2/26/19 Statesville Permit Renewal Meeting – Speaker Notes

1. **David White**: Winston-Salem – Yadkin Riverkeeper
   - Calls for increased transparency
   - Concern for the amount of waste produced by hogs
   - Desire for monitoring tools
     - Especially for groundwater

2. **Greg Weaver**: Davie County – Yadkin Riverkeeper
   - Appalled at high waste pollution post-Florence
   - Prevention and risk management should be the goal
   - Wants Big Ag. To be held responsible, not small farmers

3. **Terry Marshall**: Yadkin Riverkeeper Supporter
   - Driven away from home due to overloaded animal operation
     - Dry litter chickens- too many animals, not enough land
   - Water should be protected both for recreation and drinking purposes

4. **Jimmy Gentry**: NC State Grange
   - Opposes all changed to permit due to lack of environmental benefit and expensive requirements
   - PLAT not supported

5. **Edgar Miller**: Yadkin Riverkeeper
   - Supports permit conditions
   - 7% of annual inspections showed violations
   - Concern for drinking water source for over 1 million people

6. **Richard Renegar**
   - Farmers are already struggling due to Florence and regulations
   - Agriculture is NC’s largest industry and shouldn’t be subject to burdensome regulations

7. **Mike Adams**
   - Defer

8. **Brian Fannon**: Yadkin Riverkeeper
   - Moratorium has not solved problems
   - Groundwater monitoring is important
   - Demand for clear records and regular monitoring

9. **Keith Larick**: NC Farm Bureau
   - Worried about cost of regulations and the impact on dairy
   - Number of dairies has fallen from 251 to 158 in only 5 years
   - Concern that conditions for swine permits are negatively impacting dairy
   - PLAT opposed
   - No dairies apply to groundwater monitoring (?)
   - Annual reporting is time consuming, some fields redundant

10. **Robert Froyd**: Iredell County Beekeepers Association President/Science teacher
    - Instead of arguing about regulations, find ways to turn waste into a resource
    - Use waste to produce electricity/create energy credits

11. **Jack O’Connor**: Volunteer Yadkin Riverkeeper/Retired Teacher
    - Concerned about concentration of poultry- new farms in Alexander County
• Precautions needed to avoid cumulative impacts

12. David Caldwell: Broad River Alliance
• 50% growth of industrial poultry in Cleveland County
• Supports PLAT
• Require waste application records for manure
• Support SW monitoring

13. Roxanne Newton
• Pollution disproportionately impacts poor/minority communities
• Recommends potential subsidies for small farmers to better regulate pollution

14. Ben Shelton: Rocky Creek Dairy/Member of Board of Agriculture
• Do we know how swine waste has impacted water quality over time? If so, defer to that to inform next steps
• Desire for reduction of tillage and improved crop management in the area

15. Eddie Johnson: Swine, beef, and poultry farmer
• Already too much paperwork
• Utilizes all nutrients/waste, need more for crops to grow
• Previous permit was sufficient

• NC already has the most stringent program in the nation
• Many conditions do not apply to swine- need to recognize industry differences
• No authority to require PLAT, no jurisdiction for GW monitoring
• Annual report is redundant

17. Will Hendrick: Waterkeeper Alliance
• Transparency is key
• Concern that inspections are getting shorter
• Monitoring should be related to risks
• GW monitoring and PLAT help evaluate impact or lack thereof

• Hurricane resulted in waste release- blue baby syndrome?
• Permits provide protection for storm impacts- positive changes

19. Jeff McNeely: G&M Milling/Farm owner
• Pointed out inconsistencies in DEQ/DHHS’s response to coal ash (more lax) vs. animal opps. (harsh)
• Has a lagoon on his farm- full due to record rainfall
• Phosphorous requirements don’t make sense for cattle sense milk contains large quantities
• Requirements and regulations are why his farm is vacant

20. Jovita Lee: Center for Biological Diversity
• New GW requirements are a step in the right direction
• Analyze impact on GW resources and increase scope accordingly

21. Amanda Strauderman (sp?): Clean Water for NC
• DEQ should include community mapping tool
• Shorten permit to 2 years
• Increase setback for wells
• Be more stringent on mortality (?) management
• Transparent records needed
• Sample DW sources for fecal coliform
• Must support small businesses

22. Craig Frazier: McCare Dairy/Soil & Water Commission Chair/Randolph County
• Dairy is already the most regulated industry
• Compost is best tech. for swine, but dairy must bury
• PLAT - soil P is not an appropriate trigger
  • Also cannot address slope appropriately
  • Not scientific
  • Rules for sand should not apply for clay
  • Not enough USDA employees to run it
  • SWAG method - select slope
  • Dairies don’t get cost share from digesters
• Need to apply fertilizer

23. Doug Holland: Dairy farmer
• Permit not just about swine - one size does not fit all
• Don’t treat dairies like industrial farms - costs are prohibitive
• Nitrogen, not P in law
• PLAT would take more than 12 months, not enough tech specialists
• Threshold should be increased over 400 - P doesn’t move in soil
• Irrigation equipment - water hammer concern
• GW monitoring - why just in floodplain?
• Is there proof of a need for more regulations?

24. Cinnamon Black: Black Elephant Education & Training
• Inconsistent regulations between animal facilities and municipalities
• If her sewer line fails, she would be fined
• Had sprayed, stopped due to GW contamination
• Current permit doesn’t adapt to 1980’s science
• Waste should be treated similar to municipal/domestic waste
• Hold corporations accountable