

2/19/19 Kenansville Permit Renewal Meeting – Speaker Notes

1. **Leon Arthur:** Hog farmer
 - NC is an oligarchy – “death by 1000 cuts”
 - Inspections are working
 - Rode bike on greenway and witnessed municipality releasing wastewater
 - Swine farmers treated as criminals\Worried about the ability to maintain the farmer lifestyle
2. **Brandon Warren:** President of NC Pork Council/Newton Grove hog farm
 - Farmers are stewards of their land and want to pass it to their children
 - 50,000+ jobs depend on farms
 - Unchecked human activities are in contrast to the permit system
 - Additional requirements do not add protection
 - NC Pork Council ready to assist in meaningful process
 - Inspections are working, NMBs, continuing ed.
3. **Chad Herring:** NC Farm Families/Farmer
 - Technical specialists and inspectors are professional, courteous, and thorough
 - Concern is unfounded- activists rely on fear, not science
 - II.20 draft protection – not needed, already covered
 - III.11 GW monitoring – costly, should be related to evidence/issues
4. **Janet Archer:** Archer Farms in Wayne County
 - Farmers take water quality as seriously as everyone else
 - II.8 – change from animal waste to swine waste, does that limit cattle?
 - Annual reporting is offensive, excessive, redundant, and punitive
5. **Asa Creech:** New farmer
 - Opposes all amendments
 - III.11-14 – has farm in 100-year flood, from 93-98 NCSU had grants to do wells had benign results, now farmers take on the cost
 - Decisions should be based in science, not emotion
 - Lagoon level monitoring attacks integrity of farmers
6. **Elwood Garner:** E & J Farms in Duplin County
 - Thankful for stakeholder meeting and those issues being considered
 - Reconsider annual certification – no environmental benefit, overly burdensome
 - If necessary, collect information during annual inspection
 - Can be misinterpreted
 - Permitted needs 2 years to be complicit
7. **Cliff Kilpatrick:** Maxwell Foods/Duplin swine farm
 - Speak for farm credit (?)
 - Opposes changes due to their cost
 - II.2 – wind drift is unnecessary/redundant, adding other irrigation method is expensive/burdensome
8. **Marlowe Vaughn:** Pig farmer in Wayne County
 - Attended stakeholder meeting, appreciates changes (I.4, II.3)

- Certification program is excellent and coupled with inspections
 - Annual certification is too strict/punitive, info. can be caught by animal inspectors
 - Remove III.18
- 9. Don Butler:** Swine farmer in Sampson County
- Annual certification is redundant, just use annual farm visits to collect info.
 - Some questions are confusing- largest # of animals
- 10. David Nordin:** Smithfield
- Current permit is adequate
 - II.12 – clarify “interior cover level”
 - What is the difference between surface water diversions and storm water diversions?
 - II.23 – change to stop ahead of hurricane/tropical storm is a positive response
- 11. Curtis Barwick:** Barwick Ag. Services/Tech. specialist/Consultant
- PLAT – did it 12-15 years ago, found very few (3%) of fields to be high/very high
 - Proof it is not needed and a waste of money
 - Not enough time or tech. staff to done in 6 months
 - II.12 – Max pump elev. – is that “start” or “stop” pump?
 - III.2b(?) – who’s eligible to recertify?
 - Money for engineer/surveyors should be case by case
 - Only swine waste in fields- consider grazing cattle
 - Annual certifications are not needed
- 12. Morris Murphy:** Triple M Family Farms
- Rain breakers are not foolproof, can damage piping
 - Additional reg. should be case by case on basis of documented violation
 - Flow meter – broad authority should remain with director (as opposed to division)
 - Wind drift requirement is redundant
 - II.8 – need clarification, does it prohibit grazing?
- 13. Kevin Weston:** Smithfield tech. specialist
- Thankful for positive changes and adding amendments
 - I.9 – PLAT – looked at many fields, very few actually had issues
 - Also, feed formula changed to reduce P
 - III.18 – opposes annual certifications due to time burden
 - III.22 - sludge accumulation – expand to include all NRCS standard
- 14. Clarice Reber:** New Hanover County resident
- Lives down river, concerned about accumulation of waste
 - Kids can’t drink water at school
 - Requests electronic record submission and easy accessibility
 - Technology should be required when violations warrant it
 - DEQ needs a mitigation plan for floodplains
- 15. Jeannie Lennon:** Resident of Wilmington
- Concerned about Cape Fear
 - Requests monthly electronic reporting – public deserved to know
 - Technology advancements should easy burden

- Supports rain breakers
- 16. Priss Endo:** Resident of Wilmington
- Concerned about Cape Fear
 - Need to restore water quality and treat waste
 - 2-year limitation, Title 6 incorporation, GW monitoring when there is evidence of impacts
 - Supports using PLAT as proposed
 - Concerned about algal blooms
- 17. Leslie Cohen:** Sierra Club/Resident of Wilmington
- Ran for NC house
 - Distrusts water quality- she “drank GenX for 30 years,” what else?
 - Desire to end onsite records and transition to electronic submissions
- 18. Jeff Cohen:** Resident of Wilmington
- Interested in accurate data- improving tech. to modernize monitoring
 - Listen to science
- 19. Sue-Ann Rush:** Resident of Leland
- Need to strengthen permits for human and animal health
 - Amazed at concentration of animals
 - Rate payers bear the cost of water treatment
 - Farms should pay their share
 - Need tech. to prevent over spraying
- 20. Dan George:** Brunswick Environmental Action Team
- Concerned that recent flooding (Florence) compromised 43 lagoons and that this has not been addressed
 - Action is needed to remove/resolve problem
- 21. Kemp Burdette:** Cape Fear River Watch
- Shorten permit to 2 years
 - Concerned by widespread inaccurate reporting
 - Lives 2.8 miles from AFO, has witnessed “countless failures” – breeches, spray on flooded fields
 - Issues with odor
 - Lower the P-index trigger to 100
 - GW monitoring should be expanded to include offsite impacts
 - Desire for equitable treatment of vulnerable populations
 - Push for increased transparency
- 22. Dana Sargent:** Caper Fear River Watch
- Integration should support industry and be tied to permit
 - Goal is to require corporations to pay to benefit employees
 - Should provide fair contracts
 - Permits should require more of corporations
- 23. Elsie Herring:** NCEJN
- Environmental justice/Title VI issues should be considered in permits
 - 2000 agreement with Governor Easley to eliminate lagoon/sprayfield system

- Poultry impacts are not adequately considered
 - Issue 2 year permit to allow for EJ tool
- 24. Ashley Daniels:** NCEJN
- Report info. must be public
 - GW monitoring should be expanded to cover all CAFO operations
 - Extend PLAT
 - Automated tech. requirement for any violations
 - Opposes opt out of rain breaker
 - Accountability is not punishment
- 25. Larry Baldwin:** Crystal Coast Waterkeeper
- Data shows facilities have polluted
 - Tie integrator to permit- meaningful dialogue needed in Title VI mediation
 - Get integrators at the table
 - DEQ can't "put it off a little longer"
- 26. Esther Murphy**
- Neighbor vs. neighbor division must end
 - Hogs aren't the only thing in Duplin County – people get sick
- 27. Garry Keaton:** Mayor of Sandyfield
- Concerned about air and GW impacts
 - Desires regulations that benefit both farmers and non-farmers
- 28. Dean Stubbs**
- Odor impacts linger
 - Impacts low-income neighbors
 - If waste was treated before sprayed, might be safer
 - Surprise inspections might help
- 29. Claudia A. Bray:** Resident of Sandyfield
- Was unaware of hearing until the day prior
 - Town uses GW
 - Concerned about odor
- 30. Vance Williams:** Cape Fear Advance Youth Outreach
- From Detroit, spent time in Flint, attracted to Kenansville area by water
 - Regulations must protect all citizens – “undervalued minorities”
- 31. Keith Larick:** NC Farm Bureau
- I.9 – DEQ lacks statutory authority for PLAT
 - Rules were recently renewed and not changed
 - Need time to implement change if kept- 6-12 months not enough, need phased in approach
 - III.2 – GW monitoring is expensive and will not provide valuable info.
 - Quarterly is excessive
 - Allow end to monitoring if results clear
- 32. Matthew Starr:** Upper Neuse Riverkeeper
- 1997 plan to reduce nitrogen not working
 - DEQ has the authority to require PLAT in Neuse

- Supports risk assessment (P index 275)
- 33. William Croom:** Resident of Wallace
- Well inspection has failed since Sept. 2018 (post-Florence)
 - DEQ should use well data/depths to assess impacts
- 34. Will Hendrick:** Waterkeeper Alliance
- Supports transparency and annual report
 - Accountability- GW monitoring where there are risks, PLAT to assess risks
- 35. Valerie Baron:** NRDC
- Maintain improvements
 - Other states do better
 - Iowa – spray shall not run-off
 - Oklahoma – one unannounced visit/year
 - EJ tool needed for cumulative impacts
 - Shorten permit to 2 years
 - Wants to expand GW monitoring
 - Transparency and technology should reflect corporation money
 - Rain breakers
- 36. Branden Warren:** NC Pork Council
- See #2
- 37. Cecile Bryant:** Resident of Sandfield
- Does not support renewal of permit
 - Odor must be better controlled
 - Spray irrigation is too close to neighbors
 - Creeks/lagoons overflowed, and Sandfield gets water from ground
 - Uses bottled water
- 38. Earnestine Keaton:** Sandyfield LBCHS
- Water used to flow, now it is stagnant
 - Need to regulate odor - don't know when spraying will occur
 - Hurricane overflowed all
- 39. James Lamb:** Prestage Farms Inc.
- III.8 – concerned with implementation of weekly record keeping
 - Has done hundreds of NPDES annual reports, never had annual numbers that exceeded permitted numbers
- 40. Dr. Robert A. Parr:** Clean Air Carolina
- Air quality concerns
 - Health stats are abysmal in Duplin County
 - Add regulations for air quality markers 30+ miles away
- 41. Jessie Ladson:** Duplin County Commissioner, District 5
- Changes in hog production produced negative impacts
 - Has an air filter in home due to breathing issues
 - Concerned that people of color not invited when decisions are made regarding hog production
- 42. Deborah Davis:** Resident of Castle Hayne/Business owner in Wilmington

- “Smithfield mafia”
- Odors are shocking
- Change is not easy but it has been too long
- All businesses should be inspected more often than every 5 years

43. Katy Hunt: Sound Rivers

- Better records needed, must be available to the public
 - Especially data for application events and waste characteristics
- Transparency protects operators and environment

44. John Wagner

- Increase in recordkeeping is important, must be made available to public
- Hurricanes and rainfall have changed the environment, need to reassess 100-year flood considerations
- Automatic shutoff before, during, and after storms
 - No spray on saturated fields
- Integrators must be responsible

END OF REGISTERED SPEAKERS

45. Maddie Poleria: Cape Fear Riverwatch

- PLAT is necessary (P index > 100 as trigger)
- Date from 2015-2018:
 - 10% above 400, 32% over 50 (ALL)
 - 33% over 400, 97% over 50 (PERMITS)
- P is accumulating in soil
 - 167-218 increase in P-index

46. Jamie Cole: NC Conservation Network

- Supports changes after decades of substantial change

47. Rick Dove: Waterkeeper Alliance

- State, environment, producers are three groups but all one
- Lagoons/sprayfields must go
- Explosion of poultry farms must be regulated
- No solution without integrators at the table
- People with money need to help solve the problems

48. Blakely Hildebrand: SELC

- **Lagoon/sprayfield systems are not appropriate**
- **Increase accountability through PLAT and GW monitoring**
- **Limit term to 2 years to implement EJ tool**
- **Supports increase in technology and transparency**

49. Jimmy Dixon: House District 4

- Feels the idea that facilities disproportionately impact communities of color is false
 - 62% of people with ½ mile are white
- Appreciates DEQ’s role as fact finders

50. Matthew Moore: Farmer (18 years old)

- Works to meet permit requirements daily
- It takes time to learn and be responsible
- Uses moisture sensor to control irrigation
 - Pump cut off is too moist

51. Naeema Muhammed: NCEJN

- Lack of discussion of health impacts
- Was part of health research
 - Asthma, BP, upper respiratory issues
- Odor prevents going outside
- Must use bottled water
- Lagoon/sprayfield system is outdated
- Outspoken rift – received threats on phone for her advocacy
- Not trying to put farmers out of business
- Shafted by integrators