

Mr. Monte Matthews
Raleigh Regulatory Field Office
6508 Falls of Neuse Road
Suite 120
Raleigh, NC 27615

June 26, 2006

Dear Mr. Matthews,

I am writing in reference to the Western Wake Partners (WWP) regional sewage plant. Current plans are to locate this facility near the center of our unincorporated community of New Hill. This concerns me for a number of reasons:

- I think that there are other sites in the same general area that would serve the needs of Apex, Cary, Holly Springs, Morrisville and South RTP in meeting the Interbasin Transfer, and I think that the WWP failed miserably to adequately evaluate the other sites. Sites that lie on property owned by Progress Energy (PE) were discarded from consideration despite being the top four sites chosen by the engineers paid to evaluate 29 different sites. There has yet to be a valid explanation for either the failure to use the four sites on PE property or to justify the site that was selected. PE property had already been forcibly acquired from New Hill citizens for utility purposes and the regional sewage plant is a utility.
- The public was left completely out of the planning for this project. The WWP held only one public informational meeting for this project, on June 14, 2005, and that meeting was held after the site had been selected. There have been no public hearings held until June 15, 2006, so there has been no forum at which the concerns of the public could be formally heard and addressed. Within days of the June 14, 2005 meeting, the four towns that make up the WWP stopped answering all questions from New Hill residents. We were referred instead to the WWP website or the State (DENR).
- The site was selected with no regard for social, cultural, and historical factors. The selected site is adjacent to the New Hill historic district. It is also next to many homes, four rest homes, two churches and two cemeteries. Furthermore, many of the residents impacted directly by the facility, those that are immediately next to it, are either elderly or low-income and minority citizens, and these citizens have been unfairly impacted by these types of projects too many times.

I urge you to deny the permit for the Western Wake Partners regional sewage plant until it is moved to a more suitable site.

Sincerely,

Sue Barth
2108 New Hill – Olive Chapel Rd.
New Hill, NC 27562