

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY**

**FACT SHEET ON MODIFICATION OF THE LAND APPLICATION OF RESIDUALS**  
**PERMIT WQ0001730 FOR THE CITY OF RALEIGH**

Date: May 16, 2013

**1. TYPES OF OPERATIONS COVERED**

A. Activities Covered by this Permit

On the basis of a preliminary staff review, the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission proposes to issue a modification to the Land Application of Residuals Permit WQ0001730 to the City of Raleigh, for the Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

B. Geographic Area(s) Covered by this permit

The facility covered by this permit is located off Battlebridge Road in Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina.

C. Types of Wastewater and Residuals produced

The Neuse River facility treats municipal wastewater and produces biological residuals.

D. Description of Residuals Land Application Activities

The proposed land application of residuals to be covered by this permit modification includes resumption of the residuals land application activity on selected fields surrounding the Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The existing permit prohibits residuals application on these fields due to past operational problems that resulted in over-application of residuals and elevated concentrations of nitrate in groundwater at the site and nearby properties since 2002. Currently, the City is implementing groundwater corrective action plan, operating on-site subsurface flow treatment wetlands and off-site riparian buffer restoration. The wastewater treatment plant produces both Class A residuals (distributed to local farmers) and Class B residuals (land applied on other permitted sites in Duplin, Franklin, Johnston, Sampson, and Wake counties). This permit was originally issued on October 31, 2000 under 15A NCAC 02H.0200 and the most recent permit was issued on August 27, 2009.

The draft modification authorizes resumption of the residuals land application on selected areas of the proposed site that have the least potential to further impact groundwater at or beyond the compliance boundary, adds Vadose zone monitoring requirements intended to detect nitrate-nitrogen passing through the plant root zone to the groundwater on three of the proposed fields, and updates the permit to meet most current administrative code requirements specified in 15A NCAC 02T.1100.

**2. BASIS FOR ISSUING A STATE NON-DISCHARGE PERMIT**

The North Carolina Division of Water Quality has been delegated authority by the Environmental Management Commission to issue non-discharge permits in the state of North Carolina. This draft permit was developed based on an application for a major modification to the Land Application of Residuals Permit WQ0001730, received from the City of Raleigh on May 10, 2012.

**3. THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

The administrative record, including the draft permit, fact sheet, and additional information is available by writing the Division of Water Quality, Aquifer Protection Section, Land Application Unit, 1636 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1636. The above documents are available for review and copying at the Archdale Building, Land Application Unit, 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Copies of the administrative record will be provided at a charge of 10 cents per page.

**4. PROPOSED SCHEDULE.**

Draft permit to public notice:	May 22, 2013
Public Meeting date:	June 13, 2013
Public comment period closes:	June 21, 2013

**5. EFFECTIVE DATE AND LENGTH OF THE PERMIT**

The permit will continue in its current permit cycle and is effective until March 31, 2016.

**6. PROCEDURES FOR THE FORMULATION OF FINAL DETERMINATIONS**

The Director of the Division of Water Quality pursuant to NCGS 143-215. 4(b) (1) and (2) and Regulation 15A NCAC 02T .0108, has determined that it is in the public interest that a meeting be held to receive all pertinent public comment on whether to issue, not issue, or modify the draft permit. All information received prior to June 21, 2013, will be taken into consideration in finalizing the permit decision. The meeting will be held on June 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM. (Registration will begin at 6:30 PM) at the Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building.

The meeting will be conducted in the following manner:

1. Explanation of the NC Environmental Management Commission's Permitting Procedure and contents of the draft permit by the Division of Water Quality staff.
2. Public Comment - The public meeting is a forum for the Division to obtain water quality information that was either overlooked or unavailable at the time the permit was drafted. INFORMATION PRESENTED SHOULD SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO WATER QUALITY IMPACTS RESULTING FROM LAND APPLICATION OF RESIDUALS AT THE NEUSE RIVER WWTP. Comments, statements, data and other information may be submitted in writing prior to or during the meeting, or may be presented orally at the meeting. Persons desiring to speak will indicate this intent at the time of registration

at the meeting. So that all persons desiring to speak may do so, lengthy statements may be limited at the discretion of the meeting officer. Oral presentations that exceed three minutes must be accompanied by three (3) written copies, which will be filed with the meeting clerk at the time of registration.

3. Cross-examination of persons presenting testimony will not be allowed. However, the meeting officer may ask questions for clarification.
4. The meeting record will be closed at the conclusion of the meeting.

A copy of the draft Land Application of Residuals Permit and fact sheet are available by writing or calling:

**NC Division of Water Quality  
Aquifer Protection Section  
Land Application Unit  
1636 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1636  
Telephone number: (919) 807-6337**

The fact sheet and draft permit are on file at 512 N. Salisbury Street, Archdale Building, Raleigh, North Carolina. They may be inspected during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

#### Comment Period

The Division of Water Quality proposes to issue a modification to Land Application of Residuals Permit WQ0001730 to the City of Raleigh, for the Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant. The comment period for the draft permit will last until June 21, 2013. All comments received until this time will be considered in the formulation of final determinations with regard to this permit.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit or on the Division of Water Quality's proposed determinations to the address above.