



NEW HANOVER COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER
230 GOVERNMENT CENTER DR STE 195
WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28403-1732
TELEPHONE (910) 798-7184
FAX (910) 798-7277

CHRIS COUDRIET, ICMA-CM
County Manager

AVRIL M. PINDER, CPA, ICMA-CM
Deputy County Manager

TIM BURGESS
Assistant County Manager

June 9, 2017

Mr. Michael S. Regan
Secretary, North Carolina Department
of Environmental Quality
217 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Sent via email

Dear Secretary Regan:

Most of New Hanover County's 220,000 residents receive water and sewer service from the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) which obtains and treats surface water from the Cape Fear River. Recent research indicates that the compound known as GenX is present in this source water below the Chemours Company Fayetteville Works facility. We understand that these GenX compounds are not regulated at the state or federal level for discharge into the river, and CFPUA's treatment technologies cannot remove these contaminants from our residents' drinking water.

As the Board of County Commissioners' administrative officer and on their behalf, I request that you, in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, evaluate the nature, extent and potential impacts of GenX in the water as quickly as possible.

As the regulator of our county's drinking water, I ask that you join New Hanover County, CFPUA, the City of Wilmington, and Chemours representatives next week for a meeting here in Wilmington to discuss this issue. It is imperative for your agency to take a lead role in determining any health implications that this compound may cause and take appropriate action for the health of our community.

In New Hanover County, the public's health and safety is of utmost importance and we are eager to understand this substance and its impact on the health of our community. New Hanover County and our partners are depending on NCDEQ to enforce proper regulations and manage chemical discharge in order to protect the river and our drinking water.

Sincerely,

Chris Coudriet
County Manager

cc: New Hanover County Commissioners
NC Senators Rabon and Lee; NC Reps. Davis, Grange and Butler
Sterling Cheatham, City Manager, City of Wilmington
Jim Flechtner, Cape Fear Public Utility Authority
Phillip Tarte, New Hanover County Heath Director