

Masthead

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Poorly sited plant

Regarding the Aug. 1 article "Corps backs wastewater site" and previous articles:

It is ironic that Western Wake Partners plans to build a wastewater treatment plant next to wetlands in New Hill. Wetlands provide a natural ecological service that is the very purpose of this treatment plant: they purify and filter polluted water.

Wetlands are also extremely biodiverse ecosystems and are homes for a variety of plants and animals. Many places in Canada are using constructed wetlands to replace sewage treatment plants. These sewage treatment parks are more aesthetically pleasing, they create habitats for many species, they are more environmentally friendly and they are more cost-efficient than sewage treatment plants. Western Wake Partners should take this into consideration.

Another issue with the wastewater treatment plant is environmental inequity. New Hill is also home to the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant. More than 75 percent of the residents surrounding the site are minorities and of low socioeconomic status. In comparison, minorities make up 19 percent of Western Wake Partners towns.

Not only will this sewage plant have harmful impacts on the environment, but it will also have obvious negative effects on New Hill's residents.

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