



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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August 4, 2017



The Honorable Christopher A. Tuck
Chair, Montgomery County Board of Supervisors
755 Roanoke Street, Suite 2E
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073

Dear Mr. Tuck:

Thank you for your follow-up letter of July 24, 2017. In your letter you requested that the public comment period be extended. Numerous programs are administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under regulations adopted by the State Water Control Board (Board) and generally all the programs endorse a concept of timely action by DEQ on applications. Timely action is a long-standing concept in the State Water Control Law, and there are similar concepts for making case decisions in the Administrative Process Act. The Board's regulations include requirements for public comment opportunities and final decisions to move forward in a timely manner.

DEQ has been involved with and been reviewing material relative to this project for many months. As a result, draft additional 401 water quality conditions were developed and these draft conditions are now the subject of an official public comment period, including public hearings. Under the existing processes, the Board must now proceed within established time frames to take certain actions which does not allow for delaying the current public comment process.

Your letter also included comments regarding the Virginia Department of Health's survey of private drinking water wells and septic systems. To ensure that those comments and concerns are appropriately considered, I have asked DEQ staff to include your letter in the official public comment record, so that the information and concerns you identified will be given full consideration through the current review process and before DEQ makes its recommendation to the Board.

The Honorable Christopher A. Tuck
August 4, 2017
Page 2

I appreciate your interest in this project and DEQ's activities, and I hope that you will continue to reach out to me at any time if something is unclear or you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David K. Paylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "P".

David K. Paylor

DKP:ewf