

Subject: FEIS Comments

From: NCDeerHunter29@aol.com

Date: Fri, 5 Feb 2010 15:28:16 EST

To: Henry.M.Wicker.Jr@usace.army.mil

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Email address: Henry.M.Wicker.Jr@usace.army.mil

Dear Mr. Wicker,

I am writing in reference to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Western Wake Regional Waste Water Treatment Facility.

Some of the reasons given by the USACE in response to citizen concerns are troubling, and are indications the USACE is not performing their duties. For example:

Appendix H. #1 Western Wake EJ Summary FINAL.pdf Lines 45 – 60 state:

“A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was previously prepared for the Western Wake Regional WWMF project under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (NCGS 113A-1). A Public Hearing for the Draft EIS and Draft Section 404 Permit was held on June 15, 2006. Because of the number of comments received on the Draft Section 404 Permit, USACE determined that the project required a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) EIS. The SEPA process was suspended, and the NEPA process was begun. The NEPA EIS will also fulfill the requirements of SEPA.”

The statement – “Because of the number of comments received on the Draft Section 404 Permit” should have included the Draft EIS, not just the Draft Section 404 Permit. In any case, the SEPA process was suspended, and the NEPA process was begun.

Reference Appendix A Public Involvement: App_A12d_CommentResponses.pdf, Page 1:

“Site selection and environmental justice were controversial issues during the prior SEPA process, with many members of the public questioning the process used by the Partners to select Site 14 as the WRF site. The USACE made the determination that, similar to other NEPA and permitting efforts, the Applicant is allowed to propose their project and this project is evaluated throughout the EIS.”

Since the SEPA process was suspended, and the NEPA process was begun, what agency has the responsibility to review the selection process of Site 14? Where is the SEPA process requirement being included? It is clear from the above statement that USACE is not going to address the errors made during the selection of Site 14, even though the public outcry is the excuse USACE used for suspending the SEPA process and beginning the NEPA process.

So I ask again, since the SEPA process has been suspended, and the USACE refuses to review the errors made during the selection of Site 14, which governmental agency has the responsibility to review the errors made during the site selection?

Or, are these errors going to be ignored, just like the residents of New Hill have been ignored since this project began?

Sincerely,

Susan Barth
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