

**RESOLUTION
OF
NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, New Hanover County Board of Education is committed to providing safe school facilities for student, teachers and staff that include safe drinking water; and

WHEREAS, Chemours (formerly Dupont) operate a chemical manufacturing plant about 100 miles up the Cape Fear River from Wilmington, and company officials said in 2017, that they have released per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into the air and the Cape Fear River since about 1980; and

WHEREAS, PFAS are man-made compounds, that include GenX and thousands of other compounds, that only a handful of which have been studied to assess risks to human health, and there are currently no regulatory requirements for determining and ensuring safe discharge of these synthetic chemical compounds; and

WHEREAS; the Cape Fear River is the source of about 80 percent of the drinking water CFPUA provides to the community that includes 30 school facilities; and

WHEREAS, a consent order finalized in 2019, between the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Cape Fear River Watch, and Chemours requires the chemical company to reduce its GenX air emissions, provide replacement drinking water, and pay a \$12 million civil penalty; and

WHEREAS, CFPUA already has taken interim steps at Sweeney Water Treatment Plant to achieve some immediate, but limited, reduction in levels of PFAS in drinking water and has begun constructing additional filters that will significantly reduce PFAS levels in drinking water by an average of 90 percent when these new filters become operational in 2022.; and

WHEREAS, CFPUA is seeking reimbursement from Chemours and DuPont for costs the Authority's ratepayers are bearing to address PFAS in water sourced from the Cape Fear River; and

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED, New Hanover County Board of Education fully supports the efforts of CFPUA, along with other Local, State and Federal agencies, to ensure safe drinking water for our schools and community; and in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 115C-452 seeks a portion of the civil penalties mentioned above to establish immediate interim measures to ensure safe drinking water in its school facilities.

ADOPTED this 4th day of February 2020.

Lisa Estep, NHC School Board Chairperson



David Wortman, NHC School Board Vice Chairman

