



North Carolina General Assembly
Representative Graig Meyer
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July 28, 2020

Secretary Michael Regan
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
217 W Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Secretary Regan,

I am writing to request the postponement of the public hearing on draft permits for two proposed Carolina Sunrock LLC facilities scheduled for August 3, 2020 by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Air Quality. The rationale for this request is multi-faceted as the Anderson community faces several obstacles.

First, it is my understanding that the Caswell County Health Department has asked for assistance from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in conducting an "imminent health risk" assessment for the residents of the Anderson Community. The concern is that the operation of an asphalt plant in this area would lead to an increase in health risks to an already environmentally overburdened and primarily minority community. The Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch of NC DHHS is conducting a review of the assessment and it has not yet been completed. This summary of the NC DHHS findings related to its health risk assessment of the residents is paramount in order to determine if the operation of the asphalt plant presents an unreasonable health risk to these community members.

Second, due to the ongoing pandemic and recent increases in positive COVID-19 cases, many residents have been unable to see their doctors to get the documentation of their pre-existing conditions to enter into the public comments. Because many of the Anderson Community residents are in one or more "high risk", groups susceptible to COVID-19 they need to be able to wait until a time with fewer cases and when their doctors feel it is safe for them to come into the office for their examinations and determinations of their pre-existing conditions.

Although there are other reasons to request postponement of this public hearing and the extension of the public comment period, I feel that these are the two most important. Again, I would request your consideration in providing more time for these citizens to prepare for the public hearing by postponing it until a later date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graig Meyer".

Rep. Graig Meyer

CC: Shrikar Nunna, Legislative Liaison, NC Department of Environmental Quality

GM/dbq