

Subject: FEIS Comment #4

From: NCDeerHunter29@aol.com

Date: Mon, 8 Feb 2010 11:12:09 EST

To: Henry.M.Wicker.JR@saw02.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.

In a App_A13_Addl_comments.pdf, a letter from Sheryl Good, Environmental Specialist from Environmental Justice Program from Region 4 in Atlanta contains several actions that were suppose to happen after the EJ Meeting held in New Hill held on May 21, 2008. To the best of my recollection none of her recommendations were followed by USACE.

Ms. Good provided you with 20 copies of the EPA's "Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model and the Environmental Justice: The Power of Partnerships Documentary" for you to share with all of the impacted stakeholders. As a key contact for the New Hill stakeholders, I never received the manual even though I had asked about information relating to EPA's "Collaborative Problem Solving Model" process mentioned at the May 21, 2008 meeting.

In Ms. Good's letter she suggested you consider adopting this model throughout the remainder of the NEPA DEIS process and the overall project. This never happened.

Ms. Good mentioned there be a conference call to discuss this model with you to see how you and EPA could incorporate some of the elements in the NEPA process. Ms. Good then suggested everyone (assume USACE and EPA) review the manual and view a DVD and add this topic to a EIS PDT meeting. Again, this never happened!

Finally, Ms. Good asked that you share with her a list of stakeholders, as well as the persons that she met at the EJ meeting in New Hill so she could invite them to "our first meeting". This first meeting would be by way of a call by the week of June 23, 2008. This never happened either.

It is obvious that USACE did not and does not take the New Hill communities Environmental Justice issue seriously. Ignoring Ms. Good's suggestions and recommendations regarding this crucial issue demonstrates clearly that EJ was not dealt with at the New Hill community participatory level, only cursory behind the scenes (like everything WWP does) until the Draft and Final EIS documents were published.

Site 14 (most EJ impacted site) must be rejected as it is the WRONG site and replaced with one of the alternatives already deemed acceptable by USACE and doesn't have the same EJ issues.

Sincerely,

Paul Barth
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