



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Pat McCrory  
Governor

Donald R. van der Vaart  
Secretary

April 15, 2015

Ms. Denise Diaz, Chief  
NPDES Permitting Enforcement Branch  
Water Protection Division  
US EPA  
61 Forsyth Street SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Ms. Diaz:

The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) recently received the EPA's request for an extension of time to review draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for Duke Energy Carolinas' Riverbend, Marshall and Allen coal ash facilities.

DENR requests your assistance in expediting the EPA review process for all NPDES permits regarding Duke Energy coal ash facilities. In its letter dated March 31, the EPA requested up to 90-days to review the three draft NPDES permit renewals. DENR requests that the EPA complete its review along with the general public during the 60-day comment period, if possible, which closes May 5. A public hearing was held on these draft permits on April 8, 2015; all comments received will be posted on the Department's website.

Expeditious review and application of the proposed permits will relieve pressure on the dam, reduce the hydraulic head on groundwater and allow for timely excavation of ash as required by the state's Coal Ash Management Act of 2014.

Thank you for your consideration of this request for expedited permit review. If you have any questions, please contact me at 919-807-6309.

Sincerely,

*Boz* Jeff Poupart, NC DWR Section Chief  
Water Quality Permitting Section