



## N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Release: Immediate  
Date: Feb. 7, 2014

Contact: Jamie Kritzer; Susan Massengale  
Phone: 919-218-5935; 919-810-5996

### DENR releases remaining test results from water quality sampling near coal ash spill

**RALEIGH** – All but four of the 34 water quality parameters analyzed as part of water testing near this week’s coal ash spill in the Dan River meet regulated levels for protection of human health and aquatic life, the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources reported Friday evening.

DENR released on Friday the results from the remaining metals collected Monday and Tuesday morning in the Dan River upstream and downstream of the coal ash spill at Duke Energy’s retired power plant in Eden.

Friday’s results show exceedances of regulated surface water standards for copper, iron and aluminum upstream and downstream of the spill, but those exceedances were far greater downstream than upstream. Also, samples collected Monday and Tuesday revealed that arsenic levels exceeded a state standard for surface water quality. Levels of arsenic decreased at the two downstream sampling points between Monday and Tuesday morning.

“This analysis is the first step in a process to accurately characterize any impacts from the spill to the Dan River and determine appropriate action going forward,” said Tom Reeder, director of the N.C. Division of Water Resources. “We hope to see these levels continue to decrease as mitigation efforts progress.”

On Friday, DENR staff continued their ongoing water quality sampling upstream and downstream of the spill and started collecting sediment samples from the bottom of the Dan River at the site of the spill. The state agency will be releasing results of tests conducted in the wake of the spill as they are available.

For more information about the coal ash spill, visit DENR’s home page, [www.ncdenr.gov](http://www.ncdenr.gov) and click on the “Dan River Spill” tab.

###

Jamie Kritzer, Public Information Officer  
Phone: (919) 707-8602  
<http://www.facebook.com/ncdenr>  
1601 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1601  
[www.ncdenr.gov](http://www.ncdenr.gov)

[Jamie.Kritzer@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Jamie.Kritzer@ncdenr.gov)  
Facebook:

RSS feed: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/opa/news-releases-rss>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NCDENR>