

**MINUTES
CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
AUGUST 16, 2010**

The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Henry H. Dunlap Building Classroom, 80 East Street, located in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 2:00 PM on August 16, 2010.

Present: Sally Kost, Chair; George Lucier, Vice Chair; Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck

Staff Members Present: Charlie Horne, County Manager; Jep Rose, County Attorney; Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager; Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Board; and Elizabeth Plata, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Work Session

1. **Shale Gas Deposits in Chatham County:** Jim Simons with the state Geologist office will brief the Board of Commissioners on Shale gas deposits believed lie under parts of Chatham County
2. **Camp Dresser McKey (CDM) Update on Landfill Siting Study:** CDM officials will update the landfill siting work being done in Chatham County
3. ~~**International Code Council Conference:** Presentation by Judith Ferster from Sierra Club about the County’s participation in the International Code Council Conference in October~~

This item was considered at the evening Board of Commissioners’ meeting.

4. **Watershed Protection Ordinance:** Fred Royal will give the Board of Commissioners an update on work of the draft watershed protection ordinance with amendments to meet Jordan Lake buffer rules
5. **Comments Regarding US 64 Corridor Study:** The Board of Commissioners is considering a response to NC Department of Transportation’s proposal to make the US 64 corridor through Chatham County an alternate limited access highway to relief the traffic burden on Interstate 40 to Charlotte

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kost welcomed everyone and introduced the agenda.

SHALE GAS DEPOSITS IN CHATHAM COUNTY

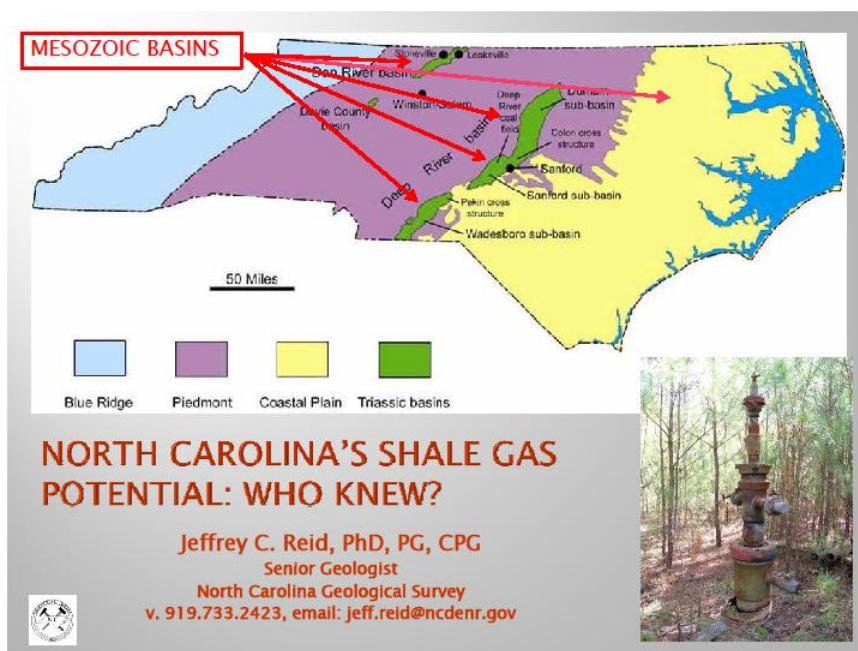
County Manager Charlie Horne introduced Jim Simons to talk about the deposits of shale gas in portions of Chatham County. This is an effort to inform everyone about this process.

Jim Simons, PG, PE, Director and State Geologist, Division of Land Resources, recognized Dr. Jeff Reid and Dr. Kenneth Taylor, who have helped with the geological survey. He said that it is their job to find these things and point them out. He said that the regulatory arm is Erosion and Sedimentation Control, Safety of Dams and Mine Reclamation, and Geologic and Geodetic Surveys. He said that they have identified the conditions that are favorable for a significant amount of shale gas. No one will know for sure until it is drilled.

Dr. Kenneth Taylor, Assistant State Geologist and Chief of Geological Survey, showed on a map where Chatham County is. He said that they have identified around 135,000 acres of potential area for shale gas. On a very small portion of this is in Chatham County, around 700 acres or less. He pointed out some river basins on the map. He said that their work was unbiased and impartial. They are also custodian of a great deal of historic information, which was used in the development of this study. Also, no endorsements are provided.

Dr. Taylor said that the oil and gas industry is largely unaware of rift basins in North Carolina. It is centrally located in the state in a rural area, relatively undeveloped, with a low topographic relief.

Dr. Jeff Reid said that this is a really good gas resource and the data shows that it is natural gas prone rocks and not oily rocks.



Role of N.C. Geological Survey

- ▣ The North Carolina Geological Survey (NCGS) examines, describes and maps the geology, geologic hazards, and mineral resources of North Carolina and publishes these findings in NCGS reports and maps.
- ▣ Provide unbiased, impartial and relevant technical information to all parties.
- ▣ The NCGS is the custodian of rock cores, cuttings, geophysical logs, etc.
- ▣ We do not provide endorsements.
- ▣ We do not provide information or guidance about any type of mineral leases or natural gas / oil leases.



NC DENR 2019–2013 Strategic Plan

- ▣ NCGS natural gas studies are also done under DENR's strategic plan's heading:
- ▣ "Growing a green economy"
 - ▣ "Continue and support the evaluation and exploration of natural gas resources in the state."
(Lead: Division of Land Resources)



Who knew?

- ▣ Oil and gas industry largely unaware of rift basins in North Carolina.
- ▣ Thick organic-rich shale section with coals.
- ▣ Extensive organic geochemistry database.
- ▣ Interpreted seismic lines (~75 line miles) – shot after drilling.
- ▣ New gas chemistry and gas quality data.
- ▣ LiDAR delineation of geologic structures
- ▣ Total petroleum system recognized.
- ▣ Centrally located in state.
- ▣ Rural area, relatively undeveloped, low topographic relief.



Time line – Deep River Basin

- ▣ 1775 – Revolutionary War era, coal exploration for iron and munitions.
- ▣ 1776 – N.C. Colonial Records mentioned "Pit Coal" ...in good quantities....
- ▣ 1820's – 1850's – Coal reports 'rediscovered'.
- ▣ 1861 – 1873 – Civil war and post war coal production.
- ▣ 1920's – 1940's – Underground coal mining, exploration; 1925 coal mine explosion (killed 53 workers).
- ▣ ~ 1 million short tons coal produced – 1700's–1930's; (1980's effort).
- ▣ 1980's – 1990's – Petroleum drilling (preceded seismic – vertical holes).
- ▣ 2008 – Organic geochemical data published (Reid and Milici – USGS OFR 2008–1108) .
- ▣ NCGS recognizes thick section of organic shale as a potential gas resource.
- ▣ 2008 (Reid and Taylor) – Initial industry presentation (AAPG–Eastern – Pittsburgh, PA).
- ▣ 2009 (Reid) – 'Natural Gas and Oil in North Carolina' Information Circular 36.
- ▣ 2009 (Reid and Taylor) – NCGS Open–File Report 2009–01 (Shale Gas Potential...).
- ▣ 2009 (Reid and Taylor) – Industry presentation (AAPG–Eastern – Evansville, IN).
- ▣ 2010 (Reid) – Industry presentations (Hart Energy conference – Ft. Worth, TX), Virginia Oil and Gas Association (late June 2010).
- ▣ 2010 (Reid and Taylor; Reid, Taylor and Simons) – two additional industry presentations in the fall.
- ▣ 2010 North Carolina Geological Survey / U.S. Geological Survey Resource assessment begins (currently in progress).



Current technology

- ▣ Current technology allows “shale gas = natural gas” to be recovered from shale formations with a high degree of organic content.
- ▣ Modern exploration and gas production technology, such as horizontal drilling and hydraulic-fracturing, has enabled the extraction of shale gas in similar formations in other states.
- ▣ Unconventional energy resource.



Why now? – 1

Compilation of data

- ▣ Years of scholarship locating and compiling data.
- ▣ Paper data converted to digital formats
- ▣ Organic geochemistry data collected and interpreted for first time.
- ▣ Focus was shallow coal bed methane, not shale gas.
- ▣ Wells drilled BEFORE seismic lines were run.
- ▣ Well depths were relatively shallow and did not target seismic features of potential interest as they were unknown then.



Why now? – 2

New emphasis

- ▣ Industry largely unaware of basins in North Carolina.
- ▣ USGS emphasis on Mesozoic basin energy systems.
- ▣ Thick organic-rich shale section previously not considered to be of interest.
- ▣ Similarity to other unconventional organic shale resources.



Why now? – 3

New techniques / interpretation

- ▣ New gas chemistry and gas quality data
- ▣ Seismic lines interpreted.
- ▣ Use of LiDAR to delineate geologic structures.
- ▣ Directional drilling.
- ▣ Recognition of a total petroleum system.
- ▣ New gas pipelines and nearby users.
- ▣ Rural area compared to other East Coast rift basins.



Basin and Source Rock Overview

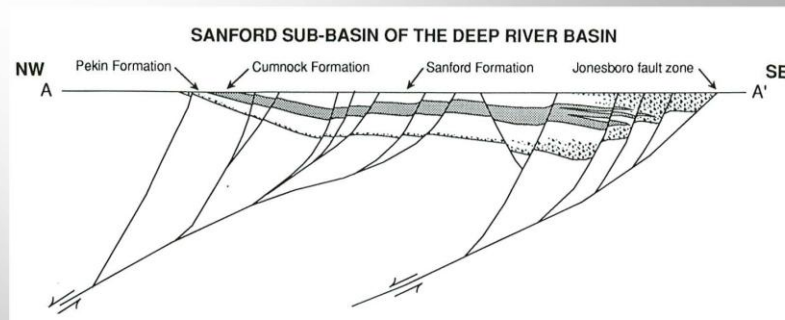


Map showing the distribution of Mesozoic basins in North Carolina (from Reid and Milici, 2008).

- Deep River Basin – 150-mile-long northeast trending half-graben (rift basin) with a steeply dipping eastern border fault.
- ~7,000 feet of Triassic strata.
- Lake deposits similar to African rift valley lakes.
- ~154,000-acre prospective area.
- Total petroleum system containing:
 - Source rock
 - Seal
 - Traps / reservoir
- Relatively untested exploration area.



Generalized cross section



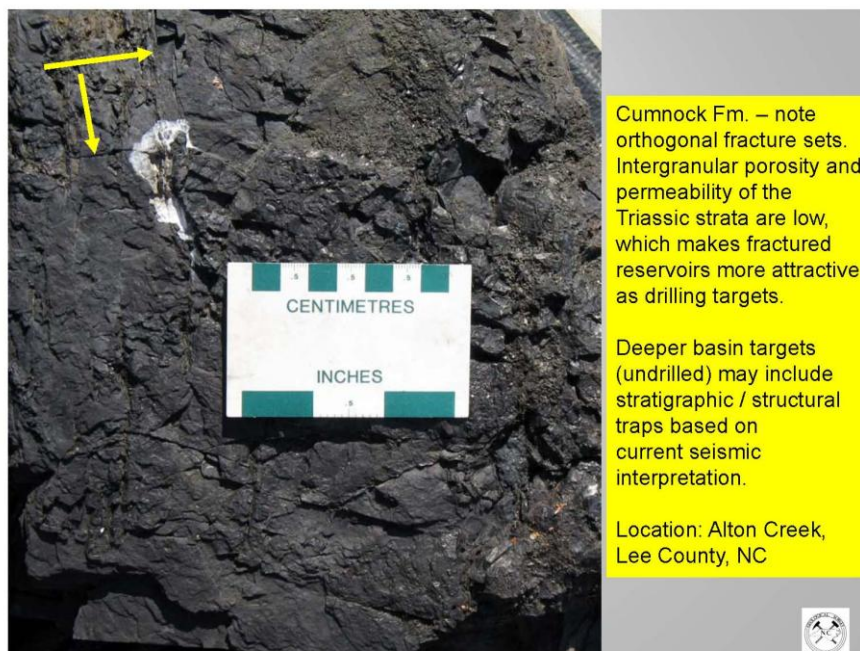
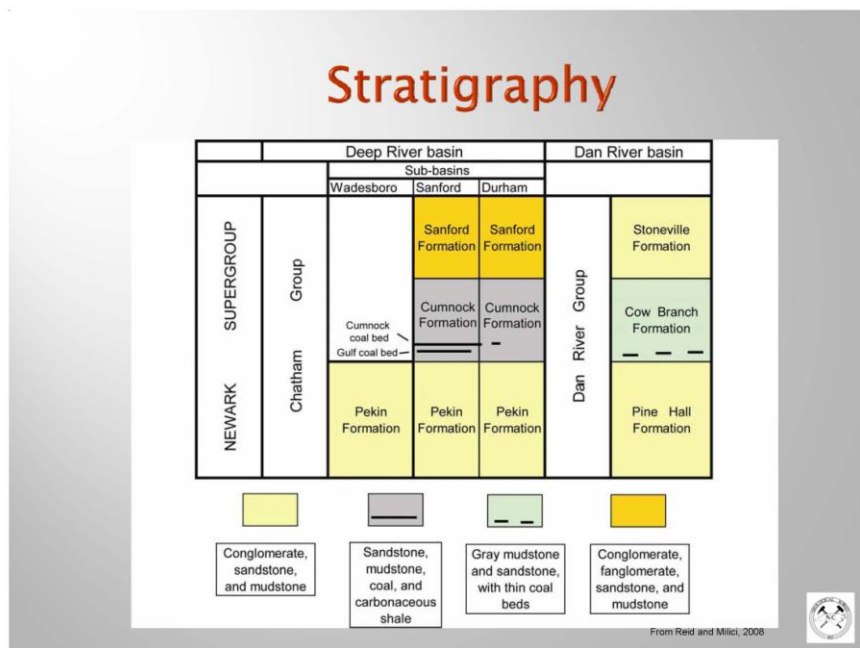
vertical scale = horizontal scale

5 km

- Mostly fluvial, red and brown clastic rocks
- Lacustrine gray and black fine-grained clastic rocks
- Red, brown, and gray conglomerate and sandstone
- Major normal faults



From Olsen and others, 1991

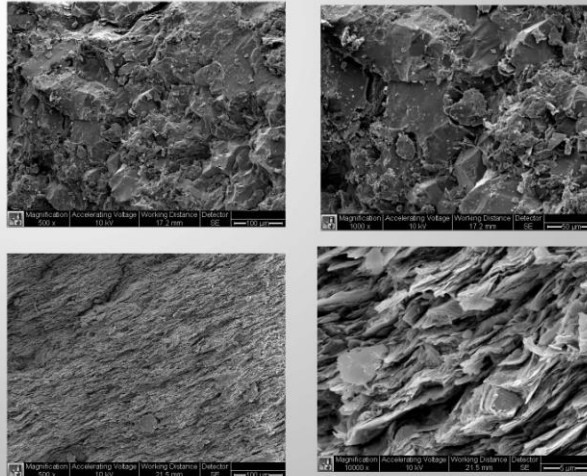


Gas and oil shows

- Eleven of 28 drill holes (including old coal holes) have shows of gas, oil or both and some 'asphalt'.
- Coal mines with underground oil shows; fatal methane gas mine explosion (mines long closed).
- Two shut-in wells with significant pressure (March 2009) – failed frac jobs
 - Butler #3 (upper left) – with pressure of 900 psi; initial flow rate: unknown
 - Simpson #1 (lower half) – with pressure of 250 psi; initial flow rate: 3,000 mcf/d; settled at 231 mcf/d; well flared.
 - Butler #1 (upper right) – well flared; small amount high paraffin, low flow temp. (hand warming) recovered.
- 'Black band' rock retorted (1927) produced 3.6 – 12.4 gallons of oil per ton.



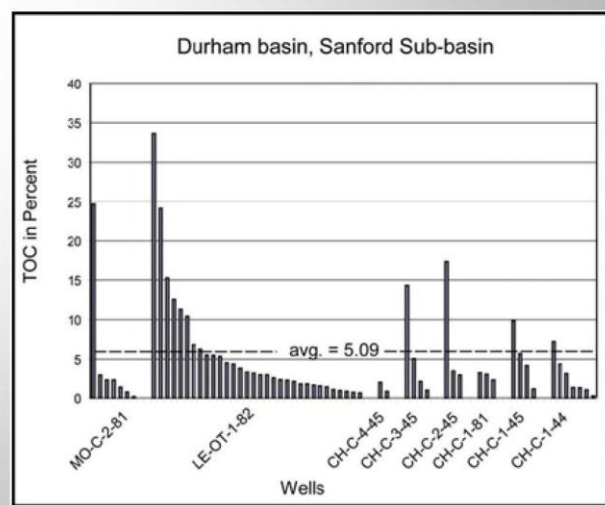
Porosity – SEM



Organic geochemistry

- ▣ Sediments are predominantly gas prone with some oil shows.
- ▣ TOC data exceeds the conservative 1.4% threshold necessary for hydrocarbon expulsion.
- ▣ Organic matter derived from terrestrial Type III woody (coaly) material and from lacustrine Type I (algal material).
- ▣ Thermal alteration data (TAI) and vitrinite reflectance data (%Ro) indicate levels of thermal maturity suitable to generate hydrocarbons.

Reid and Milici (USGS OFR 2008-1108)

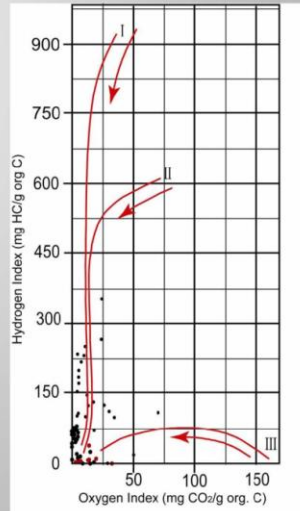


- Distribution of TOC data in wells in the Durham basin
- A threshold of 1.4% TOC is considered necessary for hydrocarbon expulsion
- From Reid and Milici, 2008

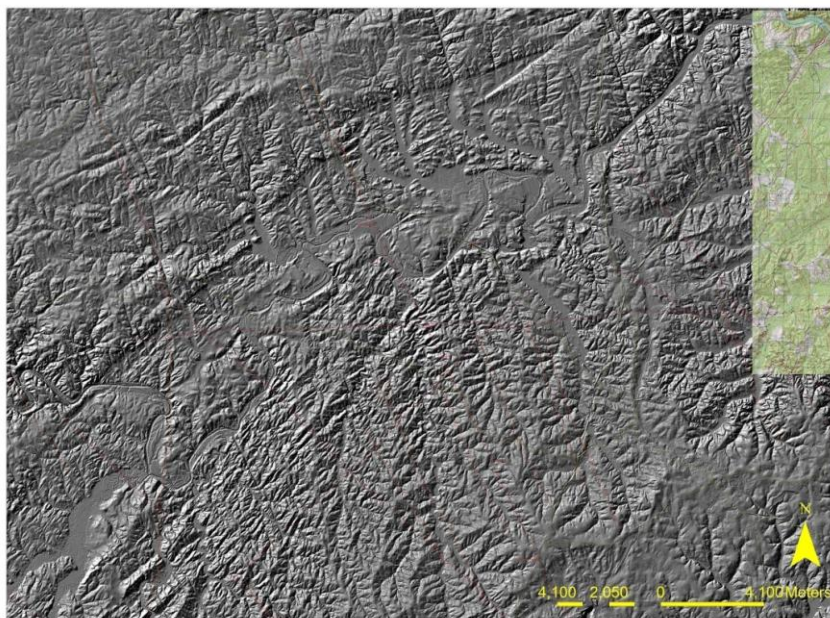
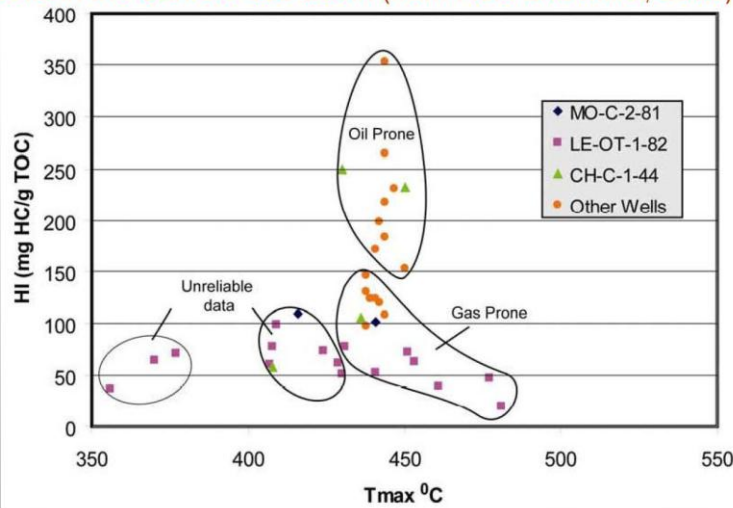


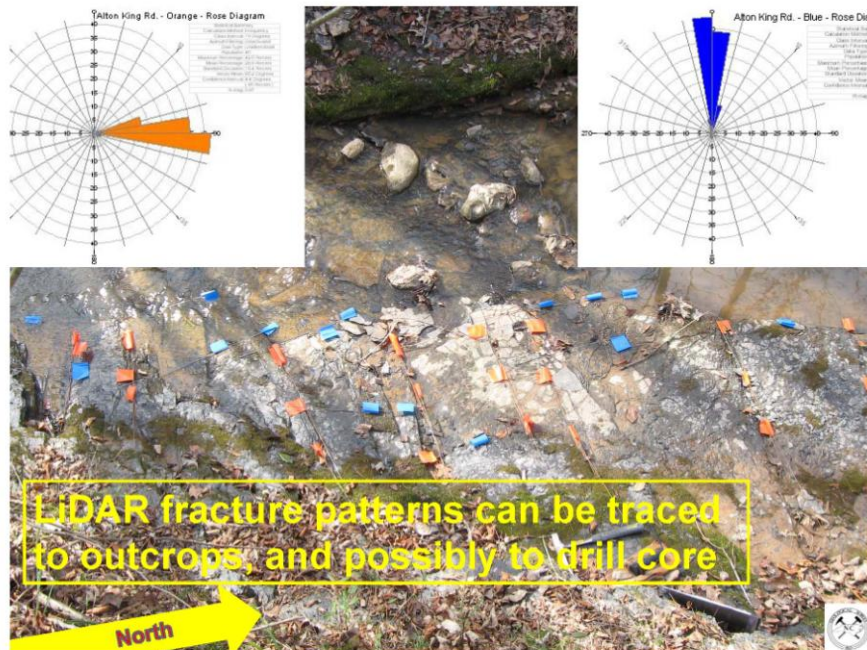
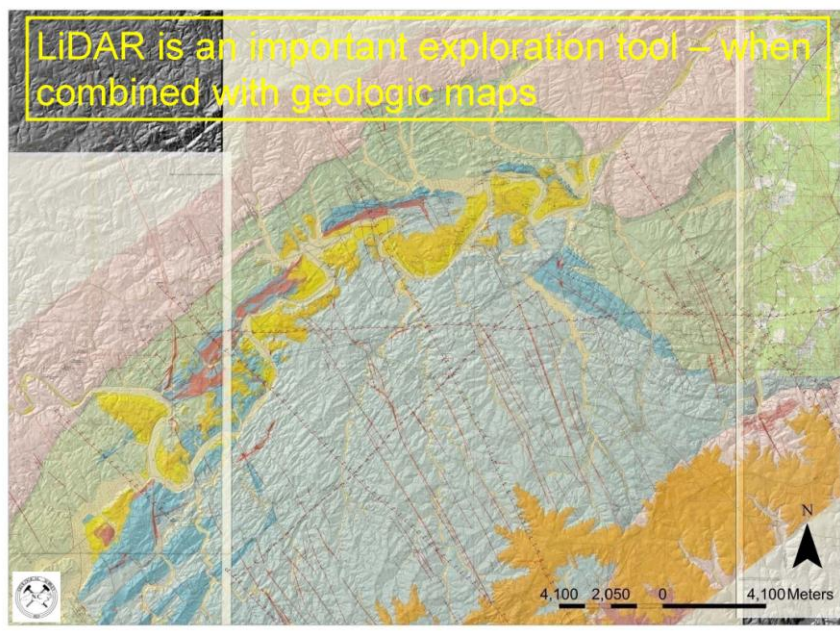
Hydrogen and oxygen indices

- Hydrogen and oxygen indices from Rock-Eval pyrolysis in relation to primary kerogen type
- The organic material in these formations was derived primarily from terrestrial Type III woody (coal) and secondarily from Type I (algal) matter.



Comparison of Tmax and Hydrogen Index of samples from wells in the Sanford sub-basin (from Reid and Milici, 2008).







Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 116
From : 1404 feet
to 1414 feet

Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 117
From : 1414 feet
to 1423 feet



Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 118
From : 1423 feet
to 1440 feet

Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 119
From : 1440 feet
to 1449 feet

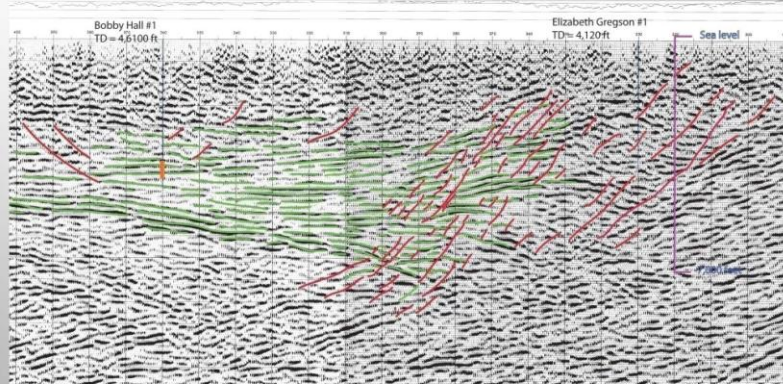


Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 120
From : 1442 feet
to 1449 feet

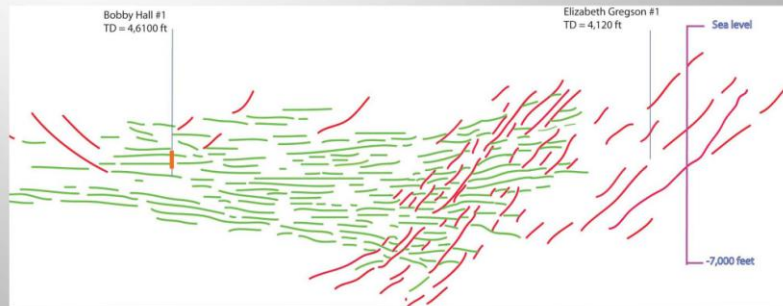
Drill Hole : USBM DH-2
NCGS No.: CH-C-1-45
Box No. : 121
From : 1458 feet
to 1465 feet



Seismic Line 113



Seismic Line 113



Gas composition and BTU (C1 = methane)

| Well | PSI | C1 % | N2 % | CO2 | C2H6 | BTU (Dry) | Comment | ΔN Per mill | ΔC Per mill (C1) | ΔD Per mill (C1) |
|--|---------|-------|--------|------|-------|-----------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| Butler #3 - 2009 | 900 | 48.78 | 45.60 | | 3.86 | 605 | Small amounts other gases | -3.32 | -45.11 | -178.5 |
| Simpson #1 - 1998 | 640-680 | 70.07 | 29.603 | | 0.117 | 712.920 | | | | |
| Simpson #1 - 2009 | ~250 | 51.65 | 45.49 | | 1.89 | 577 | Small amounts other gases | -3.23 | -51.41 | -174.8 |
| Dummitt-Palmer #1 - 1991 - Cumnock | | 96.95 | 2.4 | 0.24 | 0.024 | 986.25 | | | | |
| Dummitt-Palmer #1 - 1991 - Gulf coal | | 96.40 | 3.05 | 0.16 | 0.27 | 976.45 | | | | |
| Dummitt-Palmer #1 - 1991 - Black shale | | 88.40 | 10.85 | 0.17 | 0.30 | 908.95 | | | | |

Note - ΔC and ΔD for light gases (ethane, propane, iso-pentane and N-butane along with specific gravity for 2009 analyses - not shown because of space)



USGS/NCGS Resource Assessment

- ▣ *Current focus:* Rigorous, science-based assessment of technically recoverable natural gas.
- ▣ *Methodology:* Numeric, conservative approach to be computed by the U.S. Geological Survey.
- ▣ *Completion date:* September 30, 2010.
- ▣ *Publication date:* sometime in 2011.



Open Issues

- ▣ 1945 Oil and Gas Conservation Act
 - ▣ Article 27, G.S. 113-378 through 113-415
- ▣ Horizontal drilling: Not currently allowed
 - ▣ Based on the Oil and Gas Conservation Act
- ▣ Hydraulic-fracturing: Not currently allowed
 - ▣ 15A NCAC 02C. 0213



Permitting / Bond / Royalties

- ▣ Permit fees: Currently \$50/well.
- ▣ Bonding: Currently \$5,000/well.
- ▣ State royalties: \$0.005/mcf (1,000 ft³).

From: Oil and Gas Conservation Act of 1945



Environmental Issues

- ▣ Water resources for drilling and hydraulic-fracturing.
- ▣ Impacts on groundwater (quantity and quality).
- ▣ Solid and hazardous waste from drilling.
- ▣ Waste water from drilling and hydraulic-fracturing.
- ▣ Erosion and sedimentation control from construction of well pads, access roads and pipelines.



General statutes and regulations

NCGS Information Circular 36

http://www.geology.enr.state.nc.us/pubs/PDF/NCGS_IC_36_Oil_and_Gas.pdf

Summary

- ▣ 154,000+ prospective acres for exploration.
- ▣ Rift basin with depth of 7,000+ feet.
- ▣ 800-foot thick organic shale section with two coal beds.
- ▣ Gas prone section based on chemistry and maturation and two shut-in wells with pressure.
- ▣ Centrally located in state.
- ▣ Environmental and permitting issues.



Acknowledgements

- ▣ Portions of this work were defrayed by a grant from the U.S. Geological Survey (NCRDS Cooperative agreement G09AC00381), and
- ▣ Seismic Micro-Technology (SMT) for an educational license for the software, 'Kingdom Suite'.



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Larry Ballas asked if there was biogenic gas and Dr. Reid said that this could not be ruled out.

Chair Kost opened it up to the Board for questions.

Commissioner Lucier asked about the chemicals used for fracturing. Dr. Reid said that most of it is water and sand. Commissioner Lucier said that there could be about a ½% of something that might be pretty bad. Dr. Reid said that the complete listing is on the websites of the engineers.

Mr. Simons said that they are normally chemicals that people should not drink and they are potentially contaminants.

Commissioner Lucier said that this information should be made publically available.

Dr. Reid said that most companies generally make that information available now.

Commissioner Lucier said that another concern would be the materials that might be in the shale itself.

Dr. Reid said that they are not aware of any of these chemicals in the shale at this point.

Mr. Simons said that this would be freshwater deposits, and most other shale deposits are marine deposits.

Chair Kost asked if there have been concerns about the findings in the other states that have done this. Mr. Simons said that he does not know of any.

Dr. Taylor said that in Pennsylvania, the shale is different from the one in North Carolina and is marine shale. The shale here is a freshwater lake deposit.

Commissioner Lucier said that there is very little experience with this type of situation where it is freshwater. He said that it would be nice to see what sort of chemicals are found and what was looked for.

Louis Telacky, a citizen, said that he lives in the area that is being discussed. He said that the groundwater had a test and the water became contaminated with sulfur because of the drilling. He asked how many sulfur veins there were that would contaminate the local water.

Mr. Simons said that they have not run into this. He said that what they are after is considerably deeper than the aquifers that are being tapped by the domestic wells.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if drilling companies were pursuing this ahead of the research in trying to get leases on potential well sites. Mr. Simons said that he has heard about some of this, especially in Lee County.

Commissioner Thompson asked what role the County would play in the approval process of any company being approved to drill in the County. Mr. Simons said that the land would have to be zoned properly first. The local Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance would also be applied. He is not sure about any other regulations as far as hazardous material. There is nothing he is aware of that exempts the companies from county jurisdiction.

Commissioner Lucier said that on the horizontal drilling, he understands that someone could do a lease on someone's property and get the gas from under someone else's property. Dr. Taylor agreed.

Chair Kost asked what happens when someone buys the mineral rights. Dr. Taylor said that someone has to have mineral rights to drill down, the mineral rights for the turn horizontally, and the mineral rights to fracture. Other states use other methods mineral rights.

Commissioner Lucier asked about the confidence of there being only 700 acres in Chatham County. Mr. Simons said that the area around Jordan Lake has not been tested. He does not know for sure if there is more.

Commissioner Lucier asked about the depth of the rock from Chatham to Lee Counties and that it was shallower in Chatham County. He asked if this created any different issues. Mr. Simons said yes. The more shallow it is, the more it gives the chance for the gas to naturally escape.

Chair Kost asked if there has been any movement by the industry to introduce legislation that would require horizontal drilling or fracturing. Mr. Simons said that he has not heard any industry influence try to push legislators towards that, but he has heard interest from legislators. He thinks that there could be interest in the next session.

BREAK

The Chair called for a short break at 3:13 p.m.

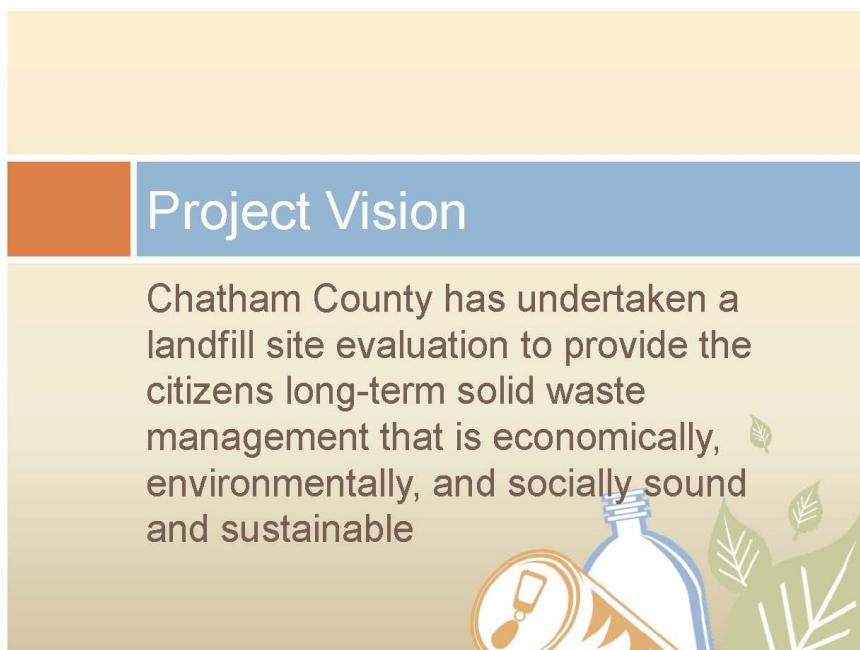
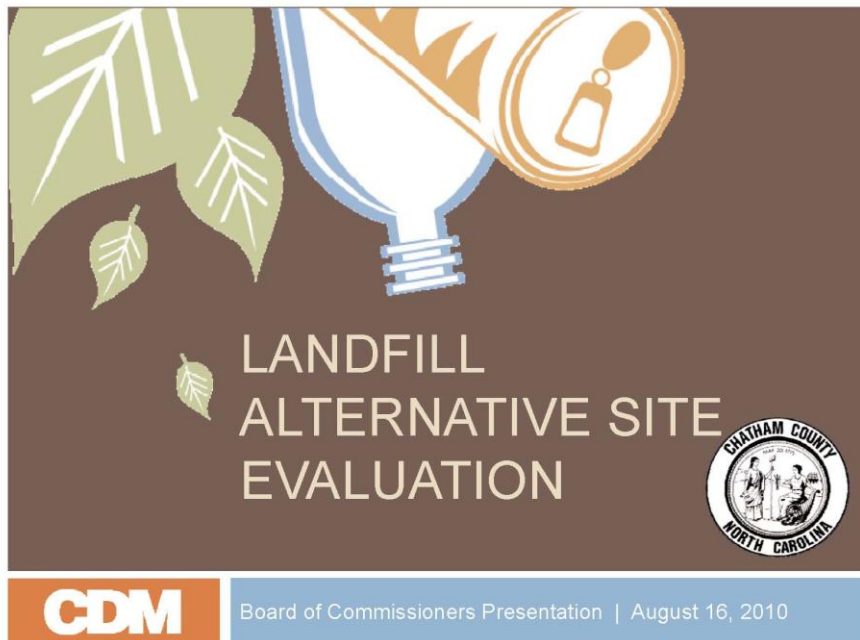
CAMP DRESSER MCKEY (CDM) UPDATE ON LANDFILL SITING STUDY

Charlie Horne introduced this item. He said that the Board asked staff to look into alternative disposal of solid waste. The County has been looking at this issue for a number of

years. Solid waste is now being shipped to Sampson County. Staff is looking at the potential of citing a landfill in Chatham County.

Dan LaMontagne, Chatham County Waste Management Director, introduced Martin Sanford, a Civil Engineer from NC State University.

Martin Sanford made the following PowerPoint presentation.



Project Goals

- Identify and evaluate potential sites through a transparent process
- Recommend a site most suitable for landfill development
- Provide a minimum 40-year operating life



Initial Screening Criteria (NC Solid Waste Rules and Statutes)

- Restricted Watersheds
- Airports
 - ▣ 6-mile-buffer – FAA Public Airports
 - ▣ 10,000-foot-buffer – Turbo Prop Airport
 - ▣ 5,000-foot-buffer – Piston Prop Airport
- Protected Lands
 - ▣ 1-mile-buffer – State Game Land
 - ▣ 2-mile-buffer – State Park
 - ▣ 5-mile-buffer – National Wildlife Refuge



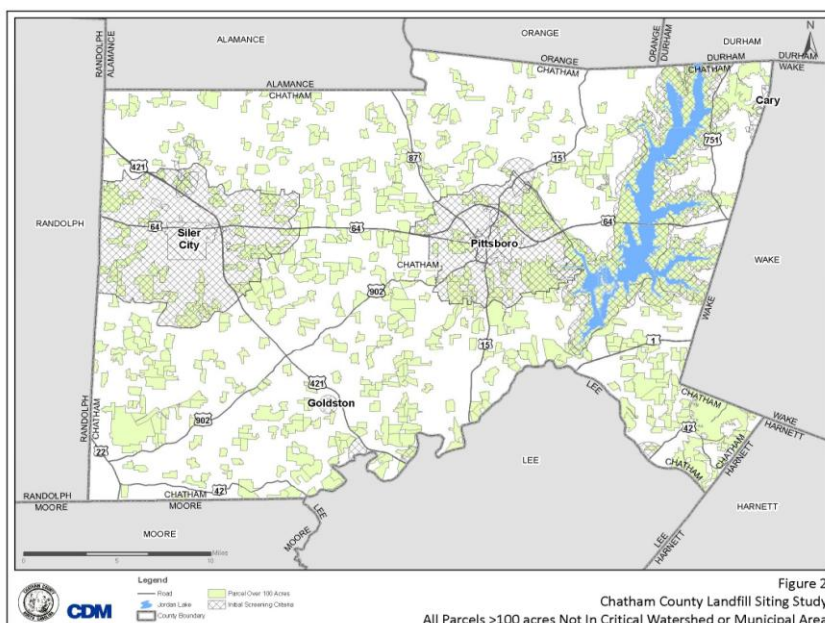
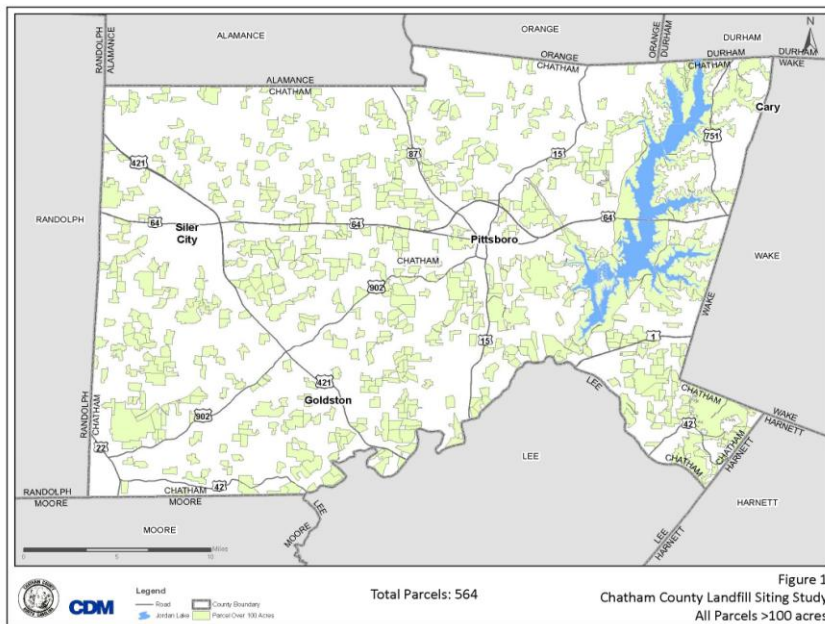
Initial Screening Criteria(continued)

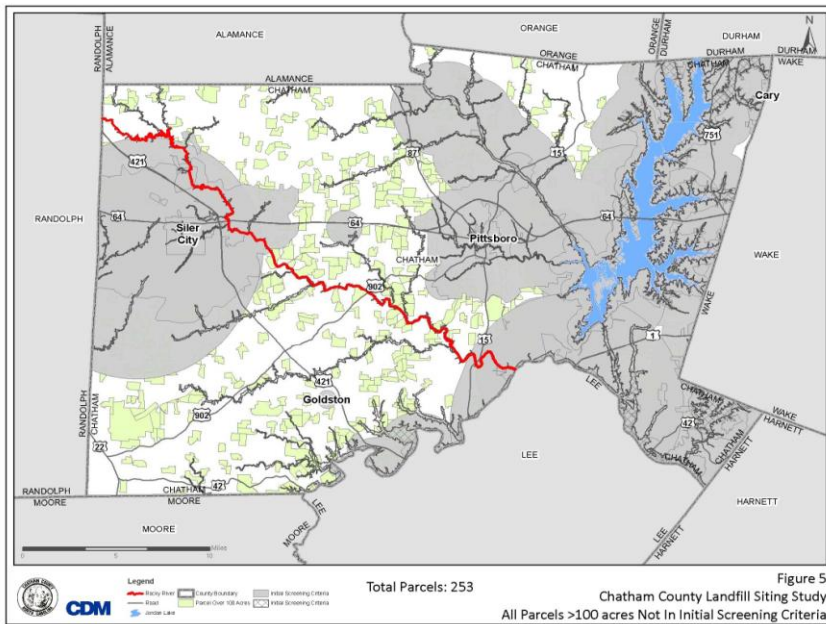
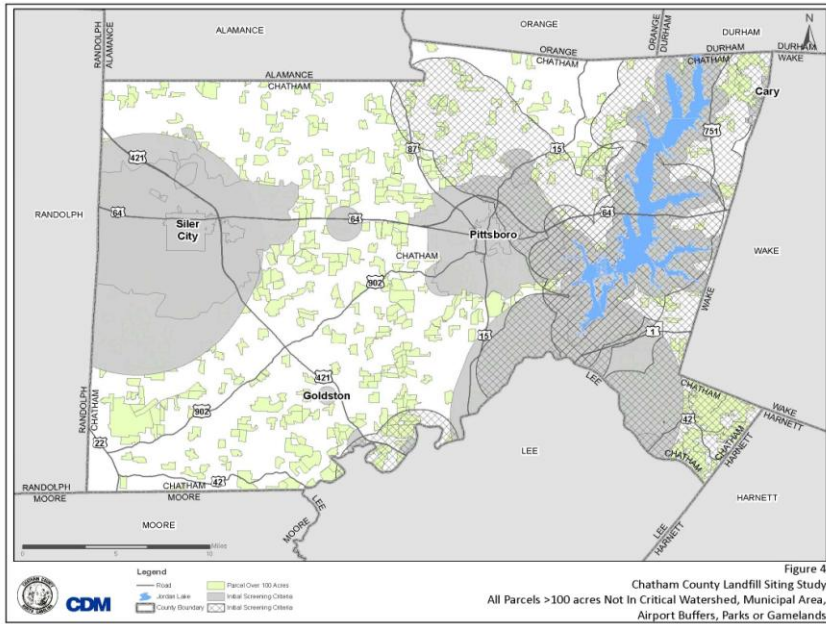
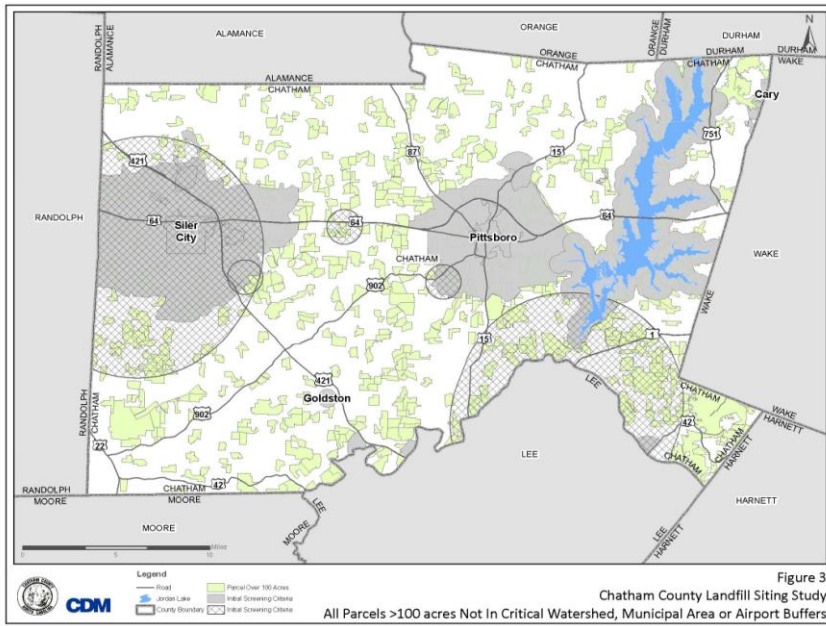
- Streams
 - ▣ 200-foot-buffer – Streams
 - ▣ 300-foot-buffer – Rocky River
- 100-year Floodplain

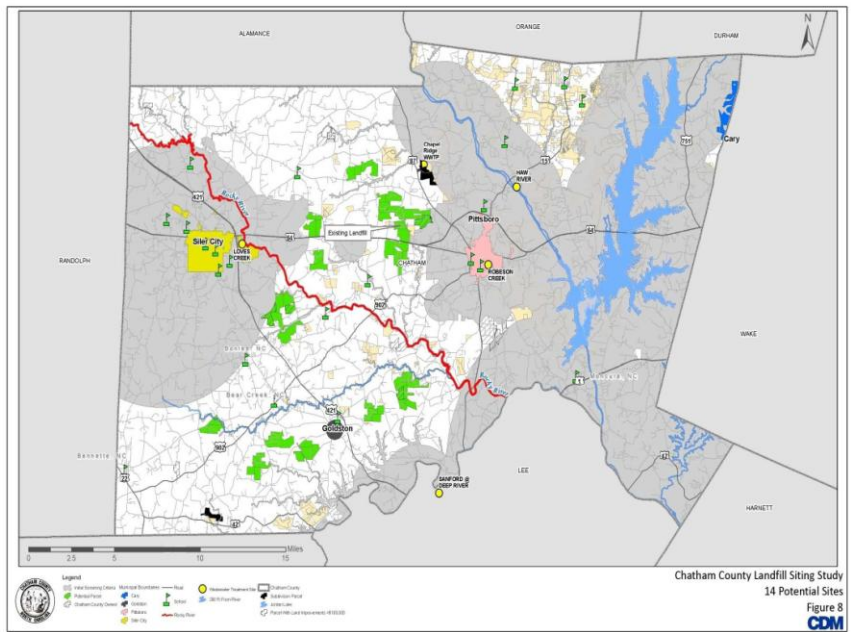
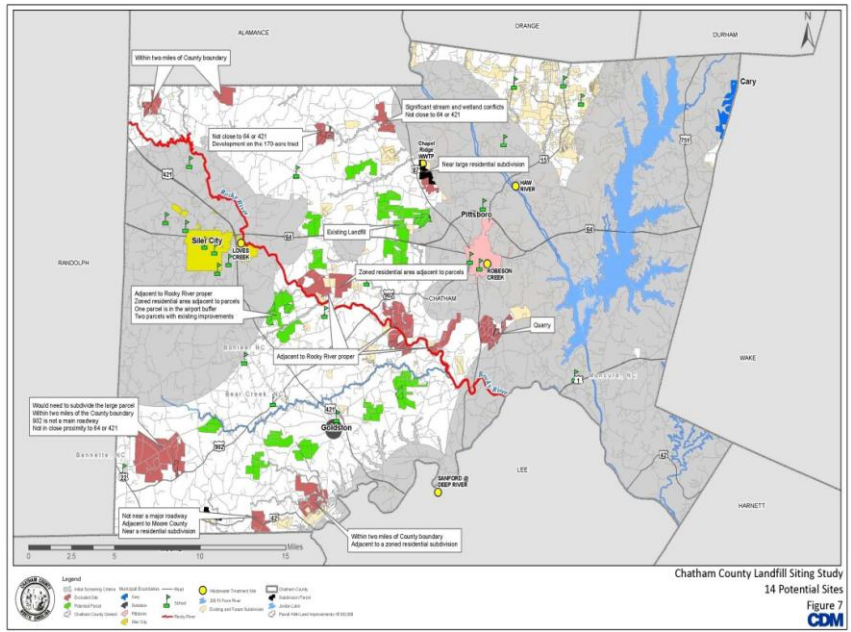
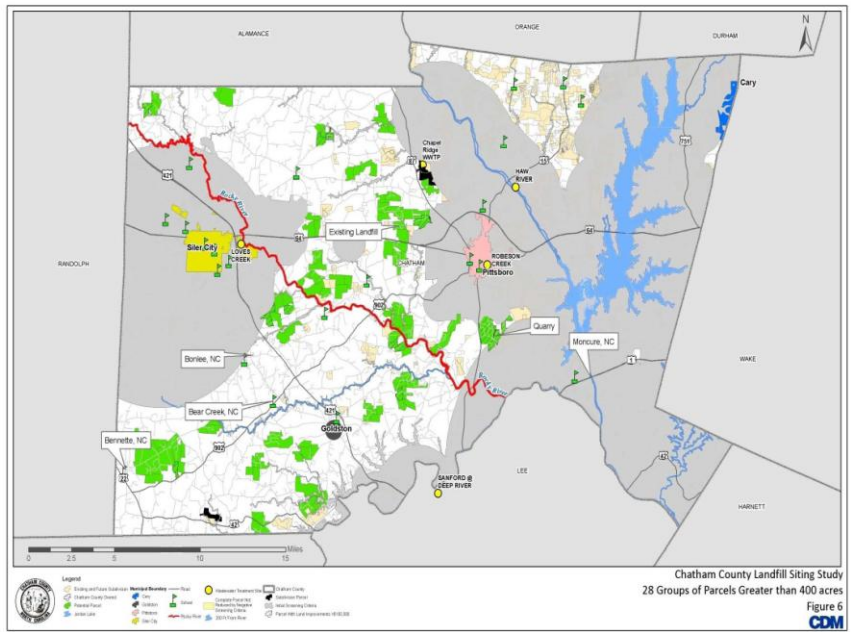


Initial Technical Siting Parameters

- Search for parcels outside of Municipal Boundaries
- Identify parcels buffered from residential subdivisions
- Search for parcels >100 acres
- Identify groups of adjacent parcels > 400 acres









Martin Sanford went through the various maps to show the available parcels that were 100 acres or greater. Based on the criteria, there are 14 potential sites that are eligible to be considered for a landfill.

The Commissioners pointed out a piece of land surrounded by subdivisions that was not zoned in the County.

Chair Kost said that a couple of sites were excluded because they are not on a major roadway, and there are some that are still included that are not on a major roadway.

Mr. Sanford said that it came down to whether or not it was on a decent road and close enough to a major transportation route. He said that they were trying not to exclude so many at this early stage. Another factor that was considered is that some of the properties were cut in two with a stream or creek.

Commissioner Lucier pointed out one of the green properties that was south of Rocky River and said that he thinks this property is in a conservation easement. Mr. Sanford said that he would verify this.

Mr. Sanford said that this is just the first step, and the next step will be looking at conservation and getting deeper into traffic, social impact, etc.

Commissioner Lucier said that it is important to address whether the County wants to identify a site that only Chatham County would use or whether it would be a multi-county site. It was answered that this is being taken into consideration.

Commissioner Lucier said that the County would take in 180 tons per day and if there was something regional, it would require about 500 acres.

Mr. Sanford said that the majority of that land would be for buffering. The actual landfill for a 500-acre site is around 170-200 acres.

Brenan Buckley said that they are sensitive to the fact that there will be significant public comment and interest. The objective is to make it as transparent as possible, develop a public facilitation process that has all factors and criteria so that there are no surprises at the end of the day. He said that the goal is to be done with the selection criteria and make a recommendation by January 2011.

Continuation of PowerPoint.

Commissioner Thompson asked if there would be meetings in the communities that are being considered and Brenan Buckley said yes, most likely.

Mr. Sanford said that there is also a plan for them to attend the Solid Waste Advisory Council meetings.

Doug Carver, Solid Waste Advisory Committee Member, said that the best thing would be to go back to the same places as they went before when soliciting public comment, which included Siler City and Pittsboro Town Councils.

Chair Kost said that the format of those meetings would be to talk about what is involved in a landfill. She asked about the goal for the outcome of the meetings. Mr. Buckley said that they want to make sure that the people are educated about the issues involved in landfills. They also want to make sure that there is agreement with the criteria and the approach used to make a decision.

Elaine Chiosso, a citizen, asked if further screening on these sites would include environmental justice criteria and Mr. Sanford said yes, absolutely.

Mr. LaMontagne listed the criteria: Engineering, Institutional (ownership, type of land use), Environmental, Socio-economic, and Operational and Functional.

Bob Knight, a citizen, said that he would hate to include land that has tributaries leading to the Rocky River because the mussels are doing quite well in the Rocky River and he fishes in the Rocky River. There are also churches that baptize there.

Mr. Sanford said that this is the first screening level and is only dealing with regulatory driven criteria with a few technical parameters. The next level involves these environmental issues.

Mr. Buckley said that the objective over the next couple of weeks is to get the fact sheets, FAQs, and the website up and running.

Mr. Sanford reviewed the project schedule. The site ranking and presentation should be in November 2010. The draft report and presentation to the Board of Commissioners will be in January 2011.

WATERSHED PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Fred Royal, Environmental Resources Director, said that in June he gave a status update on the Watershed Protection Ordinance for the Jordan Lake buffers. That day he received a 21-point letter from the Division of Water Quality. A couple of weeks ago, he received the Division of Water Quality's (DWQ) concurrence that the revised ordinance meets the standards and it will be taken to the Environmental Management Commission in September. Between now and then the County has an opportunity to make any final adjustments to the ordinance based on local need as long as it does not conflict with the State law. He will present this revised ordinance to the Environmental Review Board this Thursday, August 19th. The Environmental Review Board (ERB) has a subcommittee that is going to present the recommendations to the larger board. The ERB recommendations will come to the Board of County Commissioners as soon after the ERB meeting as possible. He would recommend that by the end of August or very early September, if there are any further language changes recommended by the Board of County Commissioners, that they be given to the DWQ.

In mid-September the DWQ will take all local ordinances to the Environmental Management Commission, which will make a finding very soon after that. This gives the County the month of October to hold a public hearing.

Commissioner Lucier asked why the EMC would be making a decision before the public hearing. Mr. Royal said that the County cannot adopt it or hold a public hearing until the EMC approves it. The State law is to adopt it in November.

The public hearing would be October 18th.

Mr. Royal said that the ordinance was as it was before other than a large section that was inserted, which goes in great detail as to what can and cannot be done in the Jordan Lake buffers. There is a policy decision for the Board, which is to decide where and how mitigation occurs.

Chair Kost asked if there were changes to the Storm Water Ordinance that will be required and it was answered no.

Mr. Royal said that Stage 1 is the storm water education piece that the County is implementing with the Town of Pittsboro in a joint interlocal agreement, which is currently being reviewed by the County Attorney and the Town of Pittsboro will review it next. The next piece in the Jordan Lake puzzle is storm water where nitrogen phosphorous will have to be regulated. The model ordinance is coming out in February from the State. The revised Storm Water Ordinance will be due by next August.

Ms. Chiosso asked if it were possible to make the Jordan Lake Buffer Rules across the County.

Commissioner Lucier said that it would be helpful to get some recommendations from the ERB about the list of what policy issues that the County Commissioners have to deal with and not wait until the public hearing.

Mr. Royal said that he has been invited to join the Scientific Advisory Board with the State for the Jordan Lake Storm Water Runoff Retrofit Existing Development questions. It has many stakeholders and is well represented. He will update the Board as it goes along.

COMMENTS REGARDING US 64 CORRIDOR STUDY

Chair Kost said that there is some additional information from what was in the packet.

Charlie Horne said that the Economic Development Corporation comments were not put in the index, so that is at the County Commissioners' places. This is a draft Executive Summary.

Chair Kost said that the two key pieces that are missing from the packet are the EDC comments and the Chatham Citizens for Effective Community. There are also additional citizens' comments that need to be included as part of the appendix.

Mr. Ballas suggested having a paragraph stating that "input in support of 64 is included," so that it shows that it was fair. Chair Kost agreed.

Commissioner Lucier suggested making a clearer statement about what was said before. He said that a year ago, the County Commissioners concluded that this project was a bad idea and should be abandoned. This should be in the Executive Summary right at the beginning. Now, it has been reviewed in greater detail, and the position has not changed.

By consensus, the Board agreed that there should be a strong statement up front

Commissioner Lucier made reference to the Planning Board comments and said that they should emphasize more the land use not being adequately considered. On the Environmental Review Board, he does not think the most salient features were taken out of that. This summary needs to be redone. Particularly relevant to that is that the Environmental Impact Statement is not just for this particular section, but it is for the whole project. He said that the County sent its letter last year and it received an incomplete response. At the same time, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) embarked on a huge effort with Cary and Apex, including numbers of public meetings and input sessions, and no such thing for Chatham County. He said that he was not allowed to speak at one of these public sessions because he was not a part of Cary or Apex.

Commissioner Vanderbeck said that he was also at one of these public sessions.

Chair Kost summarized the things that needed to be added to the Executive Summary: clearer statement that this idea should be abandoned, excerpts from Planning Board should deal with the land use piece, Transportation Advisory Board does address safety concerns and there should be an elaboration on this (short-term solution of the super streets and the impact on large vehicles such as RVs, boats, school buses, and trailers), comments from the Board of Education, ERB comments, tally of comments for and against, and that the Chatham County concerns were not addressed and NCDOT focused on the concerns of Apex and Cary and did not respond sufficiently to the letters from Chatham County. The letter should be referenced back with the date.

By consensus, the Board agreed.

Mr. Starkweather said that the EDC, in addition to totally opposing the idea of super highways, also came up with alternatives with how to deal with that highway in reference to encouraging traffic flow.

Chair Kost said that the EDC summary could reference the section in the report that has that information. The Board agreed.

Mr. Ballas suggested, instead of saying that NCDOT ignored the concerns of Chatham County, that it should say that the response was minimal compared to the response to Cary and Apex.

Chair Kost said that she forgot to include in this the environmental impact in Chatham as well as in the other parts of the 49 corridor. The Board agreed.

Chair Kost said that staff will review this and the Board does not meet again before it is due to the State. She asked if the Board was comfortable with her taking the final review.

The Board agreed by consensus.

RECESS

The Chair recessed the meeting to the County Manager's Conference Room for dinner at 4:45 PM.

The Board discussed the Cary Land Use Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Sally Kost, Chair

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners