustion and cooling of the flue gas (EPRI 2009). The majority of both fly ash and bottom ash are composed of silicon, aluminum, iron, and calcium, similar to volcanic ash and shale (Figure 4-3). Trace elements such as arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury, selenium, and chromium generally constitute less than 1% of total CCR composition (EPRI 2009; USGS 2015). CCR are classified as a non-hazardous solid waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).<sup>28</sup>

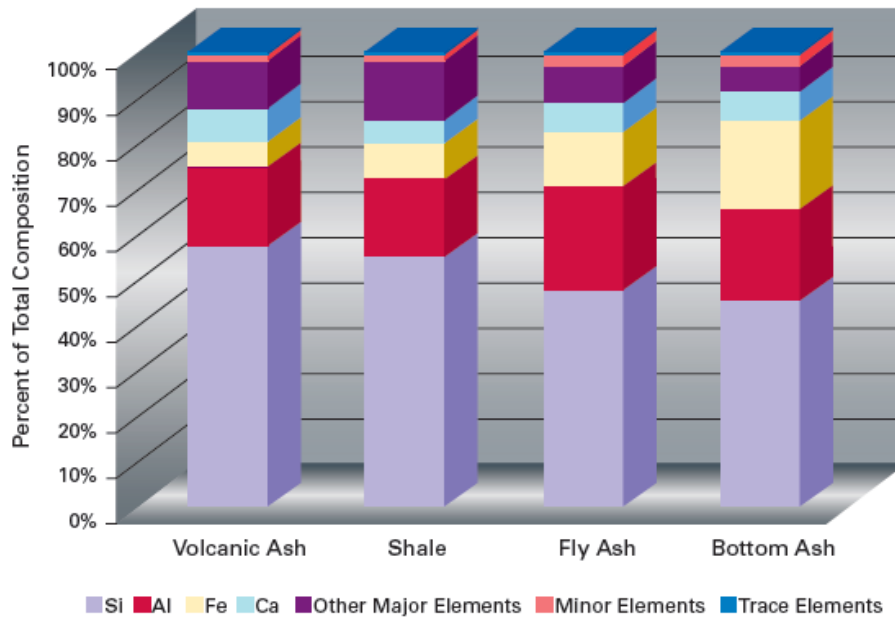


Figure 4-3. Elemental composition of bottom ash, fly ash, shale, and volcanic ash. Excerpt from EPRI (2009).

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/coalash/coal-ash-rule>

EPA's 2015 CCR Rule (40 CFR §§ 257 and 261) requires groundwater monitoring<sup>29</sup> of CCR landfills and surface impoundments and for corrective action, including closure, of CCR sites under certain circumstances. Owners and operators of CCR landfills and impoundments that are required to be closed under the regulation must conduct an analysis of the effectiveness of potential corrective measures (a corrective measures assessment) and select a strategy that involves either excavation or capping the "waste-in-place." Per § 257.97(b), the selected strategy must at a minimum be protective of human health and the environment, attain groundwater protection standards, control the source of releases so as to reduce or eliminate further releases of certain CCR constituents into the environment, remove from the environment as much of the contaminated material that was released from the CCR unit as is feasible, taking into account factors such as avoiding inappropriate disturbance of sensitive ecosystems, and comply with the standards for management of wastes in § 257.98(d).

The CCR Rule does not provide criteria for selecting between these closure options because they are both considered effective closure methods. The CCR Rule states both methods of closure "can be equally protective, provided they are conducted properly." Hence, the final CCR Rule allows the owner or operator to determine whether excavation or closure in place is appropriate for their particular unit (80 FR 21412).

For the last several years, Duke Energy has been evaluating all of its ash impoundments and remains in the midst of further evaluating each one, including at CSS, under the CCR Rule and pursuant to the administrative process set forth in CAMA. Ultimately, a final closure plan will be approved by NCDEQ.

Multiple possible options for closure of the active and inactive ash basins at CSS were identified by Duke Energy and are summarized in (Table 4-1). These options were used in the NEBA to

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<sup>29</sup> According to the CCR Rule, groundwater must be evaluated for boron, calcium, fluoride, pH, sulfate, and total dissolved solids, which are defined as the constituents for detection monitoring in Appendix III of the Rule. When a statistically significant increase in Appendix III constituents over background concentrations is detected, monitoring of assessment monitoring constituents (Appendix IV) is required. Assessment monitoring constituents are antimony, arsenic, barium, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, fluoride, lead, lithium, mercury, molybdenum, selenium, thallium, and radium 226 and 228, combined.

examine how different closure possibilities impact environmental services to the local community.

**Table 4-1. Ash basin closure options provided by Duke Energy**

Closure Option (Unit 5/Active)	Unit 5 Inactive Basin	Active Basin	Closure Duration (years) <sup>a,c</sup>	Construction Duration (years) <sup>b,c</sup>
CIP/CIP	CIP	CIP	6	3
CIP/Excavation	CIP	Excavate to onsite landfill	9	6
CIP/Hybrid	CIP	Partially excavate to consolidate ash and CIP consolidated ash	8	5
Excavation/CIP	Excavate to onsite landfill	CIP	6	3
Excavation/Excavation	Excavate to onsite landfill	Excavate to onsite landfill	9	6
Excavation/Hybrid	Excavate to onsite landfill	Partially excavate to consolidate ash and CIP consolidated ash	8	5

<sup>a</sup> Includes pre-design investigation, design and permitting, site preparation, construction, and site restoration.

<sup>b</sup> Includes only site preparation, construction, and site restoration.

<sup>c</sup> Duration estimates assume simultaneous closure of the Unit 5 and active ash basins. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer.

Table 4-2 provides a summary of some of the logistical differences between the closure options. Key among these are the following: (1) a longer period is necessary to complete most excavation closures and (2) substantially more deforestation is required under closures including excavation.<sup>30</sup> Considering logistics alone, however, does not provide a complete understanding of the potential benefits and hazards associated with each closure option, and an integrated analysis is necessary to place stakeholder concerns regarding risk from CCR in the larger context of risks and benefits to environmental services.

<sup>30</sup> CSS has onsite and planned lined landfills that could accept some excavated ash from the CSS ash basins; however, there is insufficient capacity in the currently configured landfill to accept all of the coal ash from the ash basins under an excavation closure. Forest would need to be cleared to expand the landfill capacity to create this capacity. Deforestation is also likely under a CIP closure to access surface soil for capping activities.



**Table 4-2. Overview of some key logistical differences between closure options for the CSS Unit 5 inactive and active ash basins. Data provided by Duke Energy.**

Closure Option (Unit 5/Active)	Closure Completion Time (years) <sup>a</sup>	Deforested Acres <sup>b</sup>	Truck trips/day <sup>c</sup>	Total truck miles <sup>d</sup>
CIP/CIP	6	1	7	192,015
CIP/Excavation	9	41	4	195,615
CIP/Hybrid	8	1	4	181,962
Excavation/CIP	6	19	7	208,701
Excavation/Excavation	9	59	5	212,301
Excavation/Hybrid	8	19	5	198,648

<sup>a</sup> Includes pre-design investigations, design and permitting, site preparation, construction, and site restoration.

<sup>b</sup> Includes areas deforested to create borrow pits and/or landfill. Assumes simultaneous closure of the EAB and WAB. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer.

<sup>c</sup> Includes the total number of offsite roundtrip truck trips to haul earthen, and geosynthetic material to and from the ash basin.

<sup>d</sup> Includes the total number of truck miles driven over the duration of construction operations to haul material to and from the ash basin.

Closure of the ash basin at CSS involves decanting any overlying water in the basin and excavating or capping in place the underlying ash, as specified under CAMA and the federal CCR Rule. Additional activities related to, but separate from, closure under CAMA and the CCR Rule concern constructed<sup>31</sup> and non-constructed<sup>32</sup> seeps associated with the ash basin.<sup>33</sup> A Special Order by Consent (SOC; EMC SOC WQ S17-009) was signed by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission and Duke Energy on April 18, 2018, to “address issues related to the elimination of seeps” from Duke Energy’s coal ash basins. The SOC requires Duke Energy to accelerate the schedule for decanting the ash basin to “substantially reduce or eliminate” seeps that may be affecting state or federal waters; the SOC also requires Duke Energy to take appropriate corrective actions for any seeps remaining after decanting is complete to ensure the remaining seeps are managed “in a manner that will be sufficient to

<sup>31</sup> Constructed seeps are features within the dam structure, such as toe drains or filter blankets, that collect seepage of liquid through the dam and discharge the seepage through a discrete, identifiable point source to a receiving water; Seep S-104 and S-106 are the only constructed seeps at CSS, and they are now incorporated into the CSS NPDES permit NC0005088 and managed as part of the wastewater treatment system at CSS (NCDEQ 2018).

<sup>32</sup> Non-constructed seeps are not on or within the dam structure and do not convey liquid through a pipe or constructed channel; non-constructed seeps at CSS that require monitoring (and potentially action if they are not eliminated after ash basin decanting) are listed in the SOC (EMC SOC WQ S17-009).

<sup>33</sup> In 2014, Duke Energy provided a comprehensive evaluation of all areas of wetness (AOWs or seeps) on Duke Energy property and formally applied for NPDES coverage for all seeps (EMC SOC WQ S17-009).

protect public health, safety, and welfare, the environment, and natural resources” (EMC SOC WQ S17-009). Given the court-enforceable requirement for Duke Energy to remediate any seeps remaining after decanting the ash basin to meet standards for the protection of public and environmental health, for purposes of my analyses, seeps (or areas of wetness [AOWs]) are assumed to contribute no meaningful risk to humans or the environment following any closure option since all closure options will entail decanting the basins and remediating any risk associated with remaining seeps as required by the SOC (EMC SOC WQ S17-009).

## 5 Approach to Forming Conclusions

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Environmental decision-making involves understanding complex issues that concern multiple stakeholders. Identifying the best management option often requires tradeoffs among stakeholder values. For example, remediation management alternatives can decrease potential risks to human health and the environment from contaminants, but such benefits can also have unintended consequences, such as adverse impacts to other functions of the environment (e.g., destruction of habitat) or create other forms of risk (e.g., contamination of other environmental media). These tradeoffs between existing and future environmental services necessitate a transparent and systematic method to compare alternative actions and support the decision-making process.

Structured frameworks or processes are commonly used to weigh evidence and support requirements for environmental decision-making. Examples include:

- Environmental assessment (EA) and environmental impact statement (EIS) process that supports National Environmental Policy Act requirements for evaluating impacts from development projects and selecting mitigation measures (40 CFR § 1502);
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remedial investigation/feasibility study process that characterizes risk from contaminants at a site and then evaluates remediation alternatives (U.S. EPA 1988);
- RCRA corrective measures study that supports identification, development, and evaluation of potential remedial alternatives for corrective action (U.S. EPA 1994);
- EPA's causal analysis/diagnosis decision information system (CADDIS) that supports stressor identification and selection of appropriate mitigation actions under the Clean Water Act (Cormier et al. 2000);

- NRDA that characterizes injury and lost human services to support selection of restoration projects under a number of environmental laws, including CERCLA and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (e.g., NOAA 1996); and
- NEBA that evaluates the tradeoffs in environmental impacts and benefits from remediation alternatives (NOAA 1990; Efroymsen et al. 2003, 2004).

These frameworks have different regulatory origins and somewhat different approaches to accomplishing their specific objectives, but they all rely on a common core of analyses, including characterization of exposures, identification of adverse effects, definition of complete pathways between exposures and effects, characterization of risk or impact to exposed receptors (i.e., human and ecological populations), and weight-of-evidence analysis.

My analyses in this matter have used a NEBA framework to compare the relative risks and benefits derived from the closure options under consideration for the ash basins at CSS. NEBA was originally developed to examine impacts and benefits to ecological resources and habitats excluding impacts and risk to humans (Efroymsen et al. 2004); however, as noted by EPA (2009), remediation and closure actions can also have both direct and indirect consequences to humans. To support a more thorough analysis of the net benefits of each closure option in this matter, I have included comparative analyses in the NEBA that consider environmental health more broadly, including risks and benefits to both ecological and human populations in the vicinity. My analyses draw on the core principles of the environmental decision support frameworks discussed above and follow a pragmatic and transparent process.

In assembling information for the NEBA and forming my conclusions, I have relied on analyses reported in the CSA and CAP documents, as well as information provided by Duke Energy. Because a NEBA of environmental health necessarily encompasses a variety of scientific disciplines, I assembled a team of professionals within Exponent with expertise in ecological risk assessment (ERA), human health risk assessment (HHRA), contaminant fate and transport, decision support analysis, and statistics to review documents and, where indicated, conduct analyses at my direction. The results of these efforts are included in this report and have been reviewed by me.

## 5.1 Net Environmental Benefit Analysis

Net environmental benefits are defined as “the gains in environmental services or other ecological properties attained by remediation or ecological restoration, minus the environmental injuries caused by those actions” (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004). Environmental services, or ecosystem services, are ecological processes and functions that produce value to individuals or society. A NEBA, as discussed above, is a structured framework for comparing impacts and benefits to environmental services and support decision-making (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004). NEBA can be useful in evaluating and communicating the short-term and long-term impacts of remedial alternatives options but does not make a determination of which alternative one is best; that decision must be made by stakeholders and decision-makers and may ultimately involve weighing or prioritizing some values or objectives over others (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004).

NEBA relies on scientifically supported estimates of risk to compare the reduction of risk associated with chemicals of potential concern (COPCs)<sup>34</sup> under different remediation and closure alternatives alongside the creation of any risk during the remediation and closure, providing an objective, scientifically structured foundation for weighing the tradeoffs among remedial and closure alternatives. Despite the scientific basis of the risk characterization process, however, stakeholders in any environmental decision-making scenario may place different values on different types of risk. In other words, stakeholders may have different priorities for the remediation and closure. NEBA does not, by design, elevate, or increase the value of, any specific risk or benefit in the framework. The purpose of NEBA is to simultaneously and systematically examine all tradeoffs that affect the services (e.g., provision of safe drinking water, protection of biodiversity<sup>35</sup>) provided to humans and the ecosystem by the environment under remediation and closure, allowing decision-makers to more fully understand all potential benefits and risks of each alternative.

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<sup>34</sup> COPCs are “any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance found in air, water, soil or biological matter that has a harmful effect on plants or animals” ([https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor\\_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=Eco%20Risk%20Assessment%20Glossary](https://ofmpub.epa.gov/sor_internet/registry/termreg/searchandretrieve/glossariesandkeywordlists/search.do?details=&glossaryName=Eco%20Risk%20Assessment%20Glossary)).

<sup>35</sup> Biodiversity is the variety of plants and animals present at a location. Protection of biodiversity refers to provision of habitat and related functions capable of sustaining biological populations.

EPA supports the use of NEBA (U.S. EPA 2009) as a means to compare remediation and redevelopment alternatives “based on their contributions to human well-being.” EPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) also use NEBA to support oil spill response decision-making (Robberson 2006; NOAA 1990). Examples of NEBA in oil-spill decision-making include:

- *Exxon Valdez* Oil Spill: NEBA was first applied to weigh the net environmental benefits of rock-washing to remove beached oil versus leaving the oil in place to naturally degrade (NOAA 1990).
- *Deepwater Horizon* Oil Spill: NEBA was used by the Operational Science Advisory Team-2 (OSAT-2) to “compare the environmental consequences of the defined cleanup endpoints for the oil and beach types considered, and the consequences of cleanup beyond those endpoints,” specifically noting, “It is at this juncture that the concept of continued remedial efforts doing ‘more harm than good’ becomes a concern” (OSAT 2011).

I have personally applied NEBA to evaluate the net environmental benefits associated with two alternative sediment remediation cleanup goals for lead contamination in a tidal river. At that site, the river had been contaminated with lead from a battery manufacturing facility, and the state required removal of contaminated sediment that could potentially pose a health risk to people and the environment. The responsible party conducted human and ecological risk assessments, toxicity tests, and benthic community analyses to support the selection of an appropriate cleanup threshold for lead that would be protective of humans and the natural environment. Uncertainty in the results, however, led to two different remediation threshold concentrations being proposed by the state and by the responsible party. The NEBA was conducted to examine the tradeoffs in environmental impacts associated with the two cleanup thresholds. For one segment of the river, the footprint of remediation, including the size and types of habitat impacted, was substantially different under the alternative cleanup goals. The lower remediation threshold caused much greater impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation and riparian (shoreline) habitat that had cascading consequences to animals that rely on those environments. NEBA was able to demonstrate that remediation to the lower threshold would cause greater ecological harm and disturbance to the local community with little or no decrease

in risk to benthic invertebrates (the ecological receptor at issue).<sup>36</sup> Consequently, the higher remediation goal was applied to that segment of the river.

These examples of NEBA are particularly relevant to the issues at CSS. Remediation and closure of coal ash basins is specifically addressed in CAMA and the CCR Rule, and both CIP and excavation closure satisfy defined cleanup endpoints. At issue is whether removal of the coal ash under an excavation closure crosses the “junction,” as noted by OSAT-2, where the action would do more harm than good (OSAT 2011).

## 5.2 Linking Stakeholder Concerns to NEBA

To better understand stakeholder concerns related to closure of the ash basins at CSS, I reviewed written communications about ash basin closure plans for CSS submitted to and summarized by NCDEQ (NCDEQ 2016). From this review, I identified the following categories of stakeholder concerns:

- Drinking water quality
- Groundwater quality
- Surface water quality
- Fish and wildlife
- Maintaining property value
- Preservation of natural beauty
- Recreational value
- Swimming safety
- Failure of the ash impoundment
- Risk created by the closure option outweighing risk from contamination.

The primary concerns expressed by community stakeholders involve perceived risks from exposure to CCR constituents that could negatively affect environmental services that benefit the community: provision of safe drinking water and food, safe recreational enjoyment (e.g.,

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<sup>36</sup> Both remediation goals were found to be protective of human, fish, bird, and mammal health. Uncertainty in toxicity test results and concern for protection of benthic macroinvertebrates (e.g., insect larvae and crustaceans) led the state to propose a lower remediation threshold for lead.

hunting, fishing, swimming), protection of natural beauty, and biodiversity. Potential hazards to the community associated with closure activities include physical disturbance of existing habitats; air pollution from diesel emissions; and traffic, noise, and accidents that could result in property damage, injuries, and fatalities. Table 5-1 links concerns over CCR exposure and potential hazards created by ash basin closure to environmental services that could be affected by closure activities.



**Table 5-1. Relationships between environmental services and concerns to the local community associated with CCR and ash basin closure hazards**

	Environmental Services							
	Safe drinking water quality	Safe surface water quality	Safe air quality	Safe food quality	Protection of biodiversity	Recreation	Natural beauty	Safe community environment
<b>CCR Concerns</b>								
Drinking water contamination	X	X						X
Groundwater contamination	X	X						X
Surface water contamination	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Fish/wildlife contamination				X	X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting property value	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting natural beauty					X		X	X
Contamination impacting recreational enjoyment		X			X	X	X	X
Contamination impacting swimming safety		X				X	X	X
Failure of the ash impoundment	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
<b>Closure Hazards</b>								
Habitat alteration		X	X		X	X	X	
Contamination of air			X		X	X		X
Noise, Traffic, Accidents						X		X

In recognition of the potential discrepancy between stakeholder priorities and the broad and balanced treatment of service risks and benefits in NEBA, I organized the NEBA in this matter around the following five objectives for ash basin closure that recognize stakeholder concerns while being faithful to the methods and purpose of NEBA:

1. Protect human health from CCR constituent exposure
2. Protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure
3. Minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure
4. Minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure
5. Maximize local environmental services.

Associations between environmental services to the local community that could be potentially impacted by ash basin closure and the identified objectives of ash basin remediation are shown in Table 5-2.

**Table 5-2. Associations between objectives for closure and remediation of the CSS ash basins and environmental services**

<b>Environmental Services</b>	<b>Ash Basin Closure Objectives</b>				
	Protect human health from CCR constituent exposure	Protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure	Minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure	Minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure	Maximize local environmental services
Safe drinking water quality	X	X			X
Safe surface water quality	X	X			X
Safe air quality			X		X
Safe food quality	X	X			X
Recreation	X				X
Natural beauty		X		X	X
Protection of biodiversity		X		X	X
Safe community environment			X		X

NEBA relies upon comparative metrics for specific attributes of the environment to examine the potential impacts and benefits from remediation and closure alternatives (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004). NEBA methodology is not, however, prescriptive in defining attributes or comparative metrics because each application of NEBA is unique to contaminant exposure, remediation and closure alternatives, available data, and stakeholder concerns. NEBA is an extension of the risk assessment process (Efroymson et al. 2004). As a result, receptors, exposure pathways, and risks identified in a site risk assessment are key inputs to a NEBA. The links between key environmental services, attributes that represent those services, and comparative metrics used in this NEBA are summarized in Table 5-3.

**Table 5-3. Matrix of key environmental services, attributes, and comparative metrics applied in the NEBA**

Environmental Services	Attributes			
	Human Health Risk	Ecological Health Risk	Net Primary Productivity	Transportation Metrics
Safe ground water quality	HI/ELCR	--	--	
Safe surface water quality	HI/ELCR	HQ		
Safe soil and sediment quality	HI/ELCR	HQ	--	
Safe air quality	HI/ELCR	--	--	
Safe food quality	HI/ELCR	HQ	--	
Protection of biodiversity		HQ	DSAYs	
Recreation	HI/ELCR <sup>a</sup>	--	DSAYs	
Natural beauty		HQ	DSAYs	
Safe community environment		--		Trucking Logistics

Notes:

DSAYs – discounted service acre-years

ELCR – excess lifetime cancer risk

HI – hazard index

HQ – hazard quotient

<sup>a</sup> Estimated from health risks from consumption of fish.

I used human health attributes (e.g., risk to onsite construction workers, risk to offsite swimmers) and risk quotients (hazard index [HI], excess lifetime cancer risk [ELCR]) to evaluate whether there would be a potential impact to environmental services related to safe water, air, and food under each ash basin closure option. I also used human health attributes to evaluate whether there would be an impact to air quality during closure activities. I used

ecological health attributes (e.g., risk to birds, mammals) and risk quotients (hazard quotient [HQ]) to evaluate whether there would be a potential impact to environmental services related to safe surface water and food and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty under the ash basin closure options. I evaluated risk and disturbance associated with traffic and accidents using transportation metrics and trucking logistics (e.g., number of truck miles driven) associated with each closure option to evaluate impacts to community safety. I used net primary productivity (NPP)<sup>37</sup> and discounted service acre-years (DSAYs)<sup>38</sup> to characterize differences in the environmental services that derive from habitats (e.g., protection of biodiversity, natural beauty) and that would be impacted by ash basin closure activities. Finally, I assembled all attributes, services, and objectives within a full NEBA to examine which of the closure options best maximizes environmental services to the local community. These metrics represent scientifically appropriate and commonly applied metrics to evaluate risk to humans and the environment (U.S. EPA 1989, 1997, 2000; NHTSA 2016) and to quantitatively measure differences in environmental services associated with impact and restoration (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated; Efrogmson et al. 2003, 2004).

Of note, my analysis did not consider the risks involved with onsite construction activities. For example, I did not attempt to evaluate occupational accidents created by onsite construction and excavation. Nor did I attempt to evaluate emissions associated with onsite construction activities. Finally, I did not attempt to consider the risk created by disturbing the ash basin and exposing it to the elements during excavation activities.

Some stakeholders also expressed concern over safety of the ash impoundment dam (NCDEQ 2016). The most recent dam safety report produced by Amec Foster Wheeler and submitted to NCDEQ indicates “the construction, design, operation, and maintenance of the CCR surface

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<sup>37</sup> NPP represents the mass of chemically fixed carbon produced by a plant community during a given time interval. It reflects the rate at which different ecosystems are able to sequester carbon, which is related to mitigating climate change ([https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2\\_M\\_PSN](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2_M_PSN)).

<sup>38</sup> DSAYs are derived from habitat equivalency analysis (HEA). HEA is an assessment method that calculates debits based on services lost and credits for services gained from a remediation and closure action (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated). A discount rate is used to standardize the different time intervals in which the debits and credits occur, so the services are usually expressed in terms of discounted service acre-years of equivalent habitat, or DSAYs, which provide a means to compare the different service levels of affected habitat acres (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated).

impoundments have been sufficiently consistent with recognized and generally accepted engineering standards for protection of public safety and the environment” (Browning and Thomas 2018).

### **5.3 NEBA Risk Ratings**

NEBA organizes environmental hazard and benefit information into a unitless metric that represents the degree and the duration of impact from a remediation and closure alternative (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004). One approach to structure this analysis is to create a risk-ranking matrix that maps the proportional impact of a hazard (i.e., risk) with the duration of the impact (Robberson 2006). The risk-ranking matrix used for this application of NEBA is provided in Table 5-4. The matrix uses alphanumeric coding to indicate the severity of an impact: higher numbers and higher letters (e.g., 4F) indicate a greater extent and a longer duration of impact, respectively. Shading of cells within the matrix supports visualization of the magnitude of the effect according to the extent and duration of an impact.<sup>39</sup> When there is no meaningful risk, the cell is not given an alphanumeric code. Risk ratings generated from the risk-ranking matrix for each attribute and scenario examined were assembled into objective-specific summaries to compare the net benefits of the closure options. All closure options in the NEBA were evaluated against current conditions as a “baseline” for comparison.

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<sup>39</sup> Categories and shading as defined in the risk-ranking matrix are based on best professional judgment and used for discussion of the relative differences in relative risk ratings. Alternative risk matrices and resulting NEBA classifications are explored in Appendix E.

**Table 5-4. Risk-ranking matrix for impacts and risk from remediation and closure activities. Darker shading/higher codes indicate greater impact.**

		Duration of Impact (years)			
		10–15 (4)	5–9 (3)	1–4 (2)	<1 (1)
% Impact	No meaningful risk	--	--	--	--
	<5% (A)	4A	3A	2A	1A
	5–19% (B)	4B	3B	2B	1B
	20–39% (C)	4C	3C	2C	1C
	40–59% (D)	4D	3D	2D	1D
	60–79% (E)	4E	3E	2E	1E
	>80% (F)	4F	3F	2F	1F

NEBA analysis of possible closure options for the ash basin at CSS helps both Duke Energy and other stakeholders understand the net environmental benefits from the closure option configurations that were examined. If a closure option that is preferred for reasons not considered in the NEBA does not rate as one of the options that best maximizes environmental services to the local community, closure plans for that option can be re-examined, and opportunities to better maximize environmental benefits can be identified (e.g., including an offsite habitat mitigation project to offset environmental services lost from habitat alteration). The NEBA can then be re-run with the updated plan to compare the revised closure plan with other closure options.

## 5.4 Risk Acceptability

Selecting any remediation, mitigation, restoration, or closure alternative involves considerations of risk—risk posed by contamination in place, risk created by the action, risk remaining after the action—and all of these risk considerations must be placed in some contextual framework if informed decisions are to be made. Hunter and Fewtrell (2001) state, “The notion that there is some level of risk that everyone will find acceptable is a difficult idea to reconcile and yet, without such a baseline, how can it ever be possible to set guideline values and standards, given that life can never be risk free?”

EPA defines risk as “the chance of harmful effects to human health or to ecological systems resulting from exposure to an environmental stressor” (U.S. EPA 2017a). In accordance with EPA guidance for conducting ERAs (U.S. EPA 1997) and HHRAAs (U.S. EPA 1989), risk to a receptor (e.g., person, animal) exists when exposure to a stressor or stressors occur(s) at some level of effect; however, because not all exposures produce *adverse* effects in humans or ecological species, the exposure concentrations need to overlap with adverse effect thresholds for there to be the potential for meaningful risk. The science supporting individual benchmarks or levels of concern differs by the specific exposure at issue and the receptor at risk; however, such benchmarks are considered by regulatory authorities to represent the best scientific information available to create a baseline for risk (U.S. EPA 2017b).

The potential for risk associated with contamination is often evaluated using HQs, HIs, and ELCRs to screen environmental media (e.g., water, soil) and identify the potential risk associated with contamination (U.S. EPA 1989, 1997, 2000). The HQ is the ratio of an exposure point concentration<sup>40</sup> divided by an appropriate toxicity benchmark for the receptor, chemical, and exposure scenario. An HI, which is used in HHRA, is the sum of the HQs for several chemicals that share the same target organ. If the HQ or HI is less than 1, exposure to that chemical (HQ) or group of chemicals (HI) is expected to result in no adverse effects to even the most sensitive receptors. Cancer risk to humans is typically evaluated using a probabilistic approach that considers an acceptable risk benchmark range of  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-6}$ , meaning that a person’s ELCR from the exposure being assessed is less than 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 1,000,000 (U.S. EPA 1989, 2000).

NEBA relies on scientifically supported estimates of risk; however, regardless of the scientific acceptability of the risk characterization process, stakeholders may place different values on different types of risk.

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<sup>40</sup> A conservative estimate of the chemical concentration available from a particular media and exposure pathway.

## 6 Summary of Conclusions

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Based on my review and analyses, I developed the following conclusions which are structured around the five objectives identified previously:

**Conclusion 1: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of human health.**

Current conditions<sup>41</sup> and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe drinking water, safe surface water, safe food, and safe recreation, satisfying the first objective of ash basin closure—to protect human health from CCR constituent exposure.

**Conclusion 2: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of ecological health.**

Current conditions<sup>42</sup> and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe surface water, safe food consumption, and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty, satisfying the second objective of ash basin closure—to protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure.

**Conclusion 3: All closure options for the CSS ash basins create similar levels of**

**disturbance to communities** All closure options support safe air quality from diesel truck emissions along the transportation routes; however, each creates a comparable level of disturbance and risk that could adversely impact community safety. Thus, all closure options similarly satisfy the third objective of ash basin closure—to minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> SynTerra’s updated HHRA considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps at CSS was not evaluated in the HHRA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable SOC that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2).

<sup>42</sup> SynTerra’s updated ERA considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps at CSS was not evaluated in the ERA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable SOC that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2).

<sup>43</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.



**Conclusion 4: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce no net environmental disturbance.** All closure options, except for CIP closure of both the Unit 5 inactive ash basin and the active ash basin (CIP/CIP), improve habitat-derived environmental services over baseline conditions. Therefore, all closure options, except CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP), have no net impacts to the protection of biodiversity and natural beauty, satisfying the fourth objective of ash basin closure—to minimize risk and disturbance to the local environment from closure.<sup>46</sup>

**Conclusion 5: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce comparable environmental services.** All closure options, except for CIP closure of both the Unit 5 inactive ash basin and the active ash basin (CIP/CIP), produce comparable environmental benefits with equivalent protection of human and ecological health from CCR exposure, similar levels of disturbance to humans, and net gains in habitat-derived environmental services,<sup>44</sup> similarly satisfying the fifth objective of ash basin closure—to maximize local environmental services.<sup>46</sup>

Each will be discussed in detail in the following sections.

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<sup>44</sup> As noted in Section 5 and further discussed in Section 11, the loss of habitat-derived environmental services could be offset with an appropriate reforestation project.

## **7 Conclusion 1: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of human health.**

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The first objective for ash basin closure, to protect human health from contaminant exposure, is represented by environmental services that provide safe drinking water, safe groundwater, safe surface water, safe food consumption, and safe recreation. For purposes of the NEBA, these safety considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Provision of permanent alternative drinking water supplies to private well water supply users within a 0.5-mile radius of CSS (Holman 2018);
2. Concentrations of CCR constituents of interest (COIs)<sup>45</sup> in drinking water wells that could potentially affect local residents and visitors, as characterized by HDR (2015a) and SynTerra (2018a) in the Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA); and
3. Risk to various human populations from CCR exposure, as characterized in the updated Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment conducted by SynTerra (2018b; Appendix B).

Through these two lines of evidence, I evaluated whether CCR constituents are currently impacting drinking water wells, whether they will in the future, and whether other exposures to CCR constituents pose a risk to human populations now or with ash basin closure.

### **7.1 Private water supply wells pose no meaningful risk to the community around CSS.**

Per H.B. 630, Sess. L. 2016-95, all residents with drinking water supply wells within a 0.5-mile radius of the CSS ash basin compliance boundary have been provided with permanent

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<sup>45</sup> COIs are constituents relevant to analysis of potential exposure to CCR constituents but are not necessarily associated with risk to human or ecological receptors.

alternative drinking water supplies (i.e., connection to public water supplier; Draovitch 2018),<sup>46</sup> eliminating drinking water as a potential CCR exposure pathway for local residents or visitors.

Additionally, there are no public wells within a 0.5-mile radius of the CSS ash basin pre-2017 compliance boundaries, and available data indicate that private well water conditions are not impacted by CCR constituents above background conditions and that groundwater flow paths from the ash basin are away from residential wells (SynTerra 2018a).

As part of the 2018 CSA update, 71 private water supply wells were identified within a 0.5-mile radius of the ash basin pre-2017 compliance boundaries. Most of the wells were located south, southeast, east, and northeast of the active ash basin off McCraw Road, Prospect Church Road, Fox Place, and Riverfront Drive; west and southwest of the Unit 5 inactive ash basin along Duke Power Road, US-221A, and Old US- 221A; and north of the Broad River (SynTerra 2018a).

In 2016 and 2017, samples from private water supply wells were collected for chemical analysis, and 2L<sup>47</sup> or IMAC<sup>48</sup> exceedances were detected for pH (14 wells), chromium (1 well), cobalt (2 wells), iron (15 wells), manganese (4 wells), and vanadium (4 wells) (SynTerra 2018a). SynTerra (2018a) determined that provisional background threshold value concentrations of manganese and vanadium were greater than 2L or IMAC standards, indicating natural abundance of these elements in the regional groundwater. Results of the analysis of water chemistry from private wells relative to the chemical composition of ash pore water, background bedrock monitoring wells, and downgradient bedrock monitoring well data were determined by SynTerra (2018a) to be consistent with the background bedrock well chemical composition (SynTerra 2018a).

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<sup>46</sup> NCDEQ determined Duke Energy had satisfactorily completed the permanent alternative water provision under CAMA General Statute (G.S.) 130A-309.21 1(cl) on October 12, 2108 (Holman 2018).

<sup>47</sup> North Carolina Administrative code 15A NCAC 02L Groundwater Rules.

<sup>48</sup> Interim maximum allowable concentration.

## **7.2 CCR constituents from the CSS ash basins pose no meaningful risk to human populations.**

To assess potential risk to humans both onsite and offsite using the most recent and comprehensive data available, SynTerra updated the baseline HHRA (SynTerra 2018b) originally conducted by HDR (2016c) as a component of the CAP part 2 (HDR 2016a). The updated HHRA included updates<sup>49</sup> to the conceptual site model, exposure point concentrations for human receptors with complete exposure pathways, screening level risk assessments for human receptors with complete exposure pathways, and hazard calculations (HI, ELCR) for receptors and COPCs with plausible complete exposure pathways.

Consistent with the 2016 baseline human health and ecological risk assessment (HDR 2016c), the updated HHRA (SynTerra 2018) examined CCR constituent exposure to a range of human populations, including construction workers, swimmers, waders, boaters, and recreational and subsistence fishers under different pathways (i.e., exposure to sediment, surface water, groundwater, or fish tissue). HIs and ELCRs were estimated for scenarios with plausible complete exposure pathways.

Complete CCR exposure pathways evaluated in the updated HHRA included the following (SynTerra 2018):

- Onsite construction workers via groundwater<sup>50</sup>
- Offsite recreational swimmers via offsite surface water and sediment
- Offsite recreational waders via offsite surface water and sediment
- Offsite recreational boaters via offsite surface water
- Offsite recreational fishers via offsite surface water and fish tissue
- Offsite subsistence fishers via fish tissue.

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<sup>49</sup> Updates to risk assessments are a natural part of the risk analysis process. EPA guidance for ecological risk assessment notes, “The [risk assessment] process is more often iterative than linear, since the evaluation of new data or information may require revisiting a part of the process or conducting a new assessment as more information about a site is gained through site investigations, the risk assessment must be updated to reflect the best knowledge of potential risk at a site” (U.S. EPA 1998). EPA similarly describes human health risk characterization as an iterative process (U.S. EPA 2000).

<sup>50</sup> Groundwater exposure to onsite construction workers was evaluated in the updated HHRA, though a pathway for exposure was considered incomplete by SynTerra (2018).

Since all households with drinking water supply wells within a 0.5-mile radius of the CSS compliance boundary have received permanent alternative water supplies (Holman 2018) and no potable water wells are located downgradient of CSS (SynTerra 2018a), offsite drinking water risks were not further evaluated for groundwater because there was no complete exposure pathway. A summary of the risk assessment results from the updated HHRA (SynTerra 2018b) is provided in Table 7-1.

**Table 7-1. Summary of human health risk assessment hazard index (HI) and excess lifetime cancer risk (ELCR) from SynTerra (2018b)**

<b>Media</b>	<b>Receptor</b>	<b>HI</b>	<b>ELCR</b>
Groundwater	Construction Worker	0.003	NC
Sediment	Recreational Swimmer	0.008	1.3×10 <sup>-7</sup>
Surface Water	Recreational Swimmer	0.007	1.3×10 <sup>-6</sup>
Sediment	Recreational Wader	0.008	1.3×10 <sup>-7</sup>
Surface Water	Recreational Wader	0.004	3.1×10 <sup>-7</sup>
Surface Water	Recreational Boater	0.0008	2.6×10 <sup>-8</sup>
Surface Water	Recreational Fisher	0.0008	2.6×10 <sup>-8</sup>
Biota (fish)	Recreational Fisher	0.2	1.9×10 <sup>-6</sup>
Biota (fish)	Subsistence Fisher	5	1.44×10 <sup>-4</sup>

Notes:

NC - Risk based concentration based on non-cancer HI.

The majority of exposure scenarios assessed by SynTerra (2018b) indicated that exposure to CCR poses no meaningful risks to humans. The HI and ELCR associated with subsistence fishers were estimated to be greater than 1 and 1×10<sup>-4</sup>, respectively, and I examined the foundation for these more specifically.

Risk assessment is subject to a number of uncertainties, including the representativeness of sample data, the degree to which exposure assumptions approximate actual exposure, estimation of chemical toxicity, and characterization of background concentrations. Risk assessment typically addresses these uncertainties by including conservative assumptions that tend to overestimate exposure and risk. For example, to evaluate potential risk to subsistence fishers in the CSS HHRA, SynTerra (2018) used a fish consumption rate of 170 g/day, which represents the highest level of consumption (95<sup>th</sup> percentile) in a high consuming subsistence Native

American population living in an area with plentiful fish resources that can support such high fish consumption (Columbia River Tribes in Oregon) (U.S. EPA 2000a, 2011a).<sup>51</sup> SynTerra (2018b) further assumes this rate of fish consumption would continue for many years using only fish from a single water body with fish tissue COPC concentrations estimated using a conservative uptake model (bioconcentration factors [BCFs]) from the highest surface water COPC concentrations. Each exposure pathway in the HHRA uses similarly conservative assumptions to address uncertainty. While this serves to ensure a health protective assessment, results that exceed target risk levels should be examined in more depth to understand the context. Therefore, I examined the foundation for each exceedance in more detail.

Risk to fishers was modeled by SynTerra (2018b) by estimating fish tissue concentrations from surface water sample data. The cumulative HI of 5 for subsistence fishers from these exposures was driven by concentrations of cobalt. A similar risk of cobalt to subsistence fishers was noted previously in the baseline HHRA (HDR 2016c), and HDR (2016c) attributed this estimated risk to the use of onsite surface water as a surrogate for offsite conditions as well as conservative uptake assumptions and bioaccumulation models used for cobalt exposure, which likely overestimate cobalt concentrations in fish tissue. The cumulative ELCR of  $1.44 \times 10^{-4}$  for subsistence fishers was driven by concentrations of chromium (VI). This risk was not identified in the previous HHRA (HDR 2016c), as more recent samples were included in the 2018 analysis (SynTerra 2018b).

Examining these two COPCs individually, for cobalt, the EPA provisional oral reference dose (RfD) of  $0.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$  may be considered unnecessarily conservative.<sup>52</sup> A recent reanalysis of relevant human and animal studies involving oral exposure to cobalt proposed a new RfD for cobalt of  $30 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$ , which is 100 times higher than what is currently recommended by the EPA (Finley et al. 2012; Schoof 2017). Other government agencies have derived higher guidance values for cobalt, including the Dutch National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (tolerable daily intake of  $98 \mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ , or  $1.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$  for a 70 kg adult) and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) ( $600 \mu\text{g}/\text{day}$ , or  $8.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}/\text{day}$ ) (Schoof 2017). If the

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<sup>51</sup> In the case of CSS, SynTerra (2018b) has not identified any populations of subsistence fishers in the area.

<sup>52</sup> The RfD is an estimate of a daily exposure to the human population that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. The cobalt RfD was developed in 2008 (U.S. EPA 2008).

recent cobalt RfD reported in Finley et al. (2012) were applied instead of the older EPA RfD for cobalt, the HI for cobalt exposure to fishers in the Broad River would be 0.05, indicating no meaningful risk to subsistence fishers from cobalt. SynTerra (2018b) notes that concentrations of cobalt in background samples collected near CSS were of the same order of magnitude as the EPC used in the risk calculations and would, thus, predict a comparable level of background risk unassociated with CCR exposure. Based on this more detailed review, I conclude there is no meaningful risk to subsistence fishers from exposure to cobalt in the Broad River.

For chromium (VI), the ELCR of  $1.44 \times 10^{-4}$  is less than an order of magnitude above the upper end of the EPA's target ELCR range of  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$  (U.S. EPA 1989, 2000). This ELCR was determined using a bioconcentration factor (BCF) for chromium (VI) of 200, based on a 1996 report from the National Council on Radiation Protection and Management (NCRP 1996). However, a more recent review by California EPA evaluated chromium uptake in fish and derived a lower BCF for chromium based primarily on studies of chromium (VI). OEHHA (2012) states that chromium (VI) is not well taken up into edible fish tissue and recommends a BCF of 20 (OEHHA 2012). Had a BCF of 20 been used the resulting ELCR would be  $1.44 \times 10^{-5}$ , within EPA's range of acceptable risk. SynTerra (2018) notes that concentrations of chromium (VI) in background samples were of the same order of magnitude as the EPC used in risk calculations, and would predict a comparable level of background risk unassociated with CCR exposure. Based on the conservative uptake assumptions and bioaccumulation factors used in this model, and the very limited exceedance of acceptable ELCR, I conclude there is no meaningful risk to subsistence fishers from exposure to chromium (VI) in the Broad River.

Given the lack of meaningful risk under current conditions,<sup>53</sup> there is also no meaningful risk to humans from CCR exposure under any of the ash basin closure options since all options reduce or eliminate exposure pathways following closure. Thus, all closure options are protective of public health.

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<sup>53</sup> SynTerra's updated HHRA considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps at CSS was not evaluated in the HHRA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable SOC that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2).

### 7.3 NEBA – Protection of Human Health from CCR Exposure

Based on these analyses, there is no CCR risk from drinking water supplies, no evidence of CCR impacts to drinking water wells, and no meaningful risk to humans from CCR exposure under current conditions or under any closure option. Using the NEBA framework and relative risk ratings, these results are summarized in Table 7-2 within the objective of protecting human health from exposure to CCR constituents.

**Table 7-2. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to humans from CCR exposure in drinking water, surface water, groundwater, soil, sediment, food, and through recreation**

Objective	Protect Human Health from CCR						
Hazard	Exposure to CCR						
Potentially Affected Populations	Local Residents/Visitors	Onsite Construction Workers	Offsite Recreational Swimmers	Offsite Recreational Waders	Offsite Recreational Boaters	Offsite Recreational Fishers	Offsite Subsistence Fishers
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>							
Baseline	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/CIP	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/CIP	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

“--” indicates “no meaningful risk.”

Current conditions and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe drinking water, safe surface water, safe food, and safe recreation, satisfying the first objective of ash basin closure—to protect human health from CCR constituent exposure.



## **8 Conclusion 2: All closure options for the CSS ash basins are protective of ecological health.**

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The second objective for ash basin closure, to protect ecological health from CCR exposure, is represented by environmental services that provide safe surface water, safe food consumption, and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Risk to ecological receptors from CCR exposure, as characterized by SynTerra (2018b; Appendix B) in the updated human health and ecological risk assessment; and
2. Aquatic community health in the Broad River as reported in the 2010 environmental monitoring report (Coughlan et al. 2010).

Through these two lines of evidence, I evaluated whether CCR constituents pose a risk to ecological populations now or after ash basin closure.

### **8.1 No meaningful risks to ecological receptors from CCR exposure exist under current conditions or any closure option.**

To assess potential risk to ecological receptors both onsite and offsite using the most recent and comprehensive data available, SynTerra (2018b) updated the baseline human health and ecological risk assessment that was originally conducted by HDR (2016c) as a component of the CAP part 2 (HDR 2016a). The updated ERA included updates to the conceptual site model, exposure point concentrations for receptors with potentially complete exposure pathways, and screening level risk assessments for ecological receptors with potentially complete exposure pathways. Updated HQs were estimated for receptors and COPCs with plausible potentially complete exposure pathways (SynTerra 2018b).

The ecological receptors evaluated in the ERA are common representatives of particular groups of organisms inhabiting different habitats and aspects of the food web. Key receptors in

SynTerra's updated ERA (SynTerra 2018b) and their potential pathways for exposure included the following:

- **Birds:** Avifauna species may be exposed by ingestion of food and surface water and by incidental ingestion of sediment and soil. Aquatic/wetland species included were mallard duck (omnivore) and great blue heron (piscivore).
- **Mammals:** Aquatic/wetland or terrestrial species may be exposed by ingestion of food and surface water and by incidental ingestion of sediment and soil. Aquatic/wetland species included were muskrat (omnivore) and river otter (piscivore).

Ecological risk for these indicator species was characterized by SynTerra (2018b) using a risk-based screening approach that compared chemical exposure levels to chemical toxicity references values (TRVs) to calculate HQs for COPCs. TRVs in the ERA included no-observed-adverse-effects levels (NOAELs)<sup>54</sup> and lowest-observed-adverse-effects levels (LOAELs)<sup>55</sup> derived from the literature for each COPC.

HQ results for the site were evaluated for three areas of CSS<sup>56</sup> (Figure 8-1). HQs less than 1 indicate no meaningful risk to ecological receptor species associated with exposure to the COPCs evaluated.

- **Exposure Area 1:** NOAEL HQ >1 for muskrat exposure to aluminum; however, LOAEL HQ <1 for muskrat exposure to aluminum, indicating no meaningful risk. All other HQs <1, also indicating no meaningful risk to the other ecological receptors.

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<sup>54</sup> A NOAEL is a concentration below which no adverse effects have been observed for a specific receptor and pathway of exposure. NOAELs are typically estimated from laboratory toxicity tests.

<sup>55</sup> A LOAEL is a concentration associated with the lowest concentration level at which adverse effects have been observed for a specific receptor and pathway of exposure. LOAELs are typically estimated from laboratory toxicity tests.

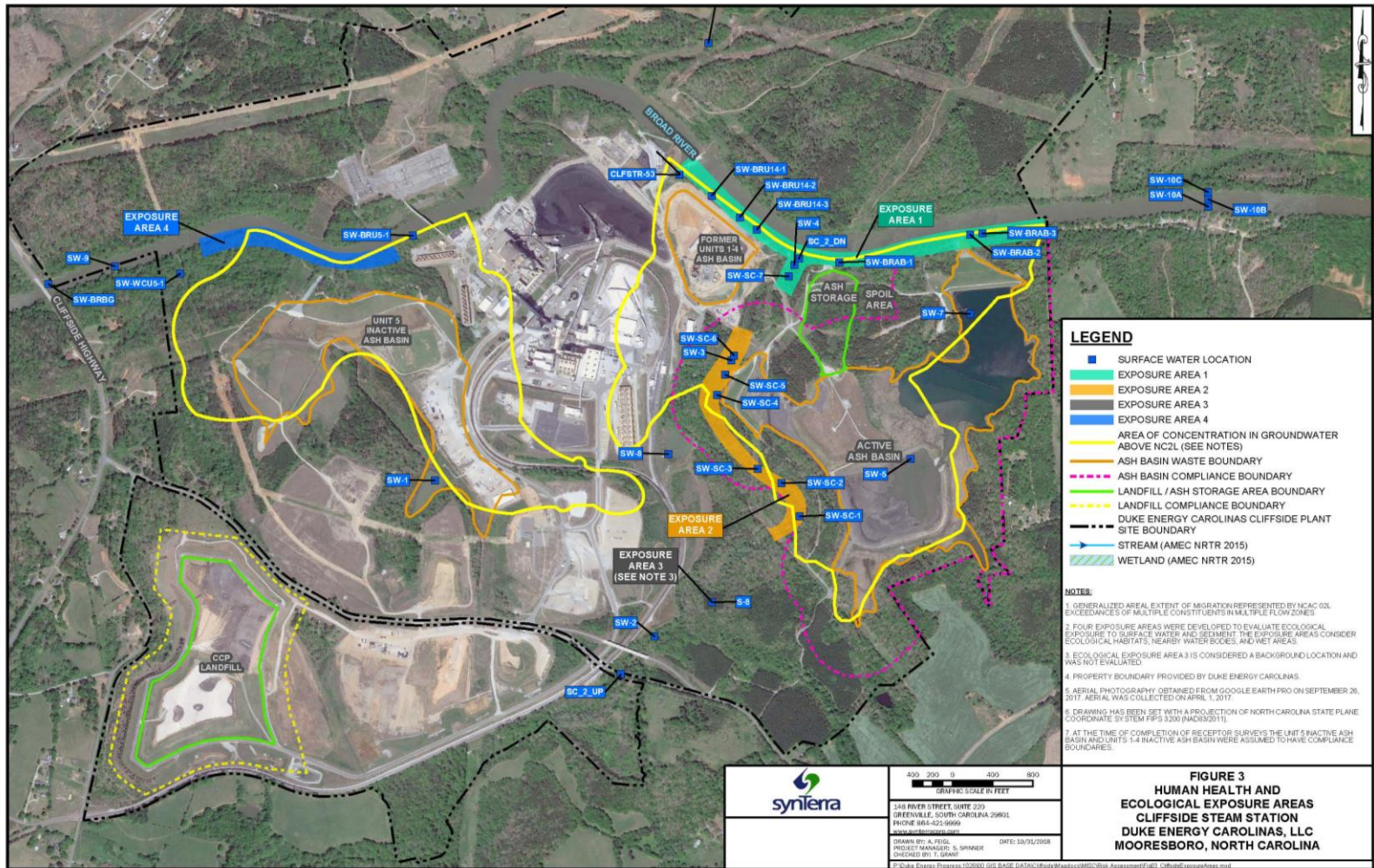
<sup>56</sup> The baseline ecological risk assessment conducted by HDR in 2016 (HDR 2016c) included four exposure areas. Exposure Area 3 (located southwest of the active ash basin east of Suck Creek) is considered a background location by SynTerra and was not evaluated in SynTerra's updated ERA (SynTerra 2018b).

- **Exposure Area 2:** All HQs <1, indicating no meaningful risk to ecological receptors in this area.
- **Exposure Area 4:** All HQs <1, indicating no meaningful risk to ecological receptors in this area.

Based on the updated ecological risk assessment (SynTerra 2018b), there are currently no meaningful risks to ecological receptors associated with CCR exposure at CSS.

Additionally, the 2010 environmental monitoring report (Coughlan et al. 2010) for the Broad River reported results from biological sampling (macroinvertebrates and fish) and water chemistry analyses conducted between 2002 and 2007. The report concluded, “Based on the diversity and sustainability of the fish community through time, the scarcity of pollution-tolerant individuals, and the trophic structure of the fish community, it is concluded that a balanced and indigenous fish community exists in the Broad River in the vicinity of CSS” (Coughlan et al. 2010). Similarly, the benthic macroinvertebrate community in the Broad River upstream and downstream of CSS was also found to be a generally balanced and indigenous community (Coughlan et al. 2010).

Given the lack of meaningful ecological risk from CCR exposure under current conditions based on the lines of evidence evaluated, all closure options would be protective of ecological receptors since all closure options reduce or eliminate potential exposure pathways.



## 8.2 NEBA – Protection of Environmental Health from CCR Exposure

Based on these analyses, no meaningful risk to ecological receptors from CCR exposure was found under current conditions<sup>57</sup> or under any closure option. Using the NEBA framework and relative risk ratings, within the objective of protecting environmental health from exposure to CCR constituents, these results are summarized in Table 8-1.

**Table 8-1. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to ecological resources from CCR exposure in surface water, soil, sediment, and food**

Objective	Protect Ecological Health from CCR				
Hazard	Exposure to CCR				
Affected Populations	Fish Populations	Aquatic Omnivore Birds (mallard)	Aquatic Piscivore Birds (great blue heron)	Aquatic Herbivore Mammals (muskrat)	Aquatic Piscivore Mammals (river otter)
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>					
Baseline	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/CIP	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--
CIP/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/CIP	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Excavation	--	--	--	--	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--	--	--	--	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

<sup>57</sup> SynTerra's updated ERA considered only potential exposure pathways that currently exist and could remain after ash basin closure under any closure option. Any potential risk currently associated with seeps at CSS was not evaluated in the ERA or considered in this analysis because any risk resulting from seeps will be eliminated, reduced, or mitigated per the court-enforceable SOC that Duke entered with the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission on April 18, 2018 (EMC SOC WQ S17-009; See Section 4.2).

Current conditions and conditions under all closure options support provision of safe surface water, safe food consumption, and protection of biodiversity and natural beauty, satisfying the second objective of ash basin closure—to protect ecological health from CCR constituent exposure.

## **9 Conclusion 3: All closure options for the CSS ash basins create similar levels of disturbance to communities.**

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The third objective for ash basin closure, to minimize human disturbance and risk from closure, is represented by environmental services that provide safe air quality and a safe community environment. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on the following:

1. Health risks from diesel exhaust emissions to the community living and working along transportation corridors during trucking operations to haul materials to and from the ash basin, as evaluated through the application of diesel truck air emissions modeling and HHRA; and
2. The relative risk for disturbance and accidents resulting from trucking operations affecting residents living and working along transportation corridors during construction operations, as evaluated by comparing the relative differences in trucking operations between the potential closure options.

All closure options require increased trucking activity to haul materials to the site (e.g., transport cap material from a borrow site to the ash basin) or to haul materials away from the site (e.g., transport coal ash from the ash basin to a lined landfill). These activities involve the use of diesel-powered dump trucks, which increase local diesel exhaust emissions and traffic, both of which present potential hazards to local populations in the form of air pollution and roadway hazards. Table 9-1 summarize the transportation logistics associated with each of the closure options Duke Energy is considering for CSS (Duke Energy 2018). The amount of offsite

trucking involved in all closure options is relatively similar, but the duration of construction under the closure options varies more substantially.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> It is important to note that estimates of the duration of closure and construction assume that both the Unit 5 inactive ash basin and the active ash basin can be closed simultaneously, an assumption that has not received a feasibility analysis. If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.



**Table 9-1. Summary of offsite transportation logistics associated with each closure option (Duke Energy 2018)**

Logistics	CIP/CIP	CIP/ Excavation	CIP/Hybrid	Excavation/ CIP	Excavation/ Excavation	Excavation/ Hybrid
Closure Duration (years) <sup>a</sup>	6	9	8	6	9	8
Construction Duration (years) <sup>a,b</sup>	3	6	5	3	6	5
Offsite truck loads to haul cap & fill material <sup>c</sup>	6,615	8,167	6,596	7,381	8,933	7,362
Offsite miles driven to haul cap & fill material <sup>c</sup>	192,015	195,615	181,962	208,701	212,301	198,648

<sup>a</sup> Includes design and permitting, decanting, site preparation, construction, and site restoration. Assumes closure of the basins can occur simultaneously. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer.

<sup>b</sup> Includes site preparation, construction, and site restoration. Assumes closure of the basins can occur simultaneously.

<sup>c</sup> Includes cover soil, top soil, and geosynthetic material.

<sup>d</sup> Includes ash, over-excavated soil, and removed dams and embankments.

Costs to society associated with trucking include accidents (fatalities, injuries, and property damage), emissions (air pollution and greenhouse gases), noise, and the provision, operation, and maintenance of public roads and bridges (Forkenbrock 1999). Generally, the magnitude of these impacts scales with the frequency, duration, and intensity of trucking operations (Forkenbrock 1999). Figure 9-1 illustrates the normalized differences between offsite transportation activities under excavation and hybrid closure options compared to CIP. These results reinforce the similarity in trucking operations between the closure options (i.e., the multipliers for total offsite volume moved, total offsite loads, and total offsite miles are approximately 1) but also the larger relative differences in the duration of construction operations between the options.

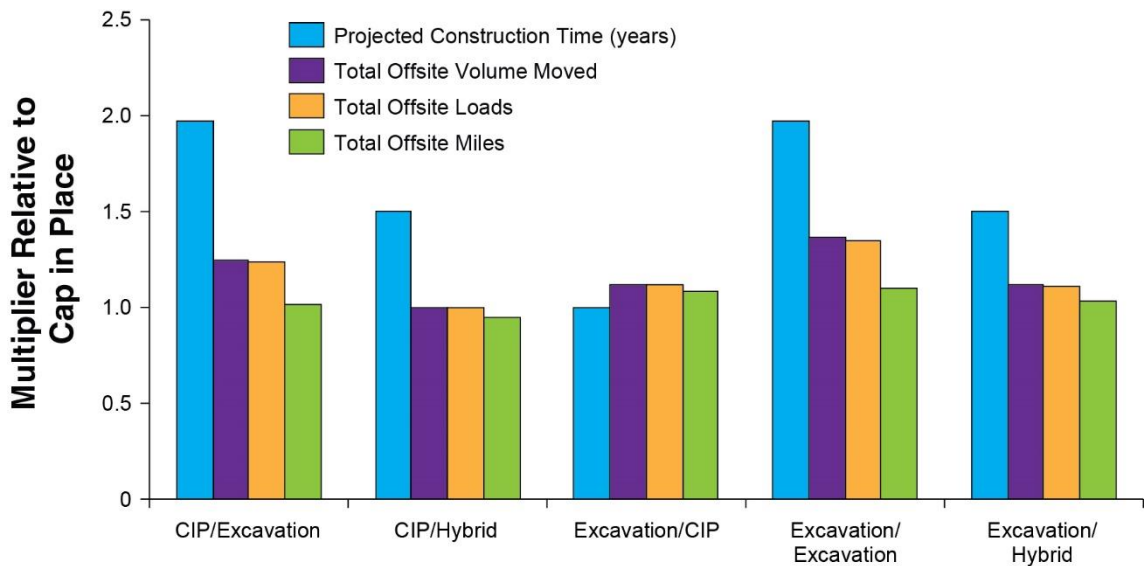


Figure 9-1. Normalized differences between all offsite transportation activities under combinations of CIP, excavation, and hybrid options. Bars represent the increased activity under closure options compared to CIP for both basins.

### 9.1 There is no meaningful risk from diesel emissions to people living and working along the transportation corridor.

The types of large dump trucks that will be used in closure activities at CSS are generally diesel powered, and diesel exhaust includes a variety of different particulates and gases, including

more than 40 toxic air contaminants.<sup>59</sup> North Carolina does not have a diesel-specific health-based toxicity threshold because diesel exhaust is not currently regulated as a toxic air pollutant. North Carolina also does not regulate PM<sub>2.5</sub> or PM<sub>10</sub><sup>60</sup> as toxic air pollutants. North Carolina defers to EPA's chronic non-cancer reference concentration (RfC) for diesel particulate matter (DPM) of 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> based on diesel engine exhaust to estimate risk from diesel emissions.<sup>61</sup> California is, to my knowledge, the only state that currently regulates diesel as a toxic air contaminant and has identified both an inhalation non-cancer chronic reference exposure level (REL)<sup>62</sup> of 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and a range of inhalation potency factors indicating that a "reasonable estimate" for the inhalation unit risk is 3.0×10<sup>-4</sup> (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)<sup>-1</sup> "until more definitive mechanisms of toxicity become available" (OEHHA 2015). California bases the non-cancer and cancer health factors on the whole (gas and particulate matter) diesel exhaust and uses PM<sub>10</sub> as a surrogate measure.

As PM<sub>10</sub> is the basis for both the non-cancer and inhalation risk factors for diesel exhaust exposure in California, I relied on a PM<sub>10</sub> exposure model to evaluate potential non-cancer and cancer health risks from diesel exhaust.<sup>63</sup>

A representative segment of road was simulated using EPA's AERMOD model<sup>64</sup> to quantify air concentrations at set distances away from the road (U.S. EPA 2016). Diesel truck emissions were configured in the model in a manner consistent with the recommendations from EPA's Haul Road Working Group (U.S. EPA 2011). The emission rate for diesel trucks was calculated

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<sup>59</sup> <https://oehha.ca.gov/air/health-effects-diesel-exhaust>

<sup>60</sup> PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> are airborne particulate matter sizes. PM<sub>2.5</sub> is particulate matter that is 2.5 µm or less in size; PM<sub>10</sub> is particulate matter that is 10 µm or less in size.

<sup>61</sup> Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). U.S. EPA. Diesel engine exhaust.

<sup>62</sup> A chronic REL is a concentration level (expressed in units of micrograms per cubic meter [µg/m<sup>3</sup>]) for inhalation exposure at or below which no adverse health effects are anticipated following long-term exposure. EPA has defined long-term exposure for these purposes as at least 12% of a lifetime, or about eight years for humans.

<sup>63</sup> California regulations and guidance indicate that when comparing whole diesel exhaust to speciated components of diesel (e.g., polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, metals) the cancer risk from inhalation of whole diesel exhaust will outweigh the multi-pathway analysis for speciated components.

<sup>64</sup> AERMOD will calculate both the downwind transport and the dispersion of pollutants emitted from a source. Both transport and dispersion are calculated based on the observed meteorology and characteristics of the surrounding land. AERMOD is maintained by EPA and is the regulatory guideline model for short-range applications (transport within 50 km).

using the U.S. EPA Mobile Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES) model (U.S. EPA 2015).<sup>65</sup> Emission factors were then applied to the average number of anticipated offsite truck trips each year to define the average annual amount of DPM emitted along the representative road segment, and these exposures were then summed over seventy years.<sup>66</sup> AERMOD simulations were run for four transportation orientation directions and used five years of local meteorological data to estimate exposure point concentrations at regular intervals from 10 to 150 m perpendicular to either side of the road. The results of the model were translated into average PM<sub>10</sub> exposure ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and excess cancer risk over a 70-year period using reasonable maximum exposure.<sup>67</sup> Results of the exposure modeling are provided in Table 9-2. Full results and a more detailed description of the model are provided in Appendix C.

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<sup>65</sup> The MOVES model allows a user to determine fleet average emission factors (in units of grams of pollutant per mile traveled) for specific classes of vehicles and specific years. In this application, factors defined by MOVES for single unit short-haul diesel truck were used.

<sup>66</sup> For the cancer risk analysis, emissions were calculated as an average over the regulatory default 70-year residential exposure duration. If the truck activity for a closure option occurs over a shorter period, the duration of the truck activity exposure is factored into the 70-year averaging time (OEHHA 2015).

<sup>67</sup> Long-term exposure was incorporated into the air simulation as the average exposure given estimated trucking rates for 12 hours per day—7am to 7 pm—6 days a week for the duration of the project trucking time.

**Table 9-2. Hazard indices (HI) and excess lifetime cancer risk (ELCR) from exposure to diesel exhaust emissions along transportation corridors near CSS. Results are for the maximum exposures modeled.**

Perpendicular Distance from the Road	CIP/CIP		CIP/Excavation		CIP/Hybrid		Excavation/CIP		Excavation/Excavation		Excavation/Hybrid	
	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI	Cancer ELCR	Non Cancer HI
10 m	2.15E-09	0.0000	2.17E-09	0.0000	2.00E-09	0.0000	2.40E-09	0.0000	2.38E-09	0.0000	2.23E-09	0.0000
20 m	1.83E-09	0.0000	1.85E-09	0.0000	1.70E-09	0.0000	2.05E-09	0.0000	2.03E-09	0.0000	1.90E-09	0.0000
30 m	1.45E-09	0.0000	1.47E-09	0.0000	1.35E-09	0.0000	1.62E-09	0.0000	1.61E-09	0.0000	1.51E-09	0.0000
40 m	1.19E-09	0.0000	1.21E-09	0.0000	1.11E-09	0.0000	1.33E-09	0.0000	1.32E-09	0.0000	1.24E-09	0.0000
50 m	1.01E-09	0.0000	1.02E-09	0.0000	9.38E-10	0.0000	1.13E-09	0.0000	1.12E-09	0.0000	1.05E-09	0.0000
60 m	8.75E-10	0.0000	8.85E-10	0.0000	8.13E-10	0.0000	9.76E-10	0.0000	9.68E-10	0.0000	9.07E-10	0.0000
70 m	7.81E-10	0.0000	7.90E-10	0.0000	7.26E-10	0.0000	8.72E-10	0.0000	8.64E-10	0.0000	8.10E-10	0.0000
80 m	7.05E-10	0.0000	7.13E-10	0.0000	6.56E-10	0.0000	7.87E-10	0.0000	7.80E-10	0.0000	7.32E-10	0.0000
90 m	6.43E-10	0.0000	6.50E-10	0.0000	5.98E-10	0.0000	7.18E-10	0.0000	7.11E-10	0.0000	6.67E-10	0.0000
100 m	5.92E-10	0.0000	5.98E-10	0.0000	5.50E-10	0.0000	6.60E-10	0.0000	6.55E-10	0.0000	6.14E-10	0.0000
110 m	5.47E-10	0.0000	5.53E-10	0.0000	5.09E-10	0.0000	6.11E-10	0.0000	6.05E-10	0.0000	5.68E-10	0.0000
120 m	5.09E-10	0.0000	5.15E-10	0.0000	4.73E-10	0.0000	5.68E-10	0.0000	5.63E-10	0.0000	5.28E-10	0.0000
130 m	4.76E-10	0.0000	4.81E-10	0.0000	4.42E-10	0.0000	5.31E-10	0.0000	5.27E-10	0.0000	4.94E-10	0.0000
140 m	4.47E-10	0.0000	4.52E-10	0.0000	4.15E-10	0.0000	4.98E-10	0.0000	4.94E-10	0.0000	4.63E-10	0.0000
150 m	4.20E-10	0.0000	4.25E-10	0.0000	3.91E-10	0.0000	4.69E-10	0.0000	4.65E-10	0.0000	4.36E-10	0.0000

Based on the assumptions applied in the air model, no meaningful risk from diesel emissions associated with ash basin closure trucking operations was identified for people living and working along the transportation corridor. The exposure model and risk assessment applied here represent a simple approach to estimate risk. A more refined estimate of risk could be computed with a more sophisticated air and risk model; however, it is unlikely to change the conclusion that there is no meaningful risk to people living and working along the transportation corridor from diesel emissions associated with ash basin closure construction operations.

## **9.2 The likelihood of noise, traffic, and accidents from transportation activities is similar under all closure options.**

Increased trucking increases noise and traffic congestion and creates a statistically based risk for increased traffic accidents that could result in fatalities, injuries, and/or property damage (Forkenbrock 1999; NHTSA 2016). CSS is located on North Carolina state road (SR) 1002 (Duke Power Rd/McCraw Rd) immediately adjacent to US Route 221-A, which I assumed would be the primary transportation route for construction material hauling (see Figure 4-1). There will be an increase in trucking traffic hauling topsoil and/or geosynthetic material under all closure options along this corridor, with a statistically increased likelihood of traffic accidents (NHTSA 2016). These accidents and associated risks to life, health, and property will generally scale with the frequency and duration of trucking, total number of truckloads, number of roundtrip truck trips per day, and duration of the closure.

For purposes of the NEBA two attributes of offsite truck traffic that create disturbance to local communities were considered: (1) noise and congestion and (2) accidents. Noise and congestion were evaluated by comparing the number of times a construction truck would be expected to pass a given location along the transportation corridor during closure construction activities, assuming all trucks must pass this location. The difference in the likelihood of traffic accidents between the closure options was assumed to be a function of the number of offsite road miles driven by construction trucks (NHTSA 2016).

## 9.2.1 Noise and Congestion

Regardless of the option, closure of the ash basins at CSS will result in an increased number of large trucks<sup>68</sup> on local roads (Table 9-1). Noise from these trucks includes engine and braking noise, which can be disruptive to the communities through which they are passing,<sup>69</sup> and trucks frequently passing through rural communities may pose additional disturbance from roadway congestion. To compare the disturbance of trucking noise and congestion between closure options, I used the average daily number of truck passes for trucks carrying earthen fill and geosynthetic material to the construction site (Table 9-1). Excavation of the Unit 5 inactive basin and CIP closure of the active ash basin (Excavation/CIP) is estimated to result in the largest average number of truck passes per day at 15, hauling nearly 146,000 CY of material in over 7,300 loads for over 3 years (38 months). CIP closure of the Unit 5 inactive basin and excavation closure of the active ash basin result in the lowest number of average truck passes per day (8), though this closure option hauls more volume, approximately 163,000 CY in 8,200 loads, and the disturbance occurs over more than 6 years (75 months). Results for all closure options and their relative differences (as the ratio to CIP/CIP closure) are summarized in Table 9-3.

## 9.2.2 Traffic Accidents

Traffic accidents are assumed to be a function of the total number of offsite road miles driven by construction trucks (NHTSA 2016). The CIP/hybrid closure option requires the fewest total miles of offsite driving, approximately 182,000 miles, while the excavation/excavation closure option requires the most offsite miles driven, approximately 212,000 miles. The difference in distance driven between the CIP/hybrid and excavation/excavation closure options (30,339 miles) is more than one trip around the earth. Table 9-3 summarizes the results for all disturbances considered.

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<sup>68</sup> Twenty-ton dump trucks, or similar vehicles for bulk transport, are assumed to be the primary vehicles that will be involved in transporting materials during closure construction activities.

<sup>69</sup> A typical construction dump truck noise level is approximately 88 decibels 50 ft. from the truck. ([https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ENVIRONMENT/noise/construction\\_noise/handbook/handbook09.cfm](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ENVIRONMENT/noise/construction_noise/handbook/handbook09.cfm))

**Table 9-3. Comparative metrics for increased noise and congestion and traffic accidents**

	Months of trucking <sup>a</sup>	Noise and congestion		Traffic Accidents	
		Average truck passes per day	Ratio to CIP	Total offsite road miles driven	Ratio to CIP
CIP/CIP	38	13	1	192,015	1
CIP/Excavation	75	8	0.63	195,615	1.50
CIP/Hybrid	57	9	0.66	181,962	1.31
Excavation/CIP	38	15	1.12	208,701	1.51
Excavation/Excavation	75	9	0.68	212,301	1.92
Excavation/Hybrid	57	10	0.74	198,648	1.73

<sup>a</sup> Duration estimates assume simultaneous closure of the Unit 5 and active ash basins. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer.

### 9.3 NEBA – Minimize Human Disturbance

From these analyses, no meaningful health risk is expected from diesel exhaust emissions under any closure option, but the closure options are expected to produce community disturbance in the form of noise, traffic congestion, and risk of traffic accidents.

I used the number of trucks per day passing<sup>70</sup> a receptor along a near-site transportation corridor to examine the differences in noise and traffic congestion under the closure options. I compared the increase in the average number of trucks hauling earthen fill, geosynthetic material, and other materials under the closure options to the current number of truck passes for the same receptor. I specified a baseline, or current, level of truck passes on the transportation corridor, and the number of truck passes per day under the closure options were derived directly from the trucking projections and implementation schedules provided by Duke Energy.

<sup>70</sup> Truck passes per day is calculated as the total number of loads required to transport earthen fill, geosynthetic material, and other materials multiplied by two to account for return trips. The resulting total number of passes is then divided evenly among the total number of months of trucking time multiplied by 26 working days per month.



A baseline estimate of trucking passes per day for transportation corridors near CSS was derived from North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) data of annual average daily traffic (AADT) at thousands of locations across the state and the proportion of road miles driven by large trucks in the Cleveland and Rutherford counties.<sup>71</sup> Based on the assumed 97 truck-per-day baseline level and the number of truck trips per day from Duke Energy's closure projections, all options would have a an impact of 15% or less (CIP/CIP = 14%, CIP/Excavation = 9%, CIP/Hybrid = 9%, Excavation/CIP = 15%, Excavation/Excavation = 9%, Excavation/Hybrid = 10%) on noise and congestion. I input these percent impacts to the risk-ranking matrix (Table 5-4) along with the total duration of trucking activities (Table 9-1) to evaluate which of the closure options best minimizes human disturbances (

Table 9-4).

I evaluated risk of traffic accidents by comparing the average number of annual offsite road miles driven between closure options relative to a baseline estimate of the current road miles driven.<sup>72</sup> I chose a baseline of 60 million annual road miles for Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina, based on the reported average total vehicle miles traveled in these counties (NCDMV 2017) multiplied by the counties' average 6.9% contribution of trucks to total AADT (NCDOT 2015). I used the increase in truck miles driven over baseline in the closure options as a surrogate for the potential increase in traffic accidents.

Using the 60.4-million-truck-miles baseline assumption, all closures have a relative risk rating of <5% (CIP/CIP = 0.1%, CIP/Excavation = 0.05%, CIP/Hybrid = 0.06%, Excavation/CIP = 0.11%, Excavation/Excavation = 0.06%, Excavation/Hybrid = 0.07%). These relative risk ratings appear to be insensitive to lower assumed baseline annual truck miles (see Appendix E for sensitivity analysis); reducing the baseline assumption (e.g., to 4.3 million truck miles, the

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<sup>71</sup> A value of 1,400 AADT was chosen as a baseline value for all vehicle traffic by identifying potential transportation routes to and from the CSS ash basins and selecting the AADT station along the route that currently has the lowest traffic and would experience the greatest proportional increase in trucking traffic from ash basin closure. The baseline AADT value (1,400) was then multiplied by the average of large truck traffic volume (6.9%) in Cleveland and Rutherford Counties to derive an estimated 97 passes per day along the most sensitive portion of the transportation corridor to and from CSS (Appendix E).

<sup>72</sup> The difference of baseline miles and closure option miles was divided by the baseline miles and multiplied by 100 to get a percent impact.

minimum miles driven in any North Carolina county [Hyde County]) does not appreciably increase the expected percent impact and relative risk rating and, by extension, the estimated risk of traffic accidents. Results are summarized in the NEBA framework (

Table 9-4) within the objective of minimizing disturbance to humans during closure.

**Table 9-4. Summary of relative risk ratings for attributes that characterize potential hazards to communities during remediation activities. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Minimize Human Disturbance</b>		
<b>Hazard</b>	Noise and Traffic Congestion	Traffic Accidents	Air Pollution
<b>Potentially Affected Populations</b>	Local Residents/Visitors	Local Residents/Visitors	Reasonable Maximum Exposure
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>			
Baseline	baseline	baseline	baseline
CIP/CIP	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--
CIP/Excavation	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
CIP/Hybrid	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
Excavation/CIP	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--
Excavation/Excavation	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--
Excavation/Hybrid	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

All closure options create disturbance and risk to human populations, though the estimated impacts are relatively similar between the closure options based on the trucking projections and implementation schedules provided by Duke Energy (2018).<sup>73</sup>

All closure options support safe air quality from diesel truck emissions along the transportation routes, and each creates a comparable level of disturbance and risk that could adversely impact community safety. Thus, all closure options similarly satisfy the third objective of ash basin closure—to minimize risk and disturbance to humans from closure.

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<sup>73</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions.

## **10 Conclusion 4: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce no net environmental disturbance.**

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Environmental services are derived from ecological processes or functions that have value to individuals or society, with provision of a healthy environment to humans being one of the most essential environmental services. Environmental services that support human health include functions to purify freshwater, provide food, supply recreational opportunities, and contribute to cultural values (MEA 2005). For example, forests provide habitat for deer that are hunted for food; surface water supports fish populations that are food for bald eagles, a previously threatened and endangered species highly valued by our society;<sup>74</sup> and soil and wetlands purify groundwater and surface water, respectively, by adsorbing contaminants. Central to weighing the net environmental benefits of the closure options under consideration here is understanding how they differentially impact the variety of environmental services at the site and in the area.

CSS, though an industrial site, supports a diversity of habitats that provide environmental services. Figure 10-1 illustrates the types of habitats at the site. The ash impoundment provides habitat that supports birds and mammals; the open water habitat of the impoundment also removes solids from surface water by providing a low-flow environment in which ash particles and other solids can settle into the sediment before the treated water can enter the Broad River. The onsite forest provides biodiversity protection in the form of foraging, shelter, and breeding habitat for birds and mammals, among other types of organisms; watershed protection; landscape beauty; and carbon sequestration (Bishop and Landell-Mills 2012). Beyond CSS, the Broad River provides aquatic habitat that supports a variety of fish and aquatic life (Coughlan et al. 2010), which then provide food for birds and mammals.

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<sup>74</sup> Bald eagles were taken off the federal list of threatened and endangered species in 2007 (<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/>).

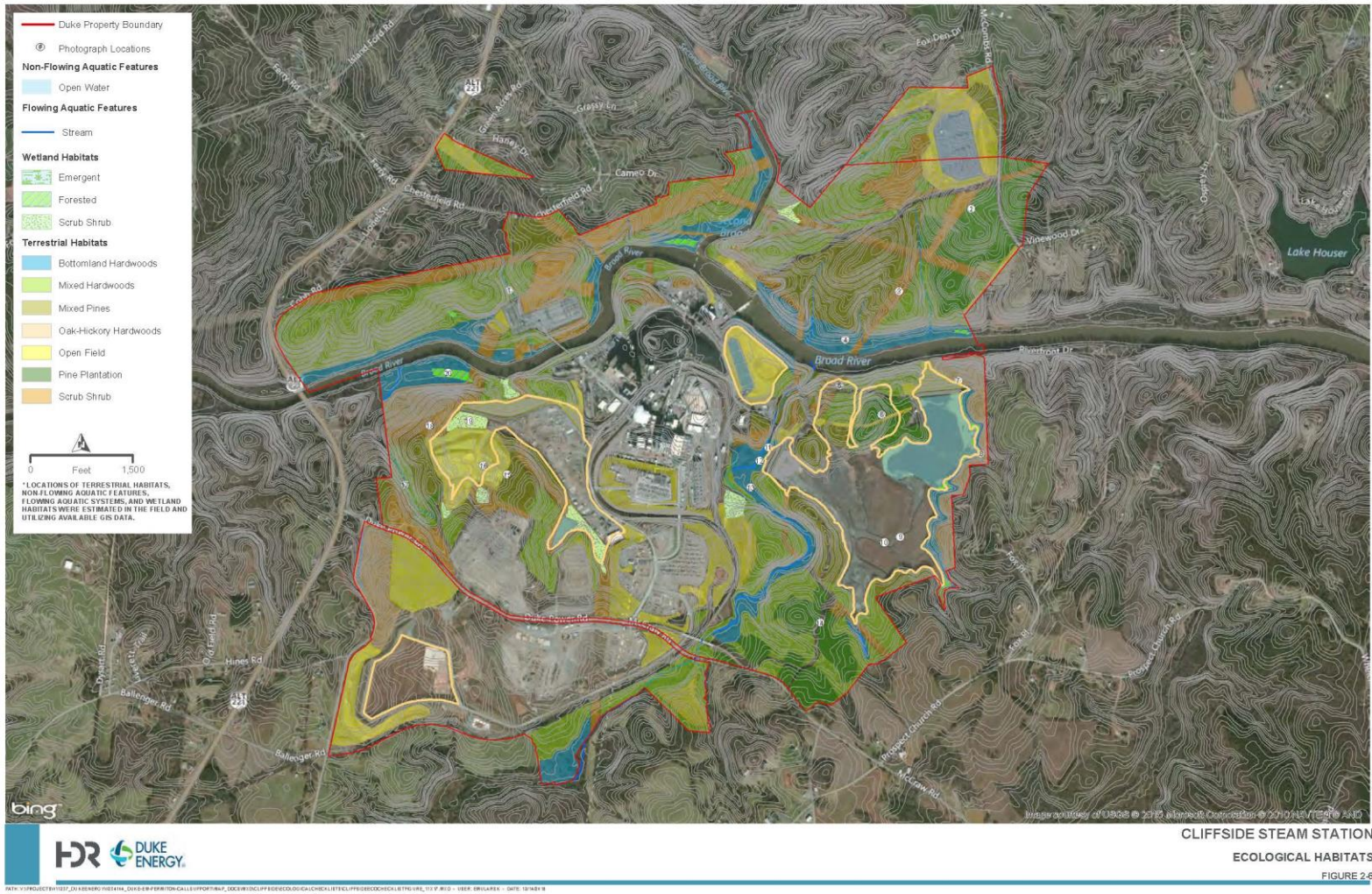


Figure 10-1. Map of habitat types currently present at CSS

Plants serve a vital ecosystem role by converting solar energy and carbon dioxide into food (for themselves) and oxygen. Plants then become food for other organisms. As such, “plants provide the energy and air required by most life forms on Earth.”<sup>75</sup> NPP represents a measure of the mass of chemically fixed carbon produced by a plant community during a given period and reflects the rate at which different ecosystems are able to sequester carbon. Given the foundational role of primary production in supporting ecological food webs and healthy air, NPP is a good surrogate for environmental services provided by different habitat types (Efroymson et al. 2003). For example, the annual NPP of a temperate forest habitat is approximately 2.5 times higher than for temperate grasslands or freshwater ecosystems (Ricklefs 2008). By multiplying the acres of habitat type by NPP, NPP becomes a single metric by which to compare the different levels of environmental services impacted by ash basin closure.<sup>76</sup>

The fourth objective for ash basin closure, to minimize environmental disturbance, is represented by the environmental services protection of biodiversity and natural beauty. For purposes of the NEBA, these considerations were evaluated based on differences in habitat-derived services estimated from the NPP of impacted habitat acres under the potential closure options.

## **10.1 Most closure options produce net gains in environmental services.**

Regardless of the closure option, habitat, and habitat-derived environmental services, will be altered. CIP closure requires removing existing habitat within the footprint of the ash basin, possible temporary removal of forest habitat to create a borrow pit to source earthen materials for the cap, and restoring the ash basin with grass cap habitat. Excavation and onsite landfiling require temporary loss and future modification of existing habitats within the footprint of the ash basin and permanent conversion of forest habitat to grass cap at the landfill site. The hybrid option requires temporary loss and future modification of existing habitats within the footprint

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<sup>75</sup> [https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2\\_M\\_PSN](https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/GlobalMaps/view.php?d1=MOD17A2_M_PSN)

<sup>76</sup> I used rates of NPP by stand age from He et al. (2012, Figure 2c.) for mixed forests as the basis for establishing NPP of onsite wooded habitats and used relative rates of NPP from Ricklefs (2008) to scale NPP for other habitat types.



of the ash basin. All closure options include restoration of the ash basin footprint, but the collateral losses of habitat, the differences in service levels of restored habitat, and the timelines for recovery of the habitats vary based on construction schedules and the acreages and types of habitat lost or restored. This makes it challenging to appreciate the net gain or loss of environmental services. To address this challenge, I used a HEA to quantify the differences in environmental services resulting from each closure option.

HEA is an assessment method widely used in NRDA to facilitate restoration scaling for environmental services (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated). Numerous damage assessment restoration plans based on the use of HEA can be found on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service<sup>77</sup> and NOAA<sup>78</sup> websites and include sites such as the St. Lawrence River near Massena New York, Onondaga Lake near Syracuse New York, and LaVaca Bay in Texas. As Desvousges et al. (2018) describe, use of HEA has expanded in recent years beyond original applications for NRDA to address environmental service losses from other causes such as forest fires and climate change. As the authors note, HEA has also been used as an assessment tool in NEBA applications, such as evaluating the effects of transmission line routing on habitats of greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*), a proposed threatened species.

The objective of HEA is to estimate the amount of compensatory services necessary to equal the value of the services lost because of a specific release or incident. The method calculates debits based on services lost because of resource losses and credits for services gained due to resource gains. The latter are often scaled to compensate for, or offset, the loss in services. A discount rate is used to standardize the different time intervals in which the debits and credits occur, so the services are usually expressed in terms of discounted acre-years of equivalent habitat, or DSAYs (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated).

The HEA methodology was used here to estimate changes in environmental service levels that will accrue under closure options. Environmental services currently provided by the site will be eliminated when the ash basin is closed. After closure is complete, there will be a new level of

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<sup>77</sup> [www.doi.gov/restoration](http://www.doi.gov/restoration)

<sup>78</sup> [www.darrp.noaa.gov](http://www.darrp.noaa.gov)

environmental services provided as habitat is restored. Since post-closure habitats may differ from those that currently occur onsite, future services could be greater or less than what occurs at present. Similarly, land used as a borrow area or converted to landfill, as per the closure options, will also impact the net level of services, as services currently provided by those habitats may be reduced. The environmental service losses and gains from onsite and offsite habitats must be considered together when determining the overall net effect of a closure option.

A common ecological metric is required to make comparisons between service gains and losses from various habitat types. For purposes of this evaluation, I used annual NPP as the metric to standardize across habitat types. In terms of habitats currently occurring on the site, wooded areas have the highest NPP, so that is used as the basis for defining service level, and the service levels for other habitat types (open fields, open water) are expressed as a proportion of that baseline service. Based on He et al. (2012), and assuming a tree stand age of 50 years, NPP would be approximately 6.4 tons of carbon per hectare per year (6.4 t C/ha/yr) in wooded areas onsite. Based on relative rates of NPP from Ricklefs (2008), the NPP for open field and open water habitats would be approximately 40% of the temperate forest rate. To prevent overestimation of NPP in open water areas of the ash basin that may not provide the same level of NPP as natural freshwater habitats (perhaps from limited abundance or diversity of vegetation), I assumed that open water areas of the ash basin produce NPP that is 25% that of natural ecosystems.<sup>79</sup> Therefore, I applied a four-fold habitat quality factor to scale NPP at these open water areas of the ash basin to approximately 10% of the rate for wooded habitats. Deforested land for borrow areas was assumed to be reforested after closure was complete, and landfill areas were assumed to recover to grass cap. The grass cap on landfill was given a service value of 8%,<sup>80</sup> as was done for CIP.

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<sup>79</sup> I observed open water areas of the ash basin that supported aquatic vegetation but do not know the extent of vegetation in the open water areas of the ash basin. Thus, I made a conservative assumption (i.e., one that reduces the present value of the habitat) that these areas of the ash basin provide a reduced level of NPP compared to natural open freshwater areas.

<sup>80</sup> An open field provides a relatively lower NPP service level than forest habitat (40% of forest NPP; Ricklefs 2008), and since a grass cap requires periodic maintenance mowing, for purposes of the HEA it was assumed never to reach a level of NPP service equivalent to an open field. Grass cap was assumed to have 20% of the NPP service level for open field, which is 8% of forest NPP.



For each closure option, I used the acreage of existing habitat types and the level of service of that habitat type to establish a baseline level of service. Based on the timelines for the various closure options, a HEA was conducted to calculate the net change in service flow of the closure area over the next 150 years at a 3% discount rate.<sup>81</sup> Similarly, a HEA was run to calculate the net change in environmental services deriving from areas used either as borrow or for landfill. Because NPP standardizes service levels across habitat types, the DSAY estimates for all affected habitats can be summed to calculate the net service gain/loss associated with each closure option. In addition to the assumptions identified above, several other assumptions were made to support the HEA, which are described in Appendix D.

Results of the HEA are presented in Table 10-1<sup>82</sup> and indicate that all but one closure option for the ash basins at CSS result in a net gain in NPP services. Only, CIP closure of both the Unit 5 inactive basin and active ash basin (CIP/CIP) will result in a net loss of environmental services due primarily to the reduced NPP services provided by the grass cap that will replace all of the existing habitats in the inactive ash basin and most of the existing habitats in the active basin. This factor adversely affects the environmental services provided by the ash-impacted habitat such that environmental services produced after closure will not compensate for the service losses resulting from the closure. Excavation closures produce the largest net gain in environmental services because of the amount of forested land that will be restored within both basins and the relatively smaller footprint of the new landfill compared to the restored ash basin area.

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<sup>81</sup> Environmental services in future years are discounted, which places a lower value on benefits that will take longer to accrue. The basis for this is that humans place greater value on services in the present and less value on services that occur in the future.

<sup>82</sup> A full description of the methods, assumptions, results, and sensitivity analyses for the HEA are provided in Appendix D.

**Table 10-1. Summary of NPP DSAYs for closure options (Unit 5 Inactive Basin Closure/Active Basin Closure)**

		CIP/CIP	CIP/Excavation	CIP/Hybrid	Excavation/CIP	Excavation/Excavation	Excavation/Hybrid
<b>Ash basin losses</b>	Open field	-334	-334	-334	-334	-334	-334
	Grass Cap	-83	-83	-83	-101	-101	-101
	Open Water	-114	-114	-114	-113	-113	-113
	Wetland						
	Broadleaf Forest	-172	-172	-172	-181	-181	-181
	Needleleaf Forest	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79
	Scrub/Shrub	-150	-150	-150	-205	-205	-205
	Wetland Forest	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24
	<b>Total onsite losses</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-955</b>	<b>-1,037</b>	<b>-1,037</b>	<b>-1,037</b>
<b>Ash basin post-closure gains</b>	Open field				53	53	53
	Grass Cap	273	104	226	169		121
	Open Water						
	Wetland						
	Broadleaf Forest	339	1541	617	1,126	2,329	1,404
	Needleleaf Forest	116	528	211	385	797	481
	Scrub/Shrub				82	82	82
	Wetland Forest	3	16	6	12	24	14
	<b>Total onsite gains</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>2,189</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>1,827</b>	<b>3,284</b>	<b>2,156</b>
<b>Landfill/borrow losses</b>	Forest	-29	-1,200	-29	-556	-1,727	-556
	Open field						
	Grass Cap	-4			-4		
	<b>Total offsite losses</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>-1,200</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>-560</b>	<b>-1,727</b>	<b>-556</b>
<b>Landfill/borrow post-closure gains</b>	Forest	23	23	23			
	Open Field						
	Grass Cap	3	75		42	114	39
	<b>Total offsite gains</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss per Option</b>	<b>-231</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>601</b>	

**Note:** DSAYs for specific habitat types are reported here rounded to the nearest whole number. As such, the net gain/loss per option differs slightly from the sum of the individual DSAYs reported in the table.

Closure duration estimates assume simultaneous closure of the EAB and WAB. A construction feasibility analysis of this assumption has not been conducted. If the basins were to be closed sequentially, the duration of the estimated closure for each option would be substantially longer and change the results of the HEA.

## 10.2 NEBA – Minimize Environmental Disturbance

The impact of the closure options on environmental services was computed as the percentage difference in DSAYs produced by the closure option and the absolute value of the DSAY losses. The DSAY losses represent the NPP services that would have been produced by the site, borrow areas, and landfills but for the project closure. The DSAY gains represent the NPP services restored after project closure plus any future gains realized from existing habitats before remediation begins. The sum of DSAY losses and gains represents the net change of NPP services for the project resulting from closure. Dividing the net DSAYs by the absolute value of the DSAY losses provides a percentage of the impact. From these calculations, CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP) will have a 23% impact,<sup>83</sup> while all other closure options will have no net adverse impact on NPP services and will, in fact, increase net NPP services (Table 10-2). These percent impacts were input to the risk-ranking matrix (Table 5-4) along with the duration of the closure activities<sup>84</sup> (see Table 4-1) to evaluate, within the NEBA construct, which of the closure options best minimizes environmental disturbances (Table 10-3).

**Table 10-2. Percent impact of ash basin closure options. Unit 5 basin closure/Active ash basin closure.**

	CIP/CIP	CIP/ Excavation	CIP/ Hybrid	Excavation/ CIP	Excavation/ Excavation	Excavation/ Hybrid
DSAY Losses <sup>a</sup>	988	2,155	984	1,597	2,764	1,593
DSAY Gains	757	2,287	1,083	1,869	3,398	2,194
Percent Impact (%)	23%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

<sup>a</sup> Absolute value of DSAY losses is equivalent to baseline services of the affected habitat but for the closure

<sup>83</sup> Note, however, that the environmental services lost due to CIP closure of both basins could be offset (see discussion in Section 11) by a suitable reforestation project that would then result in all closure options causing no net loss of habitat-derived environmental services in the HEA model.

<sup>84</sup> As noted previously, estimates of the duration of closure and construction assume that both the Unit 5 inactive ash basin and the active ash basin can be closed simultaneously, an assumption that has not received a feasibility analysis. If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive for each basin and the results of the HEA would change.

**Table 10-3. Summary of relative risk ratings for habitat changes that affect provision of environmental services. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Minimize Environmental Disturbance</b>
<b>Hazard</b>	Habitat Change
Attribute	DSAYs
<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>	
Baseline	baseline
CIP/CIP	<b>2C</b>
CIP/Excavation	--
CIP/Hybrid	--
Excavation/CIP	--
Excavation/Excavation	--
Excavation/Hybrid	--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

Within the objective of minimizing environmental disturbance from closure, my analyses indicate that all but one closure option produce a net benefit in habitat-derived environmental services; CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP) slightly decreases habitat-derived environmental services. Thus, all closure options except CIP/CIP satisfy the fourth objective of ash basin closure—to minimize risk and disturbance to the environment from closure.<sup>85</sup>

<sup>85</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions

## **11 Conclusion 5: Most closure options for the CSS ash basins produce comparable environmental services.**

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Identifying environmental actions that maximize environmental services (the fifth objective for ash basin closure) is a function of NEBA (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004) and the overarching objective that encompasses each of the other four objectives and all of the environmental services that have been considered to this point. Table 11-1 summarizes the relative risk ratings for all attributes and objectives. Impacts to environmental services considered in this NEBA focused on key community-relevant concerns. Risk to construction workers from construction operations, risks to local and global populations from increased greenhouse gas emissions, and “wear-and-tear” damage to roadways from trucking were not estimated. Each of these risks, however, would scale with the duration, frequency, and intensity of construction operations.

Sensitivity analyses of the specifications of the NEBA framework show that the specific relative risk ratings presented in this NEBA can change depending on how baseline is defined (see Appendix E). The purpose of the risk matrix, and the risk ratings that result from it, is to consolidate the results from a variety of different analyses for a variety of different data types and attributes into a single framework for comparative analysis. It is imperative, however, to consider the underlying information used to develop the risk ratings to interpret the differences between closure options, particularly when percent impacts or durations of closure options are similar but receive different risk ratings.

As noted in Section 5, NEBA analysis provides an opportunity to better understand the net environmental benefits of possible closure options. If Duke Energy’s preferred closure option for reasons not considered in the NEBA does not best maximize environmental services to the local community as currently defined, the NEBA results provide insight into how environmental services could be improved for that closure option. For instance, if Duke Energy’s preferred closure option for CSS is CIP closure of both basins but the HEA results for the currently defined CIP closure option estimates a net environmental service loss of 231 DSAYs, Duke Energy could consider incorporating into an updated CIP closure plan for CSS a mitigation

project that compensates for the net environmental service losses projected from the currently defined CIP closure option. As an example, if Duke Energy started a reforestation project outside of the ash basin in 2023 (when onsite preparation of the ash basins begins), the reforestation project would gain 23.6 DSAYs/acre over the lifetime of the site (150 years in the HEA), requiring an approximate 9.8 acre project to compensate for the 231 DSAY loss projected in the HEA. Re-analysis of the HEA component of the NEBA for the updated possible closure options would then result in no net environmental losses (as NPP services) from habitat alteration of the basins for any currently defined closure options.

From the closure options considered and the analyses presented in this report, which are based on a scientific definition of risk acceptability and include no value weighting, all closure options as currently defined except CIP closure of both the Unit 5 inactive basin and the active basin (CIP/CIP) produce comparable environmental benefits because they offer equivalent protection of human and ecological health from CCR exposure, similar levels of disturbance to humans, and net gains in habitat-derived environmental services. Thus, all closure options except CIP of both basins (CIP/CIP) provide comparable net environmental services and disturbance to the community, similarly satisfying the fifth objective of ash basin closure—to maximize local environmental services.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>86</sup> If for any reason (e.g., safety of personnel at CSS), the basins cannot be closed simultaneously, the duration of closure activities would be additive to an unknown degree for each basin, which has not been considered in my analyses and may change risk ratings and NEBA conclusions

**Table 11-1. NEBA for closure of the ash basin at CSS.**  
**Darker shading and higher alphanumeric codes indicates greater impact.**

Objective	Protect Human Health from CCR							Protect Ecological Health from CCR					Minimize Human Disturbance			Minimize Environmental Disturbance	
	Exposure to CCR							Exposure to CCR					Noise and Traffic Congestion	Traffic Accidents	Air Pollution	Habitat Change	
<b>Potentially Affected Populations</b>	Local Residents/Visitors	Onsite Construction Workers	Offsite Recreational Swimmers	Offsite Recreational Waders	Offsite Recreational Boaters	Offsite Recreational Fishers	Offsite Subsistence Fishers	Fish Populations	Aquatic Omnivore Birds (mallard)	Aquatic Piscivore Birds (great blue heron)	Aquatic Herbivore Mammals (muskrat)	Aquatic Piscivore Mammals (river otter)	Local Residents/Visitors	Local Residents/Visitors	Reasonable Maximum Exposure	DSAYs	
	<b>Scenario (Unit 5/Active ash basin closure option)</b>																
	Baseline	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	baseline	baseline	baseline		baseline
	CIP/CIP	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--		<b>2C</b>
	CIP/Excavation	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--		--
	CIP/Hybrid	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--		--
	Excavation/CIP	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>2B</b>	<b>2A</b>	--		--
	Excavation/Excavation	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--		--
	Excavation/Hybrid	--		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	<b>3B</b>	<b>3A</b>	--		--

"--" indicates "no meaningful risk."

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## **Appendix A**

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***Curriculum Vitae* of  
Dr. Ann Michelle Morrison, Sc.D.**



## Ann Michelle Morrison, Sc.D.

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### Professional Profile

Dr. Morrison has over 20 years of experience evaluating the relationship between anthropogenic contamination and health effects to aquatic life and humans. Dr. Morrison specializes in natural resource damage assessment (NRDA), environmental causal analysis, and assessments of water quality conditions. Dr. Morrison has provided scientific consultation regarding the design of field studies for NRDA, and she has worked closely with legal counsel during scientific assessments and settlement negotiations with state and federal trustees. Dr. Morrison has performed detailed technical assessments of injuries to aquatic resources, including vegetation, benthic infauna, fishes, shellfishes, and corals. She has also developed site-specific sediment toxicity thresholds based on the empirical relationships of chemical concentrations to biological effects. She has provided expert testimony concerning injury to aquatic resources and the net environmental benefits of remediation alternatives.

Projects she has been involved with have concerned oil spills, sewage releases, heavy metal contamination, and various industrial and municipal facilities that have generated complex releases to the environment. Dr. Morrison applies statistical tools and weight-of-evidence approaches to delineate exposure zones, predict the likelihood of contamination events, evaluate net environmental benefits, and assess causation. She uses a broad knowledge of aquatic life and human health to assess risk and injury to these populations.

### Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

Sc.D., Environmental Health, Harvard University, 2004

M.S., Environmental Health, Harvard University, 2001

B.S., Biology, Rhodes College, 1997

### Prior Experience

Senior Scientist, Sole Proprietor, Morrison Environmental Data Services, 2004–2007

Data Analyst, ETI Professionals, 2005

Scientist, NIH Toxicology Training Grant, Harvard School of Public Health, 2000–2004

Guest Student, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Stegeman Lab, 2001–2004

Science Intern, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, 03-05/2000, 10/2000-10/2001

Research technician, Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc., Benthic Ecology Research Program (BERP), Bermuda, 01/1998-09/1999, 06-08/2000

Research Intern, Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc., Benthic Ecology Research Program (BERP), Bermuda, 05/1997-12/1997

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship, Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc., Benthic Ecology Research Program (BERP), Bermuda, 08-11/1996

## Professional Affiliations

American Chemical Society — ACS

Society for Risk Analysis — SRA

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry — SETAC

North Atlantic Chapter of SETAC

## Publications

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Smith SR, Grayston LM, Stanley AM, Webster G, McKenna SA. CARICOMP coral reef monitoring: A comparison of continuous intercept chain and video transect techniques. Scientific Aspects of Coral Reef Assessment, Monitoring and Management, National Coral Reef Institute (NCRI), Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 1999.

## Project Experience

Dr. Morrison has been involved in numerous complex projects relating to environmental contamination and potential risk to humans and biological resources in the affected environment.

### Risk Assessments and Natural Resource Assessments

Expert witness concerning net environmental benefits from coal ash closure alternatives at two coal ash plants in North Carolina. *Roanoke River Basin Association v. Duke Energy Progress, LLC*, United States District Court, Middle District of North Carolina, Case No. 1:16-cv-607 and *Roanoke River Basin Association v. Duke Energy Progress, LLC*, United States District Court, Middle District of North Carolina, Case No. No. 1:17-cv-452.

Expert witness concerning potential damages to terrestrial and aquatic resources, including coral reefs, endangered sea turtles, fish and shellfish, and seagrass beds, resulting from a coastal development project on the Caribbean island of Nevis. Anne Hendricks Bass vs. Director of Physical Planning, Development Advisory Committee, and Caribbean Development Consultant Limited. Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, in the High Court of Justice Saint Christopher and Nevis, Nevis Circuit, Civil Case No. NEVHCV2016/0014.

Expert witness concerning potential impacts to California fishery populations from the Refugio oil spill. Andrews et al. v. Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. et al. United States District Court, Central District of California, Western Division, Case No. 2:15-cv-04113-PSG-JEM.

Provided analysis and technical support in Florida v. Georgia United States Supreme Court case that considered questions of causation relative to alleged adverse ecological changes in downstream river and bay populations.

Conducted a comprehensive review of an environmental impact assessment of potential impacts to coral reefs from a proposed dairy farm development in Hawaii.

Provided scientific support for the Deepwater Horizon NRDA in the Gulf of Mexico.

Developed a cooperative NRDA field study in the offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico to collect sediment samples for analysis of chemistry, toxicology, and benthic infauna.

Expert witness concerning alleged injuries to aquatic resources from disposal of bauxite ore processing wastes for the case: Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Alicia V. Barnes, et al. v. Virgin Islands Alumina Company et al. District Court of the Virgin Islands, Division of St. Croix, Civil Case No. 2005-0062.

Developed decision management products for beach water quality stakeholders using statistical data analysis tools such as receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves and Bayesian networks to improve public beach advisories related to elevated fecal bacteria.

Developed net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) for a lead contaminated river. This analysis used site-specific data to evaluate the costs and benefits of two different remediation options that were being considered. The NEBA was successfully used by the client to negotiate a higher remediation goal than original proposed by the state Department of Environmental Protection.

Performed ROC curve analyses of site-specific polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) toxicity data to assess the relationship between PAH concentration and toxicity at three ecological risk assessment projects in Wisconsin. The curves were used to identify site-specific toxicity thresholds for PAH concentration in sediment that were indicative of various zones of toxicity (no toxicity, low toxicity, and high toxicity), with very limited misidentification of sediments.

Provided research support to calculate site-specific no-observed-adverse-effect level (NOAEL) and lowest-observed-adverse-effect level (LOAEL) concentrations for mammals and birds for use in a baseline ecological risk assessment in Wisconsin.

Performed ROC curve analysis of national mercury toxicity data to assess the relationship between mercury concentration and toxicity. The curves were also used to identify a threshold mercury concentration for sediment that indicates likely toxicity, with very limited misidentification of sediments that are not toxic.

Assembled and analyzed data and reviewed remedial investigations to conduct a screening-level

ecological risk assessment for sediment, surface water, and groundwater for a site in Connecticut. The chemicals considered were total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), metals, and PAHs.

Reviewed species lists and created summary descriptions of organisms that could be potentially impacted by dam construction on a high-altitude river in the Caribbean. This information was important to develop the risk assessment from dam construction.

Researched the toxicity of malathion to fish to support a technical review of the National Marine Fisheries biological opinion for the registration of pesticides containing malathion.

### **Ecological and Toxicity Studies**

Conducted surveys to assess the health of coral reefs, seagrass beds, and mangrove swamps in the nearshore environment of Bermuda. Projects included area-wide habitat surveys as well as targeted sites potentially impacted by a heavy metals dump, hot water effluent from an incinerator, sedimentation from cruise ship traffic, and chronic release of raw sewage. In addition to ecological surveys, water quality was assessed through measurements of trace metals in water, sediment, and coral tissue.

Surveyed juvenile coral recruitment in the Florida Keys to evaluate if marine protected areas (MPAs) provide a benefit to coral recruitment.

Studied cytochrome P450 family enzymes, including CYP51 and CYP1, examining their sensitivity to environmental chemicals and their evolution through molecular biology and biochemistry approaches.

### **Environmental Forensics Projects**

Performed document review, information management, and technical writing for numerous complex projects that dealt with historical petroleum contamination and multiple site owners in several types of environmental media.

Reviewed documents, assembled data, and researched metal concentrations associated with crude oil and railroads in support of a Superfund project in Oklahoma.

Examined the correlation of multiple contaminants (PAHs, metals) with polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) congeners at a historically contaminated site in Alabama to identify the likely origins of the PCB contamination.

Performed statistical analysis to determine source contribution in a chemical fingerprinting case at a Superfund site in Washington that involved hydrocarbons in water, sediment, and groundwater.

### **Human Health Projects**

Organized, managed, and simplified a complex database of field sampling reports for a litigation case in Louisiana regarding human air exposure to PAHs.

Performed data analysis and document review for a Superfund site in Oklahoma. The analyses used hydrocarbon chromatograms and limited PAH and metal data to identify the likely sources of contamination.

Researched and compiled screening-level human health inhalation toxicity values for refinery-related gases for an overseas project.

Developed a questionnaire and related database for industrial hygiene surveys to support regulatory compliance for a highly specialized industry.

## **Appendix B**

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### **Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment Summary Update for Cliffside Steam Station**



**HUMAN HEALTH AND  
ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

**SUMMARY UPDATE**

**FOR**

**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
573 DUKE POWER ROAD  
MOORESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 28114**

**NOVEMBER 2018**

**PREPARED FOR**

**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC  
526 SOUTH CHURCH STREET  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28202**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Huddleston", is written over a horizontal line.

Matt Huddleston, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heather H. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Heather Smith

Environmental Scientist

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This update to the Cliffside Steam Station (CSS or Site) human health and ecological risk assessment incorporates results from sampling events conducted August 2008 through August 2018. The samples were collected from surface water, sediment, and groundwater. This update was performed in support of a Net Environmental Benefits Analysis. As set forth below in detail, this updated risk assessment concludes that: (1) the CSS ash basins do not cause any material increase in risks to human health for potential human receptors located on-Site or off-Site; and (2) the CSS ash basins do not cause any material increase in risks to ecological receptors.

The original 2016 risk assessment was a component of the Corrective Action Plan Part 2 pertaining to CSS (HDR, 2016). To assist in corrective action decision making, the risk assessment characterized potential effects on humans and wildlife exposed to naturally occurring elements, often associated with coal ash, present in environmental media. Corrective action is to be implemented with the goal of ensuring future site conditions remain protective of human health and the environment, as required by the 2014 North Carolina General Assembly Session Law 2014-122, Coal Ash Management Act (CAMA). The risk assessment was updated as part of the 2018 Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA) Update report (SynTerra, 2018). This update follows the methods of the 2016 risk assessment (HDR, 2016) and is based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) risk assessment guidance (USEPA, 1989; 1991; 1998).

Areas of wetness (AOWs), or seeps, are not subject to this risk assessment update. AOWs associated with engineered structures, also referred to as “constructed seeps,” have been addressed in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Other AOWs (non-constructed seeps) are now addressed under a Special Order by Consent (SOC) issued by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission (EMC SOC WQ S17-009). Many AOWs are expected to reduce in flow or be eliminated after decanting (*i.e.*, removal of the free water). The SOC requires that any seeps remaining after decanting must be addressed with a corrective action plan that must “protect public health, safety, and welfare, the environment, and natural resources” (EMC SOC WQ S17-009, 2. d.).

This risk assessment update includes results from samples of surface water, sediment, and groundwater collected since the 2018 CSA update. New information regarding groundwater flow and the treatment of source areas other than the ash basins has resulted in refinement of exposure pathways and exposure areas. The Conceptual Site Models (CSMs) (**Figures 1 and 2**) reflect potentially complete exposure pathways with potential risks, and ecological exposure areas are depicted in **Figure 3**. Human health

risks were evaluated Site-wide and in adjacent areas, so no exposure area figure is provided. Changes to the CSMs include:

- Exposure to coal combustion residual (CCR) constituents by Site workers is considered incomplete, because Duke Energy maintains strict health and safety requirements and training. The use of personal protective equipment (*e.g.*, boots, gloves, safety glasses) and other safety behaviors exhibited by Site workers limits exposure to CCR constituents. Following conservative risk assessment practices, the initial risk assessment report considered CCR constituent exposure pathways for Site workers to be potentially complete. Further information has revealed that on-Site worker exposure pathways are incomplete, and this risk assessment update has been revised to reflect this change.
- The number of ecological exposure areas was reduced from four to three, as depicted in **Figure 3**. Other ecological exposure areas evaluated in the 2016 risk assessment were eliminated because updated modeling and data collection demonstrate that they are not influenced by groundwater migration from the ash basins.
- Surface water sampling and sediment sampling of the Broad River allow for direct assessment, rather than using AOW data as a surrogate.

Results from samples of surface water, sediment, and groundwater were compared with human health and ecological screening values (**Attachments 1 and 2**) to identify constituents of potential concern (COPCs) for further review. Exposure point concentrations (EPCs) were calculated for COPCs (**Attachments 3 and 4**) to incorporate into human health and ecological risk models. Results of risk estimates (**Attachments 5 and 6**) are summarized below.



## 2.0 SUMMARY OF RISK FINDINGS

### 2.1 Human Health

There is no exposure to residential receptors at or near CSS because no one lives on-Site or near enough to the Site to be affected by groundwater migration from the ash basins. Potential receptors off-Site are recreational users of the Broad River, including swimmers, waders, boaters, and fishers. However, background concentrations of the same elements also present similar risks to the same potential receptors. Those risks are not associated with the ash basins.

- There is no material increase in cancer risks attributable to the ash basins associated with the boater, swimmer, and wader exposure scenarios.
  - There is no material increase in cancer risks for the boater, swimmer, and wader exposure scenarios attributable to the ash basins. Incorporating arsenic concentrations in sediment samples and hexavalent chromium concentrations in surface water samples collected since the 2018 CSA update produced modeled potential carcinogenic risks under the boater, swimmer, and wader scenarios. However, these modeled risks are not materially greater than the background level of risk. Sediment samples collected upstream of the site contained as much as 1.5 mg/kg arsenic, compared to the risk assessment EPC of 1.85 mg/kg calculated from sampling data. The hexavalent chromium EPC calculated based on sampling data for use in the risk assessment was 0.3 µg/L, compared to the upstream concentration of 0.09 µg/L. Although the EPCs are slightly greater than the background concentrations, they do not produce a materially greater amount of risk in the model. There is, therefore, no material increase in cancer risks attributable to the ash basins.
  - No evidence of non-carcinogenic risks for the recreational swimmer, wader, or boater exposure scenarios was identified.
- There is no material increase in cancer risks attributable to the ash basins associated with the fisher exposure scenario.
  - There is no material increase in cancer risks for the fisher exposure scenario attributable to the ash basins. Hexavalent chromium concentrations in surface water produced modeled results of potential carcinogenic risks under the recreational and subsistence fishing exposure scenarios. However, substituting hexavalent chromium concentrations detected in surface water samples upstream of the Site also resulted in

modeled risks under the exposure assumptions. There is, therefore, no material increase in cancer risks attributable to the ash basins. Moreover, risk estimates from fish consumption are based on CCR constituent concentrations in fish tissue modeled from concentrations in surface water. Thus, the modeled concentration of hexavalent chromium in fish tissue is likely overestimated.<sup>1</sup>

- No evidence of non-carcinogenic risks was identified for the recreational fisher potentially exposed to the Broad River by dermal contact or fish consumption.
- Potential non-carcinogenic risks from consumption of fish containing cobalt (modeled from surface water concentrations) were modeled for the subsistence fisher on the Broad River. Subsistence fishing, defined by USEPA (2000) as ingestion of 170 grams (0.375 pounds) of fish per day, has not been identified on the Broad River.<sup>2</sup> But even if there were subsistence fishers using the water body, there would be no material increase in risks to them posed by the ash basin. The cobalt EPC used in the risk assessment was 1.0 µg/L, compared to the upstream concentration of 0.2 µg/L. When substituted into the risk assessment model, the upstream cobalt concentration also resulted in modeled potential risks. There is no material increase in risks attributable to the ash basins. In any event, the fisher exposure scenarios overestimate risks based on exposure model assumptions of bioconcentration and fish consumption rates. There is not likely to be any material increase in non-carcinogenic risks for the subsistence fisher scenario.
- The updated risk assessment found no evidence of risks associated with exposure to groundwater by Site workers. Trespasser exposure to AOWs was

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<sup>1</sup> For conservative estimation of hexavalent chromium concentrations in fish tissue, the recreational and subsistence fisher exposure models used in this risk assessment assume a hexavalent chromium bioconcentration factor (BCF) of 200 (NRCP, 1996). Bioconcentration is the process by which a chemical is absorbed by an organism from the ambient environment through its respiratory and dermal surfaces (Arnot and Gobus, 2006). The degree to which bioconcentration occurs is expressed as the BCF. Published BCFs for hexavalent chromium in fish can be as low as one, suggesting that potential bioconcentration in fish is low (USEPA, 1980; 1984; Fishbein, 1981; ATSDR, 2012). The conservative BCF of 200 used here likely overestimates the hexavalent chromium concentration in fish tissue.

<sup>2</sup> To put the fish ingestion rate into context, a 170 gram per day fish meal is approximately equal to six ounces or approximately five fish sticks per meal (see <http://gortons.com/product/original-batter-tenders>); it is assumed that the subsistence fisher catches this amount of fish in the local water body and has such a fish meal once per day, every day for years.

not evaluated because AOWs are addressed in the SOC. There is, therefore, no material increase in risks associated with onsite exposure scenarios.

In summary, there is no material increase in risks to human health attributable to the Cliffside ash basins.

## 2.2 Ecological

There is no evidence of ecological risks associated with the Broad River, Suck Creek, and adjacent wooded areas (Exposure Areas 1, 2, and 4).

- In practice, ecological risks are quantified by comparing an average daily dose (ADD) of a constituent to a toxicity reference value (TRV) for a given wildlife receptor. The ratio of the ADD and TRV is the hazard quotient (HQ), where an HQ less than unity (1) indicates no evidence of risks. TRVs are generally no-observed-adverse-effects-levels (NOAEL) or a lowest-observed-adverse-effects-levels (LOAEL) from toxicity studies published in scientific literature.
- No HQs based on LOAELs exceeded unity for the wildlife receptors (mallard duck, great blue heron, muskrat) exposed to surface water and sediments.
- One HQ based on a NOAEL of aluminum was 1.59 for the muskrat. The modeled risk related to aluminum is negligible. Moreover, the model likely overestimates any real risk. Aluminum occurs naturally in soil, sediment and surface water in this area. Per the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), aluminum is the third most abundant element following oxygen and silicon in the Earth's crust (USGS, 2018).

In summary, the CSS ash basins do not cause any material increase in risks to ecological receptors.

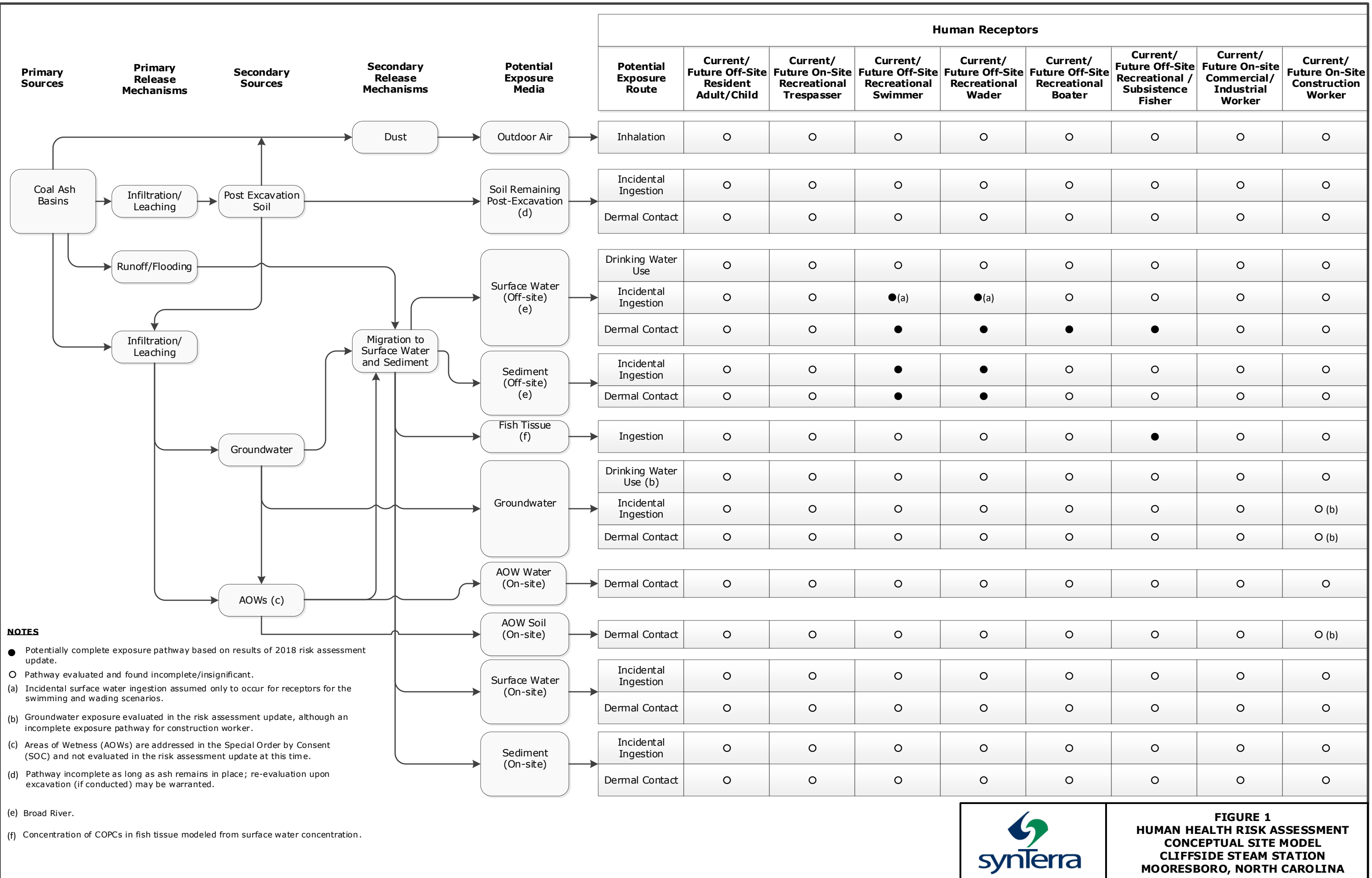
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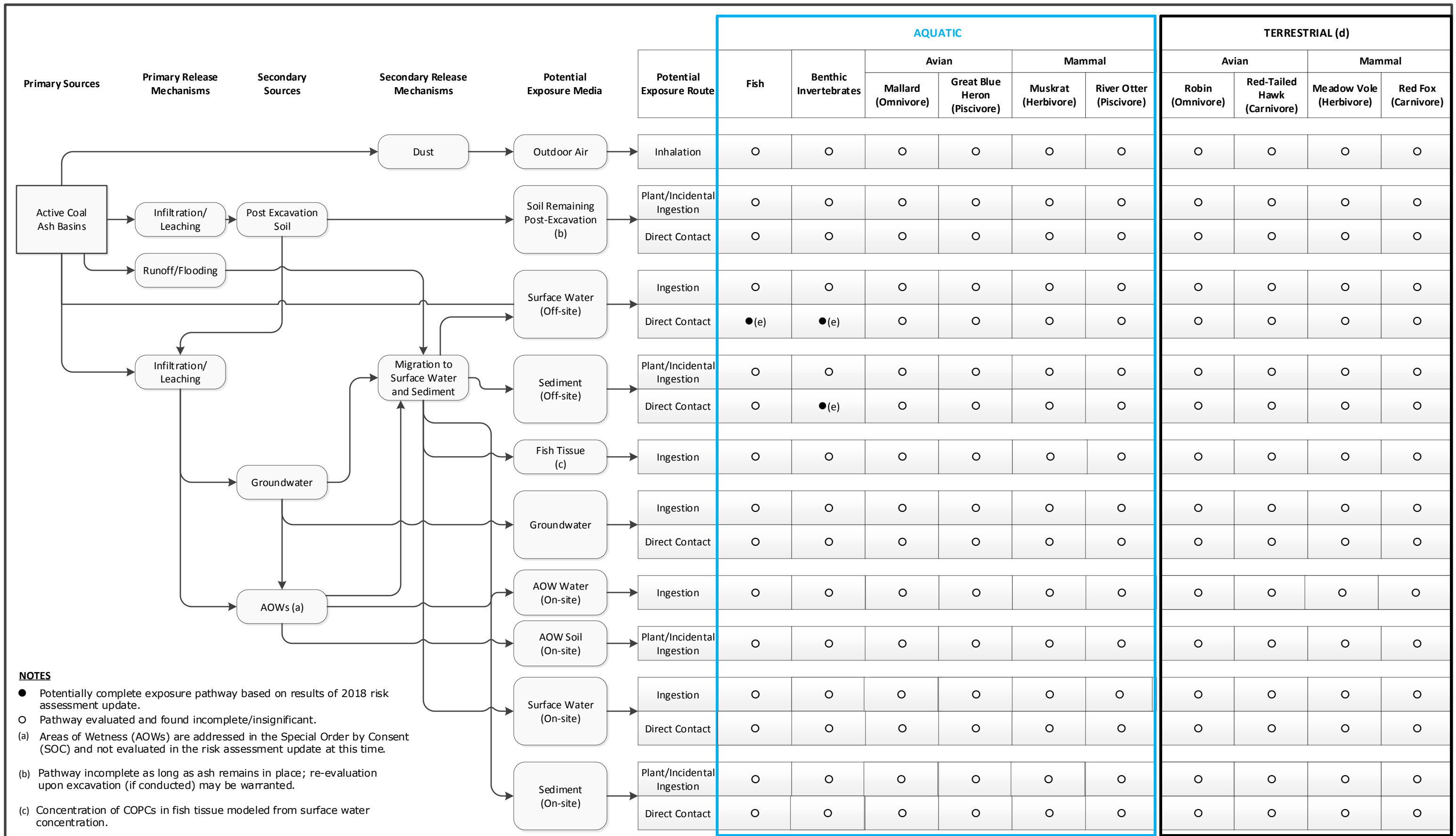
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## **FIGURES**



- NOTES**
- Potentially complete exposure pathway based on results of 2018 risk assessment update.
  - Pathway evaluated and found incomplete/insignificant.
  - (a) Incidental surface water ingestion assumed only to occur for receptors for the swimming and wading scenarios.
  - (b) Groundwater exposure evaluated in the risk assessment update, although an incomplete exposure pathway for construction worker.
  - (c) Areas of Wetness (AOWs) are addressed in the Special Order by Consent (SOC) and not evaluated in the risk assessment update at this time.
  - (d) Pathway incomplete as long as ash remains in place; re-evaluation upon excavation (if conducted) may be warranted.
  - (e) Broad River.
  - (f) Concentration of COPCs in fish tissue modeled from surface water concentration.



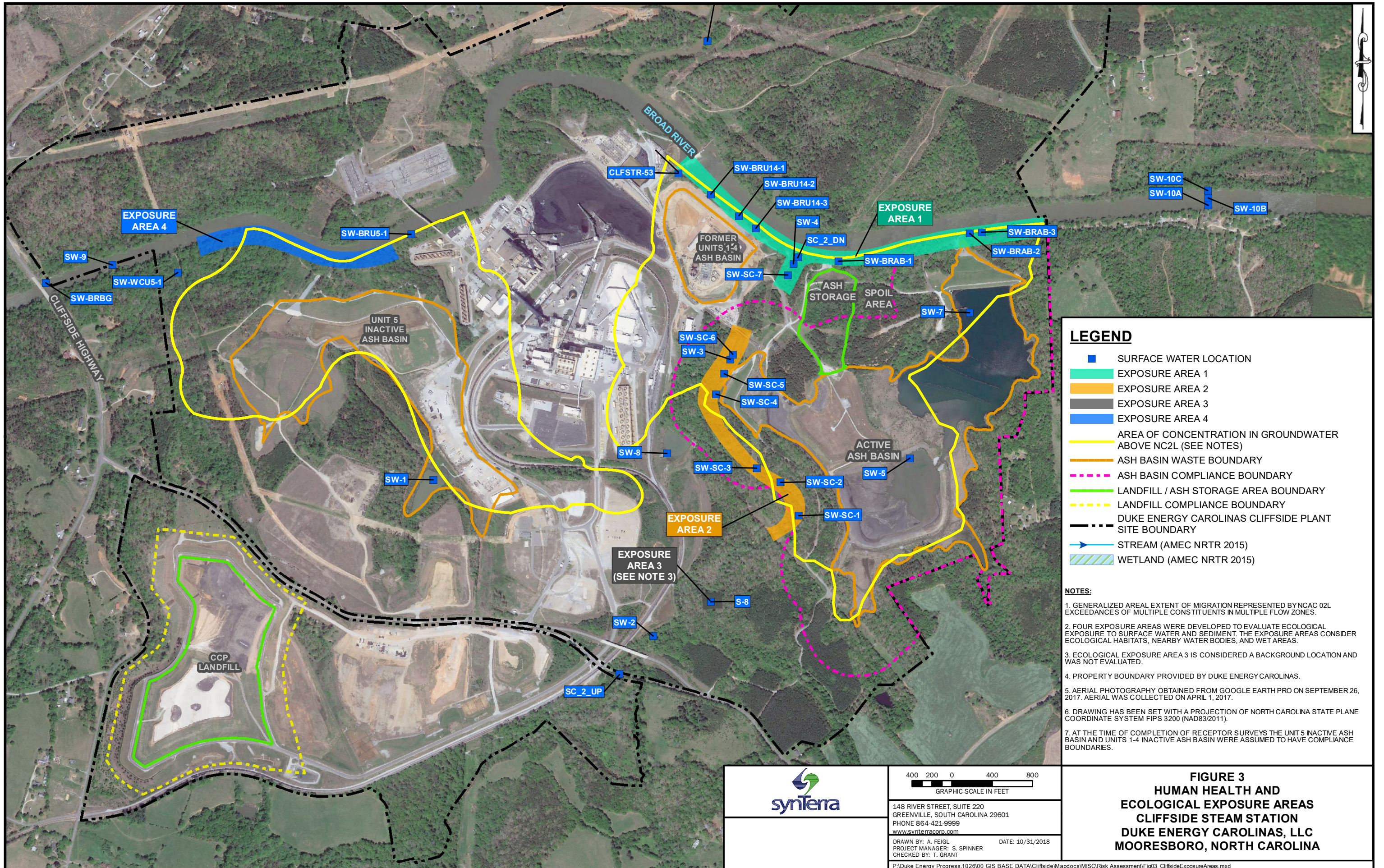
- NOTES**
- Potentially complete exposure pathway based on results of 2018 risk assessment update.
  - Pathway evaluated and found incomplete/insignificant.
  - (a) Areas of Wetness (AOWs) are addressed in the Special Order by Consent (SOC) and not evaluated in the risk assessment update at this time.
  - (b) Pathway incomplete as long as ash remains in place; re-evaluation upon excavation (if conducted) may be warranted.
  - (c) Concentration of COPCs in fish tissue modeled from surface water concentration.
  - (d) Exposure to terrestrial receptors was not evaluated because AOWs are addressed in the SOC.
  - (e) Based on screening against aquatic criteria.

CSM reflects exposure pathways evaluated quantitatively in the risk assessment.



**FIGURE 2**  
**ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT**  
**CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**MOORESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**






**LEGEND**

- SURFACE WATER LOCATION
- EXPOSURE AREA 1
- EXPOSURE AREA 2
- EXPOSURE AREA 3
- EXPOSURE AREA 4
- AREA OF CONCENTRATION IN GROUNDWATER ABOVE NC2L (SEE NOTES)
- ASH BASIN WASTE BOUNDARY
- - - ASH BASIN COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY
- - - LANDFILL / ASH STORAGE AREA BOUNDARY
- - - LANDFILL COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY
- - - DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS CLIFFSIDE PLANT SITE BOUNDARY
- > STREAM (AMEC NRTR 2015)
- ▨ WETLAND (AMEC NRTR 2015)

- NOTES:**
1. GENERALIZED AREAL EXTENT OF MIGRATION REPRESENTED BY NCAC 02L EXCEEDANCES OF MULTIPLE CONSTITUENTS IN MULTIPLE FLOW ZONES.
  2. FOUR EXPOSURE AREAS WERE DEVELOPED TO EVALUATE ECOLOGICAL EXPOSURE TO SURFACE WATER AND SEDIMENT. THE EXPOSURE AREAS CONSIDER ECOLOGICAL HABITATS, NEARBY WATER BODIES, AND WET AREAS.
  3. ECOLOGICAL EXPOSURE AREA 3 IS CONSIDERED A BACKGROUND LOCATION AND WAS NOT EVALUATED.
  4. PROPERTY BOUNDARY PROVIDED BY DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS.
  5. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY OBTAINED FROM GOOGLE EARTH PRO ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2017. AERIAL WAS COLLECTED ON APRIL 1, 2017.
  6. DRAWING HAS BEEN SET WITH A PROJECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM FIPS 3200 (NAD83/2011).
  7. AT THE TIME OF COMPLETION OF RECEPTOR SURVEYS THE UNIT 5 INACTIVE ASH BASIN AND UNITS 1-4 INACTIVE ASH BASIN WERE ASSUMED TO HAVE COMPLIANCE BOUNDARIES.



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DRAWN BY: A. FEIGL      DATE: 10/31/2018  
PROJECT MANAGER: S. SPINNER  
CHECKED BY: T. GRANT

400 200 0 400 800

GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET

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**FIGURE 3**  
**HUMAN HEALTH AND**  
**ECOLOGICAL EXPOSURE AREAS**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC**  
**MOORESBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**



## **ATTACHMENTS**

**TABLE 1-1  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - GROUNDWATER  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (µg/L)		Concentration Used for Screening (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02L .0202 Standard (e) (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02L .0202 IMAC (e) (µg/L)	DHHS Screening Level (d) (µg/L)	Federal MCL/SMCL (c) (µg/L)	Tap Water RSL HI = 0.2 (a) (µg/L)	Screening Value Used (µg/L)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.								
Aluminum	7429-90-5	1,539	1,080	5	128,000	128,000	NA	NA	3,500	50 to 200 (i)	4,000	3,500	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	2,003	629	0.1	94.9	94.9	1	NA	1	6	1.56 (m)	1	Y
Arsenic	7440-38-2	2,075	1,708	0.04	4,680	4,680	10	NA	10	10	0.052 (h,jj)	10	Y
Barium	7440-39-3	2,086	2,036	2.5	5,090	5,090	700	NA	700	2,000	760	700	Y
Beryllium	7440-41-7	1,942	1,161	0.01	98.6	98.6	NA	4	4	4	5	4	Y
Boron	7440-42-8	2,089	1,371	25	2,750	2,750	700	NA	700	NA	800	700	Y
Cadmium	7440-43-9	2,075	619	0.026	94.1	94.1	2	NA	2	5	1.84	2	Y
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	2,063	1,765	0.092	838	838	10	NA	10	100	4,400 (n)	10	Y
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	1,267	799	0.0083	25.2	25.2	NA	NA	0.07	NA	0.035 (jj)	0.07	Y
Cobalt	7440-48-4	1,942	1,803	0.01	895	895	NA	1	1	NA	1.2	1	Y
Copper	7440-50-8	1,661	1,200	0.11	316	316	1,000	NA	1,000	1,300 (k)	160	1,000	N
Lead	7439-92-1	2,075	1,057	0.028	84.3	84.3	15	NA	15	15 (l)	15 (jj)	15	Y
Lithium	7439-93-2	693	673	0.17	467	467	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	8	Y
Manganese	7439-96-5	1,684	1,612	2.5	37,000	37,000	50	NA	200	50 (i)	86	50	Y
Mercury	7439-97-6	2,081	159	0.05	13	13	1	NA	1	2	1.14 (o)	1	Y
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	1,947	1,103	0.081	337	337	NA	NA	18	NA	20	18	Y
Nickel	7440-02-0	1,661	1,391	0.14	380	380	100	NA	100	NA	78 (p)	100	Y
Selenium	7782-49-2	2,075	821	0.17	117	117	20	NA	20	50	20	20	Y
Strontium	7440-24-6	1,539	1,534	3.4	40,400	40,400	NA	NA	2,100	NA	2,400	2,100	Y
Thallium	7440-28-0	2,001	1,144	0.015	5.6	5.6	0.2	NA	0.2	2	0.04 (q)	0.2	Y
Vanadium	7440-62-2	1,523	1,094	0.058	207	207	NA	NA	0.3	NA	17.2	0.3	Y
Zinc	7440-66-6	1,672	1,107	2.447	870	870	1	NA	1	5,000 (i)	1,200	1	Y

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to August 2018

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
HH - Human Health  
HI - Hazard Index  
IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
NA - Not Available

NC - North Carolina  
NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
Q - Qualifier  
RSL - Regional Screening Level  
RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
SSL - Soil Screening Level

su - Standard units  
µg/L - micrograms/liter  
USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
WS - Water Supply  
< - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  
j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated

**TABLE 1-1  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - GROUNDWATER  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-human-health-criteria-table>  
USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance- nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efrogmson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efrogmson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)
- (ii) - As part of the water quality evaluation conducted under the CSA, pH was measured and is reported as a metric data set. The pH comparison criteria are included as ranges as opposed to single screening values. pH is not typically included as part of a risk assessment based on potential toxic effects, therefore; pH was not investigated further as a category 1 COPC. Water quality relative to pH will be addressed as a component of water quality monitoring programs for the site.
- (jj) - Hazard Index = 0.1

**TABLE 1-2  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - SEDIMENT  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (mg/kg)		Concentration Used for Screening (mg/kg)	NC PSRG Residential Health Screening Level (hh) (mg/kg)	Residential Soil RSL (a) HI = 0.2 (mg/kg)	NC PSRG Industrial Health Screening Level (hh) (mg/kg)	Industrial Soil RSL (a) HI = 0.2 (mg/kg)	Residential Screening Value Used (mg/kg)	Industrial Screening Value Used (mg/kg)	Residential COPC?	Industrial COPC?
				Min.	Max.									
Aluminum	7429-90-5	15	15	2,200	40,000	40,000	15,000	15,400	100,000	220,000	15,000	100,000	Y	N
Antimony	7440-36-0	15	0	ND	ND	ND	6.2 (m)	6.2 (m)	94 (m)	94 (m)	6.2	94	N	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	15	13	0.47	3.9	3.9	0.68 (h)	0.68 (h, jj)	3 (h)	3 (h, jj)	0.68	3	Y	Y
Barium	7440-39-3	15	15	7.7	200	200	3,000	3,000	44,000	44,000	3,000	44,000	N	N
Beryllium	7440-41-7	15	15	0.098	1.5	1.5	32	32	460	460	32	460	N	N
Boron	7440-42-8	15	0	ND	ND	ND	3,200	3,200	46,000	46,000	3,200	46,000	N	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	15	8	0.05	0.39	0.39	14	14.2	200	196	14	200	N	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	15	15	8.2	44	44	24,000 (n)	24,000 (n)	100,000 (n)	360,000 (n)	24,000	100,000	N	N
Chromium (III)	16065-83-1	2	2	18.5	37.4	37.4	24,000	24,000	100,000	360,000	24,000	100,000	N	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	15	13	1.1	12	12	4.6	4.6	70	70	4.6	70	Y	N
Copper	7440-50-8	15	15	0.96	21	21	620	620	9,400	9,400	620	9,400	N	N
Lead	7439-92-1	15	14	2	16	16	400	400 (jj)	800	800 (jj)	400	800	N	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	15	15	22	780	780	360	360	5,200	5,200	360	5,200	Y	N
Mercury	7439-97-6	15	1	0.0081	0.0081	0.0081	4.6 (o)	4.6 (o)	3.1 (o)	70 (o)	4.6	3.1	N	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	15	0	ND	ND	ND	78	78	1,200	1,160	78	1,200	N	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	15	15	1.5	20	20	300 (p)	300 (p)	4,400 (p)	4,400 (p)	300	4,400	N	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	15	0	ND	ND	ND	78	78	1,200	1,160	78	1,200	N	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	15	14	0.76	16	16	9,400	9,400	100,000	140,000	9,400	100,000	N	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	15	13	0.035	0.5	0.5	0.16 (q)	0.156 (q)	2.4 (q)	2.4 (q)	0.16	2.4	Y	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	15	15	5.6	66	66	78	78	1,160	1,160	78	1,160	N	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	15	15	5.2	90	90	4,600	4,600	70,000	70,000	4,600	70,000	N	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/>  
[/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf](#)  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
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 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
 SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
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su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  
 j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated

**TABLE 1-2  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - SEDIMENT  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-human-health-criteria-table>  
USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACS. [http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document\\_library/get\\_file?uid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document_library/get_file?uid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document\\_library/get\\_file?uid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.nceh.nih.gov/document_library/get_file?uid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)
- (ii) - As part of the water quality evaluation conducted under the CSA, pH was measured and is reported as a metric data set. The pH comparison criteria are included as ranges as opposed to single screening values. pH is not typically included as part of a risk assessment based on potential toxic effects, therefore; pH was not investigated further as a category 1 COPC. Water quality relative to pH will be addressed as a component of water quality monitoring programs for the site.
- (jj) - Hazard Index = 0.1

**TABLE 1-3  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - SURFACE WATER  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (µg/L)		Concentration Used for Screening (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02L .0202 Standard (e) (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02L .0202 IMAC (e) (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02B Water Supply (WS) (f) (µg/L)	15A NCAC 02B Human Health (HH) (f) (µg/L)	USEPA AWQC Consumption of Water and Organism (b) (µg/L)	USEPA AWQC Consumption of Organism Only (b) (µg/L)	Federal MCL/SMCL (c) (µg/L)	Tap Water RSL HI = 0.2 (a) (µg/L)	Screening Value Used (µg/L)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.											
Aluminum	7429-90-5	72	70	72.9	1,320	1,320	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50 to 200 (i)	4,000	50	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	72	1	0.17	0.17	0.17	1	NA	NA	NA	5.6	640	6	1.56 (m)	1	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	73	71	0.12	4.3	4.3	10	NA	10	10	0.018 (h)	0.14 (h)	10	0.052 (h, jj)	10	N
Barium	7440-39-3	73	73	13.1	60.6	60.6	700	NA	1,000	NA	1,000	NA	2,000	760	700	N
Beryllium	7440-41-7	72	55	0.01	0.067	0.067	NA	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	5	4	N
Boron	7440-42-8	73	32	25.5	179	179	700	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	800	700	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	73	2	0.07	0.083	0.083	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	1.84	2	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	73	70	0.16	2.4	2.4	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	100	4,400 (n)	10	N
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	67	56	0.018	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.035 (jj)	0.035	Y
Cobalt	7440-48-4	72	72	0.12	3.4	3.4	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.2	1	Y
Copper	7440-50-8	73	59	0.11	1.9	1.9	1,000	NA	NA	NA	1,300	NA	1,300 (k)	160	1,000	N
Lead	7439-92-1	73	73	0.095	0.95	0.95	15	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	15 (l)	15 (jj)	15	N
Lithium	7439-93-2	4	4	0.62	0.67	0.67	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	8	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	72	72	26.8	1,040	1,040	50	NA	200	NA	50	100	50 (i)	86	50	Y
Mercury	7439-97-6	73	68	2.76E-04	0.00226	0.00226	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	1.14 (o)	1	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	72	7	0.11	0.71	0.71	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	20	20	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	73	41	0.32	2.4	2.4	100	NA	25	NA	610	4,600	NA	78 (p)	100	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	73	4	0.21	0.41	0.41	20	NA	NA	NA	170	4,200	50	20	20	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	72	72	18	206	206	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,400	2,400	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	74	26	0.016	0.069	0.069	0.2	NA	NA	NA	0.24	0.47	2	0.04 (q)	0.2	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	72	69	0.12	2.9	2.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17.2	17	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	73	28	2.5	22.9	22.9	1	NA	NA	NA	7,400	26,000	5,000 (i)	1,200	1	Y

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted.

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram

NA - Not Available  
 NC - North Carolina  
 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value

SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
 SSL - Soil Screening Level  
 su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit

**TABLE 1-3  
HUMAN HEALTH SCREENING - SURFACE WATER  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-human-health-criteria-table>  
USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance- nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program.  
NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymsen, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymsen, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)
- (ii) - As part of the water quality evaluation conducted under the CSA, pH was measured and is reported as a metric data set. The pH comparison criteria are included as ranges as opposed to single screening values. pH is not typically included as part of a risk assessment based on potential toxic effects, therefore; pH was not investigated further as a category 1 COPC. Water quality relative to pH will be addressed as a component of water quality monitoring programs for the site.
- (jj) - Hazard Index = 0.1



TABLE 2-1  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 1  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (mg/kg)		Concentration Used for Screening (mg/kg)	USEPA Region 4 Sediment Screening Values (g) (mg/kg)			Screening Value Used (mg/kg)	COPC?	
				Min.	Max.		ESV	(x)	RSV			(x)
Aluminum	7429-90-5	7	7	5,100	37,000	37,000	25,000	(x)	58,000	(x)	25,000	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	7	0	ND	ND	ND	2	(y)	25	(y)	2	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	7	6	0.59	2.1	2.1	9.8	(z)	33	(z)	10	N
Barium	7440-39-3	7	7	23	200	200	20	(z)	60	(z)	20	Y
Beryllium	7440-41-7	7	7	0.22	1.5	1.5	NA		NA		NA	N
Boron	7440-42-8	7	0	ND	ND	ND	NA		NA		NA	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	7	5	0.13	0.39	0.39	1	(z)	5	(z)	1	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	7	7	11	44	44	43.4	(z)	111	(z)	43	Y
Chromium (III)	16065-83-1	1	1	18.5	18.5	18.5	NA		NA		NA	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	7	6	3.7	12	12	50	(aa)	NA	(aa)	50	N
Copper	7440-50-8	7	7	1.9	21	21	31.6	(z)	149	(z)	31.6	N
Lead	7439-92-1	7	6	3.5	14	14	35.8	(z)	128	(z)	35.8	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	7	7	32	660	660	460	(bb)	1,100	(bb)	460	Y
Mercury	7439-97-6	7	1	0.0081	0.0081	0.0081	0.18	(z)	1.1	(z)	0.18	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	7	0	ND	ND	ND	NA		NA		NA	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	7	7	3.5	20	20	22.7	(z)	48.6	(z)	22.7	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	7	0	ND	ND	ND	0.8	(bb)	1.2	(bb)	0.8	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	7	7	1.9	16	16	NA		NA		NA	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	7	6	0.089	0.5	0.5	NA		NA		NA	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	7	7	12	66	66	NA		NA		NA	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	7	7	10	90	90	121	(z)	459	(z)	121	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria   | DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources NC - North Carolina | su - Standard units   |
| CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  | DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services                             | µg/L - micrograms/liter   |
| North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,<br><a href="http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills">http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills</a> | ESV - Ecological Screening Value   | ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  |
| /Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf  | HI - Hazard Index  | PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  |
| CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  | IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration                             | Q - Qualifier   |
| CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  | MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  | RSL - Regional Screening Level  |
| CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration   | mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  | RSV - Refinement Screening Value  |
| COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern   | NA - Not Available   | SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  |
|   |  | SSL - Soil Screening Level  |
|   |  | USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency   |
|   |  | WS - Water Supply   |
|   |  | < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  |
|   |  | j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated |

**TABLE 2-1**  
**ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 1**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
 USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
 Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
 WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
 Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
 For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
 For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program.  
 NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efrøymsen, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efrøymsen, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38364](http://portal.nce.dnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38364)

**TABLE 2-2  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 1  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (µg/L)		Concentration Used for Screening (µg/L)	15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Acute (f) (µg/L)		15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Chronic (f) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Acute Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Chronic Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CMC (acute) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CCC (chronic) (µg/L)		Screening Value Used (µg/L)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.		Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	32	31	72.9	1,320	1,320	NA	NA	NA	NA	750 (b)	NA	87 (b)	NA	750	NA	87	NA	87	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	32	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	900 (cc)	NA	190 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	190	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	33	32	0.14	4.3	4.3	NA	340	NA	150	340 (b, h)	NA	150 (b, h)	NA	340 (h)	NA	150 (h)	NA	150	N
Barium	7440-39-3	33	33	13.1	49.5	49.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	2000 (cc)	NA	220 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	220	N
Beryllium	7440-41-7	32	22	0.01	0.067	0.067	NA	65	NA	6.5	31 (r, cc)	NA	3.6 (r, cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	N
Boron	7440-42-8	33	9	25.5	179	179	NA	NA	NA	NA	34,000 (cc)	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	33	2	0.07	0.083	0.083	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.1 (r)	NA	0.16 (r)	NA	NA	1.8 (r)	0.27 (r)	NA	0.16	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	33	31	0.23	1.6	1.6	NA	NA	50	NA	1,022 (n, r)	NA	48.8 (n, r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	N
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	30	27	0.018	1	1	NA	16	NA	11	16	NA	11	NA	NA	16	NA	11	11	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	32	32	0.19	1.4	1.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	120 (cc)	NA	19 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	19	N
Copper	7440-50-8	33	26	0.11	0.97	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.3 (r)	NA	5.16 (r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.16	N
Lead	7439-92-1	33	33	0.095	0.95	0.95	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.8 (r)	NA	1.32 (r)	NA	NA	65.0 (r)	NA	2.5 (r)	1	N
Lithium	7439-93-2	2	2	0.62	0.62	0.62	NA	NA	NA	NA	910 (cc)	NA	440 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	440	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	32	32	31	1,040	1,040	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,680 (cc)	NA	93 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	93	Y
Mercury	7439-97-6	33	30	2.76E-04	0.00196	0.00196	NA	NA	0.012	NA	1.4 (b, s)	NA	0.77 (b, s)	NA	NA	1.4 (s)	NA	0.77 (s)	0.012	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	32	5	0.11	0.56	0.56	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	800 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	800	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	33	13	0.32	0.91	0.91	NA	NA	NA	NA	261 (r)	NA	29 (r)	NA	NA	470 (r)	NA	52 (r)	29	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	33	1	0.41	0.41	0.41	NA	NA	5	NA	20 (cc)	NA	5 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	32	32	18	206	206	NA	NA	NA	NA	48,000 (cc)	NA	5,300 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,300	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	34	10	0.019	0.061	0.061	NA	NA	NA	NA	54 (cc)	NA	6 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	32	31	0.28	2.9	2.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	79 (cc)	NA	27 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	33	10	2.6	8.8	8.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	67 (r)	NA	67 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	67	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

**Notes:**  
 AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122, <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern  
 DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
 NA - Not Available  
 NC - North Carolina  
 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
 SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
 SSL - Soil Screening Level  
 su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit

Prepared by: TCP Checked by: HES

**TABLE 2-2  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 1  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
 USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuiid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuiid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
 Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
 WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
 Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
 For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
 For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorone, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuiid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuiid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)

TABLE 2-3  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (mg/kg)		Concentration Used for Screening (mg/kg)	USEPA Region 4 Sediment Screening Values (g) (mg/kg)				Screening Value Used (mg/kg)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.		ESV		RSV			
Aluminum	7429-90-5	4	4	2,200	11,000	11,000	25,000	(x)	58,000	(x)	25,000	N
Antimony	7440-36-0	4	0	ND	ND	ND	2	(y)	25	(y)	2	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	4	3	0.47	1.2	1.2	9.8	(z)	33	(z)	10	N
Barium	7440-39-3	4	4	7.7	41	41	20	(z)	60	(z)	20	Y
Beryllium	7440-41-7	4	4	0.098	0.43	0.43	NA		NA		NA	N
Boron	7440-42-8	4	0	ND	ND	ND	NA		NA		NA	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	4	0	ND	ND	ND	1	(z)	5	(z)	1	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	4	4	8.2	37.4	37.4	43.4	(z)	111	(z)	43	N
Chromium (III)	16065-83-1	1	1	37.4	37.4	37.4	NA		NA		NA	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	4	3	1.1	3.2	3.2	50	(aa)	NA	(aa)	50	N
Copper	7440-50-8	4	4	0.96	7.9	7.9	31.6	(z)	149	(z)	31.6	N
Lead	7439-92-1	4	4	2	5.9	5.9	35.8	(z)	128	(z)	35.8	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	4	4	22	97.1	97.1	460	(bb)	1,100	(bb)	460	N
Mercury	7439-97-6	4	0	ND	ND	ND	0.18	(z)	1.1	(z)	0.18	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	4	0	ND	ND	ND	NA		NA		NA	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	4	4	1.5	8.1	8.1	22.7	(z)	48.6	(z)	22.7	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	4	0	ND	ND	ND	0.8	(bb)	1.2	(bb)	0.8	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	4	3	0.76	2.8	2.8	NA		NA		NA	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	4	3	0.035	0.22	0.22	NA		NA		NA	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	4	4	5.6	20.7	20.7	NA		NA		NA	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	4	4	5.2	21	21	121	(z)	459	(z)	121	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
 NA - Not Available

NC - North Carolina  
 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
 SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
 SSL - Soil Screening Level

su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  
 j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated

**TABLE 2-3**  
**ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuiid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuiid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015. <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update. [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level. <https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance- nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D., Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2. <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efronymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efronymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuiid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.nceenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuiid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)

**TABLE 2-4  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (µg/L)		Concentration Used for Screening (µg/L)	15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Acute (f) (µg/L)		15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Chronic (f) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Acute Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Chronic Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CMC (acute) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CCC (chronic) (µg/L)		Screening Value Used (µg/L)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.		Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	36	35	77.4	219	219	NA	NA	NA	NA	750 (b)	NA	87 (b)	NA	750	NA	87	NA	87	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	36	1	0.17	0.17	0.17	NA	NA	NA	NA	900 (cc)	NA	190 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	190	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	36	35	0.18	0.6	0.6	NA	340	NA	150	340 (b, h)	NA	150 (b, h)	NA	340 (h)	NA	150 (h)	NA	150	N
Barium	7440-39-3	36	36	18.8	60.6	60.6	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,000 (cc)	NA	220 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	220	N
Beryllium	7440-41-7	36	31	0.01	0.044	0.044	NA	65	NA	6.5	31 (r, cc)	NA	3.6 (r, cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	N
Boron	7440-42-8	36	23	25.8	79.8	79.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	34,000 (cc)	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	36	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.1 (r)	NA	0.16 (r)	NA	NA	1.8 (r)	0.27 (r)	NA	0.16	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	36	35	0.16	2.4	2.4	NA	NA	50	NA	1,022 (n, r)	NA	48.8 (n, r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	N
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	33	25	0.019	0.56	0.56	NA	16	NA	11	16	NA	11	NA	NA	16	NA	11	11	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	36	36	0.18	3.4	3.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	120 (cc)	NA	19 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	19	N
Copper	7440-50-8	36	29	0.29	1.9	1.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.3 (r)	NA	5.16 (r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.16	N
Lead	7439-92-1	36	36	0.11	0.49	0.49	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.8 (r)	NA	1.32 (r)	NA	NA	65.0 (r)	NA	2.5 (r)	1	N
Lithium	7439-93-2	2	2	0.62	0.67	0.67	NA	NA	NA	NA	910 (cc)	NA	440 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	440	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	36	36	30	288	288	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,680 (cc)	NA	93 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	93	Y
Mercury	7439-97-6	36	34	6.07E-04	0.00226	0.00226	NA	NA	0.012	NA	1.4 (b, s)	NA	0.77 (b, s)	NA	NA	1.4 (s)	NA	0.77 (s)	0.012	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	36	2	0.13	0.71	0.71	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	800 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	800	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	36	28	0.37	2.4	2.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	261 (r)	NA	29 (r)	NA	NA	470 (r)	NA	52 (r)	29	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	36	3	0.21	0.4	0.4	NA	NA	5	NA	20 (cc)	NA	5 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	36	36	18.6	51.4	51.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	48,000 (cc)	NA	5,300 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,300	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	36	15	0.016	0.069	0.069	NA	NA	NA	NA	54 (cc)	NA	6 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	36	34	0.12	0.98	0.98	NA	NA	NA	NA	79 (cc)	NA	27 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	36	15	2.5	12.1	12.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	67 (r)	NA	67 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	67	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
 NA - Not Available

NC - North Carolina  
 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
 SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
 SSL - Soil Screening Level

su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  
 j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated

**TABLE 2-4  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
 USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
 Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015. <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
 WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
 Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
 For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
 For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update. [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level. <https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorone, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2. <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdcnr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)



TABLE 2-5  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (mg/kg)		Concentration Used for Screening (mg/kg)	USEPA Region 4 Sediment Screening Values (g) (mg/kg)				Screening Value Used (mg/kg)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.		ESV		RSV			
Aluminum	7429-90-5	2	0	ND	ND	ND	25,000	(x)	58,000	(x)	25,000	N
Antimony	7440-36-0	2	2	0.58	0.73	0.73	2	(y)	25	(y)	2	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	2	2	1.2	3.9	3.9	9.8	(z)	33	(z)	10	N
Barium	7440-39-3	2	2	27	160	160	20	(z)	60	(z)	20	Y
Beryllium	7440-41-7	2	0	ND	ND	ND	NA		NA		NA	N
Boron	7440-42-8	2	1	9.7	9.7	9.7	NA		NA		NA	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	2	2	0.15	0.24	0.24	1	(z)	5	(z)	1	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	2	2	17	38	38	43.4	(z)	111	(z)	43	N
Chromium (III)	16065-83-1	2	2	1	1	1	NA		NA		NA	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	2	2	2.2	9.9	9.9	50	(aa)	NA	(aa)	50	N
Copper	7440-50-8	2	2	4.1	21	21	31.6	(z)	149	(z)	31.6	N
Lead	7439-92-1	2	2	4.5	16	16	35.8	(z)	128	(z)	35.8	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	2	0	ND	ND	ND	460	(bb)	1,100	(bb)	460	N
Mercury	7439-97-6	2	0	ND	ND	ND	0.18	(z)	1.1	(z)	0.18	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	2	2	2.2	7.8	7.8	NA		NA		NA	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	2	0	ND	ND	ND	22.7	(z)	48.6	(z)	22.7	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	2	0	ND	ND	ND	0.8	(bb)	1.2	(bb)	0.8	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	2	2	1.5	16	16	NA		NA		NA	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	2	2	0.093	0.41	0.41	NA		NA		NA	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	2	2	16	60	60	NA		NA		NA	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	2	2	14	74	74	121	(z)	459	(z)	121	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

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<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
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DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources NC - North Carolina  
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 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
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 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
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NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
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**TABLE 2-5  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
 USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLFE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L.0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACS. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
 Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20Environmental%20Quality/chapter%2002%20-%20Environmental%20Management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
 WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
 Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
 For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
 For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorong, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)

**TABLE 2-6  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Analyte	CAS	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Range of Detection (µg/L)		Concentration Used for Screening (µg/L)	15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Acute (f) (µg/L)		15A NCAC 2B Freshwater Aquatic Life Chronic (f) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Acute Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA Region 4 Freshwater Chronic Screening Values (g) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CMC (acute) (µg/L)		USEPA AWQC (b) CCC (chronic) (µg/L)		Screening Value Used (µg/L)	COPC?
				Min.	Max.		Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved	Total	Dissolved		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	4	4	171	299	299	NA	NA	NA	NA	750 (b)	NA	87 (b)	NA	750	NA	87	NA	87	Y
Antimony	7440-36-0	4	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	900 (cc)	NA	190 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	190	N
Arsenic	7440-38-2	5	4	0.12	0.2	0.2	NA	340	NA	150	340 (b, h)	NA	150 (b, h)	NA	340 (h)	NA	150 (h)	NA	150	N
Barium	7440-39-3	5	5	13.5	17	17	NA	NA	NA	NA	2000 (cc)	NA	220 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	220	N
Beryllium	7440-41-7	4	2	0.012	0.024	0.024	NA	65	NA	6.5	31 (r, cc)	NA	3.6 (r, cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	N
Boron	7440-42-8	5	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	34,000 (cc)	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200	N
Cadmium	7440-43-9	5	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.1 (r)	NA	0.16 (r)	NA	NA	1.8 (r)	0.27 (r)	NA	0.16	N
Chromium (Total)	7440-47-3	5	4	0.47	0.51	0.51	NA	NA	50	NA	1,022 (n, r)	NA	48.8 (n, r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	N
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	4	4	0.073	0.081	0.081	NA	16	NA	11	16	NA	11	NA	NA	16	NA	11	11	N
Cobalt	7440-48-4	4	4	0.12	0.16	0.16	NA	NA	NA	NA	120 (cc)	NA	19 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	19	N
Copper	7440-50-8	5	4	0.33	0.7	0.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.3 (r)	NA	5.16 (r)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5.16	N
Lead	7439-92-1	5	5	0.15	0.325	0.325	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.8 (r)	NA	1.32 (r)	NA	NA	65.0 (r)	NA	2.5 (r)	1	N
Lithium	7439-93-2	0	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	910 (cc)	NA	440 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	440	N
Manganese	7439-96-5	4	4	26.8	31.3	31.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,680 (cc)	NA	93 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	93	N
Mercury	7439-97-6	5	5	8.00E-04	0.00115	0.00115	NA	NA	0.012	NA	1.4 (b, s)	NA	0.77 (b, s)	NA	NA	1.4 (s)	NA	0.77 (s)	0.012	N
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	4	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	7,200 (cc)	NA	800 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	800	N
Nickel	7440-02-0	5	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	261 (r)	NA	29 (r)	NA	NA	470 (r)	NA	52 (r)	29	N
Selenium	7782-49-2	5	0	ND	ND	ND	NA	NA	5	NA	20 (cc)	NA	5 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	N
Strontium	7440-24-6	4	4	23.6	26.7	26.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	48,000 (cc)	NA	5,300 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,300	N
Thallium	7440-28-0	5	1	0.056	0.056	0.056	NA	NA	NA	NA	54 (cc)	NA	6 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6	N
Vanadium	7440-62-2	4	4	0.88	1.2	1.2	NA	NA	NA	NA	79 (cc)	NA	27 (cc)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	N
Zinc	7440-66-6	5	3	3.4	22.9	22.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	67 (r)	NA	67 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	120 (r)	NA	67	N

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

AWQC - Ambient Water Quality Criteria  
 CAMA - Coal Ash Management Act  
 North Carolina Session Law 2014-122,  
<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/PDF/S729v7.pdf>  
 CAS - Chemical Abstracts Service  
 CCC - Criterion Continuous Concentration  
 CMC - Criterion Maximum Concentration  
 COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

DENR - Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 DHHS - Department of Health and Human Services  
 ESV - Ecological Screening Value  
 HH - Human Health  
 HI - Hazard Index  
 IMAC - Interim Maximum Allowable Concentration  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 mg/kg - milligrams/kilogram  
 NA - Not Available

NC - North Carolina  
 NCAC - North Carolina Administrative Code  
 ORNL - Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
 PSRG - Preliminary Soil Remediation Goal  
 Q - Qualifier  
 RSL - Regional Screening Level  
 RSV - Refinement Screening Value  
 SMCL - Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level  
 SSL - Soil Screening Level

su - Standard units  
 µg/L - micrograms/liter  
 USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 WS - Water Supply  
 < - Concentration not detected at or above the reporting limit  
 j - Indicates concentration reported below Practical Quantitation Limit (PQL) but above Method Detection Limit (MDL) and therefore concentration is estimated

**TABLE 2-6  
 ECOLOGICAL SCREENING - SURFACE WATER - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
 CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
 DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

- (a) - USEPA Regional Screening Levels (May 2018). Values for Residential Soil, Industrial Soil, and Tap Water. HI = 0.2. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/risk/regional-screening-levels-rsls-generic-tables>
- (b) - USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria. USEPA Office of Water and Office of Science and Technology. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/wqc/national-recommended-water-quality-criteria-aquatic-life-criteria-table>  
 USEPA AWQC Human Health for the Consumption of Organism Only apply to total concentrations.
- (c) - USEPA 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories. March 2018. Accessed October 2018.  
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/dwtable2018.pdf>
- (d) - DHHS Screening Levels. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Section, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?p\\_l\\_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=1169848&folderId=24814087&name=DLE-112704.pdf)
- (e) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02L .0202 Groundwater Standards & IMACs. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=1aa3fa13-2c0f-45b7-ae96-5427fb1d25b4&groupId=38364)  
 Amended April 2013.
- (f) - North Carolina 15A NCAC 02B Surface Water and Wetland Standards. Amended January 1, 2015.  
<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2002%20-%20environmental%20management/subchapter%20b/subchapter%20b%20rules.pdf>  
 WS standards are applicable to all Water Supply Classifications. WS standards are based on the consumption of fish and water.  
 Human Health Standards are based on the consumption of fish only unless dermal contact studies are available.  
 For Class C, use the most stringent of freshwater (or, if applicable, saltwater) column and the Human Health column.  
 For a WS water, use the most stringent of Freshwater, WS and Human Health. Likewise, Trout Waters and High Quality Waters must adhere to the most stringent of all applicable standards.
- (g) - USEPA Region 4. 2018. Region 4 Ecological Risk Assessment Supplemental Guidance. March 2018 Update.  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era\\_regional\\_supplemental\\_guidance\\_report-march-2018\\_update.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/era_regional_supplemental_guidance_report-march-2018_update.pdf)
- (h) - Value applies to inorganic form of arsenic only.
- (i) - Value is the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.  
<https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/secondary-drinking-water-standards-guidance-nuisance-chemicals>
- (j) - Value for Total Chromium.
- (k) - Copper Treatment Technology Action Level is 1.3 mg/L.
- (l) - Lead Treatment Technology Action Level is 0.015 mg/L.
- (m) - RSL for Antimony (metallic) used for Antimony.
- (n) - Value for Chromium (III), Insoluble Salts used for Chromium.
- (o) - RSL for Mercuric Chloride used for Mercury.
- (p) - RSL for Nickel Soluble Salts used for Nickel.
- (q) - RSL for Thallium (Soluble Salts) used for Thallium.
- (r) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (s) - Value for Inorganic Mercury.
- (t) - Acute AWQC is equal to  $1/[(f1/CMC1) + (f2/CMC2)]$  where f1 and f2 are the fractions of total selenium that are treated as selenite and selenate, respectively, and CMC1 and CMC2 are 185.9 µg/L and 12.82 µg/L, respectively. Calculated assuming that all selenium is present as selenate, a likely overly conservative assumption.
- (u) - Criterion expressed as a function of total hardness (mg/L). Value displayed is the site-specific total hardness of mg/L.
- (v) - Chloride Action Level for Toxic Substances Applicable to NPDES Permits is 230,000 µg/L.
- (w) - Applicable only to persons with a sodium restrictive diet.
- (x) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. <http://www.lanl.gov/community-environment/environmental-stewardship/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php>
- (y) - Long, Edward R., and Lee G. Morgan. 1991. The Potential for Biological Effects of Sediment-Sorbed Contaminants Tested in the National Status and Trends Program. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS OMA 52. Used effects range low (ER-L) for chronic and effects range medium (ER-M) for acute.
- (z) - MacDonald, D.D.; Ingersoll, C.G.; Smorone, D.E.; Lindskoog, R.A.; Sloane, G.; and T. Bernacki. 2003. Development and Evaluation of Numerical Sediment Quality Assessment Guidelines for Florida Inland Waters. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL. Used threshold effect concentration (TEC) for the ESV and probable effect concentration (PEC) for the RSV.
- (aa) - Persaud, D., R. Jaagumagi and A. Hayton. 1993. Guidelines for the protection and management of aquatic sediment quality in Ontario. Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Queen's Printer of Ontario.
- (bb) - Los Alamos National Laboratory ECORISK Database. September 2017. <http://www.lanl.gov/environment/protection/eco-risk-assessment.php> (µg/kg dw)
- (cc) - Great Lakes Initiative (GLI) Clearinghouse resources Tier II criteria revised 2013. <http://www.epa.gov/gliclearinghouse/>
- (dd) - Suter, G.W., and Tsao, C.L. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. ES/ER/TM-96/R2.  
<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm96r2.pdf>
- (ee) - USEPA. Interim Ecological Soil Screening Level Documents. Accessed October 2018. <http://www2.epa.gov/chemical-research/interim-ecological-soil-screening-level-documents>
- (ff) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, and G.W. Suter II, 1997a. Toxicological Benchmarks for Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Soil and Litter Invertebrates and Heterotrophic Process: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-126/R2. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm126r21.pdf>)
- (gg) - Efroymson, R.A., M.E. Will, G.W. Suter II, and A.C. Wooten, 1997b. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Contaminants of Potential Concern for Effects on Terrestrial Plants: 1997 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN. ES/ER/TM-85/R3. (Available at <http://www.esd.ornl.gov/programs/ecorisk/documents/tm85r3.pdf>)
- (hh) - North Carolina Preliminary Soil Remediation Goals (PSRG) Table. HI = 0.2. September 2015. [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=0f601ffa-574d-4479-bbb4-253af0665bf5&groupId=38361)

**TABLE 3-1**  
**SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS**  
**HUMAN HEALTH - GROUNDWATER**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean of Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration	Exposure Point Concentration (mg/L)
Aluminum	µg/L	1,539	1,080	5	128,000	871.4	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	1,065	1065	1.065
Antimony	µg/L	2,003	629	0.1	94.9	1.527	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.95	0.95	0.00095
Arsenic	µg/L	2,075	1,708	0.04	4,680	27.72	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	49.44	49.44	0.04944
Barium	µg/L	2,086	2,036	2.5	5,090	65.73	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	87.36	87.36	0.08736
Beryllium	µg/L	1,942	1,161	0.01	98.6	0.569	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.607	0.607	0.000607
Boron	µg/L	2,089	1,371	25	2,750	347.5	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	277.1	277.1	0.2771
Cadmium	µg/L	2,075	619	0.026	94.1	0.397	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.361	0.361	0.000361
Chromium (Total)	µg/L	2,063	1,765	0.092	838	5.773	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	7.452	7.452	0.007452
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	1,267	799	0.0083	25.2	0.818	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.741	0.741	0.000741
Cobalt	µg/L	1,942	1,803	0.01	895	16.84	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	20.24	20.24	0.02024
Lead	µg/L	2,075	1,057	0.028	84.3	0.729	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.681	0.681	0.000681
Lithium	µg/L	693	673	0.17	467	8.182	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	12.46	12.46	0.01246
Manganese	µg/L	1,684	1,612	2.5	37,000	1,279	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	1,515	1515	1.515
Mercury	µg/L	2,081	159	0.05	13	0.44	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.136	0.136	0.000136
Molybdenum	µg/L	1,947	1,103	0.081	337	5.79	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	4.856	4.856	0.004856
Nickel	µg/L	1,661	1,391	0.14	380	9.092	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	9.879	9.879	0.009879
Selenium	µg/L	2,075	821	0.17	117	5.47	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	3.262	3.262	0.003262
Strontium	µg/L	1,539	1,534	3.4	40,400	402.7	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	640.2	640.2	0.6402
Thallium	µg/L	2,001	1,144	0.015	5.6	0.239	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.194	0.194	0.000194
Vanadium	µg/L	1,523	1,094	0.058	207	2.944	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	3.318	3.318	0.003318
Zinc	µg/L	1,672	1,107	2.447	870	20.1	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	18.73	18.73	0.01873

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples ND - Not Determined  
Mean - Arithmetic mean UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit  
mg/L - milligrams per liter  
µg/L - micrograms per liter

- (a)- Mean calculated by ProUCL using the Kaplan-Meier (KM) estimation method for non-detect values: only given for datasets with FOD less than 100% and that met the minimum sample size and FOD requirements for use with ProUCL; see note (b).
- (b)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0
- (c) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.
- (d) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

TABLE 3-2  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
HUMAN HEALTH - SEDIMENT  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration (mg/kg)
Aluminum	mg/kg	15	15	2,200	40,000	14,689	95% Adjusted Gamma UCL	23,844	23,844
Arsenic	mg/kg	15	13	0.47	3.9	1.406	95% KM (t) UCL	1.85	1.85
Cobalt	mg/kg	15	13	1.1	12	5.669	95% KM (t) UCL	6.914	6.914
Manganese	mg/kg	15	15	22	780	234.2	95% Adjusted Gamma UCL	437.6	437.6
Thallium	mg/kg	15	13	0.035	0.5	0.237	95% KM (t) UCL	0.303	0.303

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples

ND - Not Determined

Mean - Arithmetic mean

UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit

mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

(a)- Mean calculated by ProUCL using the Kaplan-Meier (KM) estimation method for non-detect values: only given for datasets with FOD less than 100% and that met the minimum sample size and FOD requirements for use with ProUCL; see note (b).

(b)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(c) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(d) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 3-3**  
**SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS**  
**HUMAN HEALTH - SURFACE WATER**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration	Exposure Point Concentration (mg/L)
Aluminum	µg/L	72	70	72.9	1,320	199.5	95% KM (BCA) UCL	237.9	237.9	0.2379
Chromium (VI)	µg/L	67	56	0.018	1	0.174	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	0.259	0.259	0.000259
Cobalt	µg/L	72	72	0.12	3.4	0.518	95% H-UCL	0.58	0.58	0.00058
Manganese	µg/L	72	72	26.8	1,040	98.89	95% Chebyshev (Mean, Sd) UCL	174.7	174.7	0.1747
Zinc	µg/L	73	28	2.5	22.9	5.132	95% KM (Chebyshev) UCL	5.223	5.223	0.005223

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

- : Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples
- Mean - Arithmetic mean
- mg/L - milligrams per liter
- µg/L - micrograms per liter
- ND - Not Determined
- UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit

(a)- Mean calculated by ProUCL using the Kaplan-Meier (KM) estimation method for non-detect values: only given for datasets with FOD less than 100% and that met the minimum sample size and FOD requirements for use with ProUCL; see note (b).

(b)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(c) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(d) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 4-1  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
ECOLOGICAL - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 1  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration
Aluminum	mg/kg	7	7	5,100	37,000	15,281	---	---	37,000
Barium	mg/kg	7	7	23	200	87.17	---	---	200
Chromium (Total)	mg/kg	7	7	11	44	21.36	---	---	44
Manganese	mg/kg	7	7	32	660	268	---	---	660

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP      Checked by: HEG

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples

mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

Mean - Arithmetic mean

UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit

(a)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(b) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(c) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.





**TABLE 4-3  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
ECOLOGICAL - SEDIMENT - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2  
BELEWS CREEK STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration
Barium	mg/kg	4	4	7.7	41	21.73	---	---	41

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP      Checked by: HEG

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples

mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

Mean - Arithmetic mean

UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit

(a)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(b) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(c) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 4-4  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
ECOLOGICAL - SURFACE WATER - SUCK CREEK - EXPOSURE AREA 2  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration	Exposure Point Concentration (mg/L)
Aluminum	µg/L	36	35	77.4	219	147.4	95% KM (t) UCL	155.6	155.6	0.1556
Manganese	µg/L	36	36	30	288	88.28	95% Adjusted Gamma UCL	99.73	99.73	0.0997

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: HEG      Checked by: HES

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples      µg/L - micrograms per liter  
Mean - Arithmetic mean      UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit  
mg/L - milligrams per liter

(a) - Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(b) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(c) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 4-5  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
ECOLOGICAL - SEDIMENT - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration
Barium	mg/kg	2	2	27	160	93.5	---	---	160

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP      Checked by: HEG

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples

mg/kg - milligrams per kilogram

Mean - Arithmetic mean

UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit

(a)- Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(b) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(c) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 4-6  
SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATIONS  
ECOLOGICAL - SURFACE WATER - BROAD RIVER - EXPOSURE AREA 4  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Constituent	Reporting Units	Number of Samples	Frequency of Detection	Minimum Detected Concentration	Maximum Detected Concentration	Mean Detected Concentration	UCL Selected	UCL	Exposure Point Concentration	Exposure Point Concentration (mg/L)
Aluminum	µg/L	4	4	171	299	229.8	---	---	299	0.299

\* Data evaluated includes data from 2015 to 2nd quarter 2018, unless otherwise noted

Prepared by: TCP      Checked by: HEG

**Notes:**

---: Calculations were not performed due to lack of samples      µg/L - micrograms per liter  
Mean - Arithmetic mean      UCL - 95% Upper Confidence Limit  
mg/L - milligrams per liter

(a) - Sample size was greater than or equal to 10 and the number of detected values was greater than or equal to 6, therefore, a 95% UCL was calculated by ProUCL. The UCL shown is the one recommended by ProUCL. If more than one UCL was recommended, the higher UCL was selected. ProUCL, version 5.0

(b) - 0 is defined as a number of samples analyzed or the frequency of detection among samples.

(c) - The 95% UCL values are calculated using the ProUCL software (V. 5.0; USEPA, 2013a). The ProUCL software performs a goodness-of-fit test that accounts for data sets without any non-detect observations, as well as data sets with non-detect observations. The software then determines the distribution of the data set for which the EPC is being derived (e.g., normal, lognormal, gamma, or non-discernable), and then calculates a conservative and stable 95% UCL value in accordance with the framework described in "Calculating Upper Confidence Limits for Exposure Point Concentrations at Hazardous Waste Sites" (USEPA, 2002b). The software includes numerous algorithms for calculating 95% UCL values, and provides a recommended UCL value based on the algorithm that is most applicable to the statistical distribution of the data set. ProUCL will calculate a 95% UCL where there are 3 or more total samples with detected concentrations. Where too few samples or detects are available, the maximum detected concentration is used as the EPC.

**TABLE 5-1  
SUMMARY OF ON-SITE GROUNDWATER EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
CONSTRUCTION - CONSTRUCTION WORKER (ADULT)  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Ash Basin- Groundwater	Risk Ratio		
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis		Exposure Point Concentration	Non-Cancer	Cancer
		(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)			(mg/L)		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	9.6E+04	nc	9.6E+04	nc	1	0.00001	nc	
Antimony	7440-36-0	1.7E+01	nc	1.7E+01	nc	0.001	0.00005	nc	
Arsenic	7440-38-2	2.9E+01	4.5E+02	2.9E+01	nc	0.05	0.0017	nc	
Barium	7440-39-3	5.0E+03	nc	5.0E+03	nc	0.09	0.00002	nc	
Beryllium	7440-41-7	4.8E+02	nc	4.8E+02	nc	0.001	0.000001	nc	
Boron	7440-42-8	1.9E+04	nc	1.9E+04	nc	0.28	0.00001	nc	
Cadmium	7440-43-9	1.0E+01	nc	1.0E+01	nc	0.0004	0.00003	nc	
Chromium, Total	7440-47-3	8.6E+03	nc	8.6E+03	nc	0.01	0.0000009	nc	
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	2.8E+01	7.6E+01	2.8E+01	nc	0.001	0.00003	nc	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	3.3E+02	nc	3.3E+02	nc	0.02	0.0001	nc	
Lead <sup>(a,b)</sup>	7439-92-1	NA				0.001	NC	nc	
Lithium	7439-93-2	NA				0.01	NC	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	2.2E+03	nc	2.2E+03	nc	1.52	0.001	nc	
Mercury	7439-97-6	5.0E+01		5.0E+01	nc	0.0001	0.000	nc	
Molybdenum	7439-98-7	4.8E+02	nc	4.8E+02	nc	0.005	0.00001	nc	
Nickel	7440-02-0	1.0E+03	nc	1.0E+03	nc	0.01	0.00001	nc	
Selenium	7782-49-2	4.8E+02	nc	4.8E+02	nc	0.003	0.00001	nc	
Strontium	7440-24-6	1.9E+05	nc	1.9E+05	nc	0.64	0.000003	nc	
Thallium	7440-28-0	NA				0.0002	NA	nc	
Vanadium	7440-62-2	9.6E+02	nc	9.6E+02	nc	0.003	0.000003	nc	
Zinc	7440-66-6	3.1E+04	nc	3.1E+04	nc	0.02	0.000001	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.003</b>	<b>0.00E+00</b>	

Prepared by: HHS      Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

<sup>(a)</sup> USEPA has an action level of 15 ug/L for lead in drinking water (USEPA, 2012b). Refer to Attachment D, Section 2.5 of the *Marshall Steam Station CAP* (HDR 2015).

<sup>(b)</sup> Lead was not included in the cumulative risk calculation, as risk for lead is typically evaluated using biokinetic models. Lead concentrations are less than the conservative action level of 15 ug/L. Groundwater at the site is not used for drinking water.

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion	Yes
Dermal Contact	Yes
Ambient Vapor Inhalation	No

<b>Target Hazard Index (per Chemical)</b>	<b>1E+00</b>
<b>Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical)</b>	<b>1E-04</b>

**TABLE 5-2**  
**SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SEDIMENT EPC/RBC COMPARISON**  
**RECREATIONAL SWIMMER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Sediment	Risk Ratio		
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis		Exposure Point Concentration	Non-Cancer	Cancer
		(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)			(mg/kg)		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	1.2E+07	nc	1.2E+07	nc	23,844	0.002	nc	
Arsenic	7440-38-2	1.5E+03	1.4E+03	1.4E+03	c	2	0.001	1.29E-03	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	3.7E+03	nc	3.7E+03	nc	6.914	0.002	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	1.7E+06	nc	1.7E+06	nc	438	0.0003	nc	
Thallium	7440-28-0	1.2E+02	nc	1.2E+02	nc	0.3	0.002	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.29E-03</b>	

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion	Yes
Dermal Contact	Yes
Particulate Inhalation	No
Ambient Vapor Inhalation	No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical) 1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical) 1E-04**

**TABLE 5-3  
SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SURFACE WATER EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
RECREATIONAL SWIMMER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Surface Water	Risk Ratio		
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis		Exposure Point Concentration	Non-Cancer	Cancer
		(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)			(mg/L)		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	1.1E+03	nc	1.1E+03	nc	0.2	0.0002	nc	
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	3.3E-01	2.0E-02	2.0E-02	c	0.0003	0.0008	1.31E-02	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	3.5E-01	nc	3.5E-01	nc	0.001	0.002	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	4.1E+01	nc	4.1E+01	nc	0.2	0.004	nc	
Zinc	7440-66-6	3.4E+02	nc	3.4E+02	nc	0.005	NC	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.007</b>	<b>1.31E-02</b>	

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

NA - No toxicity value available; remedial goal not calculated

NC - Not Calculated

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion                      Yes  
Dermal Contact                                Yes  
Ambient Vapor Inhalation                    No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical)      1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical)        1E-04**



**TABLE 5-4**  
**SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SEDIMENT EPC/RBC COMPARISON**  
**RECREATIONAL WADER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Sediment	Risk Ratio		
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis		Exposure Point Concentration	Non-Cancer	Cancer
		(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)			(mg/kg)		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	1.2E+07	nc	1.2E+07	nc	23,844	0.002	nc	
Arsenic	7440-38-2	1.5E+03	1.4E+03	1.4E+03	c	2	0.001	1.29E-03	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	3.7E+03	nc	3.7E+03	nc	6.914	0.002	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	1.7E+06	nc	1.7E+06	nc	438	0.0003	nc	
Thallium	7440-28-0	1.2E+02	nc	1.2E+02	nc	0.3	0.002	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.008</b>	<b>1.29E-03</b>	

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion	Yes
Dermal Contact	Yes
Particulate Inhalation	No
Ambient Vapor Inhalation	No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical) 1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical) 1E-04**

**TABLE 5-5  
SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SURFACE WATER EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
RECREATIONAL WADER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Surface Water	Risk Ratio	
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis	Exposure Point Concentration	Non-Cancer	Cancer
		(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)		(mg/L)		
Aluminum	7429-90-5	1.2E+03	nc	1.2E+03	nc	0.2	0.0002	nc
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	9.5E-01	8.3E-02	8.3E-02	c	0.0003	0.0003	3.1E-03
Cobalt	7440-48-4	3.6E-01	nc	3.6E-01	nc	0.001	0.002	nc
Manganese	7439-96-5	9.0E+01	nc	9.0E+01	nc	0.2	0.002	nc
Zinc	7440-66-6	3.6E+02	nc	3.6E+02	nc	0.005	0.00001	nc
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.004</b>	<b>3.1E-03</b>

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

NA - No toxicity value available; remedial goal not calculated

NC - Not Calculated

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion

Yes

Dermal Contact

Yes

Ambient Vapor Inhalation

No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical) 1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical) 1E-04**

**TABLE 5-6  
SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SURFACE WATER EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
RECREATIONAL BOATER - RECREATIONAL BOATER (ADULT)  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Basis	Surface Water	Risk Ratio	
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Exposure Point Concentration		Non-Cancer	Cancer	
		(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)					(mg/L)
Aluminum	7429-90-5	5.6E+04	nc	5.6E+04	nc	0.2	0.000004	nc	
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	2.1E+00	9.8E-01	9.8E-01	c	0.0003	0.0003	2.6E-04	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	4.2E+01	nc	4.2E+01	nc	0.001	0.00001	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	3.1E+02	nc	3.1E+02	nc	0.2	0.0006	nc	
Zinc	7440-66-6	2.8E+04	nc	2.8E+04	nc	0.005	0.0000002	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.0008</b>	<b>2.6E-04</b>	

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

NA - No toxicity value available; remedial goal not calculated

NC - Not Calculated

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion No  
Dermal Contact Yes  
Ambient Vapor Inhalation No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical) 1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical) 1E-04**

**TABLE 5-7  
SUMMARY OF OFF-SITE SURFACE WATER EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
RECREATIONAL FISHER - RECREATIONAL FISHER (ADULT)  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration				Basis	Surface Water	Risk Ratio	
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Exposure Point Concentration		Non-Cancer	Cancer	
		(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)					(mg/L)
Aluminum	7429-90-5	5.6E+04	nc	5.6E+04	nc	0.2	0.000004	nc	
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	2.1E+00	9.8E-01	9.8E-01	c	0.0003	0.0003	2.6E-04	
Cobalt	7440-48-4	4.2E+01	nc	4.2E+01	nc	0.001	0.00001	nc	
Manganese	7439-96-5	3.1E+02	nc	3.1E+02	nc	0.2	0.001	nc	
Zinc	7440-66-6	2.8E+04	nc	2.8E+04	nc	0.005	0.0000002	nc	
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>							<b>0.001</b>	<b>3E-04</b>	

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern

c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk

nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

NA - No toxicity value available; remedial goal not calculated

NC - Not Calculated

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Incidental Ingestion                      No  
 Dermal Contact                              Yes  
 Ambient Vapor Inhalation                  No

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical)      1E+00**

**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical)        1E-04**

**TABLE 5-8  
SUMMARY OF FISH TISSUE EPC/RBC COMPARISON  
FISHER - RECREATIONAL (ADULT AND ADOLESCENT)  
CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

COPC	CAS	Risk-Based Concentration - Fish Tissue								Lowest Non-Cancer RBC Value	Lowest Cancer RBC Value	BCF (unitless)	Risk-Based Concentration - Surface Water				Surface Water Exposure Point Concentration (mg/L)	Risk Ratio	
		Adult				Adolescent (a)							Non-Cancer (mg/L)	Cancer (mg/L)	Final (mg/L)	Basis		Non-Cancer	Cancer
		Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis	Non-Cancer	Cancer	Final	Basis										
		(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)		(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)	(mg/kg)											
Aluminum	7429-90-5	4.6E+03	nc	4.6E+03	nc	5.8E+03	nc	5.8E+03	nc	4.6E+03	nc	2.7	1.7E+03	nc	1.7E+03	nc	0.2	0.0001	nc
Chromium (VI)	18540-29-9	1.4E+01	6.4E+00	6.4E+00	c	1.7E+01	2.7E+00	2.7E+00	c	1.4E+01	2.7E+00	200	6.9E-02	1.4E-02	1.4E-02	c	0.0003	0.004	0.019
Cobalt	7440-48-4	1.4E+00	nc	1.4E+00	nc	1.7E+00	nc	1.7E+00	nc	1.4E+00	nc	400	3.4E-03	nc	3.4E-03	nc	0.001	0.2	nc
Manganese	7439-96-5	6.4E+02	nc	6.4E+02	nc	8.1E+02	nc	8.1E+02	nc	6.4E+02	nc	2.4	2.7E+02	nc	2.7E+02	nc	0.2	0.001	nc
Zinc	7440-66-6	1.4E+03	nc	1.4E+03	nc	1.7E+03	nc	1.7E+03	nc	1.4E+03	nc	2059	6.7E-01	nc	6.7E-01	nc	0.005	0.01	nc
<b>Cumulative Risk</b>																<b>0.18</b>	<b>1.9E-02</b>		

Prepared by: HHS      Checked by: TCP

**Notes:**

COPC - Chemical of potential concern  
c - Remedial goal based on cancer risk  
nc - Remedial goal based on non-cancer hazard index

NA - No toxicity value available; remedial goal not calculated  
NC - Not Calculated

BCF - Bioconcentration Factor  
Surface water RBC = Fish Tissue RBC / BCF

**Exposure Routes Evaluated**

Ingestion      Yes

**Target Hazard Index (per Chemical)    1E+00**  
**Target Cancer Risk (per Chemical)    1E-04**



**TABLE 5-10**  
**SUMMARY OF EXPOSURE POINT CONCENTRATION COMPARISON TO RISK-BASED CONCENTRATION**  
**CLIFFSIDE STEAM STATION**  
**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, MOORESBORO, NC**

Source Table (PRG Tables)	Media	Exposure Pathway	Risk Ratio - Non-cancer	Risk Ratio - Cancer
<b>TABLE 5-1</b>	Groundwater- On-Site	CONSTRUCTION - CONSTRUCTION WORKER (ADULT)	0.003	0.00E+00
<b>TABLE 5-2</b>	Sediment- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL SWIMMER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT	0.008	1.3E-03
<b>TABLE 5-3</b>	Surface Water- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL SWIMMER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT	0.007	1.3E-02
<b>TABLE 5-4</b>	Sediment- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL WADER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT	0.008	1.3E-03
<b>TABLE 5-5</b>	Surface Water- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL WADER - CHILD, ADOLESCENT, and ADULT	0.004	3.1E-03
<b>TABLE 5-6</b>	Surface Water- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL BOATER - OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL BOATER (ADULT)	0.0008	2.6E-04
<b>TABLE 5-7</b>	Surface Water- Off-Site	OFF-SITE RECREATIONAL FISHER (ADULT)	0.0008	2.6E-04
<b>TABLE 5-8</b>	Biota (fish)- Off-Site	OFF-SITE FISHER - RECREATIONAL (ADULT AND ADOLESCENT)	0.2	1.9E-02
<b>TABLE 5-9</b>	Biota (fish)- Off-Site	OFF-SITE FISHER - SUBSISTENCE (ADULT AND ADOLESCENT)	5	1.4E+00

Prepared by: HHS

Checked by: TCP

**Table 1**  
**Exposure Parameters for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 1**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Parameter	Body Weight	Food Ingestion Rate	Water Ingestion Rate	Dietary Composition						Home Range	Seasonal Use Factor <sup>j</sup>
				Plants	Mammal/Terr. Vertebrates	Fish	Invertebrates	Birds	Soil		
Algorithm ID	BW	IR <sub>F</sub>	IR <sub>W</sub>	P <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>M</sub>	A <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>I</sub>	A <sub>B</sub>	S <sub>F</sub>	HR	SUF
Units	kg	kg/kg BW/day	L/kg BW/day	%	%	%	%	%	%	hectares	unitless
<b>HERBIVORE</b>											
Meadow Vole <sup>a</sup>	0.033	0.33	0.21	97.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2.4%	0.027	1
Muskrat <sup>b</sup>	1.17	0.3	0.97	99.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.7%	0.13	1
<b>OMNIVORE</b>											
Mallard Duck <sup>c</sup>	1.134	0.068	0.057	48.3%	0%	0%	48.3%	0%	3.3%	435	1
American Robin <sup>d</sup>	0.08	0.129	0.14	40%	0%	0%	58%	0%	2%	0.42	1
<b>CARNIVORE</b>											
Red-Tailed Hawk <sup>e</sup>	1.06	0.18	0.058	0%	91.5%	0%	0%	8.5%	0%	876	1
Bald Eagle <sup>f</sup>	3.75	0.12	0.058	0%	28%	58%	0%	13.5%	0.5%	2199	1
Red Fox <sup>g</sup>	4.54	0.16	0.085	6%	89%	0%	2%	0%	3%	1226	1
<b>PISCIVORE</b>											
River Otter <sup>h</sup>	6.76	0.19	0.081	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	348	1
Great Blue Heron <sup>i</sup>	2.229	0.18	0.045	0%	0%	90%	9.5%	0%	0.5%	227	1

**NOTES:**

BW - Body Weight                      P<sub>F</sub> - Plant Matter Ingestion Percentage                      kg/kg BW/day - Kilograms Food per Kilograms Body Weight per Day  
kg - Kilograms                              A<sub>M</sub> - Mammal/Terrestrial Vertebrate ingestion percentage                      L/kg BW/day - Liters Water per Kilogram Body Weight per Day  
IR - Ingestion Rate                        A<sub>F</sub> - Fish Ingestion Percentage  
HR - Home Range                          A<sub>B</sub> - Bird Ingestion Percentage  
SUF - Seasonal Use Factor                S<sub>F</sub> - Soil Ingestion Percentage

<sup>a</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-328 and 2-329); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994

<sup>b</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-340 and 2-341); S<sub>F</sub> from TechLaw Inc. 2013; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>c</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-43 and 2-45); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>d</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-197 and 2-198); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>e</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, IR<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-82 and 2-83)

<sup>f</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-91 and 2-97); IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>g</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-224 and 2-225); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994

<sup>h</sup> BW, IR<sub>W</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-264 and 2-266); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>i</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-8 and 2-9); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>j</sup> Seasonal Use Factor is set to a default of 1 to be overly conservative and protective of ecological receptors.



**Table 2**  
**Toxicity Reference Values for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 1**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	TRVs (NOAEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Great Blue Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	American Robin (mg/kg/day)	Red-Tailed Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	110	110	110	1.93	1.93	110	110	1.93	1.93
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.059	0.059	NA	NA	0.059	0.059
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	2.24	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04
Barium <sup>c</sup>	20.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.532	0.532	NA	NA	0.532	0.532
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	28.8	28.8	28.8	28	28	28.8	28.8	28	28
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	1.47	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	1	1	1	2740	2740	1	1	2740	2740
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	9.24	9.24	NA	NA	9.24	9.24
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.61	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33
Copper <sup>a</sup>	4.05	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	1.63	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	179	179	179	51.5	51.5	179	179	51.5	51.5
Mercury <sup>c</sup>	3.25	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01
Molybdenum <sup>a,d</sup>	3.53	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	6.71	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a,d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	263	263	NA	NA	263	263
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.015	0.015	NA	NA	0.015	0.015
Titanium	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.344	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.1	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	507	507	NA	NA	507	507

Table 2 (Cont.)

Analyte	TRVs (LOAEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	Robin (mg/kg/day)	Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	1100	1100	1100	19.3	19.3	1100	1100	19.3	19.3
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.59	0.59	NA	NA	0.59	0.59
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	40.3	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66
Barium <sup>c</sup>	41.7	41.7	41.7	75	75	41.7	41.7	75	75
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	6.6	6.6	NA	NA	6.6	6.6
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	100	100	100	93.6	93.6	100	100	93.6	93.6
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	2.37	2.37	2.37	10	10	2.37	2.37	10	10
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	5	5	5	27400	27400	5	5	27400	27400
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	40	40	NA	NA	40	40
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.8	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9
Copper <sup>a</sup>	12.1	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	3.26	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	348	348	348	71	71	348	348	71	71
Mercury <sup>e</sup>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16
Molybdenum <sup>a, d</sup>	35.3	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	11.5	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.579	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a, d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	2630	2630	NA	NA	2630	2630
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.075	0.075	NA	NA	0.075	0.075
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.688	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.5	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	1130	1130	NA	NA	1130	1130

**NOTES:**

NOAEL - No Observed Adverse Effects Level

LOAEL - Lowest Observed Effects Level

EN - Essential nutrient

NA - Not available

TRV - Toxicity Reference Value

<sup>a</sup> CH2M Hill. 2014. Tier 2 Risk-Based Soil Concentrations Protective of Ecological Receptors at the Hanford Site. CHPRC-01311. Revision 2. July.<http://pdw.hanford.gov/arp/ir/pdf.cfm?accession=0088115><sup>b</sup> USEPA 2005 EcoSSL<sup>c</sup> Only a single paper (Johnson et al., 1960) with data on the toxicity of barium hydroxide to one avian species (chicken) was identified by USEPA (2005); therefore, an avian TRV could not be derived and an Eco-SSL could not be calculated for avian wildlife (calculation requires a minimum of three results for two test species). Johnson et al. (1960) reports a subchronic NOAEL of 208.26 mg/kg/d. The NOAEL was multiplied by an uncertainty factor of 0.1 to derive a very conservative TRV of 20.8 mg/kg/d.<sup>d</sup> Sample et al. 1996

**Table 3**  
**Exposure Area and Area Use Factors for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 1**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Exposure Point	Exposure Area <sup>a</sup> (hectares)	Area Use Factor (AUF)								
		Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter	Bald Eagle	American Robin	Red-Tailed Hawk	Meadow Vole	Red Fox
Ecological Exposure Area 1	6.3	1.45%	2.78%	100%	1.81%	0.29%	100%	0.719%	100%	0.51%

**NOTES:**

<sup>a</sup> Exposure Area 1 is north of the Inactive Ash Basins and Active Ash Basin. The area includes aquatic habitats in Broad River and Suck Creek.

**Table 4**  
**EPCs for Use in the Risk Assessment**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 1**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

COPC	CASRN	Aquatic EPCs <sup>a, b</sup>	
		Sediment EPC Used in Risk Assessment <sup>c</sup> (mg/kg)	Surface Water EPC Used in Risk Assessment (mg/L)
Aluminum	7429-90-5	37,000	0.4455
Barium	7440-39-3	200	
Chromium, Total	7440-47-3	44	
Manganese	7439-96-5	660	0.2861

**NOTES:**

COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

CASRN - Chemical Abstracts Service Registration Number

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration

<sup>a</sup> Surface water EPCs are based on 95% UCLs where there is adequate sample size to calculate UCLs. Sediment EPCs are based on maximum values due to insufficient sample size.

<sup>b</sup> Surface water and sediment are used to estimate risk to aquatic receptors.

<sup>c</sup> Analysis of solids (i.e., soil and sediment) was reported as dry weight.

Table 5  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Mallard Duck  
 Ecological Exposure Area 1  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:																								
	WATER			PLANTS/VEGETATION					INVERTEBRATES				SOIL			BF	ADD <sub>o</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>u</sub>					
	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>		EPC <sub>v</sub>	EPC <sub>i</sub>			NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>p</sub>	NIR <sub>d</sub>	ADD <sub>p</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>						ADD <sub>i</sub>	S <sub>o</sub>	NIR <sub>o</sub>	ADD <sub>o</sub>	
COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>2</sup> Concentration in Invertebrates (mg/kg dry)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Plant Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Plant Ingestion Rate, Dry (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Plant (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Soil (percent)	Soil Ingestion <sup>3</sup> Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Soil (mg/kg/day)						
Aluminum	0.45	37,000	0.0008		29.6	1	37000	0.057	0.025	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.145827	48%	0.007	267.3502	3.3%	0.00029	10.79364	100%	278.32	1	0.01	4.030769	
Barium		200	0.03		6	1	200	0.057	0	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.02956	48%	0.007	1.4451	3.3%	0.00029	0.05834	100%	1.533	1	0.01	0.022203	
Chromium, Total		44	0.0015		0.066	0.1	4.4	0.057	0	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.000325	48%	0.007	0.0318	3.3%	0.00029	0.01284	100%	0.04495	1	0.01	0.000651	
Manganese	0.29	660	0.05		33	0.682	-0.809	37.29	0.057	0.016	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.162378	48%	0.007	0.2694	3.3%	0.00029	0.19254	100%	0.64	1	0.01	0.009281

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose

BF - Bioavailability Factor  
 BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor  
 BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 AUF - Area Use Factor

<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998a; Baes et al. 1984 (Mo); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b, Table 2, median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 6  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Great Blue Heron  
 Ecological Exposure Area 1  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>	EPC <sub>fish</sub>	EPC <sub>inb</sub>	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	EPC <sub>i</sub>	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:									BF	ADD <sub>i</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
								WATER		FISH				INVERTEBRATES							
								NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>f</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>i</sub>					
COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Fish Uptake (BCF)	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)		Estimated <sup>2</sup> Concentration in Invertebrates (mg/kg dry)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>3</sup> (percent)	Piscivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Piscivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)		
Aluminum	0.446	37,000	0.1	0.04	1		0.45	0.045	0.02	90%	0.18	0.162	0.007	10%	0.004	0.0017	100%	0.03	1	0.028	0.001
Barium		200	4	0	1		0	0.045	0	90%	0.18	0.162	0	10%	0.004	0	100%	0	1	0.028	0
Chromium, Total		44	200	0	0.1		0	0.045	0	90%	0.18	0.162	0	10%	0.004	0	100%	0	1	0.028	0
Manganese	0.286	660	400	114.44	0.682	-0.809	0.19	0.045	0.013	90%	0.18	0.162	18.539	10%	0.004	0.0007	100%	18.55	1	0.028	0.51

NOTES:  
 EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> AI (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b, Table 2, median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 7  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Muskrat  
 Ecological Exposure Area 1  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC <sub>w</sub> COPEC in Water (mg/L)	EPC <sub>s</sub> COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	EPC <sub>p</sub> Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:									BF	ADD <sub>1</sub> Herbivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub> Adjusted Total Herbivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)
						WATER		PLANTS / VEGETATION				SOIL							
						NIR <sub>w</sub> Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	ADD <sub>w</sub> Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	P <sub>i</sub> Fraction Diet Plant Matter (percent)	NIR <sub>i</sub> Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	NIR <sub>p</sub> Plant Ingestion Rate, Dry (kg/kg/day)	ADD <sub>p</sub> Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Plant (mg/kg/day)	S <sub>i</sub> Fraction Diet Soil (percent)	NIR <sub>s</sub> Soil Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	ADD <sub>s</sub> Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Soil (mg/kg/day)					
Aluminum	0.4	37,000	0.0008		29.6	0.97	0.43	99%	0.3	0.045	1.32268	1%	0.000273	1.31313	100%	3.07	1	1	3.07
Barium		200	0.03		6	0.97	0	99%	0.3	0.045	0.26811	1%	0.000273	0.0071	100%	0.28	1	1	0.28
Chromium, Total		44	0.0015		0.066	0.97	0	99%	0.3	0.045	0.00295	1%	0.000273	0.00156	100%	0	1	1	0
Manganese	0.3	660	0.05		33	0.97	0.28	99%	0.3	0.045	1.47461	1%	0.000273	0.02342	100%	1.78	1	1	1.78

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose

BF - Bioavailability Factor  
 BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor  
 BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 AUF - Area Use Factor

<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998a; Baes et al. 1984 (Mo); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>2</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 8  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for River Otter  
 Ecological Exposure Area 1  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:															
	EPC <sub>w</sub>		EPC <sub>s</sub>		EPC <sub>PREY</sub>	DRINKING WATER		FISH				BF	ADD <sub>t</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Fish Uptake (BCF)	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)		NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>a</sub>	ADD <sub>a</sub>					
					Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>2</sup> (percent)	Piscivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Piscivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	
Aluminum	0.4	37,000	0.1	0.04	0.081	0.036	100%	0.19	0.19	0.0085	100%	0.045	1	0.018	0.00807	
Barium		200	4	0	0.081	0	100%	0.19	0.19	0	100%	0	1	0.018	0	
Chromium, Total		44	200	0	0.081	0	100%	0.19	0.19	0	100%	0	1	0.018	0	
Manganese	0.3	660	400	114.44	0.081	0.023	100%	0.19	0.19	21.74	100%	21.767	1	0.018	0.394054	

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Al (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.



**Table 9**  
**Hazard Quotients for COPCs - Aquatic Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 1**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'No Observed Adverse Effects Level'			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	3.66E-02	7.30E-06	<b>1.59E+00</b>	4.18E-04
Barium	1.07E-03		5.31E-03	
Chromium, Total	6.51E-04		1.65E-06	
Manganese	5.19E-05	2.88E-03	3.45E-02	7.65E-03

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'Lowest Observed Adverse Effects'			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	3.66E-03	7.30E-07	1.59E-01	4.18E-05
Barium	5.32E-04		3.67E-03	
Chromium, Total	1.30E-04		1.65E-07	
Manganese	2.67E-05	1.48E-03	2.50E-02	5.55E-03

**NOTES:**

Hazard Quotients greater than or equal to 1 are highlighted in gray and in boldface.  
 NM - Not measured due to lack of a Toxicity Reference Value

**Table 1**  
**Exposure Parameters for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 2**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Parameter	Body Weight	Food Ingestion Rate	Water Ingestion Rate	Dietary Composition						Home Range	Seasonal Use Factor <sup>j</sup>
				Plants	Mammal/Terr. Vertebrates	Fish	Invertebrates	Birds	Soil		
Algorithm ID	BW	IR <sub>F</sub>	IR <sub>W</sub>	P <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>M</sub>	A <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>I</sub>	A <sub>B</sub>	S <sub>F</sub>	HR	SUF
Units	kg	kg/kg BW/day	L/kg BW/day	%	%	%	%	%	%	hectares	unitless
<b>HERBIVORE</b>											
Meadow Vole <sup>a</sup>	0.033	0.33	0.21	97.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2.4%	0.027	1
Muskrat <sup>b</sup>	1.17	0.3	0.97	99.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.7%	0.13	1
<b>OMNIVORE</b>											
Mallard Duck <sup>c</sup>	1.134	0.068	0.057	48.3%	0%	0%	48.3%	0%	3.3%	435	1
American Robin <sup>d</sup>	0.08	0.129	0.14	40%	0%	0%	58%	0%	2%	0.42	1
<b>CARNIVORE</b>											
Red-Tailed Hawk <sup>e</sup>	1.06	0.18	0.058	0%	91.5%	0%	0%	8.5%	0%	876	1
Bald Eagle <sup>f</sup>	3.75	0.12	0.058	0%	28%	58%	0%	13.5%	0.5%	2199	1
Red Fox <sup>g</sup>	4.54	0.16	0.085	6%	89%	0%	2%	0%	3%	1226	1
<b>PISCIVORE</b>											
River Otter <sup>h</sup>	6.76	0.19	0.081	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	348	1
Great Blue Heron <sup>i</sup>	2.229	0.18	0.045	0%	0%	90%	9.5%	0%	0.5%	227	1

**NOTES:**

BW - Body Weight                      P<sub>F</sub> - Plant Matter Ingestion Percentage                      kg/kg BW/day - Kilograms Food per Kilograms Body Weight per Day  
kg - Kilograms                              A<sub>M</sub> - Mammal/Terrestrial Vertebrate ingestion percentage                      L/kg BW/day - Liters Water per Kilogram Body Weight per Day  
IR - Ingestion Rate                        A<sub>F</sub> - Fish Ingestion Percentage  
HR - Home Range                         A<sub>B</sub> - Bird Ingestion Percentage  
SUF - Seasonal Use Factor                S<sub>F</sub> - Soil Ingestion Percentage

<sup>a</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-328 and 2-329); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994

<sup>b</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-340 and 2-341); S<sub>F</sub> from TechLaw Inc. 2013; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>c</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-43 and 2-45); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>d</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-197 and 2-198); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>e</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, IR<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-82 and 2-83)

<sup>f</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-91 and 2-97); IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>g</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-224 and 2-225); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994

<sup>h</sup> BW, IR<sub>W</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-264 and 2-266); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>i</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-8 and 2-9); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>j</sup> Seasonal Use Factor is set to a default of 1 to be overly conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

**Table 2**  
**Toxicity Reference Values for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 2**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	TRVs (NOEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Great Blue Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	American Robin (mg/kg/day)	Red-Tailed Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	110	110	110	1.93	1.93	110	110	1.93	1.93
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.059	0.059	NA	NA	0.059	0.059
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	2.24	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04
Barium <sup>c</sup>	20.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.532	0.532	NA	NA	0.532	0.532
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	28.8	28.8	28.8	28	28	28.8	28.8	28	28
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	1.47	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	1	1	1	2740	2740	1	1	2740	2740
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	9.24	9.24	NA	NA	9.24	9.24
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.61	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33
Copper <sup>a</sup>	4.05	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	1.63	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	179	179	179	51.5	51.5	179	179	51.5	51.5
Mercury <sup>c</sup>	3.25	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01
Molybdenum <sup>a,d</sup>	3.53	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	6.71	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a,d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	263	263	NA	NA	263	263
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.015	0.015	NA	NA	0.015	0.015
Titanium	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.344	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.1	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	507	507	NA	NA	507	507

Table 2 (Cont.)

Analyte	TRVs (LOAEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	Robin (mg/kg/day)	Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	1100	1100	1100	19.3	19.3	1100	1100	19.3	19.3
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.59	0.59	NA	NA	0.59	0.59
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	40.3	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66
Barium <sup>c</sup>	41.7	41.7	41.7	75	75	41.7	41.7	75	75
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	6.6	6.6	NA	NA	6.6	6.6
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	100	100	100	93.6	93.6	100	100	93.6	93.6
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	2.37	2.37	2.37	10	10	2.37	2.37	10	10
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	5	5	5	27400	27400	5	5	27400	27400
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	40	40	NA	NA	40	40
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.8	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9
Copper <sup>a</sup>	12.1	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	3.26	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	348	348	348	71	71	348	348	71	71
Mercury <sup>e</sup>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16
Molybdenum <sup>a, d</sup>	35.3	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	11.5	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.579	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a, d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	2630	2630	NA	NA	2630	2630
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.075	0.075	NA	NA	0.075	0.075
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.688	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.5	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	1130	1130	NA	NA	1130	1130

**NOTES:**

NOAEL - No Observed Adverse Effects Level

LOAEL - Lowest Observed Effects Level

EN - Essential nutrient

NA - Not available

TRV - Toxicity Reference Value

<sup>a</sup> CH2M Hill. 2014. Tier 2 Risk-Based Soil Concentrations Protective of Ecological Receptors at the Hanford Site. CHPRC-01311. Revision 2. July.<http://pdw.hanford.gov/arp/ir/pdf.cfm?accession=0088115><sup>b</sup> USEPA 2005 EcoSSL<sup>c</sup> Only a single paper (Johnson et al., 1960) with data on the toxicity of barium hydroxide to one avian species (chicken) was identified by USEPA (2005); therefore, an avian TRV could not be derived and an Eco-SSL could not be calculated for avian wildlife (calculation requires a minimum of three results for two test species). Johnson et al. (1960) reports a subchronic NOAEL of 208.26 mg/kg/d. The NOAEL was multiplied by an uncertainty factor of 0.1 to derive a very conservative TRV of 20.8 mg/kg/d.<sup>d</sup> Sample et al. 1996

**Table 3**  
**Exposure Area and Area Use Factors for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 2**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Exposure Point	Exposure Area <sup>a</sup> (hectares)	Area Use Factor (AUF)								
		Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter	Bald Eagle	American Robin	Red-Tailed Hawk	Meadow Vole	Red Fox
Ecological Exposure Area 2	4.2	0.97%	1.85%	100%	1.21%	0.19%	100%	0.479%	100%	0.34%

**NOTES:**

<sup>a</sup> Exposure Area 2 is west of the Active Ash Basin and Southeast of the Inactive Ash Basins. The area includes aquatic habitat in Suck Creek.

**Table 4**  
**EPCs for Use in the Risk Assessment**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 2**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

COPC	CASRN	Aquatic EPCs <sup>a, b</sup>	
		Sediment EPC Used in Risk Assessment <sup>c</sup> (mg/kg)	Surface Water EPC Used in Risk Assessment (mg/L)
Aluminum	7429-90-5		0.1556
Barium	7440-39-3	41	
Manganese	7439-96-5		0.0997

**NOTES:**

COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

CASRN - Chemical Abstracts Service Registration Number

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration

<sup>a</sup> EPCs for surface water are based on 95% UCLs. EPCs for sediment are based on maximum values.

<sup>b</sup> Risk to aquatic receptors is evaluated based on surface water and sediment data.

<sup>c</sup> Analysis of solids (i.e., soil and sediment) was reported as dry weight.

Table 5  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Mallard Duck  
 Ecological Exposure Area 2  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:																												
	EPC <sub>w</sub>			EPC <sub>v</sub>			EPC <sub>i</sub>			EPC <sub>in</sub>			WATER		PLANTS/VEGETATION				INVERTEBRATES			SOIL			BF	ADD <sub>v</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>2</sup> Concentration in Invertebrates (mg/kg dry)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Plant Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Plant Ingestion Rate, Dry (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Plant (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Soil (percent)	Soil Ingestion <sup>3</sup> Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Soil (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Omnivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Omnivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)				
Aluminum	0.1556		0.0008		0	1	0	0.057	0.009	48%	0.068	0.0049	0	48%	0.007	0	3.3%	0.00029	0	100%	0.01	1	0.010	0.00086					
Barium		41	0.03		1.23	1	41	0.057	0	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.00606	48%	0.007	0.2963	3.3%	0.00029	0.01196	100%	0.3143	1	0.010	0.00303					
Manganese	0.0997		0.05					0.057	0.006	48%	0.068	0.0049	0	48%	0.007	0	3.3%	0.00029	0	100%	0.01	1	0.010	0.00055					

NOTES:  
 EPC - Exposure Point Concentration  
 NR - Normalized Ingestion Rate  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose  
 BF - Bioavailability Factor  
 BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor  
 BCF - Bioconcentration Factor  
 SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 AUF - Area Use Factor  
<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998a; Baes et al. 1984 (Mo); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b, Table 2, median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 6  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Great Blue Heron  
 Ecological Exposure Area 2  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>	EPC <sub>fish</sub>	EPC <sub>inb</sub>	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	EPC <sub>i</sub>	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:									BF	ADD <sub>i</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
								WATER		FISH				INVERTEBRATES							
								NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>f</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>i</sub>					
COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Fish Uptake (BCF)	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)									
Aluminum	0.1556		0.1	0.02	1		0.16	0.045	0.007	90%	0.18	0.162	0.003	10%	0.004	0.0006	100%	0.01	1	0.019	0.0002
Barium		41	4	0	1		0	0.045	0	90%	0.18	0.162	0	10%	0.004	0	100%	0	1	0.019	0
Manganese	0.0997		400	39.89	0.682	-0.809	0.09	0.045	0.004	90%	0.18	0.162	6.463	10%	0.004	0.0003	100%	6.47	1	0.019	0.120

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose

BF - Bioavailability Factor  
 BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor  
 BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 AUF - Area Use Factor

<sup>1</sup> Al (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b, Table 2, median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.



Table 7  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Muskrat  
 Ecological Exposure Area 2  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:																		
	EPC <sub>w</sub>		EPC <sub>s</sub>		EPC <sub>p</sub>	WATER		PLANTS / VEGETATION				SOIL			BF	ADD <sub>1</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>d</sub>	ADD <sub>p</sub>	S <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>s</sub>	ADD <sub>s</sub>	Bioavailability <sup>2</sup> (percent)	Herbivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Herbivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum	0.1556		0.0008		0.0	0.97	0.15	99%	0.3	0.045	0	1%	0.000273	0	100%	0.1509	1	1	0.1509
Barium		41	0.03		1.23	0.97	0	99%	0.3	0.045	0.05496	1%	0.000273	0.00146	100%	0.0564	1	1	0.0564
Manganese	0.0997		0.05		0	0.97	0.10	99%	0.3	0.045	0	1%	0.000273	0	100%	0.097	1	1	0.0967

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998a; Baes et al. 1984 (Mo); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>2</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 8  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for River Otter  
 Ecological Exposure Area 2  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:														
	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>	Fish Uptake (BCF)	EPC <sub>PREY</sub>	DRINKING WATER		FISH				BF	ADD <sub>t</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
					NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>a</sub>	ADD <sub>a</sub>					
COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)		Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>2</sup> (percent)	Piscivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Piscivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	
Aluminum	0.1556		0.1	0.02	0.081	0.013	100%	0.19	0.19	0.003	100%	0.016	1	0.01	0.000188
Barium		41	4	0	0.081	0	100%	0.19	0.19	0	100%	0	1	0.01	0
Manganese	0.0997		400	39.89	0.081	0.008	100%	0.19	0.19	7.58	100%	7.588	1	0.01	0.091574

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Al (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.

**Table 9**  
**Hazard Quotients for COPCs - Aquatic Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 2**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'No Observed Adverse Effects Level'			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	7.78E-07	1.70E-06	7.82E-02	9.73E-05
Barium	1.46E-04		1.09E-03	
Manganese	3.07E-07	6.68E-04	1.88E-03	1.78E-03

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'Lowest Observed Adverse Effects'			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	7.78E-08	1.70E-07	7.82E-03	9.73E-06
Barium	7.28E-05		7.52E-04	
Manganese	1.58E-07	3.44E-04	1.36E-03	1.29E-03

**NOTES:**

Hazard Quotients greater than or equal to 1 are highlighted in gray and in boldface.  
 NM - Not measured due to lack of a Toxicity Reference Value

**Table 1**  
**Exposure Parameters for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 4**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Parameter	Body Weight	Food Ingestion Rate	Water Ingestion Rate	Dietary Composition						Home Range	Seasonal Use Factor <sup>j</sup>
				Plants	Mammal/Terr. Vertebrates	Fish	Invertebrates	Birds	Soil		
Algorithm ID	BW	IR <sub>F</sub>	IR <sub>W</sub>	P <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>M</sub>	A <sub>F</sub>	A <sub>I</sub>	A <sub>B</sub>	S <sub>F</sub>	HR	SUF
Units	kg	kg/kg BW/day	L/kg BW/day	%	%	%	%	%	%	hectares	unitless
<b>HERBIVORE</b>											
Meadow Vole <sup>a</sup>	0.033	0.33	0.21	97.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2.4%	0.027	1
Muskrat <sup>b</sup>	1.17	0.3	0.97	99.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.7%	0.13	1
<b>OMNIVORE</b>											
Mallard Duck <sup>c</sup>	1.134	0.068	0.057	48.3%	0%	0%	48.3%	0%	3.3%	435	1
American Robin <sup>d</sup>	0.08	0.129	0.14	40%	0%	0%	58%	0%	2%	0.42	1
<b>CARNIVORE</b>											
Red-Tailed Hawk <sup>e</sup>	1.06	0.18	0.058	0%	91.5%	0%	0%	8.5%	0%	876	1
Bald Eagle <sup>f</sup>	3.75	0.12	0.058	0%	28%	58%	0%	13.5%	0.5%	2199	1
Red Fox <sup>g</sup>	4.54	0.16	0.085	6%	89%	0%	2%	0%	3%	1226	1
<b>PISCIVORE</b>											
River Otter <sup>h</sup>	6.76	0.19	0.081	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	348	1
Great Blue Heron <sup>i</sup>	2.229	0.18	0.045	0%	0%	90%	9.5%	0%	0.5%	227	1

**NOTES:**

BW - Body Weight                      P<sub>F</sub> - Plant Matter Ingestion Percentage                      kg/kg BW/day - Kilograms Food per Kilograms Body Weight per Day  
kg - Kilograms                              A<sub>M</sub> - Mammal/Terrestrial Vertebrate ingestion percentage                      L/kg BW/day - Liters Water per Kilogram Body Weight per Day  
IR - Ingestion Rate                        A<sub>F</sub> - Fish Ingestion Percentage  
HR - Home Range                            A<sub>B</sub> - Bird Ingestion Percentage  
SUF - Seasonal Use Factor                S<sub>F</sub> - Soil Ingestion Percentage

<sup>a</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-328 and 2-329); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994

<sup>b</sup> BW, IR<sub>F</sub>, IR<sub>W</sub>, P<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-340 and 2-341); S<sub>F</sub> from TechLaw Inc. 2013; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>c</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-43 and 2-45); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>d</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-197 and 2-198); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>e</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, IR<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-82 and 2-83)

<sup>f</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>M</sub>, A<sub>B</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-91 and 2-97); IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>g</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-224 and 2-225); S<sub>F</sub> from Beyer et al. 1994

<sup>h</sup> BW, IR<sub>W</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-264 and 2-266); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>i</sup> BW, P<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>F</sub>, A<sub>I</sub>, HR from USEPA 1993 (sections 2-8 and 2-9); S<sub>F</sub> from Sample and Suter 1994; IR<sub>F</sub> from Nagy 2001

<sup>j</sup> Seasonal Use Factor is set to a default of 1 to be overly conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

**Table 2**  
**Toxicity Reference Values for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 4**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	TRVs (NOEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Great Blue Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	American Robin (mg/kg/day)	Red-Tailed Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	110	110	110	1.93	1.93	110	110	1.93	1.93
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.059	0.059	NA	NA	0.059	0.059
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	2.24	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04	2.24	2.24	1.04	1.04
Barium <sup>c</sup>	20.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8	20.8	20.8	51.8	51.8
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.532	0.532	NA	NA	0.532	0.532
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	28.8	28.8	28.8	28	28	28.8	28.8	28	28
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	1.47	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77	1.47	1.47	0.77	0.77
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	1	1	1	2740	2740	1	1	2740	2740
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	9.24	9.24	NA	NA	9.24	9.24
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4	2.66	2.66	2.4	2.4
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.61	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33	7.61	7.61	7.33	7.33
Copper <sup>a</sup>	4.05	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6	4.05	4.05	5.6	5.6
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	1.63	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7	1.63	1.63	4.7	4.7
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	179	179	179	51.5	51.5	179	179	51.5	51.5
Mercury <sup>c</sup>	3.25	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01	3.25	3.25	1.01	1.01
Molybdenum <sup>a,d</sup>	3.53	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26	3.53	3.53	0.26	0.26
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	6.71	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7	6.71	6.71	1.7	1.7
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143	0.29	0.29	0.143	0.143
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a,d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	263	263	NA	NA	263	263
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.015	0.015	NA	NA	0.015	0.015
Titanium	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.344	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16	0.344	0.344	4.16	4.16
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.1	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4	66.1	66.1	75.4	75.4
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	507	507	NA	NA	507	507

Table 2 (Cont.)

Analyte	TRVs (LOAEL)								
	Aquatic					Terrestrial			
	Mallard Duck (mg/kg/day)	Heron (mg/kg/day)	Bald Eagle (mg/kg/day)	Muskrat (mg/kg/day)	River Otter (mg/kg/day)	Robin (mg/kg/day)	Hawk (mg/kg/day)	Meadow Vole (mg/kg/day)	Red Fox (mg/kg/day)
Aluminum <sup>a</sup>	1100	1100	1100	19.3	19.3	1100	1100	19.3	19.3
Antimony <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.59	0.59	NA	NA	0.59	0.59
Arsenic <sup>b</sup>	40.3	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66	40.3	40.3	1.66	1.66
Barium <sup>c</sup>	41.7	41.7	41.7	75	75	41.7	41.7	75	75
Beryllium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	6.6	6.6	NA	NA	6.6	6.6
Boron <sup>a,b</sup>	100	100	100	93.6	93.6	100	100	93.6	93.6
Cadmium <sup>a</sup>	2.37	2.37	2.37	10	10	2.37	2.37	10	10
Calcium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Chromium, Total <sup>d</sup>	5	5	5	27400	27400	5	5	27400	27400
Chromium VI (hexavalent) <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	40	40	NA	NA	40	40
Chromium III <sup>a</sup>	2.66	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625	2.66	2.66	9.625	9.625
Cobalt <sup>a</sup>	7.8	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9	7.8	7.8	10.9	10.9
Copper <sup>a</sup>	12.1	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34	12.1	12.1	9.34	9.34
Iron	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Lead <sup>b</sup>	3.26	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9	3.26	3.26	8.9	8.9
Magnesium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Manganese <sup>a</sup>	348	348	348	71	71	348	348	71	71
Mercury <sup>e</sup>	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16	0.37	0.37	0.16	0.16
Molybdenum <sup>a, d</sup>	35.3	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6	35.3	35.3	2.6	2.6
Nickel <sup>a</sup>	11.5	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4	11.5	11.5	3.4	3.4
Potassium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Selenium <sup>a</sup>	0.579	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215	0.579	0.579	0.215	0.215
Sodium	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN	EN
Strontium <sup>a, d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	2630	2630	NA	NA	2630	2630
Thallium <sup>a</sup>	NA	NA	NA	0.075	0.075	NA	NA	0.075	0.075
Vanadium <sup>a</sup>	0.688	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31	0.688	0.688	8.31	8.31
Zinc <sup>a</sup>	66.5	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9	66.5	66.5	75.9	75.9
Nitrate <sup>d</sup>	NA	NA	NA	1130	1130	NA	NA	1130	1130

**NOTES:**

NOAEL - No Observed Adverse Effects Level

LOAEL - Lowest Observed Effects Level

EN - Essential nutrient

NA - Not available

TRV - Toxicity Reference Value

<sup>a</sup> CH2M Hill. 2014. Tier 2 Risk-Based Soil Concentrations Protective of Ecological Receptors at the Hanford Site. CHPRC-01311. Revision 2. July.<http://pdw.hanford.gov/arp/ir/pdf.cfm?accession=0088115><sup>b</sup> USEPA 2005 EcoSSL<sup>c</sup> Only a single paper (Johnson et al., 1960) with data on the toxicity of barium hydroxide to one avian species (chicken) was identified by USEPA (2005); therefore, an avian TRV could not be derived and an Eco-SSL could not be calculated for avian wildlife (calculation requires a minimum of three results for two test species). Johnson et al. (1960) reports a subchronic NOAEL of 208.26 mg/kg/d. The NOAEL was multiplied by an uncertainty factor of 0.1 to derive a very conservative TRV of 20.8 mg/kg/d.<sup>d</sup> Sample et al. 1996

**Table 3**  
**Exposure Area and Area Use Factors for Ecological Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 4**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Exposure Point	Exposure Area <sup>a</sup> (hectares)	Area Use Factor (AUF)								
		Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter	Bald Eagle	American Robin	Red-Tailed Hawk	Meadow Vole	Red Fox
Ecological Exposure Area 4	3.4	0.78%	1.50%	100%	0.98%	0.15%	100%	0.388%	100%	0.28%

**NOTES:**

<sup>a</sup> Exposure Area 4 is located northwest of Unit 5 Inactive Ash Basin. The area includes a section of the Broad River, upstream of the Active Ash Basin, and wooded areas on the plant side of the river.

**Table 4**  
**EPCs for Use in the Risk Assessment**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 4**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

COPC	CASRN	Aquatic EPCs <sup>a, b</sup>	
		Sediment EPC Used in Risk Assessment <sup>c</sup> (mg/kg)	Surface Water EPC Used in Risk Assessment (mg/L)
Aluminum	7429-90-5		0.299
Barium	7440-39-3	160	

**NOTES:**

COPC - Constituent of Potential Concern

CASRN - Chemical Abstracts Service Registration Number

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration

<sup>a</sup> EPCs for surface water and sediment are based on maximum detected values.

<sup>b</sup> Surface water and sediment data are used to evaluate aquatic receptors.

<sup>c</sup> Analysis of solids (i.e., soil and sediment) was reported as dry weight.



Table 5  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Mallard Duck  
 Ecological Exposure Area 4  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC <sub>w</sub>		EPC <sub>s</sub>		EPC <sub>v</sub>			EPC <sub>i</sub>			AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:															
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	Estimated <sup>2</sup> Concentration in Invertebrates (mg/kg dry)	WATER		PLANTS/VEGETATION				INVERTEBRATES			SOIL			BF	ADD <sub>v</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>	
									NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>v</sub>	NIR <sub>p</sub>	ADD <sub>v</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>i</sub>	S <sub>s</sub>	NIR <sub>s</sub>	ADD <sub>s</sub>						
Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Plant Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Plant Ingestion Rate, Dry (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Plant (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Soil (percent)	Soil Ingestion <sup>3</sup> Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Soil (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Omnivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Omnivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)										
Aluminum	0.3		0.0008		0.0000	1		0.00	0.057	0.017	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.000000	48%	0.007	0.0000		3.3%	0.00029	0.00000	100%	0.02	1	0.008	0.000133
Barium		160	0.03		4.8000	1		160.00	0.057	0.000	48%	0.068	0.0049	0.023648	48%	0.007	1.1561		3.3%	0.00029	0.04668	100%	1.2264	1	0.008	0.009586

NOTES:  
 EPC - Exposure Point Concentration  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose  
 BF - Bioavailability Factor  
 BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor  
 BCF - Bioconcentration Factor  
 SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 AUF - Area Use Factor

<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b; Bies et al. 1984 (No); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-03 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b; Table 2; median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.  
<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 6  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Great Blue Heron  
 Ecological Exposure Area 4  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>	EPC <sub>fish</sub>	EPC <sub>inb</sub>	Slope, or Invertebrate Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	EPC <sub>i</sub>	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:									BF	ADD <sub>i</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
								WATER		FISH				INVERTEBRATES							
								NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>f</sub>	A <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	ADD <sub>i</sub>					
COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Fish Uptake (BCF)	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)		Estimated <sup>2</sup> Concentration in Invertebrates (mg/kg dry)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Invertebrates (percent)	Invertebrates Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Invertebrates (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>3</sup> (percent)	Piscivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Piscivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)		
Aluminum	0.3		0.1	0.03	1		0.30	0.045	0.013	90%	0.18	0.162	0.005	10%	0.004	0.0011	100%	0.02	1	0.015	0.000
Barium		160	4	0.00	1		0.00	0.045	0.000	90%	0.18	0.162	0.000	10%	0.004	0.0000	100%	0.00000	1	0.015	0.000

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Al (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998b, Table 2, median BAFs for sediment to benthic invertebrates for As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, and Zn; Sample et al. 1998b (earthworms) for Mn; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>3</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 7  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for Muskrat  
 Ecological Exposure Area 4  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	EPC		Slope, or Plant Uptake (BAF)	Intercept	EPC <sub>p</sub>	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:										BF	ADD <sub>i</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
	EPC <sub>w</sub>	EPC <sub>s</sub>				WATER		PLANTS / VEGETATION				SOIL								
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)				NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>o</sub>	ADD <sub>p</sub>	S <sub>i</sub>	NIR <sub>s</sub>	ADD <sub>s</sub>						
Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Vegetation (mg/kg dry)	Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Plant Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Plant Ingestion Rate, Dry (kg/kg/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Plant (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Soil (percent)	Soil Ingestion Rate (kg dry/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Soil (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>2</sup> (percent)	Herbivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Herbivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)						
Aluminum	0.3		0.0008		0.0000	0.97	0.29	99%	0.3	0.045	0.00000	1%	0.000273	0.00000	100%	0.29	1	1	0.29	
Barium		160	0.03		4.8000	0.97	0.00	99%	0.3	0.045	0.21449	1%	0.000273	0.00568	100%	0.22	1	1	0.22	

NOTES:

EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Bechtel Jacobs Company 1998a; Baes et al. 1984 (Mo); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999; default value of 1 is used for constituents for which a BAF could not be found.

<sup>2</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

Table 8  
 Calculation of Average Daily Doses for River Otter  
 Ecological Exposure Area 4  
 Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment  
 Duke Energy  
 Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC

Analyte	AVERAGE DAILY DOSE VIA:															
	EPC <sub>w</sub>		EPC <sub>s</sub>		EPC <sub>PREY</sub>	DRINKING WATER		FISH				BF	ADD <sub>t</sub>	SUF	AUF	ADD <sub>tot</sub>
	COPEC in Water (mg/L)	COPEC in Solid (mg/kg)	Fish Uptake (BCF)	Estimated <sup>1</sup> Concentration in Fish (mg/kg)		NIR <sub>w</sub>	ADD <sub>w</sub>	P <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>f</sub>	NIR <sub>a</sub>	ADD <sub>a</sub>					
Water Ingestion Rate (L/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose Water (mg/kg/day)	Fraction Diet Animal Matter (percent)	Food Ingestion Rate, Wet (kg/kg BW/day)	Fish Ingestion Rate (kg/kg BW/day)	Unadjusted Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)	Bioavailability <sup>2</sup> (percent)	Piscivore Intake (mg/kg/day)	Seasonal Use Factor (unitless)	Area Use Factor (Exposure Area/Home Range)	Adjusted Total Piscivore Average Daily Dose (mg/kg/day)						
Aluminum	0.3		0.1	0.03	0.081	0.024	100%	0.19	0.19	0.0057	100%	0.030	1	0.010	0.000292	
Barium		160	4	0.00	0.081	0.000	100%	0.19	0.19	0.000	100%	0.000	1	0.010	0.000000	

**NOTES:**  
 EPC - Exposure Point Concentration      BF - Bioavailability Factor      SUF - Seasonal Use Factor  
 NIR - Normalized Ingestion Rate      BAF - Bioaccumulation Factor      AUF - Area Use Factor  
 ADD - Average Daily Dose      BCF - Bioconcentration Factor

<sup>1</sup> Al (Voigt et al. 2015), mean of fish tissue BAFs; Cu (USEPA 1980); Environmental Restoration Division - Manual ERD-AG-003 1999.  
<sup>2</sup> Bioavailability is set to a default of 100% to be conservative and protective of ecological receptors.

**Table 9**  
**Hazard Quotients for COPCs - Aquatic Receptors**  
**Ecological Exposure Area 4**  
**Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Cliffside Steam Station, Mooresboro, NC**

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'No Observed Adverse Effects Level'			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	1.21E-06	2.64E-06	1.50E-01	1.51E-04
Barium	4.61E-04		4.25E-03	

Analyte	Wildlife Receptor Hazard Quotient Estimated using the 'Lowest Observed Adverse Effects			
	Aquatic			
	Mallard Duck	Great Blue Heron	Muskrat	River Otter
Aluminum	1.21E-07	2.64E-07	1.50E-02	1.51E-05
Barium	2.30E-04		2.94E-03	

**NOTES:**

Hazard Quotients greater than or equal to 1 are highlighted in gray and in boldface.

NM - Not measured due to lack of a Toxicity Reference Value

<sup>1</sup> The bald eagle was added to this risk assessment model because the species is federally protected and represents a raptor that preys upon fish, primarily, while the Red-Tailed Hawk primarily preys upon small terrestrial vertebrates (e.g., rodents, snakes, etc.). Hazard quotient calculations for the Bald Eagle include hypothetical consumption of fish that inhabit adjacent surface water areas in addition to terrestrial vertebrates that inhabit adjacent areas.

## **Appendix C**

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### **Exposure Modeling and Human Health Risk Assessment for Diesel Emissions**

# **Air Dispersion Modeling for CSS Ash Basin Closure**

I used screening models to evaluate the potential for both cancer and non-cancer risks from diesel exhaust emissions due to increased trucking operations related to the closure of the coal ash basins at the Duke Energy Cliffside Steam Station (CSS). The calculated cancer and non-cancer risks are associated with increased diesel trucking activity near residential properties that lie along transportation corridors near CSS. Modelling was conducted for simultaneous closure of the inactive Unit 5 basin/active ash basin in the following combinations (Unit 5/Active Basin): CIP/CIP, CIP/Excavation, CIP/Hybrid, Excavation/CIP, Excavation/Excavation, and Excavation/Hybrid. Details of these closure options are provided in the main body of the report.

Emission rates for the fleet of diesel trucks operating as part of closure activities were calculated based on truck activity and emission factors representative of the region from the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Mobile Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES). I estimated airborne concentrations of emitted pollutants using the EPA model AERMOD for atmospheric dispersion and transport. AERMOD is a Gaussian plume model that accounts for the impacts of meteorology and land characteristics on airborne pollutants. Together these tools allowed for the estimation of airborne concentrations of diesel particulate matter (DPM) emitted from passing trucks and subsequent calculation of potential non-cancer health impacts (hazard index [HI]) and cancer risk estimates (excess lifetime cancer risk [ELCR]).

The following sections detail the data and models used in this evaluation, including the meteorological data, trucking operations, emissions calculations, and dispersion modeling. I also include additional discussion of the results and associated uncertainties.

# Methodology

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## Meteorological Data

AERMOD-ready five-year<sup>1</sup> meteorological data sets of hourly surface meteorological data for the years 2012–2016 were generated from the National Weather Service (NWS) Surface Observing System station at the Shelby-Cleveland County Regional Airport (KEHO) in Shelby, North Carolina.<sup>2</sup> The Shelby-Cleveland County Regional Airport is located approximately 15 km from CSS. I judged this station to be representative of the meteorology in the region of CSS. Surface parameters applied to the modeling study included wind speed and direction, temperature, pressure, relative humidity, and cloud cover. Twice daily rawinsonde<sup>3</sup> observations of upper air winds and temperatures were also taken from Greensboro, North Carolina (KGSO), which, at 195 km from CSS, is the closest upper air sounding site.

The meteorological data were processed using AERMET (v16216) with default options.<sup>4</sup> AERSURFACE<sup>5</sup> was used to define the land-use characteristics in the region around the surface observational site (i.e., Shelby-Cleveland County Regional Airport). The surface characteristics, which are important when calculating the level of atmospheric dispersion in meteorological modeling, include surface roughness, albedo,<sup>6</sup> and Bowen ratio<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Use of five years of meteorological data is standard in regulatory application of AERMOD (EPA Guideline on Air Quality Models, Section 8.3.1, 2005).

<sup>2</sup> Integrated surface hourly weather observations are available at <ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa/>. 2-minute average ASOS wind data are available at <ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/asos-onemin/>.

<sup>3</sup> A rawinsonde is a device typically carried by weather balloons that collects meteorological and atmospheric data, especially regarding winds.

<sup>4</sup> AERMET is an EPA program that will read standard recorded meteorological observations, calculate boundary layer meteorological parameters, and output the data in a format readable by the AERMOD model (U.S. EPA 2016).

<sup>5</sup> AERSURFACE is the EPA model used to calculate average land-use characteristics. It can read standard databases and calculate the average values of surface roughness, albedo, and Bowen ratios, consistent with EPA recommended methods.

<sup>6</sup> Albedo is the ratio of reflected flux density to incident flux density. It indicates how much incoming energy is absorbed by the land surface. Light surfaces (such as snow) will reflect higher levels of incoming energy.

<sup>7</sup> Bowen ratio is the ratio of sensible to latent heat fluxes from the earth's surface up into the air. Lower Bowen ratio is indicative of greater water content in the land surface.



## Trucking Operations

Diesel emissions estimates from trucking are based on the number of trucks passing a given receptor location along transportation corridors used during ash basin closure. The total number of offsite truckloads required for transporting ash, earthen fill, and geosynthetic materials under the CSS closure options were projected by Duke Energy (2018). These truckloads equate to 13,230 total truck passes for the CIP/CIP closure; 16,334 total truck passes for the CIP/Excavation closure; 13,192 truck passes for the CIP/Hybrid closure; 14,762 truck passes for the Excavation/CIP closure; 17,866 truck passes for Excavation/Excavation closure; and 14,724 truck passes for the Excavation/Hybrid closure. I included only loads hauling earthen fill, geosynthetic materials, and other materials along offsite transportation corridors in transportation emissions estimates for all closure options because trucks hauling ash do not leave CSS. Onsite loads of over-excavated soil<sup>8</sup> and earthen fill were also not included in emissions estimates. Trucks hauling earthen fill are assumed to travel 11 miles one way from the site, and trucks hauling geosynthetic material are assumed to travel 260 miles one way from Georgetown, South Carolina. Air modeling is conducted for a receptor along the transportation route within the 11-mile radius traveled both by trucks hauling earthen fill and trucks hauling geosynthetic material. Trucks are assumed to travel in round trips, so the number of material loads was doubled to represent the number of truck passes.

## AERMOD

The AERMOD modeling system (U.S. EPA 2016) is a steady-state plume model that incorporates air dispersion based on planetary boundary layer turbulence structure and scaling concepts, including treatment of surface and elevated sources. EPA's "Guideline on Air Quality Models" (U.S. EPA 2016) identifies AERMOD as the preferred refined dispersion modeling technique for receptors within 50 km of a modeled source.

The latest version of AERMOD (v16216r) was used with default options to conduct the modeling.

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<sup>8</sup> The 12 in. of soil beneath the ash that would also be removed as part of excavation.

## Modeled Source and Receptors

AERMOD was configured to simulate an approximately 1-km stretch of road. This road segment was assumed representative of any segment along the proposed transportation corridors. The road emission source was modeled as a continuous distribution of emission along the road due to the passage of multiple trucks. In the cross-road direction, the emissions drop off based on a normal (or Gaussian) distribution. The road emissions were represented using a line of closely spaced volume sources running down the center of the road. Volume sources define the initial pollutant distribution based on an initial release height and the standard deviation of the normal distribution in both the vertical and horizontal directions (sigma-y and sigma-z). The appropriate values for the release height and standard deviations were calculated based on guidance in EPA's Haul Road Working Group Final Report (U.S. EPA 2010).

Transport and dispersion of pollutants away from the road segment may be sensitive to the predominant wind directions at the site and the orientation of the road compared to those predominant wind directions. To fully evaluate the impacts of any road segment, four orientations of the road were considered. Modeled orientations included roads running north/south, east/west, northeast/southwest, and northwest/southeast. For each modeled road orientation, receptors were included on both sides of the road to represent impacts at distances between 10 and 150 m from the edge of the road. The representative road segments and sampling receptor locations are shown in Figure C-1.

AERMOD was run for the five-year period (2012–2016) defined by the meteorological data. The resulting five-year average dispersion factors were assumed representative of long-term average dispersion of truck roadway emissions along roads in this region.

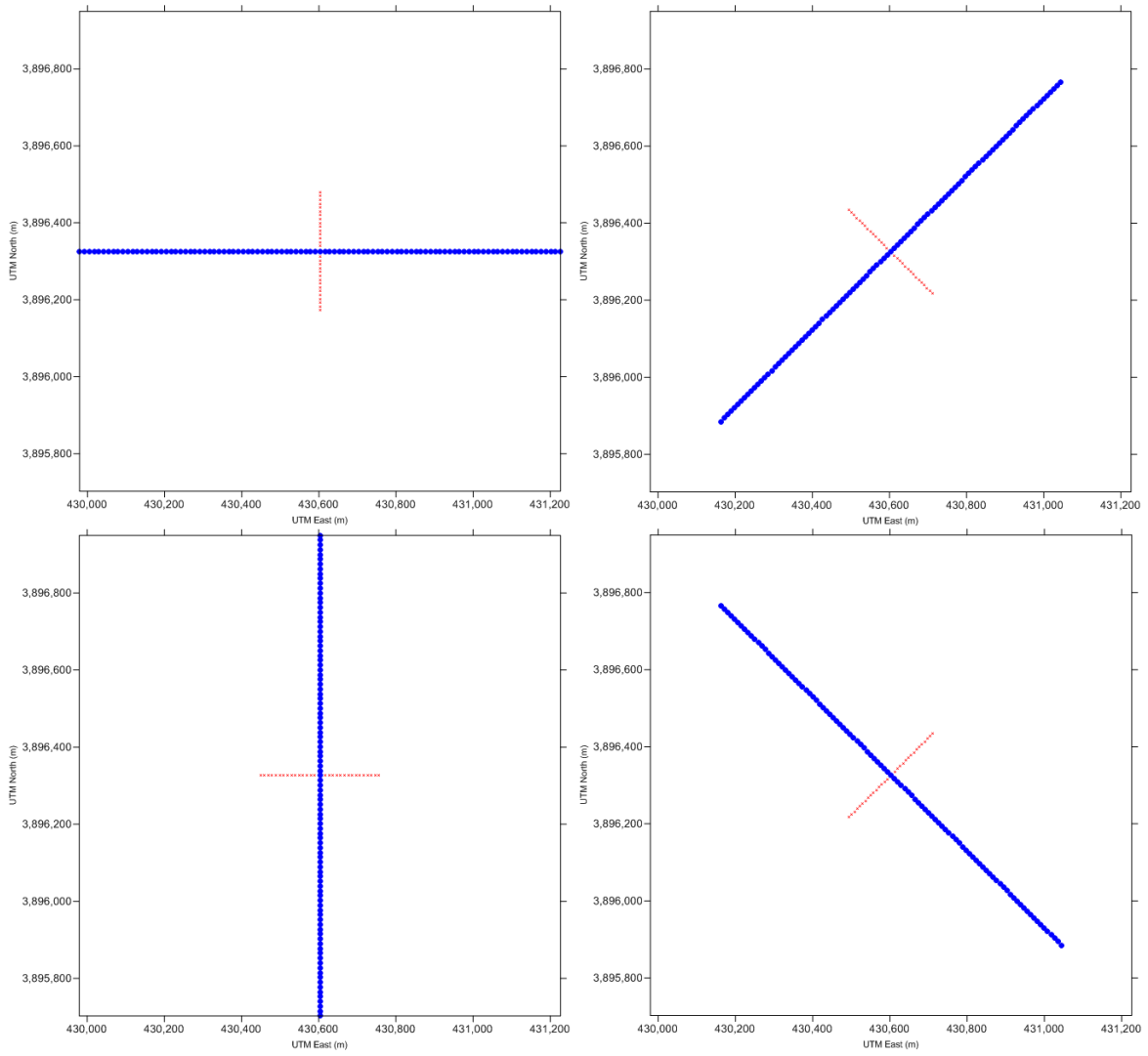


Figure C-1. Location of road sources (blue) and sampling receptors (red) for each of four road orientations

## Source Emission Rates

Emission rates for mobile sources are typically calculated based on a combination of emission factors and activity rates. The emission factors define the amount of pollutant emitted per unit distance traveled (grams of pollutant per kilometer traveled), and the activity rates define how much activity occurs (i.e., the number of kilometers driven by the vehicles). Emission factors will be specific to the type of vehicle being considered, the model year, the age of the vehicle, and the local climate. For this evaluation, EPA's MOVES model was used to define fleet average emission factors for various years between 2018 and 2050 (2050 is the last year simulated by MOVES) (U.S. EPA 2015). These emission factors are specific to North Carolina and have been selected to represent large, single-unit diesel trucks.

Tailpipe emissions from diesel trucks (DPM) are the subset of PM<sub>10</sub> of particular interest when evaluating the cancer and non-cancer risk estimates in this analysis. The DPM emission factors generated by MOVES were multiplied by the expected number of trucks under each of the considered closure options to calculate emission rates for each one.

For the cancer risk analysis, emissions were calculated as an average over the regulatory default 70-year residential exposure duration. If the truck activity for a closure option occurs over a shorter period, the duration of the truck activity exposure is factored into the 70-year averaging time (OEHHA 2015). These average emission rates were multiplied by the dispersion factors calculated by AERMOD to predict airborne concentrations. The resulting values were then multiplied by the cancer unit risk factor<sup>9</sup> to quantify cancer risk.

For the non-cancer analysis, airborne concentrations of DPM were calculated and compared to the non-cancer risk threshold of 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.<sup>10</sup> In this case, the average concentrations are not tied to a 70-year period and are calculated over the period of operation for each closure option.

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<sup>9</sup> A "reasonable estimate" for the inhalation unit risk of  $3.0 \times 10^{-4} (\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3)^{-1}$  was applied based on California guidelines (OEHHA 2015).

<sup>10</sup> North Carolina defers to EPA's chronic non-cancer reference concentration (RfC) for diesel particulate matter of 5 µg/m<sup>3</sup> based on diesel engine exhaust to estimate risk from diesel emissions (Integrated Risk Information System [IRIS]. U.S. EPA. Diesel engine exhaust).

## Uncertainties

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A number of uncertainties should be considered when evaluating the modeled results. First, air dispersion modeling is a mathematical calculation of pollutant transport and dispersion and may differ from real world conditions. Typically, for regulatory applications, air dispersion models are expected to predict concentrations within a factor of two (40 CFR Part 51). Longer averaging periods, such as those used in this study, would often have lower uncertainties as compared with shorter average periods such as 1-hour or 24-hour averages.

The calculation of emission factors is meant to represent fleet average characteristics. The fleet of trucks used at this specific site may differ from the average values included in MOVES. This may result in higher or lower actual emission rates. Additionally, MOVES includes predictions of future year emission factors based on typical patterns of vehicle turnover and any regulations scheduled to be implemented in future years. Not all future regulations are presently known and future conditions may vary from these estimates.

For the non-cancer risk, an evaluation of the average concentrations was calculated over the actual period of activity, which varies between closure options. For this portion of the evaluation, there was no accounting for how long the emissions were present. The non-cancer risk value is generally considered applicable over a period of approximately eight years. For activities that occur for less than eight years, comparison with this risk value may overstate the actual risk. Correspondingly, for activities that run significantly longer than eight years, there may be sub-periods with higher average concentrations and higher associated non-cancer risk.

## Results

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Worst-case impacts were calculated for each distance from the modeled road. The worst-case result represents the highest value calculated over the four road orientations. This may not be the same orientation for all distances. For example, a road that runs northeast/southwest aligns with the predominant wind direction. This results in higher concentrations for receptors close to the road. For receptors farther away from the edge of the road, the worst case occurs for a northwest/southeast road where winds are perpendicular to the road. Worst-case results are reported in Table 9-2 of the main report. The following sections include results for all road orientations and distances from both sides of the road.

### **Model-estimated cancer risk**

ELCR results for the four road orientations and both sides of the road are provided in Table C-1.

**Table C-1. ELCR estimates from DPM exposure due to trucking operations associated with closure of the CSS ash basins under combinations of CIP closure, excavation closure, and hybrid closure. Results are for each road orientation and distances from both sides of the road (ELCR columns per orientation).**

	E-W Run		NE-SW Run		N-S Run		NW-SE Run		
<b>CIP/CIP</b>									
10 m	1.5E-09	1.5E-09	1.9E-09	2.1E-09	2.1E-09	2.0E-09	1.3E-09	1.6E-09	
20 m	1.5E-09	1.5E-09	1.6E-09	1.8E-09	1.8E-09	1.7E-09	1.4E-09	1.6E-09	
30 m	1.3E-09	1.2E-09	1.2E-09	1.5E-09	1.4E-09	1.3E-09	1.1E-09	1.4E-09	
40 m	1.1E-09	9.8E-10	1.0E-09	1.2E-09	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	9.2E-10	1.1E-09	
50 m	9.2E-10	8.4E-10	8.4E-10	1.0E-09	9.7E-10	9.3E-10	7.8E-10	9.9E-10	
60 m	8.1E-10	7.3E-10	7.2E-10	8.7E-10	8.4E-10	8.1E-10	6.8E-10	8.7E-10	
70 m	7.2E-10	6.5E-10	6.3E-10	7.7E-10	7.3E-10	7.1E-10	6.0E-10	7.8E-10	
80 m	6.5E-10	5.8E-10	5.5E-10	6.9E-10	6.5E-10	6.3E-10	5.4E-10	7.1E-10	
90 m	5.9E-10	5.2E-10	4.9E-10	6.2E-10	5.8E-10	5.6E-10	4.9E-10	6.4E-10	
100 m	5.4E-10	4.8E-10	4.4E-10	5.6E-10	5.2E-10	5.1E-10	4.5E-10	5.9E-10	
110 m	5.0E-10	4.4E-10	4.0E-10	5.2E-10	4.8E-10	4.6E-10	4.1E-10	5.5E-10	
120 m	4.7E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	4.8E-10	4.4E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	5.1E-10	
130 m	4.4E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	4.4E-10	4.0E-10	3.9E-10	3.5E-10	4.8E-10	
140 m	4.1E-10	3.5E-10	3.1E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	3.6E-10	3.3E-10	4.5E-10	
150 m	3.9E-10	3.3E-10	2.8E-10	3.9E-10	3.4E-10	3.4E-10	3.1E-10	4.2E-10	
<b>CIP/Excavation</b>									
10 m	1.5E-09	1.5E-09	1.9E-09	2.2E-09	2.1E-09	2.0E-09	1.4E-09	1.6E-09	
20 m	1.5E-09	1.5E-09	1.6E-09	1.9E-09	1.8E-09	1.7E-09	1.4E-09	1.7E-09	
30 m	1.3E-09	1.2E-09	1.3E-09	1.5E-09	1.4E-09	1.4E-09	1.1E-09	1.4E-09	
40 m	1.1E-09	9.9E-10	1.0E-09	1.2E-09	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	9.3E-10	1.2E-09	
50 m	9.3E-10	8.5E-10	8.5E-10	1.0E-09	9.9E-10	9.4E-10	7.9E-10	1.0E-09	
60 m	8.1E-10	7.4E-10	7.3E-10	8.8E-10	8.5E-10	8.1E-10	6.9E-10	8.8E-10	
70 m	7.3E-10	6.5E-10	6.3E-10	7.8E-10	7.4E-10	7.1E-10	6.1E-10	7.9E-10	
80 m	6.6E-10	5.9E-10	5.6E-10	6.9E-10	6.6E-10	6.3E-10	5.5E-10	7.1E-10	
90 m	6.0E-10	5.3E-10	5.0E-10	6.3E-10	5.9E-10	5.7E-10	4.9E-10	6.5E-10	
100 m	5.5E-10	4.8E-10	4.5E-10	5.7E-10	5.3E-10	5.2E-10	4.5E-10	6.0E-10	
110 m	5.1E-10	4.5E-10	4.1E-10	5.2E-10	4.8E-10	4.7E-10	4.1E-10	5.5E-10	
120 m	4.7E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	4.8E-10	4.4E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	5.1E-10	
130 m	4.4E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	4.5E-10	4.1E-10	4.0E-10	3.6E-10	4.8E-10	
140 m	4.2E-10	3.6E-10	3.1E-10	4.2E-10	3.7E-10	3.7E-10	3.3E-10	4.5E-10	
150 m	3.9E-10	3.4E-10	2.9E-10	3.9E-10	3.5E-10	3.4E-10	3.1E-10	4.3E-10	
<b>CIP/Hybrid</b>									
10 m	1.3E-09	1.4E-09	1.8E-09	2.0E-09	1.9E-09	1.8E-09	1.2E-09	1.5E-09	
20 m	1.4E-09	1.4E-09	1.5E-09	1.7E-09	1.7E-09	1.6E-09	1.3E-09	1.5E-09	
30 m	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	1.2E-09	1.3E-09	1.3E-09	1.3E-09	1.0E-09	1.3E-09	
40 m	9.9E-10	9.1E-10	9.4E-10	1.1E-09	1.1E-09	1.0E-09	8.5E-10	1.1E-09	
50 m	8.5E-10	7.8E-10	7.8E-10	9.4E-10	9.1E-10	8.7E-10	7.3E-10	9.2E-10	
60 m	7.5E-10	6.8E-10	6.7E-10	8.1E-10	7.8E-10	7.5E-10	6.3E-10	8.1E-10	
70 m	6.7E-10	6.0E-10	5.8E-10	7.2E-10	6.8E-10	6.6E-10	5.6E-10	7.3E-10	
80 m	6.0E-10	5.4E-10	5.1E-10	6.4E-10	6.0E-10	5.8E-10	5.0E-10	6.6E-10	
90 m	5.5E-10	4.9E-10	4.6E-10	5.8E-10	5.4E-10	5.2E-10	4.5E-10	6.0E-10	
100 m	5.1E-10	4.4E-10	4.1E-10	5.2E-10	4.9E-10	4.7E-10	4.1E-10	5.5E-10	
110 m	4.7E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	4.8E-10	4.4E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	5.1E-10	
120 m	4.4E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	4.4E-10	4.1E-10	4.0E-10	3.5E-10	4.7E-10	
130 m	4.1E-10	3.5E-10	3.1E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	3.7E-10	3.3E-10	4.4E-10	
140 m	3.8E-10	3.3E-10	2.9E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	3.4E-10	3.1E-10	4.2E-10	
150 m	3.6E-10	3.1E-10	2.6E-10	3.6E-10	3.2E-10	3.1E-10	2.9E-10	3.9E-10	

**Table C-1. (cont.) ELCR estimates from DPM exposure due to trucking operations associated with closure of the CSS ash basins under combinations of CIP closure, excavation closure, and hybrid closure. Results for each road orientation and distances from both sides of the road (ELCR columns per orientation).**

	E-W Run		NE-SW Run		N-S Run		NW-SE Run	
<b>Excavation/CIP</b>								
10 m	1.6E-09	1.7E-09	2.1E-09	2.4E-09	2.3E-09	2.2E-09	1.5E-09	1.8E-09
20 m	1.7E-09	1.6E-09	1.8E-09	2.0E-09	2.0E-09	1.9E-09	1.5E-09	1.8E-09
30 m	1.4E-09	1.3E-09	1.4E-09	1.6E-09	1.6E-09	1.5E-09	1.2E-09	1.5E-09
40 m	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	1.1E-09	1.3E-09	1.3E-09	1.2E-09	1.0E-09	1.3E-09
50 m	1.0E-09	9.3E-10	9.4E-10	1.1E-09	1.1E-09	1.0E-09	8.7E-10	1.1E-09
60 m	9.0E-10	8.1E-10	8.0E-10	9.8E-10	9.4E-10	9.0E-10	7.6E-10	9.8E-10
70 m	8.0E-10	7.2E-10	7.0E-10	8.6E-10	8.2E-10	7.9E-10	6.7E-10	8.7E-10
80 m	7.2E-10	6.5E-10	6.2E-10	7.7E-10	7.3E-10	7.0E-10	6.0E-10	7.9E-10
90 m	6.6E-10	5.8E-10	5.5E-10	6.9E-10	6.5E-10	6.3E-10	5.4E-10	7.2E-10
100 m	6.1E-10	5.3E-10	4.9E-10	6.3E-10	5.9E-10	5.7E-10	5.0E-10	6.6E-10
110 m	5.6E-10	4.9E-10	4.5E-10	5.8E-10	5.3E-10	5.2E-10	4.6E-10	6.1E-10
120 m	5.2E-10	4.5E-10	4.1E-10	5.3E-10	4.9E-10	4.8E-10	4.2E-10	5.7E-10
130 m	4.9E-10	4.2E-10	3.7E-10	4.9E-10	4.5E-10	4.4E-10	3.9E-10	5.3E-10
140 m	4.6E-10	4.0E-10	3.4E-10	4.6E-10	4.1E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	5.0E-10
150 m	4.3E-10	3.7E-10	3.2E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	4.7E-10
<b>Excavation/Excavation</b>								
10 m	1.6E-09	1.7E-09	2.1E-09	2.4E-09	2.3E-09	2.2E-09	1.5E-09	1.8E-09
20 m	1.7E-09	1.6E-09	1.8E-09	2.0E-09	2.0E-09	1.9E-09	1.5E-09	1.8E-09
30 m	1.4E-09	1.3E-09	1.4E-09	1.6E-09	1.6E-09	1.5E-09	1.2E-09	1.5E-09
40 m	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	1.1E-09	1.3E-09	1.3E-09	1.2E-09	1.0E-09	1.3E-09
50 m	1.0E-09	9.3E-10	9.3E-10	1.1E-09	1.1E-09	1.0E-09	8.7E-10	1.1E-09
60 m	8.9E-10	8.1E-10	8.0E-10	9.7E-10	9.3E-10	8.9E-10	7.5E-10	9.7E-10
70 m	7.9E-10	7.1E-10	6.9E-10	8.5E-10	8.1E-10	7.8E-10	6.7E-10	8.6E-10
80 m	7.2E-10	6.4E-10	6.1E-10	7.6E-10	7.2E-10	6.9E-10	6.0E-10	7.8E-10
90 m	6.5E-10	5.8E-10	5.4E-10	6.8E-10	6.4E-10	6.2E-10	5.4E-10	7.1E-10
100 m	6.0E-10	5.3E-10	4.9E-10	6.2E-10	5.8E-10	5.6E-10	4.9E-10	6.5E-10
110 m	5.6E-10	4.9E-10	4.4E-10	5.7E-10	5.3E-10	5.1E-10	4.5E-10	6.1E-10
120 m	5.2E-10	4.5E-10	4.0E-10	5.3E-10	4.8E-10	4.7E-10	4.2E-10	5.6E-10
130 m	4.9E-10	4.2E-10	3.7E-10	4.9E-10	4.4E-10	4.3E-10	3.9E-10	5.3E-10
140 m	4.6E-10	3.9E-10	3.4E-10	4.6E-10	4.1E-10	4.0E-10	3.6E-10	4.9E-10
150 m	4.3E-10	3.7E-10	3.1E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	3.7E-10	3.4E-10	4.6E-10
<b>Excavation/Hybrid</b>								
10 m	1.5E-09	1.6E-09	2.0E-09	2.2E-09	2.1E-09	2.1E-09	1.4E-09	1.7E-09
20 m	1.6E-09	1.5E-09	1.7E-09	1.9E-09	1.8E-09	1.8E-09	1.4E-09	1.7E-09
30 m	1.3E-09	1.2E-09	1.3E-09	1.5E-09	1.5E-09	1.4E-09	1.1E-09	1.4E-09
40 m	1.1E-09	1.0E-09	1.0E-09	1.2E-09	1.2E-09	1.1E-09	9.5E-10	1.2E-09
50 m	9.5E-10	8.7E-10	8.7E-10	1.0E-09	1.0E-09	9.7E-10	8.1E-10	1.0E-09
60 m	8.4E-10	7.6E-10	7.5E-10	9.1E-10	8.7E-10	8.4E-10	7.1E-10	9.1E-10
70 m	7.5E-10	6.7E-10	6.5E-10	8.0E-10	7.6E-10	7.3E-10	6.3E-10	8.1E-10
80 m	6.7E-10	6.0E-10	5.7E-10	7.1E-10	6.7E-10	6.5E-10	5.6E-10	7.3E-10
90 m	6.1E-10	5.4E-10	5.1E-10	6.4E-10	6.0E-10	5.8E-10	5.1E-10	6.7E-10
100 m	5.6E-10	5.0E-10	4.6E-10	5.9E-10	5.4E-10	5.3E-10	4.6E-10	6.1E-10
110 m	5.2E-10	4.6E-10	4.2E-10	5.4E-10	4.9E-10	4.8E-10	4.3E-10	5.7E-10
120 m	4.9E-10	4.2E-10	3.8E-10	5.0E-10	4.5E-10	4.4E-10	3.9E-10	5.3E-10
130 m	4.5E-10	3.9E-10	3.5E-10	4.6E-10	4.2E-10	4.1E-10	3.7E-10	4.9E-10
140 m	4.3E-10	3.7E-10	3.2E-10	4.3E-10	3.8E-10	3.8E-10	3.4E-10	4.6E-10
150 m	4.0E-10	3.4E-10	3.0E-10	4.0E-10	3.6E-10	3.5E-10	3.2E-10	4.4E-10



# Model-estimated non-cancer risk

HI results for the four road orientations and both sides of the road are provided in Table C-2.

**Table C-2. HI estimates from DPM exposure due to trucking operations associated with closure of the CSS ash basins under combinations of CIP closure, excavation closure, and hybrid closure. Results are for each road orientation and distances from both sides of the road (HI columns per orientation).**

	E-W Run		NE-SW Run		N-S Run		NW-SE Run		
<b>CIP/CIP</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
<b>CIP/Excavation</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
<b>CIP/Hybrid</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

**Table C-2. (cont.) HI estimates from DPM exposure due to trucking operations associated with closure of the CSS ash basins under combinations of CIP closure, excavation closure, and hybrid closure. Results are for each road orientation and distances from both sides of the road (HI columns per orientation).**

	E-W Run		NE-SW Run		N-S Run		NW-SE Run		
<b>Excavation/CIP</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
<b>Excavation/Excavation</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
<b>Excavation/Hybrid</b>									
10 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
20 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
30 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
40 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
50 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
60 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
70 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
80 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
90 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
100 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
110 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
120 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
130 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
140 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
150 m	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

## **Appendix D**

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### **Habitat Equivalency Analysis**

# Habitat Equivalency Analysis

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Habitat equivalency analysis (HEA) was used to estimate changes in environmental service levels under different closure options for the Duke Energy Cliffside Steam Station (CSS). The extent of environmental service flows currently provided by ash basin habitats (wooded areas, open field, open water, etc.) and associated sites (borrow/landfill areas) was calculated and compared to service flows provided by post-closure habitats in these areas.

The HEA proceeded in four steps:

1. **Estimate habitat areas:** The acres of different habitat types (e.g., forest, open field, open water, wetland) that would be affected by closure under each closure option (i.e., cap in place [CIP], excavation, and hybrid closures) were estimated from aerial imagery.
2. **Evaluate environmental service levels:** The relative level of environmental services provided by these habitats was estimated in terms of net primary productivity (NPP).
3. **Apply discounting for future services:** The relative levels of environmental services were calculated over time according to the construction implementation schedule developed by Duke Energy (2018) and expressed in units of discounted service acre-years (DSAYs).
4. **Calculate discounted environmental services:** DSAYs were summed across the gains and losses of each habitat type to produce a net gain or loss in environmental service levels for each closure option.

## Estimate Habitat Areas

Acres of current habitat types were calculated from geographic information system (GIS) files provided by Duke Energy that included spatial representations of the current acreage of open field, wetland, wooded area, and open water habitats surrounding the ash basin. The acreages of ash basin to be closed and land converted to landfill or borrow pit were based on information provided by Duke Energy (2018) according to the assumptions below. For the

excavation and hybrid options, the closure-by-removal portions of the ash basin were assumed to be restored to historical, pre-basin conditions. Historical acreage of forested, open field, and stream habitat types were estimated by measuring aerial photographs from 1955 provided in the comprehensive site assessment (CSA; SynTerra 2018a) using GIS. Unclassified current habitat areas in the ash basin footprint were assumed to be bare ground and to have a 0% service value. Historical habitat types were broadly classified into forest, open water, and open-unclassified areas since not all currently measured habitat types (e.g., scrub-shrub) could be resolved from historical images. Historical areas of forest sub-habitat types not resolved in the historical imagery were estimated by assuming the current (non-basin) site-wide percentages of broadleaf forest (70%), needleleaf forest (29%), and wetland forest (<1%) were applied to the historical forest areas within the ash basin footprint. Historical areas of open-unclassified (as forest or open water) habitat types were estimated by assuming the current site-wide percentages of scrub-shrub (56%), emergent wetland (0%), and open field (44%) applied to these areas within the historical ash basin footprint. It is important to note that not all closure options impacted all basin habitat areas, thus different closure options may be modeled in the HEA using different total areas.

Additional assumptions used to calculate habitat areas included:

- Stream habitats in the ash basin were not indicated for CSS in historical imagery and not included in the NPP services in ash basin restoration.
- Fill material for closure was assumed to be derived from excavation of basin dam features and new, onsite borrow pits. The areal extent of these borrow pits was calculated from the volume (cubic yards) of required earthen fill material, assuming borrow pits would be dug to 15 ft.
- Area lost to borrow pit excavation was assumed to contain forest habitat, which is the predominant non-basin habitat type on the CSS property.
- Borrow material required for CIP closure of the Unit 5 basin was assumed to not be available from closure activities in the active ash basin.

## Evaluate Environmental Services

NPP was used to standardize environmental services across habitat types. NPP is a measure of how much photosynthesis occurs in an area greater than the amount required by the plants for immediate respiration needs. Fundamentally, NPP is a measure of the energy available to perform environmental services and is a useful currency for comparing habitats (Efroymson et al. 2003). NPP is often referred to in terms of carbon fixation or carbon storage, as the removal of carbon from the atmosphere is a primary reaction of photosynthesis.

Of the habitats currently occurring on the site, broadleaf, needleleaf, and mixed forested areas have the highest NPP; that is, per acre of forest, photosynthesis fixes more carbon/produces more energy for environmental services (Ricklefs 2008). As such, NPP service levels for all habitat types were normalized to the NPP service level of forested habitat. Specifically, the service levels for all habitat types were expressed as a proportion of the maximum wooded area service level (He et al. 2012).

To compare results between the different closure options, a set of assumptions was used for all options evaluated.

- Figure 22.12 from Ricklefs (2008) was used as the basis for determining relative rates of NPP for different ecosystem types. For this evaluation, temperate forest (woodland) was considered the base habitat with a relative NPP of 100%. Other habitat types were normalized as a proportion of that value based on the relative levels of NPP shown in Ricklefs' Figure 22.12 (2008), using temperate grassland as representative of open fields and freshwater environments as representative of open water.
  - Based on Ricklefs' Figure 22.12 (2008), NPP values for open field and open water habitats were assumed to be 40% of the forest value. However, because aquatic habitats of the ash basin may not be functionally equivalent to naturally occurring freshwater ecosystems (e.g., less abundant or diverse vegetation), a habitat quality

adjustment factor of 4 was applied, lowering the relative NPP value for ash basin open water habitat to 10% of temperate forest NPP.

- Figure 2c from He et al. (2012) was used to estimate NPP of woodland areas based on stand age.
  - The NPP functions for the three forest types (broadleaf, needleleaf, mixed) from Figure 2c of He et al. (2012) were digitized to allow calculation of NPP by stand age. For example, for mixed forests this function shows rapidly increasing NPP up to a maximum at 45 years, after which the NPP declines slightly to level off at approximately 85% of the maximum.
  - All wooded areas currently occurring in the ash basin or on borrow or landfill areas were assumed to be 50 years old, which, based on He et al. (2012), provide approximately 97% of maximum NPP function in the case of broadleaf and mixed forests and 84% for needleleaf forests. Other habitats were normalized from the higher value using the relative rates of NPP described above.
- Baseline levels of service (NPP) in the absence of closure activities were assumed to continue at the current rate for 150 years, accounting for slight changes in wooded area NPP by age as calculated from the NPP function of He et al. (2012).

## **Apply Discounting for Future Services**

HEA applies a discounting function when calculating the amount of environmental services derived from an acre over a year and uses as its metric a discounted service acre-year, or DSAY. Discounting is necessary because environmental services occurring in the future are assumed to be less valuable to people than the same services performed now (Dunford et al. 2004; Desvousges et al. 2018; Penn undated). This allows the environmental services occurring far in the future to be considered on par with contemporary services. Thus, factors determining when

closure and remediation begin and the duration of these processes are important parameters of the final DSAY estimate.

I used the closure schedule provided by Duke Energy (2018) to develop timelines for habitat loss and gain under each closure option. For purposes of the HEA, only site preparation, construction, and site restoration times were included. Pre-design and design permitting periods were assumed to have no effect on environmental services. The closure schedule estimated duration of each activity in months; however, since the HEA model calculates DSAYs on an annual basis, the activity durations were rounded up the nearest full year. This has a negligible impact on DSAY estimates.

The following assumptions were then used to standardize timing of activities among the closure options:

- For all closure options, removal of existing onsite habitats was assumed to occur in the year that construction begins and was assumed to be completed the same year such that no environmental service is provided by the end of the first construction year.
- Environmental services of areas used for borrow or as landfill were assumed to be lost in the year construction starts, and borrow/landfill site preparation was assumed to be complete the same year such that no environmental service is provided by the end of the first construction year.
- Environmental service gains from restoration (ash basin and borrow area) were assumed to begin in the year following completion of construction activities.
- Post-closure habitats were presumed eventually to provide the same level of service as equivalent pre-closure habitats with the following conditions:
  - Forests would be age 0 in the year when restoration was completed and would generate an increasing level of NPP as they grow,



following the rates calculated from the NPP curves of He et al. (2012).

- Restored open field habitat would take five years (based on professional judgement) to reach the baseline relative to forest NPP of 40%, with service levels increasing linearly over that time.
  - Restored wetland and stream habitat would be functionally equivalent to natural freshwater ecosystems and would provide an NPP relative to forests of 40% after five years (based on professional judgement), increasing linearly over that time.
  - Periodic mowing is required to maintain a grass cap, so grass cap was assumed never to reach a level of service equivalent to an open field. Grass cap was assumed to have 20% of the NPP service level for open field, which is 8% of forest NPP. Grass cap was assigned a post-closure service level of 8%, with full service attained in 2 years.
  - Bare ground was assumed to provide no environmental service.
- The base year for discounting is 2019 for all closure options.
  - A discount rate of 3% is applied for all closure options.
  - The HEA is run for 150 years for all closure options.

## **Calculate Discounted Environmental Services**

Calculation of DSAYs is a summation of the discounted losses and gains in service values across habitat types. The net DSAYs calculated for each closure option are reported in Table 10-1 of the main body of this report.

A sensitivity analysis of key parameters (based on professional experience) and assumptions used in the HEA was conducted to evaluate how sensitive the HEA results are to changes in (1) the duration over which the services were evaluated (i.e., 150 years), (2) the assumed relative NPP of ash basin open water and open fields, and (3) habitat created by restoration of borrow

areas. The results are discussed in the context of uncertainty in the net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) in Appendix E.

## **Appendix E**

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### **Net Environmental Benefit Analysis**

# Net Environmental Benefit Analysis

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Net environmental benefit analysis (NEBA) is a structured framework for comparing impacts and benefits to environmental services to support decision-making (Efroymson et al. 2003, 2004). In the NEBA application for the Cliffside Steam Station (CSS) ash basin closure, a risk-ranking approach, based on that described by Robberson (2006), was applied. The risk-ranking approach develops alphanumerical estimates of relative risk by closure option and by attribute (e.g., risk to a receptor, change in environmental services), which allows comparison of the relative differences in impact between closure options to a variety of attributes. In this way, tradeoffs can be visualized to inform decision-making.

## Risk-Ranking Matrix

The risk-ranking matrix includes two axes that characterize risk. The y-axis shows the level of impact, or risk, to an attribute, and the x-axis shows the duration of the impact (which is directly related to the time to recovery). Both are important to evaluate the relative differences in risk posed by closure options. A moderate level of impact over a long duration can potentially have an overall greater negative impact on the environment than a higher impact over a very short period (Robberson 2006). The pattern of shading of the risk matrix conveys this general principle, though the exact shading of the cells is based on best professional judgement. Robberson (2006) describes darker shading as indicating a higher level of concern over the level of impact to a resource or environmental service. The NEBA matrix developed by the Operational Science Advisory Team-2 (OSAT 2011) used a similar color coding approach to compare risk from further cleanup of oil on beaches of the Gulf of Mexico following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The risk-ranking matrix used in the NEBA of closure options for the CSS ash basins is shown in Table E-1.

**Table E-1. Risk-ranking matrix for impacts and risk from closure activities. Darker shading and higher codes indicate greater impact.**

		Duration of Impact (years)			
		10–15 (4)	5–9 (3)	1–4 (2)	<1 (1)
% Impact	No meaningful risk	--	--	--	--
	<5% (A)	4A	3A	2A	1A
	5–19% (B)	4B	3B	2B	1B
	20–39% (C)	4C	3C	2C	1C
	40–59% (D)	4D	3D	2D	1D
	60–79% (E)	4E	3E	2E	1E
	>80% (F)	4F	3F	2F	1F

The percent impact levels (e.g., <5%, 5–19%) were defined based on best professional judgement and regulatory precedent. A <5% impact characterizes a very minor potential or expected impact that may be functionally indistinct from baseline conditions due to uncertainty in metrics or the estimated effects. As such, this level of impact was given no shading, regardless of the duration of impact. Impacts between 5–19% are considered low in the NEBA framework (Efroymsen et al. 2003). This impact level was shaded to reflect this low risk. Levels of impact >20% were separated at intervals of 20% based on best professional judgement and consistent with the risk-ranking approach used by Robberson (2006).

Similarly, the categories used to define duration of impact were based on best professional judgment and regulatory precedent. Robberson (2006) defines recovery in <1 year as “rapid,” with shading that indicates a generally low level of concern across the levels of impact. The remaining categories of time in the risk-ranking matrix were divided at roughly 5-year intervals. As Robberson (2006) notes, the exact size of the risk matrix is a function of decisions made about scaling the matrix, which is a function of the closure and remediation being considered and the attributes included in the NEBA. The risk-ranking matrix applied here could have been defined differently. For example, the duration of impact categories could have been expanded to six (e.g., <1 year, 1–3 years, 3–6 years, 6–10 years, 10–15 years, >15 years), which would have changed the alphanumeric risk ratings and perhaps some of the shading of attributes evaluated in the NEBA. The purpose of the risk matrix, and the risk ratings that result from it, is to

consolidate the results from a variety of different analyses for a variety of different data types and attributes into a single framework for comparative analysis. It is imperative, however, to consider the underlying information used to develop the risk ratings to interpret the differences between closure options, particularly when percent impacts or durations of closure options are similar but receive different risk ratings. It is inappropriate to assume a risk rating for one attribute is scientifically equivalent to the risk rating of another attribute because the comparative metrics that form the foundation of the risk ratings can be fundamentally different (e.g., a hazard quotient for risk to a bird species is different from discounted service acre-years [DSAYs] for environmental services from a habitat). Thus, the risk ratings in the NEBA matrix permit a relative comparison of impacts between closure options within attributes. Decision-makers can use the NEBA framework to identify the relative impacts of closure options across many different attributes, but the NEBA matrix does not, by design, elevate, or increase the value of, any specific risk or benefit in the framework.

## **Risk Rating Sensitivity**

Uncertainty in a NEBA can be evaluated by examining the uncertainty in the assumptions and analyses used as inputs to the risk-ranking matrix. The following sections examine how differences in assumptions could affect relative risk ratings in the NEBA framework for attributes found to have levels of impact. Attributes for which no meaningful risk was found (e.g., human health risk assessments, ecological health risk assessments) are not included in the following discussion.

## **Noise and congestion from trucking traffic**

I used the number of trucks per day passing<sup>1</sup> a receptor along a near-site transportation corridor as a metric to examine the differences in noise and traffic congestion under the closure options. I compared the increase in truck passes due to hauling earthen fill, geosynthetic material, and

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<sup>1</sup> Truck passes per day resulting from trucking activities is calculated as the total number of loads required to transport earthen fill, geosynthetic materials, and other materials multiplied by two to account for return trips. The resulting total number of passes is then divided evenly among the total number of months of trucking time multiplied by 26 working days per month.

other materials under the closure options<sup>2</sup> to the current number of truck passes for the same receptor.

The current (or baseline) number of truck passes was estimated from North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) annual average daily traffic (AADT) data collected at thousands of locations across the state and the proportion of road miles driven by large trucks in North Carolina. AADT is an estimated daily traffic volume at a specific location, which captures traffic in all lanes traveling in both directions and is assumed to represent typical traffic volume for a year.<sup>3</sup> Not all AADT data, however, differentiate between large trucks such as those to be used in ash basin closure and other traffic such as cars, which is a relevant distinction when considering impacts to communities from increased noise. NCDOT performs vehicle classification<sup>4</sup> on trucking routes to estimate annualized truck percentage to apply to AADT to determine truck AADT (NCDOT 2015). The average annualized truck percentage for Rutherford and Cleveland County is 6.9%.

The precise transportation corridor for trucks travelling to and from CSS during ash basin closure is unknown; however, likely corridors in the communities local to CSS can be identified by examining road maps and AADT statistics. CSS is located on Duke Power Rd/McCraw Rd (SR 1002) immediately adjacent to US Route 221-A, which is presumed to be the primary transportation route for construction material hauling (Figure E-1). Immediately adjacent to CSS is NCDOT Station ID 2201550, which reported 1,400 AADT in 2017, and Station ID 8001571, which reported 1,600 AADT in 2016. Travelling south from CSS, McCraw Rd serves a rural farming area with traffic volume ranging from 360 AADT to 980 AADT (Station ID 2201552 in 2017 and Station ID 2201553 in 2016, respectively); however, it is less likely that trucks travelling to and from CSS would use this portion of SR 1002 and local roads since these appear

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<sup>2</sup> Truck trips to haul ash were not included in the estimate for CSS ash basin closures because trucks hauling ash would not leave the CSS property and would not affect community receptors along the transportation corridors.

<sup>3</sup> AADT is calculated from two days of traffic counts at each station during weekdays, excluding holidays. Raw monitoring data consists of counts of axle pairs made by pneumatic tube counters that are converted to traffic volume by applying axle correction factors, and expanded to annual estimates by seasonal correction factors. Derived AADT values are checked for quality against nearby stations and historical station-specific values (NCDOT 2015).

<sup>4</sup> Vehicle classification is assigned based on number of axles, space between axles, weight of the first axle, and total weight of the vehicle.

to be small side roads that are not the shortest route to a major transportation corridor. US Route 221-A appears to be the major transportation route serving CSS, and NCDOT Station ID 8000016 on US 221-A, just south of the Duke Power Rd intersection, reported 2,900 AADT in 2017. To best capture trucking related impacts to sensitive communities along the transportation corridor, I assumed a baseline truck passes per day of 97, which was computed by multiplying 1,400 AADT (2017 estimate from Duke Power Rd/McCraw Rd Station ID 2201550) by the average percent of truck AADT for Rutherford and Cleveland counties (6.9%; NCDOT 2015).<sup>5</sup>

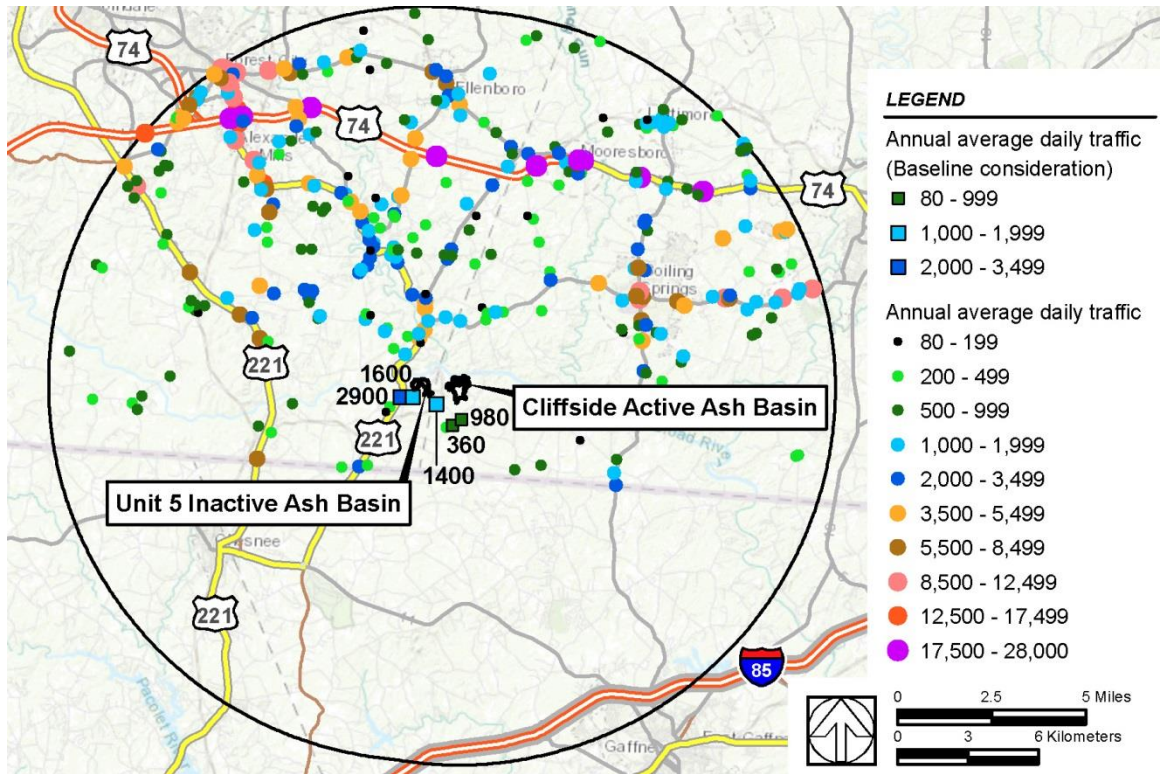


Figure E-1. NCDOT annual average daily traffic (AADT) measurement stations near CSS. Traffic stations and AADT values considered when determining the baseline number of truck passes are indicated as squares.

<sup>5</sup> AADT data are not available for every road or every location along a road. It is possible during closure of the CSS ash basins that trucks will utilize less traveled roads (i.e., with lower AADT), which would have a lower baseline truck passes per day estimate and result in a higher percent impact from ash basin closure for these sensitive communities; however, by choosing the lowest available AADT estimate from roads within 10 miles of CSS along the most likely transportation corridors to and from CSS to a major road (e.g., highway), my analyses have considered sensitive communities that would be more affected by traffic noise and congestion from ash basin closure trucking.



The sensitivity of the NEBA relative risk ratings to the baseline assumption of 97 trucks per day was evaluated by calculating relative risk ratings for a range of baseline truck traffic levels, based on the minimum and maximum AADT values for any NCDOT station within a 50-mile radius of the CSS ash basins, using AADT from the most recent year that data are available for a particular station, and assuming 6.9% truck traffic as previously described. Figure E-2 plots the resulting percent impact for closure options along with the resulting relative risk rating across the range of 2 to 11,563 truck passes per day.

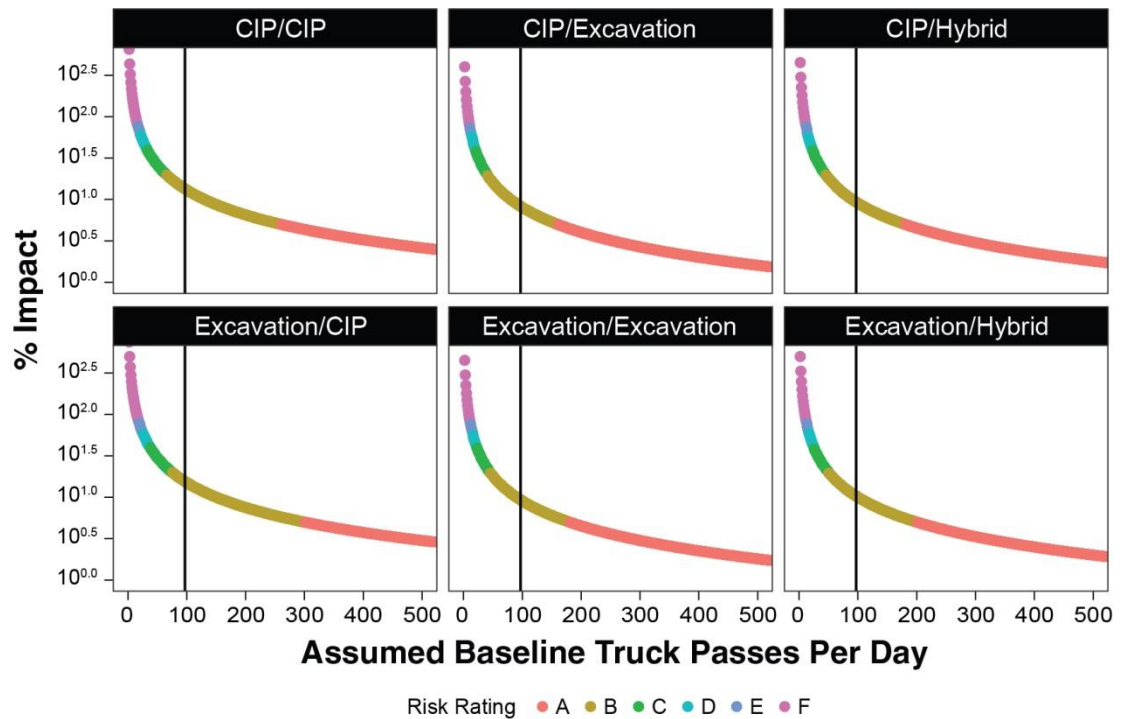


Figure E-2. Sensitivity of NEBA relative risk rating for noise and congestion impacts from trucking operations. The vertical line indicates the assumed baseline 97 truck passes per day. The y-axis is plotted on a log10 scale and the X axis is truncated at 500 to improve visualization.

Using a baseline truck passes per day of 97, all closure options fall into the second lowest relative risk rating (B, 5–19%) for traffic-induced noise and congestion during closure of the CSS ash basins (Figure E-2). The assigned relative risk ratings may be reduced to the lowest rating (A) if the baseline traffic assumption is increased to at least 161 (CIP/Excavation). Increasing baseline traffic above 301 truck passes per day, as in the Excavation/CIP option, provides for a minimum risk rating in all options. Higher risk ratings would result from a lower baseline truck traffic assumption; decreasing the baseline truck traffic assumption to 75 raises

the risk rating to C for the Excavation/CIP closure option, while a baseline of 40 truck passes per day would increase the risk rating for all closure options from B to C.

## **Traffic accidents**

I evaluated risk of traffic accidents by comparing the average number of annual offsite road miles driven between closure options relative to a baseline estimate of the current annual road miles driven.<sup>6</sup> I chose a baseline of 60.4 million annual truck road miles based on the reported total vehicle miles traveled in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina (NCDOT 2017), multiplied by the county average 6.9% contribution of trucks to total AADT (NCDOT 2015).

The sensitivity of the NEBA relative risk ratings to the baseline assumption of 60.4 million truck miles per year was evaluated by calculating relative risk ratings for alternative baseline truck mile assumptions derived from the counties in NC with the minimum (Hyde County) and maximum (Mecklenburg County) reported vehicle miles driven, resulting in a sensitivity range estimated from 6.2million to 641 million truck miles per year. Figure E-3 plots the resulting percent impact for the closure options, along with the resulting relative risk ratings across this range of truck miles per year.

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<sup>6</sup> The difference between the baseline miles assumption and the closure assumption was divided by the baseline miles assumption and multiplied by 100 to get a percent impact.

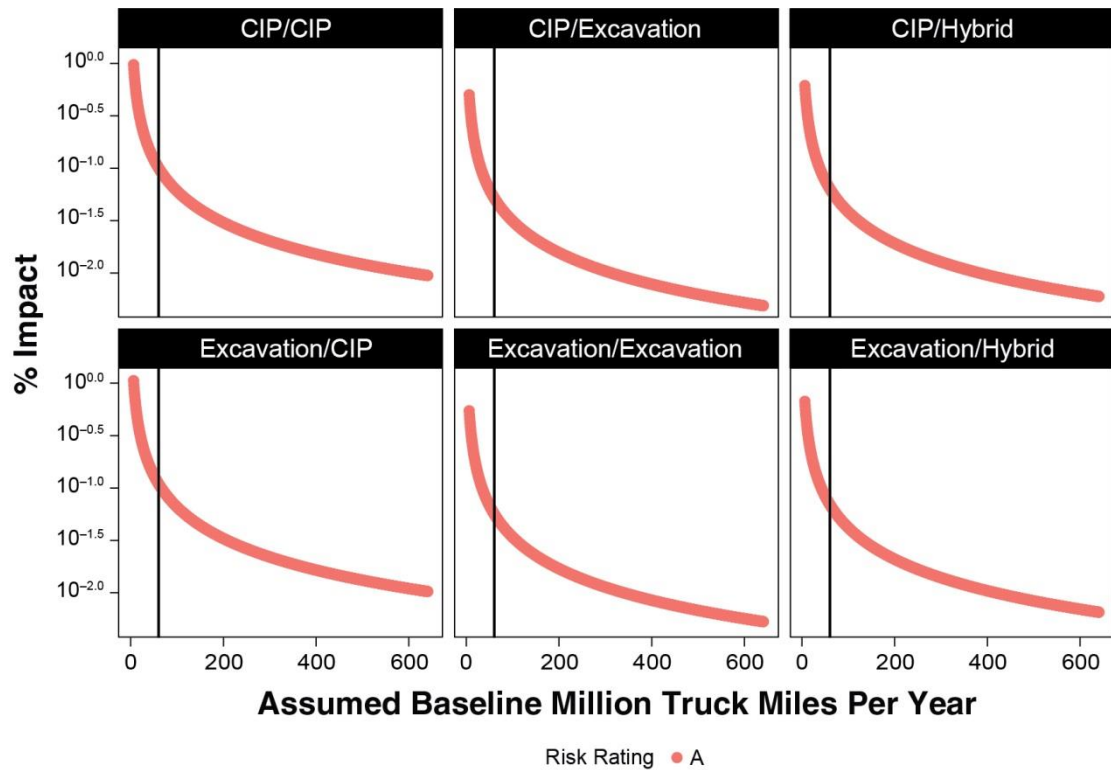


Figure E-3. Sensitivity of NEBA relative risk rating for traffic accidents due to trucking activities. The vertical line indicates the assumed baseline 60.4 million truck miles per year. The y-axis is plotted on a log<sub>10</sub> scale to improve visualization.

Using the 60.4-million-truck-miles baseline assumption, all closure options have an impact of 0.1% or less. All closure options have a relative risk rating of A (<5%). These relative risk ratings do not appear to be sensitive to lower assumed baseline annual truck miles. The vertical lines in Figure E-3 indicate the location of the baseline assumption. Reducing the baseline assumption to the 4.1 million truck miles minimum increases percent impact up to a maximum across all closure options of 1.6% for the Excavation/CIP option and the risk ratings are unchanged.

### Habitat Equivalency Analysis

Uncertainty in the habitat equivalency analysis (HEA) that examined disruption of environmental services from ash basin closure was explored through sensitivity analyses of key assumptions in the HEA. To test sensitivity, I re-ran HEA models with the following changes:

1. Running the HEA for 100 years instead of 150 years.
2. Assuming the open water habitats of the ash ponds provide environmental services at 40% of wooded areas instead of 10%.
3. Assuming open field habitats provide environmental services at 20% of wooded areas instead of 40%.
4. Assuming borrow area under the CIP option for the inactive basin is restored to open field, not reforested.

For each sensitivity analysis, all parameters in the base model were held constant except the one parameter varied to understand the sensitivity of the model to each assumption (Table E-2).

**Table E-2. Change in DSAYs from base model<sup>a</sup> for key HEA assumptions**

Closure Option	100-year model <sup>b</sup>	Ash basin water 40% <sup>c</sup>	Borrow becomes field <sup>d</sup>	Open Field 20% <sup>e</sup>
CIP/CIP	8	-342	-13	167
CIP/Excavation	-18	-342	-13	167
CIP/Hybrid	-9	-342	-13	167
Excavation/CIP	-16	-339	0	142
Excavation/Excavation	-43	-339	0	142
Excavation/Hybrid	-34	-339	0	142

<sup>a</sup> Base models were run for 150 years, with ash basin open water NPP services at 10%, borrow fields were assumed to become forest (CIP inactive basin) or grass cap (CIP for active basin and excavation for both basins), open field NPP services at 40%.

<sup>b</sup> Base models except the HEA was run for 100 years.

<sup>c</sup> Base models except ash basin open water NPP service at 40%.

<sup>d</sup> Base models except borrow pits were assumed to become open field for CIP and hybrid options.

<sup>e</sup> Base models except open field NPP services decreased to 20%.

Running HEAs for 100 years increased net DSAYs slightly for the CIP/CIP option and decreased net DSAYs slightly for the other closure options. Increasing the ash basin open water service level to 40% resulted in similar net negative DSAYs for all options. Assuming borrow areas would be returned to open field resulted in a decrease in net DSAYs for all closure options that include CIP for the Unit 5 inactive ash basin. There are no borrow areas that will be reforested in the Unit 5 basin excavation closure option or any of the active ash basin closure options, so there is no net change in DSAYs for those options.

Looking at the change in net DSAYs between the sensitivity models and their base models, the changes in assumptions have relatively consistent effects on net DSAYs. For example, changing ash basin open water services from 10 percent to 40 percent affects all closure options equally, since the same level of service change is applied over the same areal extent for all closure options. Assuming open field services at 20% results in a small net benefit since the level of service lost from open fields currently present on both basins is halved. Changing the service level of borrow acreage habitat after borrow is complete only affects closure options that assume the borrow area will be restored to forested habitat (CIP for the Unit 5 basin). However, since the directionality of net NPP services provided by the closure options does not change under this sensitivity analysis (i.e., CIP/CIP still results in a net loss of NPP services while all other options result in a net gain), this demonstrates that the model can differentiate between relative differences in NPP service level changes with consistency.

Changes in net DSAYs with changing assumptions may change the relative risk rating applied to a closure option in the NEBA. However, the relative similarity in the way DSAYs change with assumptions between the various closure options and the results that all options except CIP closure of both basins (CIP/CIP) produce net gains in NPP services and that CIP/CIP closure results in net NPP services losses under any sensitivity analysis supports the relative risk ratings for decision support in the NEBA.

## **Closure Option Assumptions**

The following assumptions were used to calculate NEBA input values related to trucking activities and habitat acreages.

- The density of ash was assumed to be 1.2 ash tons/CY.
- Borrow pit acreage required to supply earthen fill and cover material was assumed to be dug to a depth of 15 ft to meet volume requirements. Borrow pits not specifically identified were assumed to contain a mixed forest habitat that would be restored upon closure completion.

- Excavation was assumed to proceed at a rate of 1,000,000 CY/year for all types of excavation material combined including ash, underlying over-excavated or residual soil, and dam and embankment material.
- CIP cover systems were assumed to require two layers of geosynthetic material. New landfill areas were assumed to require five layers of geosynthetic material. Geosynthetic material was assumed to be transported from Georgetown, South Carolina, at a rate of six loads per day and 3 acres per load.
- Covers/caps for both CIP and landfills were assumed to receive 18 in. of cover soil plus 6 in. of topsoil. New landfills also were assumed to receive 2 ft of liner soil. Topsoil was assumed to come from an offsite commercial facility requiring no additional borrow area.
- Unless otherwise specified, offsite borrow material and topsoil were assumed to be from sources 11 miles away (one way).
- Offsite truck capacity was assumed to be 20 CY of ash or earthen material.
- Working hours were assumed to be 10 hr/day, 6 days/week, and 26 days/month.
- Earthen fill material was assumed to be hauled in at a rate based on 1,000,000 CY/year.
- In excavated areas, 1 ft of over-excavation of residual soil was assumed. When restoring these areas, 6 in. of top soil addition was assumed necessary to establish vegetative stabilization over the total area.