NCDEQ Coal Ash Impoundment Closure Plan Decision

Attachment 2: Public Comments

April 29, 2020
Where is the new lined coal ash basin going to be? I hope not on Little Mountain Road. Please let me know.
Please add zip code 28682 to any and all cancer study areas related to coal ash.

Thank you,

Edgar Mueller MS, MBA
edgarmueller@alum.mit.edu
+1.703.623.8168 (c)
Terrell, NC

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- Edgar Mueller

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Best regards,

Edgar Mueller MS, MBA
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+1.828.478.9160 (h)
+1.703.623.8168 (mobile)
3747 Gordon St.
Terrell, NC 28682 USA
(16 year resident)
I missed the entire presentation of the closure plan because I, along with numerous other people, showed up at Bandy's High School for the meeting that was announced several weeks ago to be held there. None of us were aware that the location had been changed. By the time we all drove to Maiden, the question and answer period was ending.

Here is my question: **Is coal ash being excavated from all the creek channels feeding into Lake Norman that were filled with coal ash starting back in the 60's after the plant opened?**

I recall seeing the outline of filled-in creek channels from a map displayed at the public hearing last year. Those channels all led directly into Lake Norman. If the coal ash is left in them, it seems like a very obvious pathway for ash to continue leaching toxins in lake water.

Jerry Ayers  
8341 Long Island Rd  
Catawba, NC 28609  
828-241-3738
The 200 ft high ash mountains by Island Point Road are not acceptable. We have already seen homeowners sell their homes as the present hills appeared and believe it will continue to have a negative effect on our home values, not to mention the concerns about groundwater. Do we really have no say so in this as residents and as taxpayers?

Duke seems to not be doing anything along Island Point Road in an effort to block the ash hills from view. Is there a future plan in place to hide them?

Tamara Bodford
2771 Camden Pointe Drive
Sherrills Ford, NC 28673
336-682-1793

--
Tamara Bodford
Senior Account Executive | Forsyth Woman and Forsyth Family

Tamara@ForsythMags.com | 336.682.1793

Connect with us on Social Media!
Facebook | Pinterest | LinkedIn | Instagram
I was told that over a million gallons of water from the coal ash basins at Marshall have been dumped (untreated and untested) directly into Lake Norman, our local drinking water supply in preparation for the excavation. Is this true? Are the town's filtration systems even able to remove those toxins from our drinking water? What about swimming and boating in the lake and the aquatic life? How can this possibly be allowed? Considered safe? I thought DEQ is supposed to protect our community's environment, not further harm it. Every time I wash my face or take a shower I am wondering what contamination is left over after the filtering process. Will I die of cancer thanks to having moved here unaware of the disastrous pollution situation here?

Concerned citizen,
Rachel Di Re - Huntersville
When will the results of Lake Norman water tests be conducted to ensure no Hexavalent Chromium?

This email is subject to certain disclaimers, which may be reviewed via the following link. http://www.compass-usa.com/disclaimer/
Commenting on the closure plan for Marshall Steam station. Let it be known as a Lake Norman resident I want the coal ash gone. Not capped in place as it will continue to contaminate the area. The Boron plume should also be treated/addressed and not left. We have had enough cancers here in Lake Norman. Do the right thing.

Rachel Y. Di Re - Huntersville, NC

Sent from my iPhone
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to report.spam@nc.gov.

As a resident of the Lake Norman area I am devastated to learn about the coal ash pollution in the area. It has sickened so many residents and caused numerous cancer diagnosis'. If Duke and the State plan to preserve the area they better shut the plant now!

Stop spewing toxic pollution all over the towns nearby. Everyday we watch that smoke stack send plumes of waste into the air. Everyday we drive by the plant and watch all the waste being dumped on the land and seep into the waters of Lake Norman.

We know this is not a healthy situation to live in and to insult us all by claiming it is safe will only come back and bite the State and Duke Energy in the butt.

We the residents are wise to what is happening. You can no longer cover up this despicable mess up that has been created by Duke Energy. The Media has finally taken notice. Values will start to plummet and the Lake Norman Cash Cow will disappear. What then???

Shut the plant now and remove the toxic waste now! That is the only solution.

Respectfully,
Sheila Hebert
Mooresville, NC
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3747 Gordon St.
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(16 year resident)
Good afternoon Ms. Hughes,

Please find attached comments on the Marshall Power Station closure plans, on behalf of Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, the Sierra Club, and Waterkeeper Alliance.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Doucette
Legal Administrative Assistant
North Carolina State Bar Certified Paralegal | Southern Environmental Law Center [southernenvironment.org]
601 West Rosemary Street, Suite 220 | Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2356
T: 919-967-1450 | F: 919-929-9421 | Email: jdoucette@selnc.org
VIA EMAIL

N.C. Department of Environmental Quality
Louise Hughes
1601 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1601
marshallcomments@ncdenr.gov

Re: Comments on Closure Plan – Marshall Steam Station

Dear Ms. Hughes:

On behalf of Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, the Sierra Club, and Waterkeeper Alliance, we support Duke Energy’s plan to excavate the unlined coal ash basin at its Marshall Steam Station on Lake Norman.

This result is required by the North Carolina Coal Ash Management Act. As the Department set out in its April 1, 2019 Closure Determination, the ongoing contamination and the risks associated with leaving millions of tons of coal ash saturated in groundwater are too great, and full excavation is the right solution to ensure that groundwater and downstream surface waters are protected.

The closure plan removes approximately 16.8 million tons of coal ash from the leaking, unlined ash basin at Marshall, and disposes of it onsite in lined, dry storage. This cleanup represents an enormous victory for Lake Norman and the community.

We have two requests for the Department:

Each of Duke Energy’s coal ash sites contain millions of tons that are saturated in groundwater, and DEQ must ensure Duke Energy removes all of this ash. Appendix E of the closure plan states that if Duke encounters ash saturated in groundwater, “[a] plan will be submitted to NC DEQ by Duke Energy pertaining to the removal of ash if these conditions or other restricting factors occur.” Closure Plan, Appendix E, Section 4.3. Because we already know that millions of tons of ash are saturated in groundwater at every one of these sites, DEQ should require Duke Energy to submit its plan for fully removing saturated ash now, to ensure the plan is adequate and all saturated ash will be removed.
In addition, DEQ must continue to protect North Carolinians by ensuring the safety of the workers who are cleaning up the coal ash. DEQ should require Duke Energy to protect its workers and contractors by creating a safe work environment with protective equipment.

We are grateful to Secretary Regan and the whole Department of Environmental Quality for your work to implement CAMA and ensure these sites will be cleaned up once and for all. We fully support this closure plan.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Nicholas S. Torrey
Senior Attorney

cc: Sheila Holman, Assistant Secretary for the Environment
Bill Lane, General Counsel
Please monitor the well water of the residents of Gordon Street in Terrell, NC with third party oversight for the next 20 years, or until the county water lines are extended through the neighborhood, if they ever are.

Thank you,

Edgar Mueller MS, MBA
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3747 Gordon St
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On Mar 15, 2020, at 12:33 PM, Edgar Mueller <edgarmueller@hotmail.com> wrote:

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(16 year resident)
Do I need to sign up to attend this meeting? If so please let me know what I'll need to do to be a part of the community meeting. Thank you and God bless.
Will this affect residential wells??

Ms. Teresa Knutsen  
tknutsen7@gmail.com  
704-662-2295
January 19, 2019

I attended the Marshall meeting and am submitting my comments as requested.

As you know, the participants in attendance (except one) by show of hands overwhelmingly voted for the EXCAVATION option.

The Drinking Water Protection/Coal Ash Clean Up Act of 2016 Section 130A-309.214(3) outlines how and when Marshall (designated low-risk) shall be closed.

Section 130A-309.214(3)(iii) provides AT THE ELECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT the owner of the impoundment shall either...

Section 130A-309.214(3)(iii)(a) provides that the department has the option to "Close in any manner allowed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection known as Section 130A-309.214(1) for High-risk impoundments.

Section 130A-309.214(1) High Risk impoundments requires excavation.

DEQ continues to quote "the law" in response to Q&A. However, the law clearly provides DEQ with the option to EXCAVATE Marshall which clearly is the will of the people you represent.

While excavation is mandatory for high-risk impoundments, it is an option for low-risk impoundments as well.

And don't even get me started on how the CAMA law of 2014 was revised subsequently forcing Marshall into a low-risk rating when it would have clearly been rated higher prior to the CAMA laws revision.

Ultimately the people will be footing the bill for cleanup. You clearly heard that the cost and timeline is not an overriding issue other than the belief that both have been purposefully overstated. We the people are willing to share or bear the cost if that's what it takes to excavate.

This community has come together to ensure our voices are heard and many many many more will be at the next meeting when the Marshall closure plan is presented.

We expect this closure plan to be nothing less than excavation.

Thank you,

Theresa James
Mooresville NC 28117
P.O. Box 1691
101 West Jones St.
Old Louisville
NC 402