September 1, 2020

Dr. A. Stanley Meuburg, Chairman
North Carolina Environmental Management Commission
c/o EMC Recording Clerk
Director’s Office – Division of Water Resources
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

Re: Town of Fuquay-Varina – Notice of Intent to Request an Interbasin Certificate

Dear Dr. Meuburg and EMC Members:

The Town of Fuquay-Varina respectfully requests that you consider this correspondence as our Notification of Intent (NOI) to request an Interbasin Transfer (IBT) Certificate. The Town requests an average day transfer of approximately 4 million gallons per day (mgd) and a maximum day transfer of 8 mgd from the Cape Fear River basin to the Neuse River basin. The transfer amount is based on 2055 water demand projections in the Town’s service area. The transfer amount will be refined during the process of preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

We have been in the process of planning for water supply and wastewater infrastructure over the last several years. The Town owns and operates the 3 mgd Terrible Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) discharging to Terrible Creek in the Neuse River basin, and the 0.117 mgd Brighton Forest WWTP discharging into Middle Creek in the Neuse River Basin. The Town has also purchased wastewater treatment capacity in Harnett County’s WWTP, which discharges to the Cape Fear River basin. We currently operate a water distribution system in our service area; however, we do not own water supply capacity. We purchase finished water wholesale from the City of Raleigh, Harnett County, and Johnston County on a contract basis. However, discussions have indicated that a long-term water supply solution from our current water purveyors is not feasible.

In response to our water supply needs in our growing community, we have initiated discussions with the City of Sanford to purchase 6 mgd of finished water capacity in the City of Sanford’s Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The raw water intake and the WTP for the City of Sanford is located in the Cape Fear River basin. We currently serve customers in both the Neuse and the Cape Fear River basins. Our preliminary calculations indicate that the purchase of water supply capacity from the City of Sanford will result in an IBT. Figure 1 provides an illustration of the proposed IBT between the City of Sanford and the Town, the river basin IBT boundaries, and our respective service areas.

Our Team has reviewed the statutory requirements via §143-215.22L for pursuing an IBT Certificate. We are committed to following the required process and to working cooperatively with the Environmental Management Commission and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The
Town will provide stakeholders an opportunity to participate in this project through an open and active public process.

We appreciate your time and consideration of this notice. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to Mr. Jay Meyers, Town of Fuquay-Varina Public Utilities Director, or Ms. Mary Sadler, Hazen and Sawyer. Our contact information is provided as follows:

Jay Meyers, PE  
Public Utilities Director  
919-567-3991  
jmeyers@fuquay-varina.org

Mary Sadler, PE  
Senior Associate  
919-755-8650  
msadler@hazenandsawyer.com

Respectfully,

Adam Mitchell  
Town Manager

Jay Meyers, PE  
Public Utilities Director

Attachments

cc:  Mr. Daniel Smith, Director, NC DEQ Division of Water Resources  
Ms. Karen Higgins, Water Planning Section Chief, NC DEQ Division of Water Resources  
Mr. Linwood Peele, Water Supply Section Branch Chief, NC DEQ Division of Water Resources  
Mary Sadler, PE, Hazen and Sawyer