

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE ON PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION REGARDING
APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER THE
REGULATIONS FOR THE “PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT
DETERIORATION OF AIR QUALITY”

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC – Belews Creek Steam Station, has applied to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality (DAQ), Permitting Section, to make modifications to the facility located at 3195 Pine Hall Road, Walnut Cove, Stokes County, NC 27052. The proposed project includes, but is not limited to, the addition of natural gas co-firing capability to Units 1 and 2 and the conversion of Auxiliary Boilers 1 and 2 from No. 2 fuel oil-fired (propane for start-up only) to natural gas firing, removing all oil firing capabilities for these units and auxiliary boilers.

The proposed project is subject to review and processing under North Carolina Administrative Code, Title 15A, Subchapter 02D .0530, “Prevention of Significant Deterioration”. The facility is defined as a “major stationary source” for the discharge of significant quantities of carbon monoxide (CO) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The proposed project will result in a significant emission increase of 138 tons per year of CO and a significant emission increase of 4,041 tons per year of VOCs.

The Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC – Belews Creek Steam Station application has been reviewed by the DAQ, Major New Source Review Branch in Raleigh, North Carolina to determine compliance with the requirements of the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission air pollution regulations.

A preliminary review, including analysis of the impact of the facility emissions on local air quality, has led to the determination that the project can be approved, and the DAQ air permit issued, if certain permit conditions are met.

Stokes County is classified as an attainment area. Compliance with all ambient air quality standards and the PSD increments is projected.

Persons wishing to submit written comments or request a public hearing regarding the Air Quality Permit are invited to do so. Requests for a public hearing must be in writing and include a statement supporting the need for such a hearing, an indication of your interest in the facility, and a summary of the information intended to be offered at such hearing.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing should be postmarked no later than April 3, 2019 and addressed to daq.publiccomments@ncdenr.gov (please type “Duke Belews.18A” in the subject line) or mail written comments to: NC DEQ Division of Air Quality 1641 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1641.

All comments received or postmarked by this date will be considered in the final determination regarding the Air Quality Permit. A public hearing may be held if the Director of the DAQ determines that significant public interest exists or that the public interest will be served.

A copy of all data and the application submitted by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC – Belews Creek Steam Station and other material used by the DAQ in making this preliminary determination are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following locations:

NC DEQ
Division of Air Quality
New Source Review Branch
217 West Jones Street
Raleigh, N.C. 27603

or

NC DEQ
Division of Air Quality
Winston-Salem Regional Office
450 West Hanes Mill Road, Suite 300
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Information on the proposed permit, the permit application, and the staff review is available on the DAQ website (<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/air-quality/events>) or by writing or calling:

William Willets, P.E.
Chief, Permitting Section
North Carolina Division of Air Quality
1641 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1641
Telephone: (919) 707-8726

After weighing relevant comments received by April 3, 2019, and other available information on the project, the DAQ will act on the PSD application.

Michael Abraczinskas, Director
Division of Air Quality, NCDEQ