

December XX, 2014

Public Water System Owner  
1234 Some Street  
Your Town, NC 2xxxx [mail merge]

Regarding Water System Number: NCxxxxxxx [mail merge]

Dear Public Water System Owner,

You are being contacted because you own or operate a public water system near one of Duke Energy's active or retired coal-fired power plants in North Carolina. As part of the groundwater assessment being conducted in accordance with N.C. Session Law 2014-122, the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) wants to sample all public and private water supply wells within 1,000 feet of each facility's boundary. You are being notified because DENR would like to test your well(s) during this investigation. Information that will be gathered during this investigation will be used to guide the successful closure of the coal ash basins.

DENR's Division of Water Resources (DWR) encourages you to participate in this opportunity to ensure that your well(s) have not been impacted by nearby coal ash basins. **There is no cost to the well owner for this testing. Well testing costs will be paid by Duke Energy.**

**In order for your well(s) to be tested, please answer the questions on the enclosed pre-paid post card and mail it within 15 days.** If you do not want your well(s) tested, please check the No box and mail the card back to the Division of Water Resources.

Please include your contact information – phone number and email – so an appointment for the well test can be arranged.

If you have a preference for which lab does the testing, please choose a lab in your area from the enclosed list. All labs on the list are certified to perform water supply well testing for this investigation. If you do not choose a lab, DWR can choose a lab for you.

We will send your information to the chosen laboratory. Someone from that laboratory will contact you to arrange a date and time to come to your water system to collect water samples from your well(s). Well sampling will begin in January 2015.

Results of all tests will be sent to the Division of Water Resources and to Duke Energy. DWR will send to you the results of the tests and an explanation of the results. Sample tests that show exceedances of groundwater quality standards will also be sent to the state Department of Health and Human Services for a health-risk evaluation. Results of that evaluation will be sent to you along with the results of the sampling.

For more information about the sampling and testing process, please visit the Division of Water Resources' website at: <http://goo.gl/NUZRLI>.

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Will I be contacted about when my well will be tested?*

A representative of the selected laboratory will contact you to work out details of the testing procedure. If your wellhead is easily accessible it may not be necessary for you to be present when the testing is done.

*I recently filled out a postcard for Duke asking if I have a well. Why do I need to do that again?*

The two postcards are for different purposes. A response to the enclosed postcard is needed in order to identify which laboratory will test your well and to facilitate scheduling the test.

*What is my well being tested for?*

Wells will be sampled and tested for a number of metals and other constituents that may be naturally occurring but are also associated with coal burning activities. Those are: aluminum, antimony, arsenic, barium, beryllium, boron, cadmium, calcium, cobalt, chromium, copper, iron, lead, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, mercury, nickel, potassium, selenium, sodium, strontium, thallium, vanadium, zinc, chloride, sulfate, alkalinity, bicarbonate, carbonate, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids and turbidity. Field tests will be done for: pH, temperature, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, oxidation reduction potential and the well water level, if possible. The groundwater standards can be found on the Division of Water Resources website at: <http://goo.gl/NUZRLI>

*That is a long list. Can I assume my water is safe if the tests come back clean?*

No. We are testing for constituents associated with coal ash contamination. This is not a comprehensive test of your well water. To learn more about having your private well tested, go to [TestYourWell.nc.gov](http://TestYourWell.nc.gov), a website provided by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

*What if I miss my 15 day window but still want my well tested?*

If you miss the deadline and still want your well tested, please call the Division of Water Resources at 919-807-6464 and ask to speak with someone about drinking water well testing near Duke Energy coal ash facilities.

*Will my well test results be available as public information?*

All testing that is conducted during this investigation is considered public information.

*Will my public water system be required to provide treatment for unregulated contaminants over the groundwater quality standards?*

There is no regulatory requirement for public water systems to either monitor or provide treatment to address unregulated contaminants. If chemicals are discovered above levels above groundwater quality standards, customers will be notified about their increased risk from consuming the water. Customers may demand contaminants be lowered below standards. Duke will be required to provide alternative water if it is determined that there is an exceedance of a groundwater quality standard attributable to constituents associated with the presence of a coal ash pond impoundment. The data that will be gathered, however, is important to determine the impact of coal ash ponds on surrounding groundwater and is valuable to the water system and customers. Public water systems are advised to participate in this sampling program.

*I want to know more about the state's regulatory process as it moves forward. Where is the best place to find information?*

The Division of Water Resources has a website that focuses on our regulation of Duke Energy's coal-ash facilities. It contains links to drinking water testing, groundwater testing, federal and state permitting and other coal ash related information. It is updated regularly as additional information and reports are submitted. You can find it at: <http://goo.gl/NUZRLI>.

**For further questions, visit our web page at: <http://goo.gl/NUZRLI> or contact DWR at:**

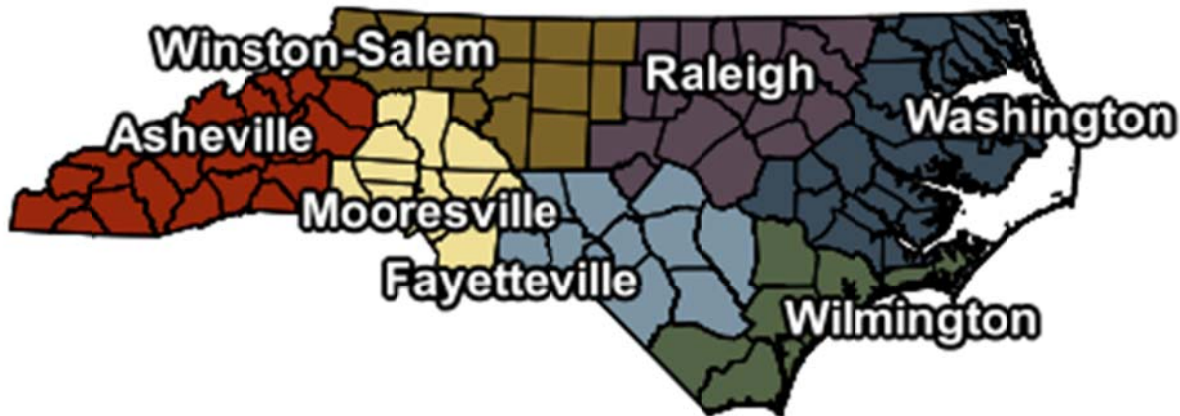
Email: [CA.water.test@ncdenr.gov](mailto:CA.water.test@ncdenr.gov)

Mail: Drinking Water Well Testing, Division of Water Resources, 1636 MSC, Raleigh, NC, 27709-1636

Phone: 919-807-6464

### **List of Laboratories for well testing**

Find your home region on this map:



The labs available for each region are listed below.

#### All Regions

- Shealy Environmental Services, Inc., West Columbia, S.C.
- Research and Analytical Laboratories, Kernersville, N.C.

#### Asheville

- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Rogers and Callcott Engineers, Inc., Greenville, SC
- Prism Laboratories, Inc., Charlotte, N.C.

#### Fayetteville

- Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Fayetteville, N.C.
- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Meritech, Inc., Reidsville, N.C.
- Environment 1, Inc., Greenville, N.C.
- Element One, Inc., Wilmington, N.C.

#### Mooresville

- Prism Laboratories, Inc., Charlotte, N.C.
- K&W Laboratories, Midland, N.C.
- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Rogers and Callcott Engineers, Inc., Greenville, SC
- Meritech, Inc., Reidsville, N.C.

#### Raleigh

- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Meritech, Inc., Reidsville, N.C.
- Prism Laboratories, Inc., Charlotte, N.C.
- Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Fayetteville, N.C.

#### Washington

- Environment 1, Inc., Greenville, N.C.
- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Rogers and Callcott Engineers, Inc., Greenville, SC
- Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Fayetteville, N.C.
- Environmental Chemists, Inc. (Envirochem), Wilmington, N.C.
- Element One, Inc., Wilmington, N.C.

#### Wilmington

- Environmental Chemists, Inc. (Envirochem), Wilmington, N.C.
- Element One, Inc., Wilmington, N.C.
- Environment 1, Inc., Greenville, N.C.
- Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Fayetteville, N.C.

#### Winston-Salem

- Meritech, Inc., Reidsville, N.C.
- Pace Analytical Services, Inc., Huntersville, N.C.
- Prism Laboratories, Inc., Charlotte, N.C.
- K&W Laboratories, Midland, N.C.