

June 18, 2006

Daniel M. Blaisdell, P. E.  
Assistant Chief, Engineering Branch  
Construction Grants and Loans Section  
North Carolina Division of Water Quality  
1633 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1633

Dear Mr. Blaisdell:

This letter is in reference to the Western Wake Regional Waste Water Treatment Facility. The Western Wake Partners (WWP) plan to place this facility in the center of New Hill.

I am concerned about this project for a few reasons:

- 1) I believe the site selection process was unfair;
- 2) I believe the selected site will unfairly impact disadvantaged populations;
- 3) I believe that the WWP have failed to make their case about cost being a factor in moving the site.

The site selection process was unfair because the WWP failed to involve the public, failed to take into account important factors about the site, and failed to follow the recommendations of their own engineers who studied multiple sites.

Also, the citizens of New Hill were not informed of the project until the site was selected. There was no opportunity for public input, and the information that was available to the public did not indicate that site "C" would be the selected site. Anyone who had knowledge of the project and was trying to determine where this facility would be placed would have concluded, based on the data presented on the WWP website, that this facility would go on one of the sites south and east of US 1 (Sites 22,25, or28) as these sites were the top three ranked sites.


The population that is immediately adjacent to the selected site is greater than 40% minority and low-income. This is in direct opposition to the claims of the WWP that about 16% of the impacted population is low-income and minority. The discrepancy lies in the data that the WWP used to indicate who would be affected. Instead of using the 158 residences within ¼ mile of the facility—these are the ones who were directly notified by the WWP of the only meeting held about this project—the WWP used a census node that includes a far greater geographic area. That area includes many people of significantly greater wealth as well as a greater percentage of Whites.

**The WWP have cited costs as the main reasons for refusing to consider sites south and east of US 1. However, they have not conducted a cost analysis to compare the selected site with others that would have less impact on the residents of New Hill.**

**Please hold the WWP accountable for this project and the way the site selection was conducted. Refuse to permit this facility at the selected site. Insist that the WWP conduct a fair evaluation of alternate sites that also includes an accurate, complete cost comparison between sites. Insist that the public be involved, and insist that the impact on disadvantaged populations be considered.**

**I thank you for your consideration.**

**Sincerely,**

  
**Ronald W. Bordwell**  
**2424 New Hill Olive Chapel Road**  
**New Hill, NC 27562**