## Town of Butner

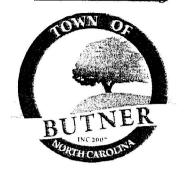
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Thomas W. Lane, Mayor



Thomas S. Marrow, Manager



February 7, 2013

Mr. George Vital Area Director USDA-Rural Development 853 S. Beckford Drive, Suite A Henderson, NC 27536

Re:

COMMENTS OFFERED BY THE TOWN OF BUTNER ON THE NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR WASTEWATER COLLECITON AND TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, City of Creedmoor, Granville County, North Carolina, December 2012, prepared for the US Department of Agriculture, Rural Development

The Butner Town Council cannot support the conclusions indicated in the "NEPA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, City of Creedmoor, Granville County, North Carolina, December 2012, prepared for the US Department of Agriculture, Rural Development."

South Granville Water and Sewer Authority (SGWASA) is the only regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in southern Granville County. The Authority's membership consists of the Town of Butner, Town of Stem, and Granville County. The City of Creedmoor has declined to join SGWASA and has elected to remain as a bulk customer. The total customer base is 5,000 customers with the City of Creedmoor using only one connection to sell to 1,800 customers. It's the Town of Butner's understanding that SGWASA has demonstrated that it has the capacity to treat the City of Creedmoor's wastewater needs for the next 20 years while meeting all required NPDES limits

To comply with and implement Falls Lake Rules, the Authority has begun the improvements and upgrade of the WWTP and associated facilities at a cost of \$29,000,000. The debt on this upgrade will be paid by revenues from the wastewater utility billing. The proposed rate increase(s) will increase 60 percent over a five-year period. Creedmoor's new WWTP will create an approximate debt of \$27,000,000 for their citizens. A new wastewater treatment plant would duplicate efforts and debt for the citizens in Creedmoor and surrounding areas.

In summary, due to the investment that SGWASA has already made to continue providing wastewater services to southern Granville County for a least the next 20 years a new discharge into the upper Tar River should only be considered if there is no other viable alternative. There is an environmental impact concern for several endangered aquatic species with the construction of the WWTP. The Creedmoor WWTP will duplicate capacity, will place a burden on taxpayers, and will duplicate cost to our region in the southern part of Granville County. The Butner Town Council cannot support the need for a second Wastewater Treatment Plant in the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Lane

Mayor

C: City of Creedmoor

South Granville Water & Sewer Authority

Granville County

State DOA Clearinghouse