

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

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DEQ announces 14 public meetings on draft coal ash pond closure deadlines

RALEIGH – The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality, or DEQ, on Friday announced 14 public meetings on the department’s draft proposed classifications for each of Duke Energy coal ash impoundments in North Carolina. The hearings give the public an opportunity to learn about the draft classifications and provide feedback to the agency.

“The public meetings are a great opportunity for the public to get involved in the classification process,” said DEQ Assistant Secretary Tom Reeder. “DEQ is committed to relying on science and public comment to determine closure deadlines. We welcome feedback from the communities impacted by Duke Energy’s coal ash ponds and hope that the public participation process produces additional scientific and technical data that can help inform our final determinations.”

In accordance with the coal ash law, DEQ developed a draft proposed classification for every coal ash pond in the state. The classification process is an important step in cleaning up coal ash to protect the environment and ratepayers, and will determine the deadline for when each impoundment must be closed.

A public meeting will be held in each county with a coal ash facility. At each meeting, DEQ will explain the draft proposed classifications and receive comments from the public.

A detailed list of public meetings can be found on DEQ’s website and listed below:

Facility	County	Meeting Location	Time, Date
Allen Steam Station	Gaston	Gaston College Myers Center Auditorium, 201 Highway U.S. 321 S Dallas, NC 28034	6p.m., March 22, 2016
Asheville Power Station	Buncombe	AB Technical Community College Ferguson Auditorium, 340 Victoria Rd, Asheville, NC 28801	6p.m., March 1, 2016
Belews Creek Steam Station	Stokes	Walnut Cove Public Library, 106 5th St, Walnut Cove, NC 27052	6p.m., March 24, 2016
Buck Steam Station	Rowan	Catawba College Room 300, 2300 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144	6p.m., March 22, 2016
Cape Fear Power Station	Chatham	Central Carolina Community College Building 2 Multipurpose Room, 764 West St, Pittsboro,	6p.m., March 10, 2016

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Rogers Energy Complex (formerly Cliffside)	Rutherford	Isothermal Community College Auditorium, 286 ICC Loop Rd, Spindale, NC 28160	6p.m., March 14, 2016
Rogers Energy Complex (formerly Cliffside)	Cleveland	Boiling Springs Town Hall, 114 E College Ave, Shelby, NC 28152	6p.m., March 14, 2016
Dan River Steam Station	Rockingham	Eden Town Hall, 308 East Stadium Drive Eden, North Carolina 27288	6p.m., March 1, 2016
H.F. Lee Power Station	Wayne	Wayne County Community College Auditorium, 3000 Wayne Memorial Dr, Goldsboro, NC 27534	6p.m., March 10, 2016
Marshall Steam Station	Catawba	Catawba Valley Community College Auditorium, 2550 US-70, Hickory, NC 28602	6p.m., March 29, 2016
Mayo Power Station	Person	Person County Government Building, 304 S Morgan St, Roxboro, NC 27573	6p.m., March 16, 2016
Riverbend Steam Station	Gaston	Gaston College Myers Center Auditorium, 201 Highway U.S. 321 S Dallas, NC 28034	6p.m., March 1, 2016
Roxboro Power Station	Person	Person County Government Building, 304 S Morgan St, Roxboro, NC 27573	6p.m., March 16, 2016
Sutton Power Station	New Hanover	Cape Fear Community College, room N-202, 411 N Front St, Wilmington, NC 28401	6p.m., March 1, 2016
Weatherspoon Steam Electric Plant	Robeson	Robeson Community College A.D. Lewis Auditorium, 5160 Fayetteville Rd, Lumberton, NC 28360	6p.m., March 10, 2016

Public participation is a critically important part of the classification process. The information gathered through the public participation process will help inform the department's final proposed classifications.

The public meetings will also be noticed in a newspaper of general circulation in each county. In addition, DEQ will open a public comment period of no less than 60 days to receive written comments on the draft proposed classifications. The public comment period will be announced at a later date.

All draft proposed classifications are subject to change based on public input, including scientific and technical data gained through the public input process outlined above.

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You may find more information about DEQ's draft proposed classifications [here](#).

You may find DEQ's schedule of public meetings [here](#).

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