NORTH CAROLINA Department of Environmental Quality

Community Update

May 2020

This community update includes the latest information that may be of interest to residents in the Cape Fear River Region and the communities near the Fayetteville Works facility.

The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) entered into a Consent Order with Chemours and Cape Fear River Watch in February 2019. The order requires Chemours to address all sources of PFAS at the facility to prevent further impacts to air, soil, groundwater and surface waters.

The full Consent Order and history of the GenX investigation can be found online at https://bit.ly/2Z7JHVA.

Air Emissions

Thermal Oxidizer Update

The Division of Air Quality staff has reviewed the results of the February Thermal Oxidizer testing. The data indicate the control equipment is reducing PFAS emissions routed through it by at least 99.99 percent as required under the Consent Order. The thermal oxidizer results can be found at: https://bit.ly/3cHbse0, and a summary of the results can be found at: https://bit.ly/3e9uD0D.

Air Permit Modification

To further reduce PFAS emissions from operations at the facility, DAQ issued a permit modification for the installation of a carbon bed control unit at the Vinyl Ethers South process and a separate carbon bed at the SemiWorks process.

Air Quality Monitoring Data

More air quality monitoring information, including weekly rainwater results and weekly atmospheric deposition data, can be found at: https://bit.ly/3bOUSrC.

Groundwater

Private Well Water Sampling to Resume

Sampling may resume as early as Tuesday, May 26, based on Phase 2 guidance. DEQ will implement procedures and protocols to resume sampling during Phase 2 of the state's COVID-19 safety guidance. Residents who were on the schedule to be sampled by DEQ will be contacted when sampling activities resume. Department staff have directed Chemours to develop its own plan to resume sampling – a plan that follows social distancing protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19 while adhering to the requirements of the Consent Order. **Parsons** is the third-party consultant who will be contacting you to sample your private well. To request well sampling, call (910) 678-1101.

Well Sampling Step-Out Plan

Under the Consent Order, Chemours must sample a quarter mile from the last known well with contamination from PFAS. Currently, this radius is approximately 10 miles. To learn more about the Step-Out Plan, go to: https://bit.ly/2YhV702.

Updated Well Sampling Map

The most recent well sampling map (May 11, 2020) can be found online at: https://bit.ly/3geOrS6 or click the image below. When sampling resumes even on a limited basis to adhere to social distancing practices, Chemours will send DEQ well sampling maps weekly and will be posted to the website

Alternative Water / Filtration Systems

In the upcoming weeks, Chemours will send a letter to approximately 350 residents whose wells were tested in 2018 or early 2019 and who have not yet decided on their filtration options provided in early 2019. The department will send a follow-up letter asking these residents to evaluate their filtration options. The residents receiving these letters will need to make filtration system decisions after receipt of these final notice letters.

Under the Consent Order, Chemours is required to provide bottled water to eligible well users until such time as a filtration system or connection to a municipal water supply has been provided. Based on the approved Chemours Drinking Water Compliance Plan, residents who do not respond to the final letters mentioned above will be presumed to have declined a water treatment system. Those residents who decline a treatment system will forfeit the ability to choose a system in the future and trigger the end of bottled water delivery. Residents who do not wish to decline must contact Chemours to accept a water treatment system. To find out if you are eligible to receive these filtration systems, go to: https://bit.ly/2JPp415.

Complaint Process

DEQ has established a process for addressing citizen complaints related to the drinking water compliance plan. To submit a complaint, please contact Mercedes Hernández, DEQ risk assessment consultant, at (919) 707-8712 or Mercedes.Hernandez@ncdenr.gov.

NEW GenX Information for Residents Webpage

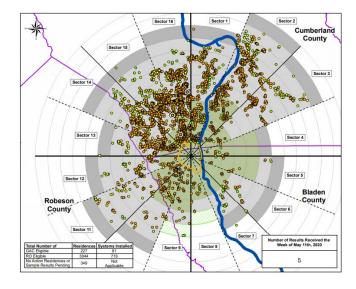
DEQ has created a webpage containing information for residents in the impacted areas surrounding the Chemours Fayetteville facility. This page contains information about well sampling, sampling results and filtration systems. Since the March community meeting was canceled due to COVID-19 concerns, DEQ staff recorded the presentations planned for that meeting and posted them online as well. To view this page, go to: https://bit.ly/3cxeT7e.

Corrective Action Plan

On April 7, DEQ determined that Chemours' Corrective Action Plan (CAP) that details proposed remediation activities to PFAS in groundwater and surface waters, needs significant revisions. DEQ will review submitted CAP revisions. To read more about DEQ's determination, go to: https://bit.ly/2zAyPqQ.

The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services provided comments on the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) submitted to DEQ by Chemours, focusing on the Human Health Screening Level Exposure Assessment portion of the CAP. These comments can be viewed at: bit.ly/NCDHHScommentCAP.





Public Water Options

DEQ has made a feasibility determination, with input from local government representatives, for areas **west** of the Cape Fear River in <u>Bladen County</u>. Chemours will be providing municipal water to the 52 residences (if the well owner elects to have municipal water) served by private wells west of the Cape Fear River in Bladen County whose drinking water results are at or above 140 ppt for GenX. To view this letter, go to: https://bit.ly/31YNF4W.

Cumberland County officials recently approved \$10.5 million for waterline construction in the Gray's Creek area. NCDEQ staff is currently reviewing the county's decision as it relates to the terms of the state's Consent Order. The addition of the proposed waterlines announced recently will require an update to the study of the feasibility of public water in the area under the terms of the Consent Order.

For areas **west** of the Cape Fear River in <u>Cumberland</u> <u>County</u>: The Public Water Feasibility Analysis is still under review. DEQ has requested feedback from representatives of Cumberland County. DEQ granted an extension until May 25, 2020 and Chemours has requested an additional three-month extension to comply with the requirements of Paragraph 19 for the affected wells in Cumberland County west of the Cape Fear River. To view this letter, go to: https://bit.ly/39Au5hK.

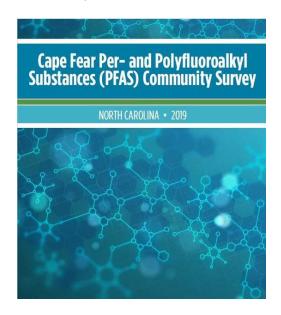
For areas **east** of the Cape Fear River in both Bladen and Cumberland Counties: DEQ has made a feasibility determination, with input from local government representatives. To view this letter, go to: https://bit.ly/2LBRVlu.

Chemours will not be installing additional granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration systems in Cumberland County west of the Cape Fear River until a final public water feasibility determination is made. Bottled water delivery will continue in the interim for residences in these areas that are eligible either for public water or granular activated carbon filtration systems. Chemours will continue to install reverse osmosis systems for eligible homes.

Health

DHHS Cape Fear Community Survey

NCDHHS released results from its Cape Fear Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Community Survey in January 2020. The report is posted online at: bit.ly/surveyresults2019. You can also click the image below to view the report.



Using feedback from the survey, NCDHHS is working with partners to finalize a Community Involvement Plan (CIP). This plan will promote two-way communication between community members and NCDHHS about outreach efforts associated with the Chemours Fayetteville Works Facility. The goal is to share information about health risks from the site and ensure community concerns are acknowledged and addressed. NCDHHS will seek community input on the CIP through focus groups. If you are interested in more information about participating in a focus group, please email nchace@dhhs.nc.gov or call (919) 707-5900.

Document repository

NCDHHS has established a repository of PFAS-related information at the Annie Hubbard McEachern Public Library, located at 223 W Broad Street in St. Pauls. Please note that library hours may have changed due to the COVID-19 situation. NCDHHS is working with other agencies to include copies of their reports and information related to PFAS.

For questions about the Consent Order and other DEQ work related to the GenX investigation, please call (877) 623-6748.

For questions about health effects related to GenX, PFAS or other chemicals, contact the DHHS staff at (919) 707-5900.

If you want be added to the mailing list to receive the Community Update, please email Laura Leonard at Laura.Leonard@ncdenr.gov.

Website: www.deq.nc.gov
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