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Sent: Monday, November 21, 2016 5:37 PM
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Subject: NCUC - Docket EMP-92 Sub 0 - NTE Carolinas Proposed Power Plant - Bethany

FILED
NOV 22 2016
Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am Amelia M. McNairy, 662 New Lebanon Church Road, Reidsville, NC 27320. I live on Little Jacobs Creek at the bridge. This creek runs through the Duke Energy Plant located on Highway 65 on Ernest Road in the Bethany Community. New Lebanon Church Road is also the west boundary of the property for the proposed NTE Carolina 2020 electric plant.

As a life long resident of the Bethany Community, I'm concerned about the impact this proposed plant will have. My concerns are in regard to pollution of our water, air, and quality of life, not just during my life time but for future generations. Currently, the area of Bethany is home to the Rockingham County Landfill, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Co., Station 160, and the Duke Energy Plant. Growing up on Little Jacobs Creek, my father and mother would often reward us with a trip to the creek during the summer time. Daddy would hunt eels and frogs summer nights for Mama to cook the next morning. The creek had great numbers of tadpoles and crawdads and other aquatic life. Did you know that Little Jacobs's Creek water quality classification is Classification C according to NCDEQ. If you go across HWY65, behind the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Co. Station, Purcell Creek and Nubbin Ridge Creek have a Classification of WS-IV, Massey Creek on the other side of the Landfill also has a rating of WS-IV. Water Classification WS-IV means the water is suitable for drinking, culinary, or food processing purposes, however water Classification C means the only contact with water should be infrequent, unorganized or incidental. That means my grandchildren and grandnieces and nephews shouldn't be allowed to play in the water. This summer in the same creek where my nephew found lots of crawdads and salamanders, and frogs when he was young, could only find 1 frog and 1 crawdad after 3 visits to the creek. The first thing his little girl wants to do when she gets to the creek is take a swig of water. She should be able to do so. We can only tell her how it used to be. Do we really want that for visitors of the Dan? Also, why must the proposed plant have water piped from the Dan when the current plant is receiving piped water from Reidsville?

Is there any way we could restore Little Jacobs Creek classification to WS-IV? I have a lot of wildlife that depend on the water of Little Jacobs Creek. There are deer, turkey, coyote, bear, foxes, wild dogs from the Landfill, rabbits, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, birds of all sorts, including the Red Headed Woodpecker.

Shouldn't we as stewards of the earth be concerned with building an additional electrical plant that burns fossil fuels? To preserve our environment and stabilize our shorelines and increase humanity's chances of survival on this planet we should support and rely on renewable energy sources such as solar, hydropower, and wind. Just recently, at an October meeting, the Rockingham County Board of Commissions allowed county residents to continue to apply for solar energy farm permits, which I think is wonderful. Fossil fuels release black soot, organic carbon, aerosols, and gases in our air that affects our health, agriculture and wildlife. We should work to decrease CO2 (carbon dioxide) in our air to 350 ppm (or less) and we can't do that by building fossil fuel burning electrical plants.

As you are aware the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline and the Duke Energy Plant are two major noise pollutants that effect our quality of life and they both are increasing their capacity or asking to increase their physical presence here. Noise can interfere with thought processes, remember when our military used loud music on the population in a targeted area in Mexico? Those people willingly gave themselves up. Well, during periods of peak demand the Bethany Duke Energy Plant noise level is unbearable. Out-of-state visitors to my home this summer were really frightened of the noise and it was hard to calm them down and convince them that noise came from over the hill and through the hollow. If I step outside during these "blow-off" periods, I want to run back inside. My Mom lives on Truman Road, and because of the lay of the land, it's louder there. It just screams at you, and getting away from it as fast as you can is your body's first response. But what if you need to feed the goats or chickens or cows or horses? How does the livestock deal with it? When I was small growing up on Truman Road, I would beg Daddy to turn off the noise from the Gas Plant. Should the Rockingham County Board of Commissioners and the North Carolina Utilities Commissioner seriously consider building another larger plant that produces such offensive noise? Would they want to live under these conditions?

Also, Phillip J. Bradley wrote in "Geology of Crowders Mountain State Park, NC" on page 25, that our area surrounding the Dan River and Deep River Basin sat in the center of the rifting of the Pangea circa 230 million years ago. This gives us support of geological significance. During WWII they mined our area for rocks and minerals needed to support the war. Mr. Butler's testimony addressed the historical significance of our area. Please help us preserve this land for our future children's children. NC has a tradition of passing the family farm to the next generation, let's make sure they can.

Please consider our small, peaceful community, pretend it's your backyard, Bethany is home to enough facilities that cause it's residents harm, let's not add another. I am against building NTE's proposed electric plant in the Bethany Community on Highway 65.

My contact information is following:

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Sincerely,
Amelia McNairy