

# DEQ to Hold Public Hearing Dec. 17 on Lear Corp. Wastewater Permit Renewal



## DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES PERMIT OVERVIEW

Lear Corp. operates an industrial facility near Kenansville involved in motor vehicle seating and interior trim manufacturing. The facility is responsible for the knitting, weaving, dyeing and finishing properties of synthetic fibers.

Lear is requesting renewal of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, or NPDES permit, that regulates pollutants discharged from the

facility's wastewater treatment plant into the Northeast Cape Fear River. Based on public input received during the initial comment period held between Feb. 9 and March 28, 2024, the draft permit has been revised.

The revised draft permit includes a requirement to monitor per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) upstream and downstream of the facility, in its discharge and in groundwater wells on the site.

The revised draft permit also requires Lear Corp. to characterize PFAS compounds used and processed at the plant. Additionally, Lear Corp. is required to develop and implement PFAS Best Management Practices (BMPs) and to perform a study of best available technology (BAT) for reducing or eliminating PFAS in its process wastewaters. Lastly, the draft includes a reopener clause that would allow PFAS limits to be imposed. Details of the permit conditions are available online in the draft permit and technical fact sheet.

## PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, DEC. 17

Submit comments using any of the following options:

**In-person:** 6 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 17, James Sprunt Community College, Monk Auditorium, Hoffer Building, 133 James Sprunt Drive, Kenansville, N.C., 28349. Speaker registration opens at 5:30 p.m.

**Email:** Comments sent to [publiccomments@deq.nc.gov](mailto:publiccomments@deq.nc.gov) with the subject "Lear Corp." will be accepted through 5 p.m. Jan. 10.

**Mail:** Comments mailed to: Attn: Fenton Brown, Jr., NPDES Wastewater Permitting, Attn: Lear Corp. Permit, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C., 27699-1617, must be post-marked no later than Jan. 10.

For more information, visit [deq.nc.gov](http://deq.nc.gov), or contact Laura Oleniacz at [laura.oleniacz@deq.nc.gov](mailto:laura.oleniacz@deq.nc.gov) or 919-707-8604.



