



**NEW HANOVER COUNTY**  
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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