

**Environmental Management Commission  
Water Allocation Committee  
July 8, 2015**

# **Solutions to Challenges to Water Supply Permitting**



# Work Group Members

**Steve Brown** (Cary)

**David Czerr** (Charlotte Water)

**Leila Goodwin** (Cary)

**Ron Hargrove** (Winston-Salem)

**Terry Houck** (High Point)

**Kenney McDowell** (Greensboro)

**Dan McLawhorn** (Raleigh)

**Bryce Mendenhall** (Franklin Co.)

**Steve Miller** (Kinston)

**Mick Noland** (Fayetteville PWC)

**Michael Richardson** (CFPUA)

**David Springer** (Greenville Utility)

**Kenny Waldroup** (Raleigh)

## Facilitators:

**Jaime Robinson** (AWWA-WEA, RAC, Chair)

**Sarah Collins** (N.C. League of Municipalities, RAC, Staff Liaison)



# Overview of Recommendations

- Regulated Riparianism/permitted water withdrawal
- Capacity Area Use designation
- State Regional Water Planning by Basin
- No stand-alone ecological flows component
- Interbasin transfer
- Others



# Regulated Riparianism

- Support legislation that creates a permitted water withdrawals program in North Carolina



# Capacity Use Area Designation

- The EMC should make more Capacity Use Area designations for surface water as needed
  - The water Use Act of 1967 allow the EMC to designate an area as a Capacity Use Area (CUA) if the sustainability of water resources in an area becomes threatened or if competition among water users requires coordination to protect the public interest.
  - In CUA areas, all persons withdrawing more than 100,000 gallons of water per day must first obtain a permit from DWR

# State Regional Water Planning

- Encourage water planning among river basins
  - G.S. § 143-355 (in listing the powers of department) includes that DENR is to “cooperate with units of local government in the identification of water supply needs and appropriate water supply sources and water storage projects to meet those needs.”
  - G.S. § 143-355.8 (adopted in 2011) focused on creating voluntary regional water supply resources.



# No stand-alone ecological flows

- If water supply permitting does not exist in NC, then there should not be a stand alone ecological flow component that requires that a percentage of a river's flow to be set aside to maintain aquatic life.

# Interbasin Transfer

- Interbasin Transfer is a divisive issue
- Components of the laws should be reviewed
  - Emergency transfers
  - Addressing future water needs of other utilities in the source basin

# Cooperation

- As utilities we recognize that we need to continue to work together and with the State on water supply and basin issues in order for real improvements to be made.



# Other



# Thank You

- Q&A

