



Spring 2009

Clean Water for North Carolina *Clean Currents*

A newsletter of clean water and community environmental justice issues

“Caulk Gun Ready!” for Savings in Energy, Costs, Climate and Water

By Gracia O’Neill, CWFNC Assistant Director

Big power plants—threatening our waters and economic well-being

We weren’t just being dramatic with our Summer 2007 *Clean Currents* alert: “**Warning: Drought could cause power outages!**” Duke Energy and Tennessee Valley Authority power plants actually had to power-down operations during the August 2007 drought because they demand huge volumes of clean, cool water each day. North Carolina’s coal and nuclear power plants account for over 80% of registered water withdrawals. Some utilities are already raising electricity rates just to help cover costs in future droughts. How are energy companies dealing with this situation? Building more big, water-guzzling power plants! NC’s utilities plan to build \$40 - 50 billion worth of new power plants in the next decade, which could cost more than \$10,000 per family.

Efficiency spending—more jobs, lower costs, less water wasted

Reducing electricity use through efficiency can overcome the need to build huge, expensive, water-hogging, toxic-belching power plants, and put money in the pockets of the people who need it most to meet basic needs. Energy efficiency is the fastest and cheapest way to control power bills, and the “lowest hanging fruit” for economic and environmental benefits in NC. You’ve heard about the need for “shovel-ready” projects to spend stimulus money quickly? An even more important investment for our climate and economic future is to take on the huge backlog of “caulk gun ready” projects to improve efficiency in homes and public buildings! While there are programs across the state working to weatherize homes, there is no comprehensive statewide effort to coordinate a full spectrum of efficiency services and financing.

Efficiency programs run by investor-owned power companies accomplish little, especially for low income households, and cost ratepayers far too much, while paying big profits to shareholders. Duke Energy expects a big premium for “load-shifting” and a little efficiency in its “Save-A-Watt” proposal, planning to reduce energy sales by only 2% in the first few years, and getting a profit of at least 46%. Duke Energy calls this proposal “aggressive,” but a study Duke commissioned says that 19% energy savings is feasible! The NC Utilities Commission’s Public Staff calls Duke’s expected profits “exorbitant.”

NC needs an independent, statewide efficiency program

A 2007 report by Synapse Energy Economics (at www.cwfnc.org) describes six states’ independent (non-utility) energy efficiency programs. They reduce hundreds of thousands of megawatt hours each year, achieve major natural gas savings and several report slashing hundreds of tons of major air pollutants. In 2007, New York’s program saved an average of \$220/year for low-income participants, and Vermont had enough efficiency gains to more than compensate for new customers’ energy use!

CWFNC is working with a diverse alliance of consumer, social justice, environmental and senior groups to create the southeast’s first independent efficiency program. “NC SAVE\$ ENERGY” will help working families by making homes more energy efficient, creating new green jobs, reducing water withdrawals and waste, and quickly reducing North Carolina’s greenhouse gas emissions.

The federal stimulus package will bring major funding for weatherizing low income homes, requiring a quick ramp up. However, it will only benefit a limited number of low income families and the new jobs created could disappear once that money runs out. We need a state-wide program, with a Public Benefit Fund, to strategically plan for energy efficiency, assure long term funding, and reach more homes, public buildings and small businesses. NC SAVE\$ ENERGY would cost an average of about \$2/ household per month, with potential much larger benefits. Compare that to bill increases of \$30 to \$100 per month to build new power plants!

So what’s it going to be for NC? And what are YOU willing to do about it?



Akeem McDay, Asheville Water and Energy for Justice Youth Team, caulks a leaky window

Help Make NC SAVE\$ ENERGY a Reality!

Want a program that doesn’t take a big profit while providing efficiency services, so the savings stay in consumers’ pockets?? We’re working on it! The first goal of NC SAVE\$ ENERGY is to reduce energy use through improvements on all existing housing in NC, starting with the homes of working families, with possible future expansion to business and other sectors. Other big beneficiaries? Our waters and climate!

Residents could get direct services or no- or low-interest loans to pay for detailed energy audits and energy upgrades. Even with loans, savings on utility bills will more than pay for weatherization and other work. Improvements would be done by non-profit and for-profit contractors who have received job training and contractor certification.

The program will be funded by a small fee on utility bills. Other funding could come from state or federal appropriations, grants, bonds, or selling carbon credits.

The bill will be filed about April 1, and we need YOUR help getting it passed, with likely opposition from powerful utility companies. It’s going to take a LOT of people power. To volunteer or learn more, contact CWFNC at hope@cwfn.org or visitwww.ncsavesenergy.org.

WhoWeAre

Clean Water for North Carolina

Clean Water for North Carolina is a private, non-profit organization based in Asheville, NC. CWFNC works to ensure that all people have a right to live, work, and play in clean and safe communities. Together, we have the power and responsibility to work for a healthy and sustainable environment. Our staff works with an active and diverse board of directors and members to increase grassroots involvement in environmental decisions. CWFNC spearheads action statewide and helps grassroots and environmental groups, individuals, and local governments develop strategies to address threats to the environment.

Our Mission

Clean Water for North Carolina promotes clean, safe water and environments and empowered, just communities for all North Carolinians through organizing, education, advocacy, and technical assistance.

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Hopeful Notes from the Executive Director...

New National Leadership: A Wave of Promises, More Work to Do



About 60 days into the new Obama administration, we're getting a clearer picture of what his appointees' action priorities are and what structural changes are still needed. There's a lot to celebrate for both the environment and social justice, but as with any housecleaning or repair task, some of the deeper flaws emerge as the task gets underway. The past eight years have been a time of "psychic numbing," as we watched federal rollbacks to protect financial and polluter interests...but CWFNC and other groups persisted and saw some progress on permits, standards, water protection and toxics.

Key areas in which President Obama's commitments and new EPA leadership are making a difference, and some needed steps for activists:

Transparency—With a new policy that makes all information available to the public unless fully justified to withhold, we'll have access more quickly and easily to a wide range of documents from scientific reviews to enforcement data. This will also be important to shifting federal science away from a long trend toward corporatization and politicization of policy-making. Keeping lobbyists out of government is a start, but keeping former employees of big financial firms and corporations out of key appointments is a demand we must make to stop the bailouts to cronies, bad energy decisions, compromised fiscal and environmental policy, and budget bleeding.

Environmental Justice "Rediscovered"—Our first African-American EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson, brings back a commitment to inject environmental justice (EJ) principles into decision-making at EPA itself, as well as military, transportation, and other sectors. Eric Holder's Justice Department, where officials are already meeting with national and state EJ activists, will take on these issues in the public interest with new vigor. But in our state agency, DENR, EJ matters have been ignored or handed dismissively to attorneys whose main role is protecting the agency from permit challenges and other issues raised by communities—a serious conflict of interest! We must demand an independent, accountable mechanism for responding to EJ-related complaints in NC.

Job Creation: New Priority for the Environment—For the first time, agencies such as the Department of Energy are creating jobs as part of their mission. In many agencies the focus is on fields that will actually restore the environment and create more social well-being (health, education, weatherization). But in the current "shovel-ready" climate, rapid spending imperatives could direct a lot of money toward: 1) big firms, mostly white and male, instead of diverse workforce participation; 2) big new infrastructure projects, which lead to sprawl and environmental impacts, rather than needed and cost-effective infrastructure repairs or smaller decentralized projects. Websites are popping up to monitor projects, but local vigilance is needed to prevent justice and sustainability issues from falling by the wayside. Local-scale water "capture," stormwater management, and wastewater recycling can create more green jobs while reducing public costs and adverse impacts.

Some Old Illusions Die Hard—Finally, while the new administration has incorporated funds in the stimulus package for "green jobs," there is still a disproportionate amount accessible to big utilities and investors, which every administration sees as the "big partners" and "experts" that it depends on. With public dollars, they'll be able to create programs and infrastructure to facilitate their profits, rather than focusing on public interest and job creation, so further controls are needed. Finally, all subsidies based on the myths of "clean coal" and nuclear power as "climate solutions" need to end; these unsustainable and damaging industries must—at long last—be forced to sink or swim in a market awakening to their huge costs for our environment, security and democracy.

Please send us YOUR thoughts on the most urgent tasks for Clean Water for NC and other EJ groups to undertake at this critical time—we'll be stronger with your input!

Hope

2.7 Million Well Users Still Need Protection

Since 2003, after working with many communities with contaminated private wells and no way to get consistent testing or help with the costs of getting safe replacement water, CWFNC learned that a Raleigh legislator's well was contaminated too. Rep. Bernard Allen, whose African-American community on the edge of Raleigh had been bypassed by public water lines (as have many communities of color and low income), was outraged when he learned that regulators had known about nearby contamination for 17 years but had never notified neighbors with wells. A small Bernard Allen Memorial Emergency Drinking Water Fund was created in 2006 to help with notification, testing, and replacement water. Sadly, it has become only too clear that state regulators controlling the Fund don't believe they have any responsibility to notify well users near contamination unless they have a "responsible party" or a chunk of money to put in new water lines.

Since July of 2008, NEW wells have to be tested and licensed, but over 2.7 million North Carolinians depend each day on older private wells that are untested, with no notification of nearby known contamination. To ensure safe and affordable drinking water for rural NC, we need to ensure that well users are notified of nearby contamination, given assistance with testing, and that families below 200% of the poverty level can get financial help for the replacement or repair of their water supply. Please ask YOUR representative to support a new bill introduced in early April by Rep. Pricey Harrison and other drinking water champions!

Jordan Lake Rules Need Your Support

The Jordan Lake watershed stretches from Greensboro east to Durham and Apex. It is home to nearly a million people, with more arriving every day. Each year, the lake receives over 12 million visits from people coming to the lake for recreation, and it's a source of drinking water for over 100,000 people.

High levels of pollution – from wastewater plants and runoff – are causing algal blooms and extreme chemical conditions in the lake. The problem isn't limited to the lake itself; virtually every town upstream has a creek that has been damaged by pollution. The federal Clean Water Act requires that everyone who contributes to the problem help solve it by reducing the pollution going into the lake. The NC Environmental Management Commission approved a package of rules that will require upgrades at some wastewater treatment plants, and better controls of runoff from new and existing development.

The General Assembly will be discussing the rules in their '09-'10 session. Your state representatives need to hear from you. Opponents of the rules, cities and developers upstream, have been spreading misinformation about the science that shows what causes the pollution. In order to support actions to clean up the Lake, many local governments downstream have passed resolutions, but your support is needed to defeat the "disapproval" bill and require clean up of runoff from existing developments.

Info from Haw River Assembly and www.cleanjordanlake.org.

Yadkin RiverKeeper Challenges Alcoa, Fibrowatt

The newly formed Yadkin RiverKeeper group has jumped into the fast-flowing waters of public interest and polluter accountability with both feet!

Alcoa, an international corporation that is one of the world's largest producers of aluminum and other products, has operated a series of dams for decades along the River to generate power for their energy-intensive production. Now that Alcoa has shuttered its big manufacturing facility on Baden Lake, hundreds of jobs are gone from Stanly County, but the corporation wants to continue to operate the dams to sell power at a profit, under a renewed 50-year license.

As the deadline neared for a license settlement, Stanly and Montgomery County officials realized that they would be stuck with the economic impacts of Alcoa's pullout and a long-contaminated toxic dump site that Alcoa had created but didn't want to clean up. A movement has called on Governor Perdue to put a hold on the license until a commitment to the cleanup is in place. A transfer of the dams to state management has also been proposed, with investment of income for green jobs, stormwater improvements, and other protection along the river.

Regional activists are also organizing to face aggressive efforts by Fibrowatt to build poultry litter-burning "waste-to-energy" plants in Surry and Montgomery Counties, after years of corporate advance work to pry incentives out of local governments. These plants were motivated by a "set-aside" for animal waste-burning facilities in a 2007 "renewable portfolio" bill, but their emissions are known to be even dirtier for many pollutants than coal.

Fair Access to Water—New Water Withdrawal Permits Needed

1) **Water Allocation & Planning**—North Carolina has historically had abundant water resources and has given them away freely, including to large, for-profit users such as the state's coal and nuclear power plants. As we've learned during two recent droughts, those resources are increasingly over-committed, and our "water law" is alarmingly out of date. The concept that water is a public resource available for the reasonable use of all residents of the state is still appropriate; but current law can't ensure that new or existing water withdrawals won't leave human needs or rivers high and dry.

The legislative Environmental Review Commission's Water Allocation Study recommended adoption of a permit program for large water withdrawals and comprehensive river basin planning to protect ecological integrity. We're overdue for a new water allocation law to protect aquatic health and basic human needs.

CWFNC has commented that it's not fair or ecologically sound to "grandfather" in permits for all existing water withdrawals, especially those providing cooling or supply water to utilities or industry. Further, we pointed out the added value of groundwater for drinking water and ecological stability, and recommend lower thresholds for withdrawal permitting than surface water.

Efforts under way to leave “King Coal” where he belongs – under the mountaintops!

Boone – In February, an appeals court overturned a previous ruling that mountain top removal (MTR) violates the Clean Water Act, thus allowing present coal mining operations (and up to 100 new permits) to move ahead without reducing stream destruction or conducting environmental reviews. Now the EPA is expressing serious concerns about two pending permit applications and will “take a close look” at other permits that have been held back because of the earlier ruling. It’s progress, but far short of the hopes of activists working for decades to stop this massively destructive mining.

With advocacy from Appalachian Voices and other groups, NC lawmakers recently introduced the “Appalachian Mountains Preservation Act” (House Bill 340), which would ban the use of MTR coal in the state’s power plants. North Carolina is the largest state consumer of MTR coal, the source of half of our fuel. Another new bill to regulate toxic coal ash slurry ponds (like the recent one that caused the horrific spill in Tennessee) is in the works. House Bill 811 calls for a moratorium on building any new coal fired power plants. Of course, if NC SAVE\$ ENERGY is passed by the NC General Assembly, we can prevent any growth in energy demand and start shutting down older power plants!

Needless to say, utility lobbyists are working hard against all of these bills. We need YOUR help to ensure that NC lawmakers make the right decision for our future, so call your legislators TODAY and ask them to support these bills.

Arsenic-laced coal ash settles on residents’ homes

Arden – Some residents living in the shadow of Progress Energy’s coal-fired power plant have observed mysterious dust particles in the neighborhood for years, but on a recent cold January morning there seemed to be much more than usual (30 to 40 times more, according to one resident). The tiny sand-like balls are called cenospheres, a product of coal combustion. The cenospheres are hollow and float on the surface of Progress Energy’s coal ash pond upwind. When the pond froze during cold weather, the cenospheres dried out and blew over into the neighborhood.

Progress Energy says the substance is “not considered hazardous” and is sold for use in manufacturing items ranging from bowling balls to cosmetics. However, lab analysis of the cenospheres showed arsenic levels over three times higher than many states’ “action level” for arsenic in soil.

Our nation’s 1,300 coal ash holding ponds are notoriously unregulated and unmonitored, and contain billions more gallons of fly ash and other byproducts of burning coal. Three hundred acres were covered with toxic sludge in late December when a wall of a coal ash holding pond near Kingston in East Tennessee gave way, and a 2007 EPA report identified 63 sites in 26 states where water was contaminated by heavy metals from such dumps.

Drink no evil?? Residents win right to more well testing around toxic site!

Buncombe County – Residents living near the former CTS manufacturing site have won a small victory, convincing EPA and state regulators to conduct quarterly private well sampling in addition to the groundwater investigation and cleanup being conducted to determine the size and extent of the contamination. Private drinking water wells will be sampled within a one-mile radius of the CTS property to see if contamination levels might be changing over time.

From 1959 to 1985, the plant was owned by the CTS Corporation, which manufactured electronic parts and used large amounts of chemicals including trichloroethylene (TCE) as a degreasing agent, a likely carcinogen. TCE contamination has been found in samples of groundwater, spring water, soil, and ambient air near springs in the immediate area of the facility, which has become increasingly covered with homes in recent years. The CTS plant has spent \$3 million on the voluntary investigation/remediation, far below what’s necessary to investigate, let alone decontaminate, such a complex site. Despite heavy and widespread contamination, the site has never been listed as a federal Superfund site and has largely slipped through regulatory cracks for nearly 20 years. Learn more at <http://cleanasheville.info>.



Granville residents win fight for REAL homeland security!

Butner — Most folks didn't give residents in Granville and surrounding counties much chance in their fight against the Department of Homeland Security, as well as a consortium of state universities and businesses and even big PR firms, to prevent building of the National Bio- and Agro- Defense Facility (NBAF) at this top-ranked site. The lab would have brought some of the most dangerous organisms in the world for animals and humans to a piece of state land surrounded by modest homes and small farms, 6,000 residents trapped in institutions (patients in hospitals, residential schools, and jails), and located upstream of Raleigh's drinking water supply.

But there's a 20-year history of battles won by the Granville Non-Violent Action Team and other local groups against the huge "Super-Collider," followed by a hazardous waste incinerator and other damaging projects. Great collaborations with other groups, careful research on the health and economic impacts, persistent organizing and outreach to thousands of local residents, meetings with state officials and resolutions for city councils, and the willingness to be visible, LOUD, and to ask tough questions ("Will you bring this facility here by force?" asked one resident), won the day. Homeland Security tucked its tail between its legs in January and headed for a site in Kansas. GNAT is opposed to the facility at ANY mainland US site and continues to lobby Congress to strip funding for the project. In February, the Independent Weekly honored GNAT with an Indy Citizen Award.



GNAT members receive Indy Citizen Award

Widespread well contamination leaves residents struggling

Richmond & Montgomery Counties — Over the past year, dozens of wells have been found contaminated with toxic compounds associated with long pesticide use on large farms. While Montgomery County officials moved quickly to seek funding for water lines and hookups to provide replacement city water supply, Richmond County officials have been slow to test wells and seek funds for replacement water supply.

Lisa England, a local Richmond County activist whose own well is contaminated, founded a group "Clean Water for Life," to keep up the pressure on her County Commission and Health Department. One of the commissioners, Pam Dillman, has been very concerned and supportive, as has state Representative Melanie Goodwin, in pointing to funding sources and ensuring that testing can be done for residents. All the problems with notification and testing for well users are only made worse in cases like this, where it's widespread and "spotty," rather than a clear "plume" of contamination. Thanks to the determination of Lisa and her neighbors, and a few hardworking public officials, there is some funding toward a solution for their well contamination, but it's taken far too long.

Spring Lake residents seek affordable water, wastewater

Cumberland County — In this small community northwest of Fort Bragg, many families are impacted by failing septic systems and have questions about the cost and quality of their drinking water. It's obvious that the developer of a neighborhood of small homes in the post-WWII era was in such a hurry to build and sell that there was little thought about long term ability of septic fields to function safely in an area of high groundwater. The resulting failures leave some yards full of floating waste and reeking, a threat to local health, but residents can't afford to pay the major costs for hooking up through long extensions of public sewer lines.

CWFNC has met with Spring Lake residents, who are organized as a chapter of NC Fair Share, and encouraged them to look for affordable "on-site" wastewater solutions, with a neighborhood-scale treatment system, as well as to get testing of their small public water supply (a community well) to be sure it's not contaminated by the septic system failures. For now, tests indicate the drinking water is safe, but the cost has risen sharply due to regional rate hikes by Aqua North Carolina, a privately owned for-profit utility. Aqua NC is affiliated with Aqua America, which makes one of the highest profit percentages among publicly traded companies and is the largest private water utility in the U.S. Aqua is aggressively buying up small water systems and raising rates, even in poor communities.

STOP TITAN fights cement plant

New Hanover County — A strong STOP TITAN coalition of 7 local and regional organizations has formed to challenge a proposal for a huge new Carolinas Cement plant near the site of an old plant on the Cape Fear River. The plant, the fourth largest in the nation, would be the largest mercury releaser in southeastern NC, and its air pollution would put at risk over 8,000 students at schools within five miles of the plant, especially at the county's newest school downwind.

Water impacts would include over 1,000 acres of wetlands destroyed, millions of gallons of groundwater withdrawn from the Castle Hayne and Pee Dee aquifers, and potential contamination of the regional drinking water supply. In February, CWFNC met with the coalition to begin a door-to-door canvassing effort to see how nearby working families felt about the plant in a time of employment challenges—and found lots of support and new volunteers to work on shared concerns!

In a standard practice for big polluters, residents were informed only AFTER major incentives had been offered to the company by state and local officials. In March, a bill was filed in the NC General Assembly to call for an 18-month moratorium to give more time to study the extensive impacts. To learn more and sign an on-line petition, visit stoptitan.org.

“Save-a-Watt,” Duke Energy’s Idea of Efficiency in NC

by Nina Otter, Warren Wilson College

In contrast to statewide Alliance’s initiative for a statewide independent energy efficiency program, “NC SAVE\$ ENERGY”, Duke Energy Corporation has proposed a “demand side” (i.e., load shifting) and energy efficiency program called Save-a-Watt in 2007. Duke wants to take advantage of its residential and commercial customer base and sell energy efficiency to ratepayers, seeking 90% of the “avoided costs” of building new power plants (ie, they want to be compensated for NOT building expensive new power plants). Actually providing efficiency services is far less expensive than that, so even the NC Utility Commission’s Public Staff points to Duke’s profit expectations as excessive. The Commission approved the specific incentives and other programs in Save-a-Watt recently, but told Duke to come back with better accounting information by March 31.

“Most of the energy savings created by Save-a-Watt would end up in shareholder pockets,” says Hope Taylor of Clean Water for NC. “It’s such a trivial program, and unfair to lower income families. It charges households already paying a higher proportion of their income for energy for the program, but gives them very limited services.” Duke Energy’s own study predicts that NC can save about 19% of its 2017 electricity demand, through cost effective energy efficiency. “According to the results of that study, energy efficiency would be able to MORE than off-

set the need for a new 800-megawatt coal-fired generator at Duke Energy’s Cliffside steam station.”

According to Duke University Emeritus economics professor John Blackburn, North Carolina uses about 2.6 quadrillion Btu’s for all energy sectors, with over a third of that amount wasted right at baseload power plants, and another third in transmission lines and at the “point of use” (homes, businesses, industries, transportation, etc). “With efficiencies in all these areas,” Taylor adds, “we’d be able to meet North Carolina’s needs with only 0.7 quadrillion Btu’s with clean renewable energy sources, less than a third of our current energy budget.”

In late February, the NC Utilities Commission said that Duke could begin its Save-a-Watt programs, but clearly disapproved the 90% avoided cost recovery and the company’s accounting methods. The company will have to refund likely overcharges to customers. Only a day earlier, the South Carolina Utilities Commission had disapproved all aspects of Duke’s Save-a-Watt, criticizing the proposal’s complexity and lack of transparency, as well as its potential (using the avoided cost recovery mechanism) for “unreasonably high profit.” We agree completely, and wish that the NC Commission had been similarly wise in protecting the interests of Duke’s NC ratepayers!

House Bill 607: Phase Out Hog Lagoon and Sprayfield Systems!

For decades, thousands of families, many of them in NC’s most economically challenged communities of color, have been forced to live with the extreme stench, pollution of streams and rivers and the threat of contamination of their drinking water wells due to industrial hog “lagoon and sprayfield” waste systems. For the health of NC’s people and environment, we must demand that all treatment systems meet strict environmental performance standards.

House Bill 607 would phase out all lagoon and sprayfield systems by 2014 or by 12 years after they were first permitted. It’s long

overdue—tell your legislators to support **House Bill 607 to protect health, quality of life, local economies and the environment.**

Recently, the NC Association of Soil and Water Districts, which is supposed to promote safe agriculture throughout North Carolina, climbed into bed with the hog industry, declaring that they oppose new draft rules to improve environmental monitoring around hog operations. Hearings this spring on the rules are guaranteed to be contentious—help us keep big oink’s economic and political clout from derailing these important regulations. If you’re not on our email list, email hope@cwfn.org so we can keep you posted.

Over 100 Groups to EPA: “Regulate Coal Ash NOW!”

In February, more than 100 groups nationwide wrote to new EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson in the aftermath of yet another disastrous coal ash waste pond failure. Here’s an excerpt from the letter, drafted by the Environmental Integrity Project and signed by several NC groups, including CWFNC, Appalachian Voices, and Carolinas Clean Air Coalition:

“Nearly a hundred million tons of toxic coal ash and related combustion wastes pile up in unlined ponds and pits across the United States every year. The disaster at TVA’s Kingston plant dramatized the need for federal standards for safe disposal of these wastes, which are virtually unregulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). After eight years of counterproductive backpedaling, we are confident that you will chart a new, responsible course for the Agency. . . .”

Among the key principles are:

- Clear standards to protect natural resources and human health, drinking water
- Phase out all wet coal ash storage, all storage wells above water tables
- Sample ground and surface water, continuous monitoring near all storage sites
- Require 30 years of owner liability after “closure” of waste sites
- Federal permitting, public participation requirements

Damage cases with contamination of ground or surface water have more than **DOUBLED** since EPA first recognized the risk of coal ash in 2000. . . In 2007, EPA’s own health assessment found risks to human and aquatic health to be well above “acceptable levels.”

The letter closes, “It is time to face the obvious: coal combustion waste needs to be regulated as the hazardous waste that it is, before even more damage is done. The evidence is in, and the time to act is now.”

Thanks to Our Foundation Partners and Major Donors for their Generous Support!

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Thanks to our new and renewing members!

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Thanks to our wonderful Clean Water and "Pollution Pipeline" volunteers

Lib Hutchby, Anita Harrington, Eli Helbert, DeWayne Barton, David Schwartz, Allen Hubbard and Nancy Holt

Report a pollution problem: contact your nearest environmental regulator.

DENR Regional Offices

Asheville—828-296-4500 Washington—252-946-6481
Fayetteville—910-486-1541 Wilmington—910-796-7215
Mooreville—704-663-1699 Winston-Salem—336-771-4600
Raleigh—919-791-4200

**If DENR doesn't act, contact CWFNC at
800-929-4480.**



Join Clean Water for North Carolina (or renew your membership)!

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(Email is a faster & cheaper way for us to reach you.)

Make your check payable to:
Clean Water for North Carolina
and send to:
29-1/2 Page Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801

It's Our 25th Birthday!

Clean Water for NC has been working since 1984 with communities for environmental justice, cleanups at Superfund sites, safe and affordable drinking water, polluter accountability, clean air and energy, and so much more. Please celebrate with us by renewing your membership and joining us as a volunteer or participant for the following events this year!

2009 Clean Water Events

April 18—Earth Day, Asheville

Contact gracia@cwfn.org or 828-251-1291
to help with set-up, tabling,
or outreach

**April 20—Cliffside Climate
Action, Charlotte**

www.stopcliffside.org/news.php

April 25—Earth Day, Durham

Contact hope@cwfn.org or (919) 401-9600
to help with set-up, tabling,
or outreach

May: NC SAVE\$ ENERGY Lobby Day, Raleigh
contact hope@cwfn.org

July: CWFNC Board meeting
All members welcome! (Canoe float in YOUR area?)

September:
25th Birthday Celebration, Asheville
with music, food & fun!

October: Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Asheville



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