



N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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Contact: Diana Kees
Phone: (919) 715-4112

STATE OFFICIALS RELEASE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON PROPOSED INTERBASIN TRANSFER

RALEIGH – The N.C. Division of Water Resources today released the final version of the environmental impact statement for the proposal to transfer water from two river basins to Concord and Kannapolis.

The new statement replaces an environmental impact statement that was released in May. DWR officials produced the new EIS to incorporate several supplemental documents detailing the interbasin transfer's possible impacts, as well as changes and additions in response to public comments. The new statement includes a summary of more than 1,300 written comments and transcribed comments made at public hearings and meetings as well as relevant technical data and reports.

The statement is a scientific analysis of the potential impacts of the interbasin transfer. The statement does not include a recommendation about the proposed interbasin transfer. The document will be used by the three hearing officers with the Environmental Management Commission to help make a recommendation about the proposed interbasin transfer to the full 19-member commission before the EMC's next meeting Jan. 11.

Concord and Kannapolis are requesting a certificate to transfer a total daily average of 22 million gallons of water from the Catawba and Yadkin River basins. The two cities are requesting the interbasin transfer to address their projected water supply shortfall during the next 30 years.

The EMC is responsible for adopting rules for the protection, preservation and enhancement of the state's air and water resources. Commission members are chosen to represent various interests, including the medical profession, agriculture, engineering, fish and wildlife, groundwater, air and water pollution control, municipal or county government, and the public at large.

For more information, contact Phil Fragapane, an engineer with the Division of Water Resources, at (919) 715-0389. The new environmental impact statement can also be found at the Division of Water Resources Web site, www.ncwater.org.

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