



"Go the extra mile. It's never crowded." – Author Unknown

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From: Thelma S Garbutt [<mailto:sharongarbutt@earthlink.net>]
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 12:18 AM
To: Lindsay Ray <lindsay.ray@chathamnc.org>
Subject: [Ext] Fwd: COMMENTS ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE REVISIONS: CCBOC, JAN 22, 2019

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Hello Lindsay,

I will be unable to attend the BOC meeting on January 22nd, so could you include my written comments below with other public comments on the proposed zoning ordinance revisions applicable to the oil & gas industry.

Thank you,
Thelma Sharon Garbutt
Pittsboro

Dear Commissioners,

When the Chatham County Board of Commissioners made the decision to zone our entire County, the rationale given included the fact that more and more toxic industries were applying for permits to operate in Chatham and zoning was needed to protect citizens from these industries. Zoning was also supported by the CCBOC as a means to provide order to the location and development of heavy industry in Chatham County. If the BOC now allows fracking in every zoning district, many citizens might legitimately question whether the BOC truly passed zoning for the purpose of protecting citizens from having toxic industries operating in their neighborhoods. This inconsistency may erode public confidence in the BOC.

State law requires that local governments treat oil and gas development the same as other industries. However, by allowing O&G development in all zoning districts instead of restricting it to Heavy Industrial districts, O&G development is being treated differently than other heavy industries—a violation of state law?

If O&G development is allowed in all zoning districts, what is to stop other heavy industries from demanding that they too be allowed in all zoning districts? Will this lead to lawsuits against our County from other heavy industries?

Zoning provides for orderly development that protects citizens while allowing all types of business and industry to operate in our County. When permitted uses in established zones are altered to accommodate one type of industry, zoning is robbed of both its rationale and authority. Zoning becomes meaningless especially when permitted uses are changed to accommodate heavy industry in residential zones.

Please protect Chatham citizens by restricting fracking as a permitted use only in areas zoned

heavy industrial. This will help protect citizens from the well documented dangers of fracking and help protect the legitimacy of the BOC's decision to zone our entire County.

Thank you for your consideration,

Thelma Sharon Garbutt
Pittsboro