

## MEMO

**To:** Interested Parties

**From:** Laura Leonard, Public Information Officer

**Date:** Oct. 24, 2018

**RE:** Sutton Facility Sediment Sampling Results

Today, the Department of Environmental Quality posted results from [sediment](#), [sediment basin](#) and [water](#) samples taken from Duke's Sutton facility, located near Wilmington on the Cape Fear River.

Water samples were taken at the Sutton Lake boat ramp, wetlands, north sediment basin in the north stormwater pond, south sediment basin 1 and 2 in the south stormwater pond, and south borrow area. Sediment samples were taken at the north stormwater pond, area between landfill and 1984 basin, ST Wooten adjacent property and east ditch alongside the Sutton coal ash landfill.

The Division of Waste Management (DWM) staff collected six water and four sediment samples on Sept. 20 at multiple locations based on the coal ash release from the onsite landfill ([see map](#)). Sediment samples were collected at a surface and one-foot depth.

- Both the water and sediment samples were analyzed for 25 coal ash-related constituents.
- Shealy Environmental Labs, which has a contract with DWM, conducted sample analysis.

### Water Results

- Water samples collected at the wetlands and Sutton Lake boat ramp showed concentration of copper consistent with historical data.

### Sediment Basin Results

- Water results showed elevated concentrations for copper, iron, lead and selenium in the sediment basin samples. This was expected since coal ash was released directly into the sediment basins, which are located adjacent to the landfill. The water in these basins was rainwater from Hurricane Florence. Duke Energy is currently cleaning up the sediment basins by removing the coal ash.

### Sediment Results

- Sediment results showed elevated levels of cobalt and iron, with higher concentrations in the surface sample than the deep (12-inch) sample, which was expected as samples were collected in coal ash release areas. Duke Energy is currently cleaning up the release areas by removing the coal ash.

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