

BRUNSWICK REGIONAL WATER & SEWER H2GO

Resolution 2017-06-20

A Call To Action In Regard To Contamination of the Cape Fear River

Whereas, the Cape Fear River is the primary water supply for hundreds of thousands of residents in Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender Counties, and

Whereas, the Cape Fear River is vulnerable to surface water contamination from industrial dischargers, chemical spills, and non-point source runoff from agricultural operations within the watershed, and

Whereas, recent water quality sampling of the Cape Fear River water supplies indicates the presence of emerging unregulated contaminants including, but not limited to, chromium, molybdenum, strontium, vanadium, chlorate, 1,4 dioxane, polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), perfluorooctanoic acids (PFOAs), and perfluoro-2-propoxypropanoic acid (PFPrOPrA) – more commonly known as GenX, and

Whereas, at least one point-source discharger of the GenX toxin has been identified as Chemours, an industrial operation located approximately 100 miles upstream of the area's raw water intake structure at lock and dam #1 on the Cape Fear River, and

Whereas, GenX has been shown in some studies to cause cancer, and other health issues in lab animals, and is an emerging unregulated contaminate for which the EPA has yet to establish a safe regulatory level, and

Whereas, with a recent Presidential executive order rolling back the EPA's authority to limit pollution in major bodies of water, rivers, streams, and wetlands, it is now incumbent upon the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) to lead the regulatory assault on any and all dischargers of regulated and unregulated contaminants that threaten the safety of our drinking water supplies, and

Whereas, Representative Deb Butler has called upon her colleagues in the North Carolina General Assembly to fully fund NCDEQ in their vital role to regulate, monitor, and protect our drinking water supplies, and

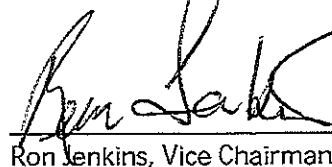
Whereas, regionally, Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer (H2GO) was created by the State of North Carolina for the purpose of preserving and promoting the public health and welfare, without regard for county, township, or municipal lines.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, by the H2GO Board of Commissioners that:

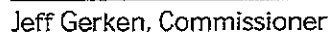
1. Safe, reliable drinking water supplies are as essential to the growth and viability of our communities as it is to life.
2. Alternate water supplies and treatment technologies are needed to improve water system resiliency in the face of impending threats to existing surface water supplies.
3. H2GO supports the Cape Fear River Watch in their mission to improve the water quality of the Lower Cape Fear River Basin through education, advocacy and action, and we call upon area residents to join them as they need your energy, your intellect and your wisdom, your creativity, and your diversity of background in their mission to protect our river.
4. We call upon all waste stream dischargers to the Cape Fear River to become good stewards of the river, to improve treatment and recovery practices to reduce or eliminate their environmental footprints, but most of all, to put life ahead of profits.
5. We call upon Chemours to immediately cease all operations that create GenX as a manufactured product or as a waste stream by-product, and to fully disclose to regulatory and health officials all toxicology studies associated with GenX.
6. We call upon the NCDEQ to implement all staff resources and legal remedies at their disposal to regulate the discharge of GenX and other emerging contaminants entering our river.
7. We support Representative Butler's plead to the North Carolina General Assembly to fully fund the NCDEQ budget to insure adequate protection of our State's water resources.
8. We call upon all local public officials, including all members of our own Board of Commissioners, to support and advocate for the uninterrupted and expedient construction and operation of our nearly shovel-ready deep-well ground water supplies and reverse osmosis water treatment plant project, consistent with our charge to preserve and promote the public health and welfare of our H2GO customers, thereby eliminating our dependence on the Cape Fear River and its vulnerability to contaminants in our drinking water supplies.

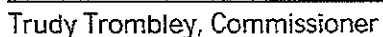
Adopted this 20th day of June, 2017, by the Board of Commissioners, Brunswick Regional Water & Sewer H2GO.

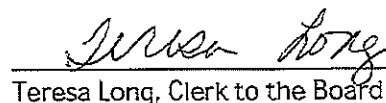

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