

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

DRAFT PERMIT

TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1, other lawful standards and regulations promulgated and adopted by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended,

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

is hereby authorized to discharge wastewater from a facility located at the

Buck Combined Cycle Station
1385 Dukeville Road
Salisbury
Rowan County

to receiving waters designated as the Yadkin River (upper High Rock Lake) in the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I, II, and III hereof.

This permit modification shall become effective

This permit and authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight on October 31, 2023.

Signed this day

S. Daniel Smith, Director
Division of Water Resources
By Authority of the Environmental Management
Commission

SUPPLEMENT TO PERMIT COVER SHEET

All previous NPDES Permits issued to this facility, whether for operation or discharge are hereby revoked. As of this permit issuance, any previously issued permit bearing this number is no longer effective. Therefore, the exclusive authority to operate and discharge from this facility arises under the permit conditions, requirements, terms, and provisions included herein.

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

is hereby authorized to:

1. Continue the following activities at the Buck Combined Cycle Station, comprising the former Buck Steam Station (BSS), the Combustion Turbine Combined Cycle (CTCC) Plant, a Coal Ash Beneficiation Plant (proposed), and associated facilities, located at 1385 Dukeville Road in Salisbury, Rowan County:
 - Discharge treated wastewater, including water treatment wastes, stormwater, and contaminated groundwater seepage from the BSS and low volume wastes, cooling tower blowdown, water treatment wastes, and stormwater from the CTCC Plant through Outfall 007 (including the use of acid, alkaline, sodium hypochlorite, and sodium bisulfate solutions, and sand filters), Yard Sump emergency overflows through Outfall 002A, and filter screenings from the raw water intake through Outfall 004 to the Yadkin River (upper High Rock Lake), classified as WS-V waters in the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin, at the locations shown on the attached map; and
2. Upon elimination of all BSS wastewaters, discharge wastewaters from the CTCC and Coal Ash Beneficiation Plants at Outfall 001A (formerly Outfall 001) to the Yadkin River at the locations shown on the attached map; and
3. Upon diversion of the CTCC discharge to Outfalls 001A, discharge treated ash basin dewatering wastes at Outfall 007 to the Yadkin River at the locations shown on the attached map; and
4. Discharge flows from constructed seeps at Outfalls 111 and 117 to an unnamed tributary to the Yadkin River at the location shown on the attached map; and

Install an emergency overflow spillway at the ash settling pond in accordance with good engineering practice and all applicable dam safety and other requirements and approvals.

Part I

A.(1.) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (Outfall 001A - CTCC Operations)[15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*, 02B .0500 *et seq.*]

- a. During the period beginning upon both elimination of all remaining waste flows from the Buck Steam Station and diversion of CTCC Plant flows to Outfall 001A and lasting until permit expiration the Permittee is authorized to discharge wastewaters, as described herein, from Outfall 001A. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified below:

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location ¹
Flow, MGD			Daily	Pump logs or similar readings	Effluent
pH	≥ 6.0 and ≤ 9.0 standard units		Daily ²	Grab	Effluent
Temperature	35°C (95°F)		Daily	Grab	Effluent
Temperature			Daily	Grab	Intake and Effluent
Total Nitrogen, mg/L ³			Monthly	Grab	Effluent
Total Phosphorus, mg/L			Monthly	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids	23.0 mg/L	74.0 mg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease	11.0 mg/L	15.0 mg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Residual Chlorine ⁴		28.0 µg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Free Available Chlorine ⁴	200 µg/L	500 µg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness, mg/L as CaCO ₃			2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Arsenic, µg/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Selenium, µg/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Mercury, ng/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Aluminum, mg/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Antimony, µg/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Chromium ^{5,6}	200 µg/L	200 µg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Copper ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Nickel, µg/L ⁵			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Zinc ^{5,6}	1,000 µg/L	1,000 µg/L	2/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Fluoride, mg/L			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Chloroform, µg/L ⁷			Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Chronic Toxicity ⁸	P/F @ 0.1%		Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
The 126 priority pollutants except Total Chromium and Total Zinc ^{5,6}	No detectable amount		Annually	Grab	Effluent

Footnotes:

1. Effluent sampling shall be conducted below the final treatment unit and prior to mixing with any other waste streams. Intake means the facility's raw water intake.
2. Upon completing at least three consecutive months of daily pH readings, the Permittee may request that pH monitoring be reduced to Weekly. Such request should demonstrate to the Division's satisfaction that the results of weekly monitoring will adequately represent the measure and variability of effluent pH. If a

request was approved for Outfall 001A, the approval may be extended to Outfall 006 without requiring resubmittal of the request.

3. Total Nitrogen = $\text{NO}_2\text{-N} + \text{NO}_3\text{-N} + \text{TKN}$
4. The Division shall consider all effluent TRC values reported below 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$ to be in compliance with the permit. However, the permittee shall continue to record and submit all values reported by a North Carolina certified laboratory (including field certified), even if these values fall below 50 $\mu\text{g/L}$. Neither free available chlorine (FAC) nor TRC may be discharged from any single generating unit for more than two hours in any single day, and not more than one unit in the plant may discharge FAC or TRC, unless the discharger demonstrates to the Division that the unit(s) cannot operate at or below this level of chlorination.
5. See Special Condition A.(12.) Metals Analyses.
6. See Special Condition A.(13.) Priority Pollutant Limitations and Analysis.
7. See paragraph (f) of this condition.
8. See Special Condition A.(14.) Chronic Toxicity Permit Limit.
- b. Authorized waste flows from the CTCC Plant are potable, service, and process water treatment wastes; floor drain wastes; cooling tower blowdown; heat recovery steam generator (HRSG) and auxiliary boiler blowdowns; and stormwater flows draining to the sump. Such waste flows shall not pass through the ash settling pond prior to discharge.
- c. There shall be no discharge of metal cleaning waste or chemical metal cleaning waste.
- d. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.
- e. The Permittee shall analyze a representative sample of the CTCC Plant Wastewater Sump discharge and submit a complete and accurate EPA Application Form 2C for the sump discharge no later than 180 days from the beginning of the discharge.
- f. If the initial chloroform analysis is conducted while this condition is effective, and if the initial analysis does not yield a reportable concentration of chloroform ($\text{PQL} \leq 2.0 \mu\text{g/L}$), chloroform monitoring specified in paragraph (a) of this condition is waived for the remainder of the permit term.
- g. The mixing zone for thermal discharges from the Buck facility is defined as that portion of the Yadkin River (High Rock Lake) extending from the Buck Combined Cycle Station water intake to High Rock Lake Dam. The thermal variance and mixing zone terminate on expiration of this permit. The Director may reopen the permit to extend or modify the variance based on the findings of the Thermal Mixing Zone Study (see Special Condition C.(13.)) or other new information.
- h. When High Rock Lake, as measured at the intake of the Buck Combined Cycle Station, is drawn down 10 feet or greater, the Permittee shall on a daily average basis ensure that the minimum unheated daily average stream flow does not fall below one third of the 7-day 10-year low flow (7Q10).

A.(2.) INTAKE SCREEN BACKWASH

[15A NCAC 02H .0106(f)(2)]

Backwash from the Buck raw water intake screens is deemed permitted provided that no water quality standards are contravened or expected to be contravened.

A.(3.) MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (Internal Outfall 008 – Coal Ash Beneficiation Plant)

[15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*, 02B .0500 *et seq.*]

- a. No later than 180 days after startup of the Coal Ash Beneficiation Plant, the Permittee shall monitor the waste flows discharged to the CTCC wastewater system as specified below:

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location ¹
Flow, MGD ²			Daily (first year)	Pump logs, similar readings, or estimate	Effluent
pH, S.U.			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids, mg/L			Once	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease, mg/L			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L			Once	Grab	Effluent
Chlorides, mg/L			Once	Grab	Effluent
Sulfates, mg/L			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness, mg/L as CaCO ₃			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Arsenic, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Selenium, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Copper, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Lead, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Nickel, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Thallium, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent
Total Zinc, µg/L ³			Once	Grab	Effluent

Footnotes:

1. Samples shall be collected at a point downstream of the final Beneficiation Plant treatment unit and prior to comingling with any other waste streams. Samples shall be representative of the waste flow from the plant.
 2. See Special Condition A.(16.) Flow Monitoring and Reporting.
 3. See Special Condition A.(12.) Metals Analyses.
- b. The Permittee shall report the monitoring results on the appropriate DMR.
- c. The Permittee shall notify the Division in writing no later than seven calendar days prior to start-up of the Beneficiation Plant; see Special Condition A.(8.) Notifications and Submittals.

A.(4.) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (Outfall 007 - Ash Pond Dewatering)

[15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*, 02B .0500 *et seq.*]

- a. During the period beginning with the start of ash pond dewatering and diversion of dewatering discharges to Outfall 007 and lasting until permit expiration, the Permittee is authorized to discharge treated ash dewatering waste flows from Outfall 007. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified below:

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS ¹		
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
Flow	1.2 MGD		Daily	Pump Logs or similar readings	Effluent
pH ²	≥ 6.0 and ≤ 9.0 standard units		Daily	Grab	Effluent
Total Nitrogen, mg/L ³			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Phosphorus, mg/L			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids ⁴	23.0 mg/L	74.0 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease	11.0 mg/L	15.0 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Turbidity, NTU ⁵			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Chlorides, mg/L			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness, mg/L as CaCO ₃			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Arsenic, ug/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Selenium, ug/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Mercury, ng/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Antimony, µg/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Copper, ug/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Chromium, ug/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Lead, µg/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Nickel, µg/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Total Thallium, µg/L ⁶			Weekly	Grab	Effluent
Chronic Toxicity ⁷	P/F @ 0.17%		Monthly	Grab	Effluent

Footnotes:

- Effluent sampling shall be conducted at the discharge from the ash settling pond or, if additional treatment is provided, below the final treatment unit, and prior to mixing with any other waste streams.
- The Permittee shall continuously monitor pH when the dewatering process commences (and one or more pumps is operating), and the dewatering pump(s) shall be shut off immediately when the 15-minute running average pH falls below 6.1 or rises above 8.9 S.U. Pumping will be allowed to continue if interruption might result in dam failure or damage.
- Total Nitrogen = NO₂-N + NO₃-N + TKN
- The Permittee shall continuously monitor TSS concentration when the dewatering process commences (and one or more pumps is operating), and the dewatering pump(s) shall be shut off automatically when the 15-minute running average TSS exceeds one half of the Daily Maximum TSS limit. Pumping will be allowed to continue if interruption might result in dam failure or damage.
- The discharge from this facility shall not cause turbidity in the receiving stream to exceed 25 NTU. If the instream turbidity exceeds 25 NTU due to natural background conditions, the discharge shall not cause turbidity to increase in the receiving stream. Therefore, if the effluent turbidity exceeds 25 NTU, the Permittee shall sample upstream and downstream turbidity in the receiving waterbody, within 24 hours, to determine whether the turbidity level in the receiving waterbody was increased. All data shall be reported on the DMRs. (See 15A NCAC 2B .0211 (21)).

- 6. See Special Condition A.(12.) Metals Analyses.
- 7. See Special Condition A.(14.) Chronic Toxicity Permit Limit.

- b. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.
- c. If any one of these pollutants (As, Se, Hg, Sb, Cu, Pb, Ni, and Tl) reaches 85% of the allowable monthly average effluent discharge concentration during dewatering, the Permittee shall immediately discontinue discharge of the wastewater and report the event to DWR Mooresville Regional Office and Complex NPDES Permitting via telephone and e-mail.

85% of Allowable Monthly Average Effluent Concentrations							
As	Se	Hg	Sb	Cu	Pb	Ni	Tl
37.8 mg/L	3.9 mg/L	9.4 µg/L	4.4 mg/L	6.2 mg/L	2.3 mg/L	19.6 mg/L	0.27 mg/L

- d. In the event that additional waters accumulate in the pond(s), the rate for lowering the liquid level in a coal ash pond shall not exceed one (1) foot per day unless a higher rate is supported to the satisfaction of DEMLR and in accordance with NCAC, Title 15A, Subchapter 2K. The facility shall use a floating pump suction pipe with free water skimmed from the basin surface using an adjustable weir. See also paragraph (a), Footnotes 2 and 4, above.
- e. Conditions B.(1.) through B.(4.) are not intended to authorize concurrent waste discharges through both Outfalls 002 and 007 except as necessary to make an orderly transition to the new outfall. The Permittee shall cease discharge at Outfall 002 as soon as practical after Outfall 007 is operational.

A.(5.) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (Outfall 111 - Constructed Seep)

[15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*, 02B .0500 *et seq.*]

- a. During the period beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until expiration, the Permittee is authorized to discharge seepage from Outfall 111 (35.707126, -80.374034). Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified below:

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency ¹	Sample Type	Sample Location ²
Flow, MGD ³			Monthly/ Quarterly	Estimate	Effluent
pH	≥ 6.0 and ≤ 9.0 standard units		Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Temperature, °C			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids	30.0 mg/L	100.0 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease	15.0 mg/L	20.0 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	500 mg/L	500 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Conductivity, µmho/cm			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Chlorides, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Fluoride, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Nitrate/nitrite as N, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Sulfates, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness, mg/L as CaCO ₃			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Arsenic, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Selenium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Mercury, ng/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Aluminum, mg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Barium, mg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Cadmium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Chromium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Copper, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Lead, ug/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Manganese, mg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Nickel, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Thallium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Zinc, ug/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent

Footnotes:

- Beginning on the effective date of the permit, the Permittee shall monitor at least 1/month for one year and 1/quarter thereafter.
- Sampling shall be conducted at the discharge point prior to mixing with any other waste streams. The discharge point is as defined in the October 2014 *Buck Steam Station Ash Basin Surface Water and Seep Monitoring* report or as approved in writing by the Director.
- See Special Condition A.(16.) Flow Monitoring and Reporting regarding reporting flow when no discharge occurs or the Permittee is unable to obtain a representative sample due to low-flow conditions at the toe drain.
- See Special Condition A.(12.) Metals Analyses.

- b. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

A.(6.) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (Outfall 117 - Constructed Seep)

[15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*, 02B .0500 *et seq.*]

- a. During the period beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until expiration, the Permittee is authorized to discharge seepage from Outfall 117 (35.7058, -80.3753). Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified below:

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS		MONITORING REQUIREMENTS		
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency ¹	Sample Type	Sample Location ²
Flow, MGD ³			Monthly/ Quarterly	Estimate	Effluent
pH	≥ 6.0 and ≤ 9.0 standard units		Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Temperature, °C			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids	30.0 mg/L	100.0 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease	15.0 mg/L	20.0 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Dissolved Solids, mg/L	500 mg/L	500 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Conductivity, µmho/cm			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Chlorides, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Fluoride, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Nitrate/nitrite as N, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Sulfates, mg/L			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Hardness, mg/L as CaCO ₃			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Arsenic, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Selenium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Mercury, ng/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Aluminum ⁴	6.5 mg/L	6.5 mg/L	Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Barium, mg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Cadmium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Chromium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Copper, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Lead, ug/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Manganese, mg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Nickel, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Thallium, µg/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent
Total Zinc, ug/L ⁴			Monthly/ Quarterly	Grab	Effluent

Footnotes:

- Beginning on the effective date of the permit, the Permittee shall monitor at least 1/month for one year and 1/quarter thereafter.
- Sampling shall be conducted at the discharge point prior to mixing with any other waste streams. The discharge point is as defined in the October 2014 *Buck Steam Station Ash Basin Surface Water and Seep Monitoring* report or as approved in writing by the Director.
- See Special Condition A.(16.) Flow Monitoring and Reporting regarding reporting flow when no discharge occurs or the Permittee is unable to obtain a representative sample due to low-flow conditions at the toe drain.
- See Special Condition A.(12.) Metals Analyses.

- b. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

A.(7.) DEFINITIONS

[15A NCAC 02B .0406(b)]

- a. The term *low volume waste sources* means wastewater from all sources except those for which specific limitations are otherwise established in 40 CFR 423.11 (b).
- b. The term *chemical metal cleaning waste* means any wastewater resulting from cleaning any metal process equipment with chemical compounds, including, but not limited to, boiler tube cleaning (40 CFR 423.11 (c)).
- c. The term *metal cleaning waste* means any wastewater resulting from cleaning [with or without chemical cleaning compounds] any metal process equipment including, but not limited to, boiler tube cleaning, boiler fireside cleaning, and air preheater cleaning (40 CFR 423.11 (d)).

A.(8.) NOTIFICATIONS AND SUBMITTALS

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

- a. Unless specified otherwise, the Permittee shall provide, in writing, notifications required by this permit to:

Division of Water Resources WQ Permitting Section - NPDES Attn: Duke Energy Permits Specialist 1617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1617	Division of Water Resources Water Quality Supervisor Mooresville Regional Office 610 East Center Avenue, Suite 301 Mooresville, NC 28115
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- b. Unless specified otherwise, the Permittee shall submit all study plans, study results, and related materials or information required by this permit as follows:

<u>Electronic Version Only:</u> Division of Water Resources WQ Permitting Section - NPDES Attn: Duke Energy Permits Specialist 1617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1617	<u>Electronic Version and Hard Copy:</u> Division of Water Resources Water Sciences Section 1624 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1623
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- c. Electronic copies shall be PDF files recorded on compact discs (CDs), or as approved by the Division.

A.(9.) CHEMICAL DISCHARGES

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

- a. Hazardous Wastes.
 - i. The Permittee shall continue to implement a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan to control the discharge of oils and the hazardous and toxic substances listed in 40 CFR Part 117 and Tables II and III of Appendix D to 40 CFR Part 122, and shall maintain a current copy of the Plan at the plant site and make such copy available for inspection by EPA and DWR personnel.
 - ii. Discharge of any waste resulting from the combustion of toxic or hazardous waste to any waste stream which ultimately discharges to waters of the United States is prohibited, unless specifically authorized in this permit.
- b. PCBs. There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) compounds such as those once commonly used for transformer fluid.
- c. Metal Cleaning Waste. There shall be no discharge of metal cleaning waste or chemical metal cleaning waste.

- d. FIFRA-Registered Products. Discharge of any product registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to any waste stream which may ultimately be released to lakes, rivers, streams or other waters of the United States is prohibited unless specifically authorized elsewhere in this permit.
- e. Pesticides. Use of restricted-use pesticides for lake management purposes by applicators licensed by the N.C. Pesticide Board is allowed provided that the treatment is conducted according to label restrictions and other applicable requirements.
- f. Chlorine. Discharge of chlorine from the use of chlorine gas, sodium hypochlorite, or other similar chlorination compounds for disinfection in plant potable and service water systems is authorized subject to the conditions of this permit.

A.(10.) DISCHARGES OF OTHER MATERIALS

[G.S. 143-215.1(b); 15A NCAC 02B .0400 *et seq.*]

- a. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts. The Permittee shall report such discharges, if observed in other than trace amounts, in the comments section of the appropriate DMR.
- b. The Permittee shall report all visible discharges of floating materials (such as an oil slick) in the comments section of the appropriate DMR.
- c. The Permittee shall report the presence of cenospheres observed in any samples, in the comments section of the appropriate DMR.

A.(11.) BIOCIDES CONDITION

[15A NCAC 02B .0200 *et seq.*]

The Permittee shall not use any biocides except those approved in conjunction with the permit application. The Permittee shall notify the Director in writing not later than ninety (90) days prior to instituting use of any additional biocide used in cooling systems which may be toxic to aquatic life other than those previously reported to the Division. Such notification shall include completion of Biocide Worksheet Form 101 and a map locating the discharge point and receiving stream. Completion of Biocide Worksheet Form 101 is not necessary for the introduction of a new biocide into an outfall currently being tested for toxicity.

A.(12.) METALS ANALYSES

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

Metals analyses shall be performed using EPA methods 200.7 or 200.8 (or the most current versions) except that mercury analyses shall be performed using EPA method 1631E.

A.(13.) PRIORITY POLLUTANT LIMITATIONS AND ANALYSES

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

Limitations and monitoring requirements for the 126 Priority Pollutants (per 40 CFR Part 423, Appendix A, exclusive of zinc and chromium) apply only if these substances are added by the permittee for cooling tower maintenance. Compliance with the limitations for the 126 priority pollutants in 40 CFR 423.13 (d)(1) may be determined by engineering calculations which demonstrate that the regulated pollutants are not detectable in the final discharge by the analytical methods in 40 CFR Part 136. All primary industries are required to submit a priority pollutant analysis in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122 with their application for permit renewal.

A.(14.) CHRONIC TOXICITY PERMIT LIMIT (Monthly/Quarterly)

[15A NCAC 02B .0200 *et seq.*]

The effluent discharge shall at no time exhibit observable inhibition of reproduction or significant mortality to *Ceriodaphnia dubia* at an effluent concentration of **0.1% or 0.17%**, as specified for the discharge in Effluent Pages of this permit.

The permit holder shall perform, at a minimum, *quarterly* or *monthly* monitoring, as specified for the discharge in Sections A and B, using test procedures outlined in the "North Carolina *Ceriodaphnia* Chronic Effluent Bioassay Procedure," Revised December 2010, or subsequent versions or "North Carolina Phase II Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Procedure" (Revised- December 2010) or subsequent versions. The tests will be performed during the months of **March, June, September, and December** if quarterly testing is specified; these months signify the first month of each three-month toxicity testing quarter assigned to the facility. The tests will be performed during each calendar month if monthly testing is specified. Effluent sampling for this testing must be obtained during representative effluent discharge and shall be performed at the NPDES permitted final effluent discharge below all treatment processes.

If the test procedure performed as the first test of any single quarter or month results in a failure or ChV below the permit limit, then multiple-concentration testing shall be performed at a minimum, in each of the two following months as described in "North Carolina Phase II Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Procedure" (Revised-December 2010) or subsequent versions.

All toxicity testing results required as part of this permit condition will be entered on the Effluent Discharge Monitoring Form (MR-1) for the months in which tests were performed, using the parameter code TGP3B for the pass/fail results and THP3B for the Chronic Value. Additionally, DWR Form AT-3 (original) is to be sent to the following address:

Attention: North Carolina Division of Water Resources
Water Sciences Section/ Aquatic Toxicology Branch
1621 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1621

Or, results can be sent to the email, ATForms.ATB@ncdenr.gov.

Completed Aquatic Toxicity Test Forms shall be filed with the Water Sciences Section no later than 40 days after the end of the reporting period for which the report is made.

Test data shall be complete, accurate, include all supporting chemical/physical measurements and all concentration/response data, and be certified by laboratory supervisor and ORC or approved designate signature. Total residual chlorine of the effluent toxicity sample must be measured and reported if chlorine is employed for disinfection of the waste stream.

Should there be no discharge of flow from the facility during a month in which toxicity monitoring is required, the permittee shall complete the information located at the top of the aquatic toxicity (AT) test form indicating the facility name, permit number, pipe number, county, and the month/year of the report with the notation of "No Flow" in the comment area of the form. The report shall be submitted to the Water Sciences Section at the address cited above.

Should the permittee fail to monitor during a month in which quarterly toxicity monitoring is required, monitoring will be required during the following month. Assessment of quarterly toxicity compliance is based on the toxicity testing quarter, which is the three-month time interval that begins on the first day of the month in which toxicity testing is required by this permit and continues until the final day of the third month.

Should any test data from this monitoring requirement or tests performed by the North Carolina Division of Water Resources indicate potential impacts to the receiving stream, this permit may be re-opened and modified to include alternate monitoring requirements or limits.

NOTE: Failure to achieve test conditions as specified in the cited document, such as minimum control organism survival, minimum control organism reproduction, and appropriate environmental controls, shall constitute an invalid test and will require immediate follow-up testing to be completed no later than the last day of the month following the month of the initial monitoring.

A.(15.) WASTE TREATMENT MODIFICATIONS

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

The Permittee shall notify the Division no later than 14 calendar days prior to start-up of any substantial modifications to waste treatment units or operations at the CTCC Plant, including the addition of the proposed waste holding basin or other new treatment units or operations. In such cases, the Permittee shall also provide a written description of the nature and purpose of the modifications, a revised flow schematic and water balance, if appropriate, and other such information as necessary to maintain an accurate permit application in the NPDES files; see Special Condition A.(8.) Notifications and Submittals.

A.(16.) FLOW MONITORING AND REPORTING

[15A NCAC 02B .0200 et seq.]

All flows shall be reported on monthly DMRs. Should no flow occur during a given month, the Permittee shall submit its DMR, as required, and indicate "No Flow" for the seep on the DMR form (15A NCAC 02B .0506(a)(1)(E)).

A.(17.) INSTREAM MONITORING

[G.S. 143-215.66]

- a. The Permittee shall conduct monthly instream monitoring (approximately 4,000 ft. upstream and approximately 2,500 feet downstream of Outfall 007) for total arsenic, total selenium, total mercury, total chromium, dissolved lead, dissolved cadmium, dissolved copper, dissolved zinc, total bromide, total hardness (as CaCO₃), temperature, turbidity, and total dissolved solids (TDS). Sampling periods and the samples collected shall be representative of the surface waters and facility operations. Sampling locations may be modified with the written approval of the Division in order to provide representative results.
- b. The Permittee shall report instream monitoring results on its Discharge Monitoring Reports and include a copy with its NPDES permit renewal application.
- c. Instream monitoring by the permittee is provisionally waived considering the permittee's participation in the Yadkin/ Pee Dee River Basin Association provided the Association agrees to sample for all the parameters listed in this condition and at the specified locations and frequencies. Instream monitoring shall be conducted as stated in this permit should the permittee end its participation in the Association.

A.(18.) FISH TISSUE MONITORING NEAR ASH POND DISCHARGE (Outfalls 002/ 007)

[G.S. 143-215.66]

The Permittee shall conduct fish tissue monitoring annually and submit the results with the NPDES permit renewal application. The objective of this monitoring is to evaluate potential uptake of pollutants by fish tissue near the ash pond discharge. The parameters analyzed in fish tissue shall include arsenic, selenium, and mercury. The monitoring shall be conducted in accordance with the

sampling plan approved by the Division. The plan should be submitted to the Division within 180 days from the effective date of the permit. Upon approval, the plan becomes an enforceable part of the permit.

A.(19.) CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 316(a) THERMAL VARIANCE

[15A NCAC 02B .0226]

- a. The thermal variance granted under Section 316(a) terminates upon permit expiration.
- b. The Permittee shall conduct such studies as are necessary to determine the extent of any mixing zone required for the Buck facility's thermal discharge. The findings and recommendations shall be submitted no later than April 30, 2022.
- c. The Permittee may request a continuation of the 316(a) thermal variance beyond the term of this permit. Reapplication for such continuation shall be submitted in accordance with 40 CFR Part 125, Subpart H, and Section 122.21(m)(6) no later than April 30, 2022. Reapplication shall include justification for the continuation.
- d. Any studies required to satisfy paragraphs (b.) or (c.) shall be performed in accordance with a Division of Water Resources-approved plan. The temperature analysis and the balanced and indigenous study plan shall conform to the specifications outlined in 40 CFR 125 Subpart H, the EPA's Draft 316(a) Guidance Manual, dated 1977, and the Region 4 letter to NCDENR, dated June 3, 2010. EPA shall be provided an opportunity to review the plan prior to the commencement of the study.
- e. The Permittee shall submit copies of the study plan and study plan requests, study results, and any other applicable materials to the Division as specified in Special Condition A.(8.) Notifications and Submittals.

A.(20.) CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 316(b) INTAKE STRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

[40 CFR Part 125, Subpart J]

- a. The Director has tentatively determined that operation of the CTCC plant's closed-cycle recirculating system is sufficient to satisfy the Best Technology Available (BTA) standards per 40 CFR Part 125, Subpart J. Full approval is contingent upon the Permittee's submittal and the Director's acceptance of additional information documenting the adequacy of the BTA measures.
- b. No later than April 30, 2022, the Permittee shall submit to the Division, as specified in Special Condition A.(8.) Notifications and Submittals, all additional information required of it by 40 CFR 122.21(r).
- c. Nothing in this permit authorizes take for the purposes of a facility's compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

A.(21.) ASH POND OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

- a. Structural Integrity Inspections of Ash Dams. The facility shall meet the dam design and dam safety requirements per 15A NCAC 02K.
- b. Working Capacity.
 - i. Beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until expiration, there shall be no discharge of plant wastes to the ash pond unless the Permittee provides and maintains at all times a minimum free water volume equivalent to the sum of the maximum 24-hour plant discharges plus all direct rainfall and all runoff flows to the

- pond resulting from a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall event, when using a runoff coefficient of 1.0.
- ii. During the term of the permit, the Permittee shall remove settled material from the ponds or otherwise enlarge the available storage capacities in order to maintain the required minimum volumes at all times.
 - iii. Annually, the Permittee shall determine and report to the permit issuing authority: (1) the actual free water volume of the ash pond, (2) physical measurements of the dimensions of the free water volume in sufficient detail to allow validation of the calculated volume, and (3) a certification that the required volume is available with adequate safety factor to include all solids expected to be deposited in the ponds for the following year. Any changes to plant operations affecting such certification shall be reported to the Director within five days.
 - iv. In the event that adequate volume has been certified to exist for the term of the permit, periodic certification is not needed.
- c. Closure. The Permittee shall prepare an Ash Pond Closure Plan in anticipation of the facility closure. This Plan shall be submitted to the Division no later than one year prior to the closure of the facility.
 - d. Closure Agreement. Duke Energy shall continue the process of closing the coal ash surface impoundments at Buck, to be completed by December 31, 2035, through the process of beneficiation as described in the mediated settlement agreement reached in Case No. 1:14-cv-753-LCB-JEP (September 28, 2016) from the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. Completion of these closure activities will eliminate the seeps from the ash basins at Buck. Within 180 days of completion of all surface impoundment closure activities at Buck, the facility shall determine if a seep meets the applicable state water quality standards established in 15 N.C.A.C. 2B .0200 and submit the results of this determination to the Division of Water Resources for evaluation.

A.(22.) APPLICABLE STATE LAW (State-Enforceable Only)

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

The Permittee shall meet the General Statute requirements under G.S. 130A-309.200, *et seq.* This permit may be reopened to include new requirements imposed under these statutes.

A.(23.) GROUNDWATER COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY

[15A NCAC 02L .0107]

The compliance boundary for the disposal system shall be specified in accordance with 15A NCAC 02L .0107(a) or (b), dependent upon the date permitted. The compliance boundary map for this facility is incorporated herein and attached hereto as Attachment A. An exceedance of groundwater standards at or beyond the compliance boundary is subject to remediation action according to 15A NCAC 02L .0106(c), (d), or (e) as well as enforcement actions in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143-215.6A through 143-215.6C.

A.(24.) NO WAIVER OF RIGHTS

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

Nothing contained in this permit shall be construed as a waiver by the Permittee of any right to a hearing it may have pursuant to State or Federal laws or regulations.

A.(25.) ELECTRONIC REPORTING OF DISCHARGE MONITORING REPORTS

[G.S. 143-215.1(b)]

Federal regulations require electronic submittal of all discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) and program reports. The final NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule was adopted and became effective on December 21, 2015.

NOTE: This special condition supplements or supersedes the following sections within Part II of this permit (*Standard Conditions for NPDES Permits*):

- Section B. (11.) Signatory Requirements
- Section D. (2.) Reporting
- Section D. (6.) Records Retention
- Section E. (5.) Monitoring Reports

1. Reporting Requirements [Supersedes Part II, Section D. (2.) and Section E. (5.)(a)]

The permittee shall report discharge monitoring data electronically using the NC DWR's Electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) internet application.

Monitoring results obtained during the previous month(s) shall be summarized for each month and submitted electronically using eDMR. The eDMR system allows permitted facilities to enter monitoring data and submit DMRs electronically using the internet. Until such time that the state's eDMR application is compliant with EPA's Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation (CROMERR), permittees will be required to submit all discharge monitoring data to the state electronically using eDMR and will be required to complete the eDMR submission by printing, signing, and submitting one signed original and a copy of the computer printed eDMR to the following address:

NC DEQ / Division of Water Resources / Water Quality Permitting Section
ATTENTION: Central Files
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617

1. Reporting Requirements (cont.)

If a permittee is unable to use the eDMR system due to a demonstrated hardship or due to the facility being physically located in an area where less than 10 percent of the households have broadband access, then a temporary waiver from the NPDES electronic reporting requirements may be granted and discharge monitoring data may be submitted on paper DMR forms (MR 1, 1.1, 2, 3) or alternative forms approved by the Director. Duplicate signed copies shall be submitted to the mailing address above. See “How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting” section below.

Regardless of the submission method, the first DMR is due on the last day of the month following the issuance of the permit or in the case of a new facility, on the last day of the month following the commencement of discharge.

Starting on **December 21, 2020**, the permittee must electronically report the following compliance monitoring data and reports, when applicable:

- Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports;
- Pretreatment Program Annual Reports; and
- Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 316(b) Annual Reports.

The permittee may seek an electronic reporting waiver from the Division (see “How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting” section below).

2. Electronic Submissions

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.41(l)(9), the permittee must identify the initial recipient at the time of each electronic submission. The permittee should use the EPA’s website resources to identify the initial recipient for the electronic submission.

Initial recipient of electronic NPDES information from NPDES-regulated facilities means the entity (EPA or the state authorized by EPA to implement the NPDES program) that is the designated entity for receiving electronic NPDES data [see 40 CFR 127.2(b)].

EPA plans to establish a website that will also link to the appropriate electronic reporting tool for each type of electronic submission and for each state. Instructions on how to access and use the appropriate electronic reporting tool will be available as well. Information on EPA’s NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule is found at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2015/10/22/2015-24954/national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes-electronic-reporting-rule>

Electronic submissions must start by the dates listed in the “Reporting Requirements” section above.

3. How to Request a Waiver from Electronic Reporting

The permittee may seek a temporary electronic reporting waiver from the Division. To obtain an electronic reporting waiver, a permittee must first submit an electronic reporting waiver request to the Division. Requests for temporary electronic reporting waivers must be submitted in writing to the Division for written approval at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the facility would be required under this permit to begin submitting monitoring data and reports. The duration of a temporary waiver shall not exceed 5 years and shall thereupon expire. At such time, monitoring data and reports shall be submitted electronically to the Division unless the permittee re-applies for and is granted a new temporary electronic reporting waiver by the Division. Approved electronic reporting waivers are not transferrable. Only permittees with an

approved reporting waiver request may submit monitoring data and reports on paper to the Division for the period that the approved reporting waiver request is effective.

Information on eDMR and the application for a temporary electronic reporting waiver are found on the following web page: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/edmr>

4. Signatory Requirements [Supplements Part II, Section B. (11.)(b) and Supersedes Section B. (11.)(d)]

All eDMRs submitted to the permit issuing authority shall be signed by a person described in Part II, Section B. (11.)(a) or by a duly authorized representative of that person as described in Part II, Section B. (11.)(b). A person, and not a position, must be delegated signatory authority for eDMR reporting purposes.

For eDMR submissions, the person signing and submitting the DMR must obtain an eDMR user account and login credentials to access the eDMR system. For more information on North Carolina's eDMR system, registering for eDMR and obtaining an eDMR user account, please visit the following web page:

<http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/edmr>

Certification. Any person submitting an electronic DMR using the state's eDMR system shall make the following certification [40 CFR 122.22]. NO OTHER STATEMENTS OF CERTIFICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

5. Records Retention [Supplements Part II, Section D. (6.)]

The permittee shall retain records of all Discharge Monitoring Reports, including eDMR submissions. These records or copies shall be maintained for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the report. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time [40 CFR 122.41].