From: Buddy Henderson
To: 15ANCAC02B_SWTriRev_Comments_2021
Subject: [External] July 20 Public Hearing Comments
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Good evening,

Please see below the comments I also shared during tonight's public hearing.

I am disappointed that your review completely ignores the elephant in the room, PFAS contamination in North Carolina. As a resident of Cumberland County, Gray's Creek area, I know as well as DEQ that there are nearby creeks and surface water areas with extremely high concentrations of PFAS. Unless you work for the EPA, I believe we are all past the point of denying the negative health effects associated with PFAS.

This review claims that "The proposed revisions will allow North Carolina to better protect human health and aquatic life". However, the regulatory impact analysis spells out the main goal: that is, "changes to the standards are likely to result in significant benefits to a small number of local government and private entities in the form of avoided costs due to reduced wastewater treatment and discharge monitoring requirements." In my experience, this sums up NC DEQ's approach to environmental protection which consists of deregulation and economic gains that trump human health. While other states and countries take meaningful action to stop PFAS pollution, in North Carolina we're still enabling polluters. I urge NC DEQ to adopt a surface water quality standard for PFAS as a class at a health protective level of 1 part per trillion for the total concentration.

Thank you.

Buddy Henderson

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