

Meeting Minutes
Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee (ERAC)
July 9, 2020 - 6:30 p.m. (6:32 start)
Meeting via Go To Webinar

Attendance

Staff: Rachael Thorn, Watershed Protection Director

Members Present: Jeannie Ambrose, Elaine Chiosso, Heather Holley, Terri Tyson, Madison Ponder, Ray Bode, Mary Beth Koza, Farrell Moose, Jeanette Ragland

Members Absent: Frank Stillo, Heather Holley, Sarah Justice

Guests: Angie Plummer, Cara Russell (Chatham Planning Staff), Hunter Glenn (Chatham Staff), Jason Sullivan (Planning Director), Lindsay Ray, Meagan Jolly, Nicolas Robinson, Tracy Fallecker, Thomas Curtis, Patricia Van Hoy, Laura Bradley, Kate Nordstrom, Julie Esther, Jesse Fearington, Elliott Pauli, Diane Crompton, Diana Hales (County Commissioner), Chris Ehrenfeld, Charles Esther, Caroline Healy, Alicia Koblansky

1. Selection of the recording secretary for the meeting minutes – Madison Ponder

2. Approval of meeting minutes – Minute edits were made and approved via Roll Call for October (2019), November (2019), and February (2020).

3. Williams Corner EIA Review

- a. *Chair read compiled comments from ERAC members.*
- b. *The representative of the applicant provided commentary to the EIA Review.*

Comments that stood out throughout ERAC member review of the EIA:

- *Review Ray Bode's document for a complete list of the ERAC's conclusions regarding the EIA*
- Throughout the EIA there were gaps and incomplete explanation: (e.g., overall project details, utilities, sewer lines, wastewater management systems, discussion of alternatives, anticipated impacts, land disturbance, air quality, noise levels, etc.)
- The EIA often claimed to have minimal impacts to various impacts of the land and wildlife of this property, which is not realistic considering the changes that are proposed to be made.
- Various supportive materials, such as specific maps, permits, and referenced items not shown on maps, were not all included or clearly provided in the EIA.

Nicolas Robinson – representative of the applicant from Williams Corner project

- Planned the ERAC's review of the EIA document and will determine the next steps. Aimed to address points ERAC made.
- Stated that they have provided further documentation that goes beyond requirements of the EIA to the County, which is available for reference.
- Noted that 90 of 120 acres will be either preserved or open with only 30 acres

disturbed with the intention to take the back 59 acres of the property and protect it. Complete plans for this conservation effort are TBD.

4. Public Input – limited to 2 minutes per speaker

- Review audio recording.

5. Announcements and updates from ERAC members

- EC: Greensboro was under order by the state to remove much more of the 1,4-dioxane. Greensboro has asked for a special order of consent to reach this goal. Industrial plants are using Greensboro wastewater treatment to process these chemicals.
 - For more information, review the following reports from NC Policy Watch:
 - Report Part 1: <http://www.ncpolicywatch.com/2020/07/22/pw-special-report-while-toxic-chemical-polluted-cape-fear-river-basin-some-utilities-officials-dismissed-public-health-risk/>
 - Report Part 2: <http://www.ncpolicywatch.com/2020/07/23/pw-special-report-part-two-lax-local-regulation-allows-toxic-carcinogen-to-infiltrate-drinking-water-across-the-cape-fear-river-basin/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eid=c0522fd7-3417-4e3d-ad6f-40dfc05cd915>
- TT: Asked about the next steps for the Williams Corner EIA
 - ERAC will receive a response from the Williams Corner representatives regarding the ERAC discussion today and will be discussed at the next meeting in August.
 - ERAC will be able to review the response and provide additional review.
 - ERAC member finalized comments on the EIA will be shared following the ERAC meeting to the Planning Committee August 14th.
 - Planning Committee will publish all documents online for public review prior to the Board of Commissioner meeting and Public Hearing August 17th.

6. Adjournment: EC motioned to adjourn, MK seconded. Meeting concluded at 8:13 pm

Next meeting: August 13th, 2020; 6:30 pm via Go To Webinar