From: Sarah Eckard
To: 15ANCAC02B_SWTriRev_Comments_2021
Subject: [External] EMC Triennial Review Comments
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Hello Chris,
I have more to say. I would like to share that I am from Pittsboro. I would like to echo what my town leaders and Clean Haw River has said (Katie Bryant). Please set regulations for PFAS (and similar compounds like GenX). I believe the standard should be 0.35ug/L in all waters to prevent contamination downstream. As written, Greensboro would be allowed to discharge more than they currently do on average, but just downstream, the standard would be 0.35ug/L at Pittsboro's intake. It would put a considerable burden on our town while they are able to continue to pollute our drinking water. I would also like to see a class standard of 20 ppt for total PFAS, or all PFAS included in the EPA's 537.1 testing method. I moved to Pittsboro when we were first married. I got preeclampsia and had to have an emergency c-section, resulting in a premature child with a month long hospital stay. He has a developmental delay now. Both of my children were born SGA (small for gestational age), not even 3rd %ile on the growth charts. They are known outcomes from PFAS exposure. One of my sisters who lives in Pittsboro has had 5 miscarriages. My friend's son had a rare cancer, t-cell lymphoma. He has made it through all of his treatments now and his family fights for his life every day, because his immune system is so fragile and he will always be at risk. My father died last year from prostate cancer that morphed into a rare cancer. He was extremely healthy and his PSA level went from less than 1 to 15 in a year. He died despite quick treatment from very aggressive cancer, less than 2 years from his blood work revealing an astronomical PSA. Firefighters exposed to PFOAS are known to have aggressive prostate cancer. https://dceg.cancer.gov/research/what-we-study/pfas
I honestly believe that these issues are related to our water contamination. We didn't know about the contamination. We drank the water all these years. We thought it was safe. Imagine finding out that your fridge or water filters can't filter out any of the deadly chemicals in your water. You can't even use your ice. We found out from news articles. Even now, commercial filters aren't enough to protect us from the pollution in our water. They're not made for it. We've been told this by the companies. Our small community is having to pay millions in taxpayer dollars and also personal dollars (for individual filters and bottled water) to attempt to keep ourselves safe. North Carolina owes its citizens safe drinking water by protecting surface waters from contaminants. These compounds are giving us cancer, miscarriages, early problems for our children, and more. People are dying when they shouldn't and carrying the heavy health and financial consequences allowed by industrial pollution.

Thank you for your work. May it serve the people who need it most.

Sincerely,

Sarah Eckard