N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Scheduled on Jordan Lake Water Allocation

RALEIGH – State officials are giving local governments an opportunity to apply for water supplies from B. Everett Jordan Lake, the water source for many Triangle communities.

The N.C. Division of Water Resources will host a meeting Feb. 24 to explain the process local governments can use to apply for water from Jordan Lake. The meeting is at 10 a.m. in the Ground Floor Hearing Room of the Archdale Building, 512 North Salisbury St., Raleigh. The meeting is open to all interested parties.

Jordan Lake was constructed as a multi-purpose reservoir in the early 1980s and provides drinking water for numerous communities, including Durham and Cary. The reservoir is operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, but the state purchased water supply storage from the federal government and now state law gives the N.C. Environmental Management Commission the authority to allocate the water supply storage to local governments.

The 19-member commission adopts rules to protect, preserve and enhance air and water resources. The commission at their Jan. 14 meeting gave the N.C. Division of Water Resources the go-ahead to open the application process for water supply storage allocations from Jordan Lake. This marks the fourth time the state has opened Jordan Lake up for new water allocations.

The division, which provides technical assistance to the commission and carries out the rules the commission adopts, notified public water systems and other water users in the Cape Fear River Basin about the Jordan Lake water supply allocations and the update to the Cape Fear Water Resources Plan. Water users from the Cape Fear River Basin and a 50-mile buffer around Jordan Lake were notified about the meeting.

The lake, most of which sits in Chatham County, is used for water supply, flood control, recreation, fishing and downstream water quality flows.

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