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**: Cape 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

   • 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