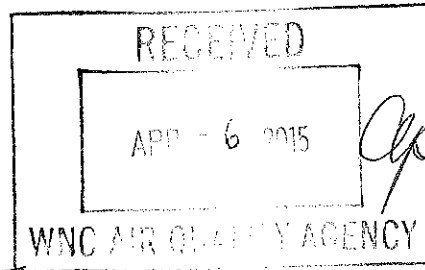


Richard Williams

600 Churns Cove Rd

Asheville, NC 28805



April 1, 2015

As you can see I live in Asheville, NC. In this day and age when global warming in part caused by the burning of fossil fuels, I can not believe that a facility is allowed to operate as it operates today: burning higher sulfur fuels, not operating high efficiency scrubbers during burns... both of which emit excessive amounts of CO_2 and SO_2 into the environment. We know CO_2 's impact on the ozone layer. We know SO_2 and H_2O create H_2SO_4 (sulfuric acid) which degrades clean water resources and kills plants.

I want the WNC Regional Air Quality Board to revise the SO_2 and CO_2 emission limits to reflect the national health-based standards of 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit.

For the health and well being of all living, breathing species in WNC.

Thank You, Richard Williams

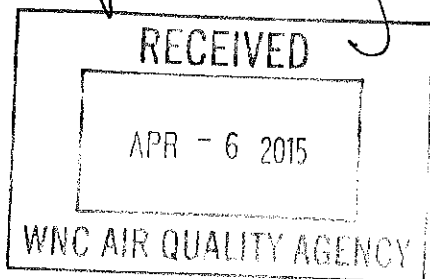
Dear Brit Levin

April 1, 2015

We want safe air. I suffer from asthma. I moved to Asheville in 1985 after studying ^{EPA} reports from all across the country. Especially because of inversion in Asheville due to topography - it is even more essential that we clean up the air in Asheville - NOW - so that is healthful for all our residents especially our children and those many folks who suffer from respiratory illness.

Sincerely,

Sophie V. Brooks



To: Britt Lovin

4/01/15

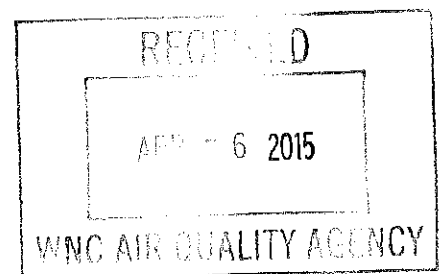
Dir. Air Quality Board (Region)
Asheville NC 28806

As a resident of Asheville, NC, I am alarmed to learn how high the SO_2 levels are, coming from Duke's Asheville Coal-fired Power Plant. I have learned the plant's pollution has exceeded healthy standards approximately 25% or more days of the year, since 2010.

I request the WNC Regional AQA board members change the SO_2 emission limit for Asheville's coal-fired plant to match national health-based standards (being 61.7 lb/hr) for each coal burning unit.

Thank you-

Lisa McWhorter, MPT
(Lisa McWhorter, MPT)
13 Canterbury Rd
Asheville NC 28805



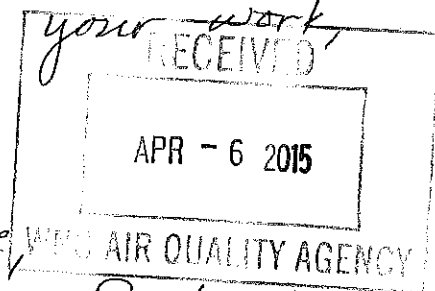
Britt Lovin,

4/2/15 ✓

As a resident of WNC I'm very interested in the area's air quality. I imagine your job is very dynamic & demanding, & that you have many tough decisions every day. My request & hope is that you'll take time to ensure that the Duke Energy's Asheville Coal Plant is abiding by EPA standards in regards to SO_2 emission limits. From my understanding there are pollution controls that aren't being utilized to their greatest capability which is allowing for alarming levels of pollution going into our air. As you're aware, health, environmental degradation & Asheville's livelihood will be effected long-term either negatively or positively depending on what we choose to do today. Thank you for your work, your time & listening ear.

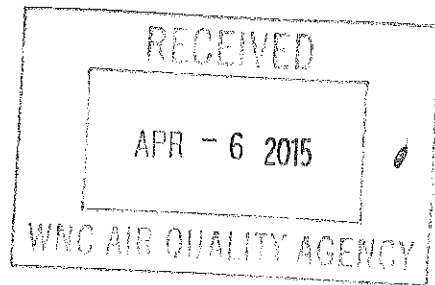
Take care,

Megan Schooling



Dr. Lewis Patrie
99 Eastmoor Dr.
Asheville, NC 28805

April 2, 2015



Britt Lovin, Director
Air Quality Board
49 Mt Carmel Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

Dear Mr. Lovin,

As a former member of the Air Quality Board, I am concerned that the emissions from Duke Energy's Coal Plant in Asheville emit sulfur dioxide which at times may be harmful to our citizens. That our community largely lies in a basin among mountains, where air stagnation often occurs, makes it especially important that emissions from the plant are minimized to the greatest extent possible.

This is especially true for the youngest members of our community as infants and young children are especially vulnerable to levels of pollution that do not affect adults to that extent.

My wife and I are about to move into Givens Estate ^{the Trails of} which we understand may be especially prone to air pollution. Thus, we have a personal need for the Duke coal plant to minimize (and hopefully shut down the plant) emissions.

Sincerely, Lewis E. Patrie, M.D.

4/8/15

Dear Mr. Lowin,

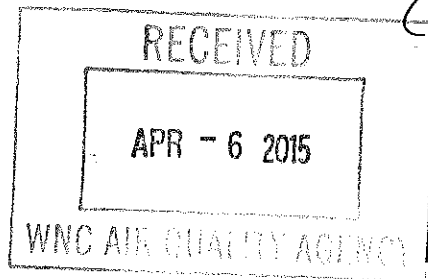
It has come to my attention that at the Asheville coal plant Duke Energy has not been using the pollution-inhibiting technology that Duke's consumers paid for, and I further understand Duke has switched to cheaper, higher-sulfur coal.

This is clearly something the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency needs to stop.

I urge your board members to reflect national standards & revise to SO₂ emission limit in Asheville's new air permit.

Sincerely,

Michele Nichols



Michele Nichols
21 Stonebridge Dr
Asheville, NC 28805-1462



Good Air IS VITAL TO ALL LIFE!

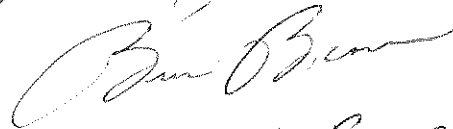
DEAR SIRS/MADAMS,

I'VE READ THAT YOUR DRAFT PERMIT WILL ALLOW
80 TIMES THE EPA SAFE LIMIT!

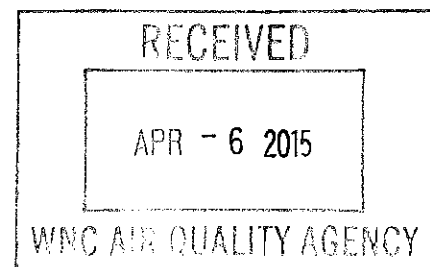
THAT'S CRIMINAL!

I LIVE IN FAIRVIEW AND I WILL NOT ALLOW
MY FAMILY TO BE SUBJECTED TO THIS.

SINCERELY,

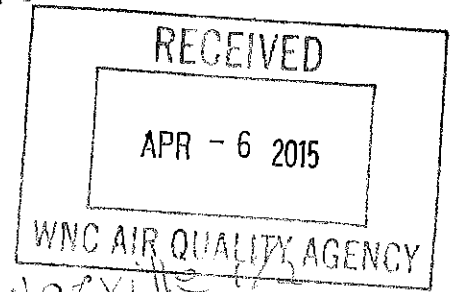


BRUCE B. CLARK



April 1, 2015

MR. BRITT LOVIN
~~Director~~ Air Quality Board



Dear Mr. LOVIN,

My husband and I moved to Weaverville years ago to enjoy the beauty and quality of life of this area. We assumed - wrongly, it seems - that the area and its businesses were dedicated to preserving this pristine environment.

Duke Energy must be held to the responsible standards for SO₂ emissions proposed by the EPA, namely -

- 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit
Equating to a plant-wide average
SO₂ emission limit of 0.029 lb/MMBtu

We live here! We breathe the air daily. Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant has been emitting sulfur dioxide pollution at levels considered unsafe by the EPA for the past several years. The combination of Duke running its pollution protection technology less while simultaneously switching to cheaper, higher-sulfur coal is dangerous.

Please - for the sake of us, our children & grandchildren - revise the SO₂ emission limit included in the Asheville coal plant's new air permit - to 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit.

Sincerely,
Gail Solomon
23 Red Maple Dr
Weaverville, NC 28787

Eugene D. Rackoff and Maryanne R. Rackoff

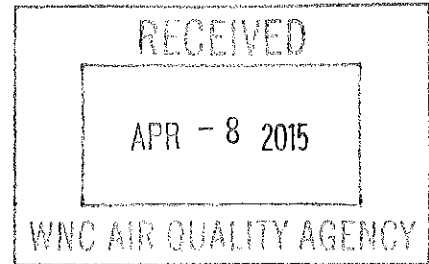
45 Tree Top Dr.

Arden, NC 28704-3040

(330) 701-5574

April 4, 2015

Britt Lovin, Chair
Western North Carolina Air Quality Board
49 Mount Camel Rd.
Asheville, NC 28806



Dear Mr. Lovin:

We are homeowners in Arden, NC and are asking you to cancel the draft permit for the Duke Energy coal plant in Asheville. The protections afforded are woefully inadequate.

Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant has threatened local public health for decades. New evidence demonstrates that the plant's operations have been causing sulfur dioxide (SO₂) pollution at levels considered unsafe by the Environmental Protection Agency for the past several years. An air modeling study by Air Resource Specialists shows that concentrations of SO₂ in the air are **up to 3.5 times higher than what EPA has determined to be safe**. Pollution from the plant has exceeded these minimum public health standards approximately one out of every three to four days since 2010.

Luckily, there's an easy solution to this problem: Duke Energy can return to running their pollution control equipment at full capacity and can stop burning the high-sulfur coal they've been using in recent years.

But Duke Energy will not do this unless the Board drafts a permit which meets EPA standards which are required by law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eugene D. Rackoff".

Eugene D. Rackoff

and

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maryanne R. Rackoff".

Maryanne R. Rackoff

Tom Doebben

112 Twin Courts Dr.

Weaverville, NC 28787

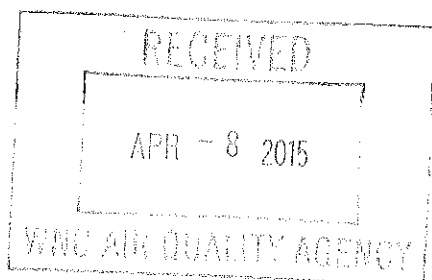
April 1, 2015

Bill Levin,

My wife and I live just north of Asheville and more importantly our grand-daughter, age 3, our daughter and son-in-law live a few blocks from the Long Shoals coal-fired power plant. The increased SO_2 emitted by this Duke power plant, 80 times the EPA upper limit for SO_2 emissions, is appalling and illegal and morally unconscionable. This is harming the health of all residents in WNC, but especially the children who are to live here many years. The WNC Regional Air Quality Agency Board needs to enforce the reduction of SO_2 release to less than 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit. This is the only right direction to go.

Sincerely,

Tom Doebben

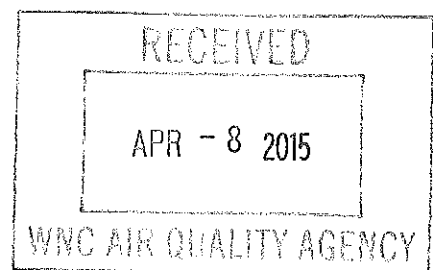


Paul Enderby
3A Golf Ave
Asheville NC
28701

To Brett Lash -

You have the responsibility to protect the
air I breathe and the air that the children,
the elderly and the infirm breathe in our
area. Please act to restrict Duke Energy's
sulfur dioxide emissions to below the
state minimum health standard. Thank you.

Paul Enderby



4/1/2015

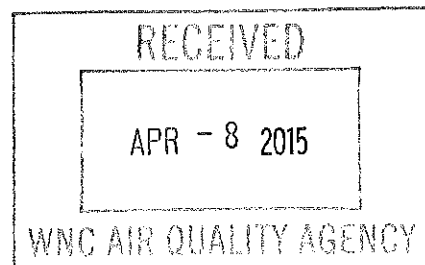
Dear Mr. Loom,

Hello, my name is Jan Diefenbach.
I live at 1975 NC Hwy 9 in Black Mountain.
I have been made aware that
the concentrations of sulfur dioxide are
80 times higher than EPA allows!

This area deserves clean air!!
This terribly dangerous air pollution
must stop!!

I am requesting that you
do your part to protect our
air.

Sincerely,
Jan Diefenbach



Courtland White
19 Cedar Summit Rd
Asheville NC 28803
April 1, 2015

Brith Lovin
Air Quality Board

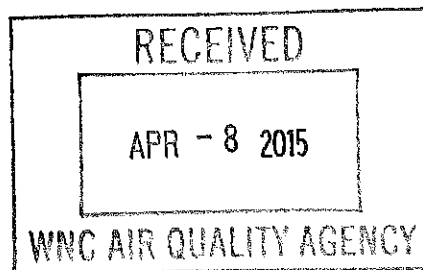
Dear Sir

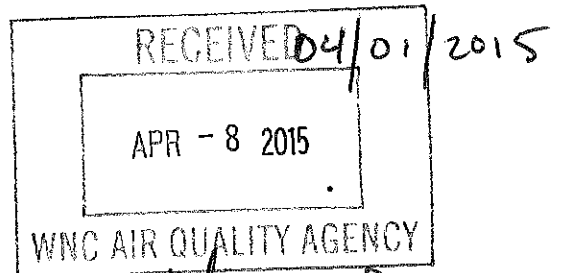
I believe the draft permit for Dukes
Power Plant is unacceptable. Allows inadequate
control of SO_2 - Smog, Acid Rain, Asthma, ...

The limit shall be no higher than
61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit

Turn on those Scrubbers!

Courtland White





Dear Sir,

My name is Daniel Short, I am a resident of Asheville, NC. I hope that you take this opportunity to protect this beautiful part of the country. This place is special. It is actually sad that it is so special because it is one of only a few places in the Eastern United States to still have views of boundless forested mountains, fresh air, clean water. Please do your part to help protect this last refuge of the natural Earth. Please vote for the standard of $61.7^{lb}/hr$ to $0.02961/MMBtu$.

Respectfully,

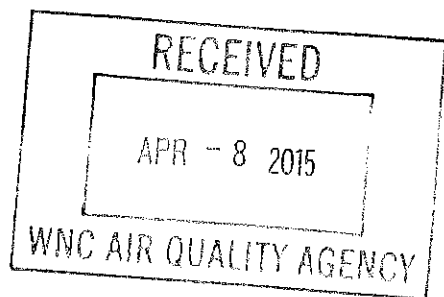
Dan Short

Britt Lovin,

Please stop the dangerous air pollution from
Duke Energy's Asheville Coal Plant. I am
an Asheville resident and live here
because of the quality of life,
community, and environment. That is
why I care. We need clean air.
Our community deserves it. Please
do not allow Duke Energy to release
sulfur dioxide air pollution that is
HIGHER than the EPA's standard.

Sincerely,

Katie Bray



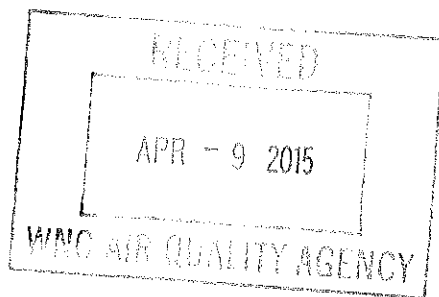
April 1, 2015

Dear Mr. Louis & Air Quality Board

I am really concerned about the report
that our air in Asheville is nearly 80 times
higher in sulfur dioxide released than
EPA recommends.

Please do everything you can
to protect our wonderful
mountain environment

Sincerely
Lisa Pedrick
ashvillelisa@gmail.com
265 Paradise
Asheville NC 28801



4-01-15 ✓

Dear Brett Lovin,

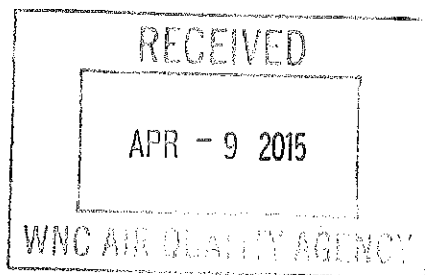
My name is Joanne Lazar. I live in Asheville which is one of the prettiest places in the south east.

I am concerned about the harmful sulfur dioxide pollution levels that are being emitted by Duke energy's Coal Plant. This is dangerous, especially for the many people who have asthma.

Please raise the SO₂ emission limits to reflect the National Health-based standards 6.7/hour for each coal burning unit equating to a plant wide average SO₂ emission limit of 0.029 lb/MMBtu

We need & deserve clean air. Help us!

Joanne H. Lazar
25 Kalmia Dr.
Asheville, NC. 28804
Jhaleazar@bellsouth.net



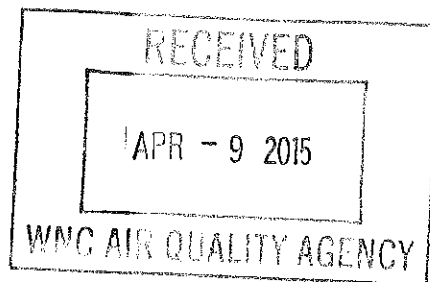
4/1/15 ✓

To our Trusted Servants,

Please use your best judgement to protect us, residents of Asheville area. Now is an opportunity to lower or eliminate sulphur dioxide emissions.

Thank you for your concern for our health.

Virginia Hurst.



✓
Britt Lovin
Director of the Air Quality Board
49 Mount Carmel Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

4/1/15

H/;

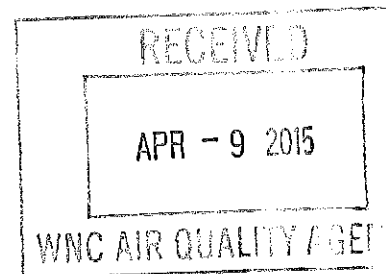
I live here in Asheville. I understand that Duke Energy has been allowed to emit more SO_2 than allowed by EPA standards. I strongly encourage you to approve a permit that adheres to the EPA standard limit of 0.029 lb/MMBtu.

We have been charge for the air cleaning equipment installed at the plant but it must be used 24/7.

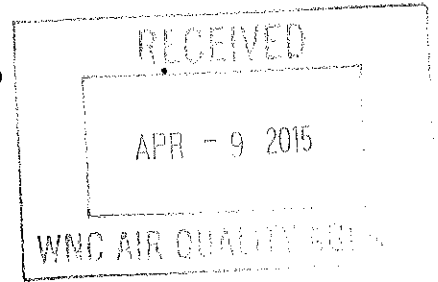
I thank you for your time.
Please help clean the air in Asheville.

Thanks

Marc Parham
17 Warwick Place
Asheville, NC



Marty Steinberg
508 Ox Creek Rd
Weaver, NC 28787



Britt Lovin

Chair: Air Quality Board

49 Mt. Carmel Rd, Asheville NC 28806

Dear Mr. Lovin,

New evidence shows that Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant has been emitting harmful sulfur dioxide pollution at levels considered unsafe by the EPA.

Air Quality Agency has released a draft permit that would allow Duke to release sulfur dioxide air pollution at levels nearly 80 times higher than the EPA's public health standard. That is unhealthy and unacceptable!

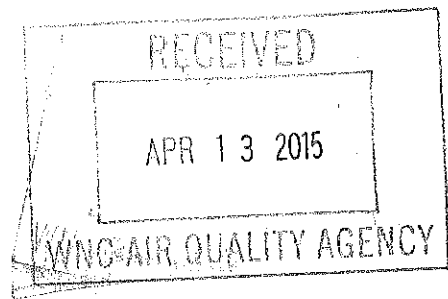
I have suffered from asthma and I need to breathe clean air.

I ask the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency Board members to revise the SO₂ emission limit included in the Asheville coal plant's new air permit to reflect national health-based standards: 61.7 lbs/hr for each coal-burning unit, equating to a plant wide average SO₂ emission limit of 0.029 lb/MMBtu.

Marty Steinberg
Marty Steinberg, Weaver, NC

SUBJECT: ASHEVILLE STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT
TITLE V PERMIT / SO₂ AIR POLLUTION ✓

From: Sonia Marcus
61 Swannanoa Avenue
Asheville NC 28806



To: WNC Regional Air Quality Board
49 Mt Carmel Rd, Asheville NC 28806

April 1, 2015

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of the City of Asheville and I am very concerned about the air emissions from the coal plant that is operated by Duke Progress. I would like to know why the Air Quality Agency has released a draft permit that would allow Duke to release SO₂ at a rate that is 80 times higher than the EPA's standard.

Please consider the impacts of this practice on the residents of this area and revise the SO₂ emission limit to reflect national health-based standards: 61.7 lbs/hr for each coal burning unit, equating to a plant wide average limit of 0.029 lbs/MMBTU.

Thank you,

Sonia Marcus

RECEIVED

APR 13 2015

WNC AIR QUALITY AGENCY

11 Inverton Lane
Asheville, NC 28803

April 1, 2015

Dear Mr. Lovin,

My husband and I moved to Asheville in June of 2013, primarily to enjoy the pristine environment here. It has come to my attention that there are concentrations of SO_2 which are higher than the EPA level for safety and that the scrubbers at the Lake Julian Power Plant are not functioning at appropriate levels of consistency.

I want clean air here. I want you to revise the SO_2 emission limit in the Lake Julian plant air permit to reflect national standards: 61.7 lb/hr. for each coal burning unit which will result in an average emission level of 0.029 lb/MMBtu.

The pollution this plant is producing is dangerous to those with respiratory illnesses. The pollution has exceeded health standards one third of the time for five years.

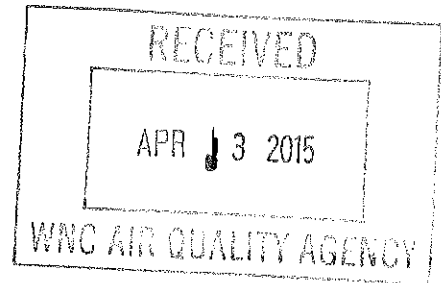
Duke's customers have paid for pollution controls and deserve their fullest use for health benefits.

Sincerely,
Judy J. Plant

✓
234 Justice Ridge Rd
Candler, NC 28715

April 1, 2015

Western North Carolina Air Quality Control Board
Mr. Britt Lown, Director
49 Mount Carmel Rd
Asheville, NC 28806



Dear Mr. Lown,

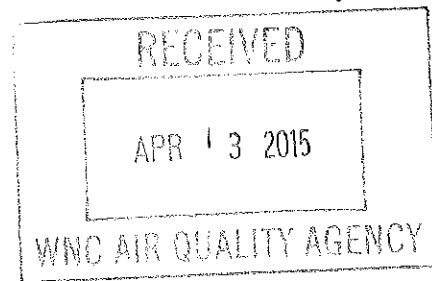
It is with great concern this letter is written to request the new permit for Duke Power reflect the national health based standards of 61.7 lb/hr for each coal burning unit. Clean air ~ healthy air ~ is vital to our economy as well as our health. As a lifelong resident of WNC, I can remember when the mountains were covered in smog (70s). I do not want to return to that kind of pollution. As a business member of the community, I am sure Duke Energy would want to do everything possible to preserve the health of citizens and the beauty of our mountains.

Your thought and consideration of this issue are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Nancy Haldrop

4.1.2015 ✓

Hello! ♥



I am writing you today to inform you of how much I like to breath.

Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant has been emitting harmful sulfur dioxide pollution in the air. As an American ~~we~~ living in America this is unacceptable. If you care about America and our beautiful Western North Carolina you will agree w/ me that clean air & water is #1. I appreciate you service to us!

Allison #CleanAir
#RealLife #America

April 2, 2015

Britt Loun
Director Air Quality Board
49 Mount Carmel Rd
Asheville NC 28806

Dear Mr. Loun,

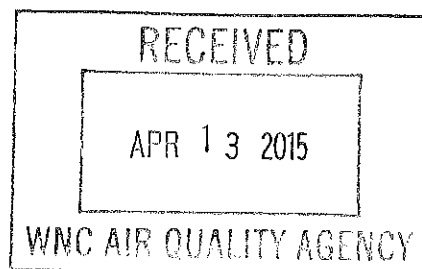
I live in western North Carolina in South Asheville and I value having clean air. But the problem I have is that Duke's power plant is not taking responsibility for protecting our community with the best available technology regarding emissions, especially sulfur dioxide.

I am opposed to allowing Duke to emit more sulfur dioxide that is higher than EPA's public health standard - and shockingly 80x higher!

Please take action to limit these emissions and protect clean air in Asheville.

Thanks you,
Beth Eckl

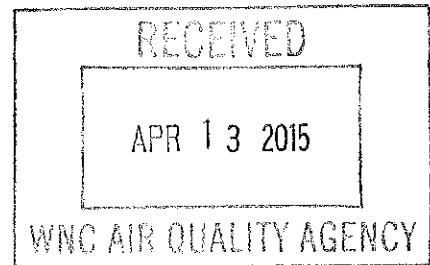
Beth Eckl
11 Ridgefield Place
Asheville NC 28803



Brandon Van Every ✓
3730 Lindenlea Ct.
Winston-Salem, NC
27106

Britt Lovin

Dir. of the Air Quality Board
49 Mt. Carmel Rd.
Asheville, NC 28806



Mr. Lovin,

I have resided seasonally in Asheville for 6 summers and falls now. I recently became aware that Duke Energy seeks a draft permit that will allow them to emit sulfur dioxide from their coal plant, at a rate 80 times higher than the EPA's public health standard.

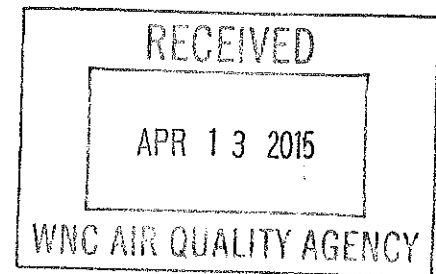
I know from high school chemistry that sulfur dioxide is the precursor to sulfuric acid when bubbled through water. This is foolishness! Please do not allow it. Please require the EPA standards to be followed.

Thanks,
Brandon Van Every

Philip J. Bisero, Chair
Air Quality Board of WNC
40 Montkarm Road
AVL NC 28806

Philip J. Bisero, PE
Affiliated Consultants, Engineers
15 Hi View Dr.
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Dirty air including ^{respirable} particles, radiation,
ozone, acids and VOCs contribute to
cancer. Stop it. I'll live to 100
or die hiking unless you kill me first.



Sincerely yours,
Phil Bisero

1 April 2015

Britt Lovin
Chair of the Air Quality Board
49 Mount Carmel Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

Dear Mr. Lovin,

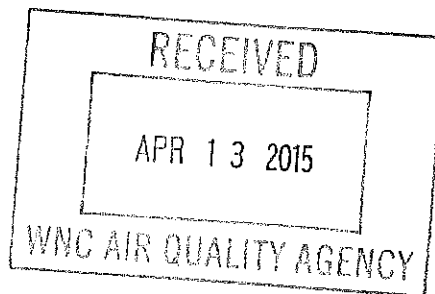
As a retired health resources individual I am very concerned about the emissions from the Duke Energy plant. Please consider the importance of regulating and even closing the plant by applying the most rigorous air quality standards.

Air Quality Agency has released a draft permit that would allow Duke to release levels 80 times higher than the EPA standards.

I ask the WNC Regional Air Quality Board members to revise the SO₂ limit included in the Asheville coal-burning unit.

Thank you for your consideration

Paul M. Speciale, PhD
14 Treviso Trail
Asheville, NC 28808



ROBERT WELLS
51 CRAFTSMAN
ASHEVILLE, NC
28805

To: BRITT LOVIN

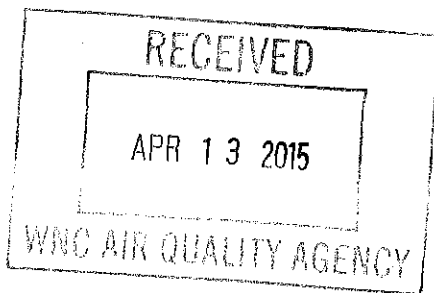
YOU LIVE ~~HERE~~ HERE IN ASHEVILLE.
FORCE DUKE ENERGY TO DO WHAT
THEY SHOULD.

CLOSE THE DIRTIEST COAL PLANT
THEY OWN.

TO START FORCING ^{DUKE TO} ABIDE BY THE
AVERAGE EMISSION LIMIT
OF 0.029 LB/MMBtu.

BEST REGARDS,

Robert Wells
704-560-6342



✓
Dear Brett Lavin,

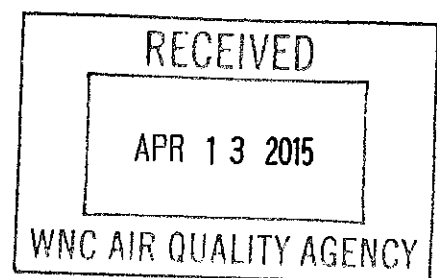
I'm aware that Duke Energy is emitting 80 times the safe limit of SO₂ as determined by EPA. I am also aware that Duke can reduce the amount of SO₂ emission but they are unwilling to do so for cost reasons. Their profits are more important than the health of Asheville residents.

The Western Regional Air Quality Agency needs to protect the citizens of Asheville by establishing standards by way of permit. Please represent us, your fellow citizens rather than Duke profits.

Thank you,

STEVE MILLER

419 UPPER GRASSY BR RD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28805



4/18/2015 ✓

Ms.
Dear Mr. Lovin,

I am writing to you regarding air quality in WNC, and particularly in the Asheville area. I ask that the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency Board revise the sulfur dioxide emission limit in the Asheville coal plant's new air permit.

It appears that in some recent cases Duke has been using its pollution protection technology less frequently and that Duke has switched to cheaper, high-sulfur coal. This is being done most likely in order to reduce costs for the company, to increase its profits. As a consumer, I am paying Duke to put into use its air pollution controls at the Asheville coal plant. I and other consumers deserve the health benefits of better air quality. The pollution controls should be run to their fullest extent.

Therefore, I am requesting that you end

the board set the sulfur dioxide emission limit at a point which reflects national health-based standards, 66.77 lb per hour for each coal-burning unit. This equates to a plant-wide average sulfur dioxide emission limit of 0.029 lb/MM Btu.

Thank you for your consideration of this very serious matter. The current and future health of residents in western North Carolina depend heavily on your decision.

Most Sincerely,

Dianne Clinton

RECEIVED

APR 22 2015

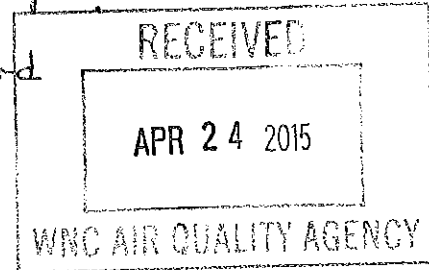
WNC AIR QUALITY AGENCY

P.S. I urge you to contact me in writing about the outcome of this decision process.

Dianne Clinton
104 Parkway Ct.
Asheville, NC 28803

21 Wesley Dr. Apt. D
Asheville, NC 28803
April 22, 2015

Mr. Britt Lovin
Director, Air Quality Board
49 Mount Carmel Rd.
Asheville, N.C. 28806



Dear Mr. Lovin,

I am writing to urge the WNC Regional Air Quality Board to bring the SO₂ emission limit in the Asheville coal plant's new air permit up to national health-based standards. This limit of 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit would reduce air pollution for Buncombe and Henderson County residents, and especially for those of us living in South Asheville.

Your agency's recent release of a draft permit allowing Duke to continue pollution significantly above the EPA's public health standard calls into question the agency's commitment to improve our region's air quality. I urge you, as director, to do the job for which you were appointed.

Sincerely,
Cather B. Pardue

\$1.1 million

the amount our researchers found that Duke Energy spent to aid Gov. Pat McCrory's election; his environmental agency tried to block stricter regulation of Duke's coal ash.

303 Crowfields Dr
Asheville, NC 28803

Apr. 22, 2015

Don Horn: Director of the Air Quality Board

Two results of Duke Energy providing

my power:

1. The price is ever higher.

2. The knowledge that most of our environmental degradation is, now and past, caused by production of this energy.

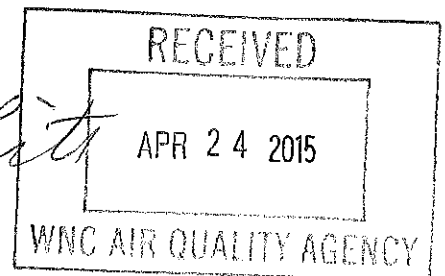
Pat McCrory is in power of our environment, and accomodates Duke repeatedly due to the \$1.1 million they provide for his campaign.

As long as Pat is governor, Duke figures it can get by with anything, charging expenses to the people.

Well, Duke has another "think" coming. The people are becoming more and more knowledgeable and activated.

Watch out Duke!

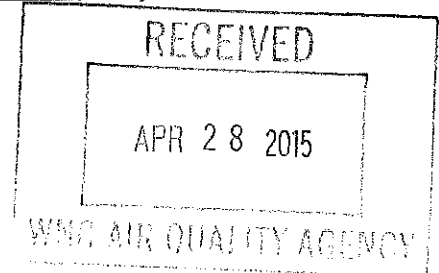
Janet R. White



✓
28 people's
names
April 24, 2015

SENT VIA U.S MAIL & EMAIL (betsy.brown@buncombecounty.org)

Betsy Brown, Air Quality Supervisor
WNC Regional Air Quality Agency
49 Mt. Carmel Rd.
Asheville, NC 28806



Dear Supervisor Brown:

We are homeowners in the Ballantree neighborhood in South Asheville, approximately four miles north of the coal-fired Duke Energy plant in Arden. The pollution from the Duke plant, particularly of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and the storage of coal ash at the plant, is of major concern to us. We are worried about our own health, the health of our children, and the health of our neighbors. Our neighborhood has approximately 170 homes, including many families with babies and school-aged children as well as many older adults. Similar residential communities, including Forest Lake and Park Avenue, and Givens Estates, a large retirement community, are also nearby.

A recent expert report commissioned by the Sierra Club (*Analysis of Scrubber Operation Duke Energy – Asheville Power Plant*, Feb. 16, 2015) showed that air models project SO₂ emissions of more than three times the EPA limit in the Ballantree neighborhood and surrounding residential areas. These emissions could be particularly dangerous for young children and older adults living in our community.

The current draft permit would allow Duke to continue meeting the same emissions standards that it has for years. Issuing the permit in its current form would jeopardize the health of local residents and completely miss an opportunity to make meaningful progress on local air quality standards.

We ask that the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency impose the following two conditions on any renewal permit issued to Duke Energy:

- (1) **Set a clear, strict numeric emission limit on SO₂.** A more reasonable limit of 61.7 lb/hr for each coal-burning unit could be achieved through a combination of full implementation of existing

pollution control equipment at the plant and burning cleaner coal.

- (2) Require Duke Energy to install air monitoring equipment in the areas shown to be at high risk in the expert report as well as the school complex near the plant.**


The February 2015 expert report projects that residential communities could be affected by the downwind pollution from the plant due to SO₂ exposure. Duke should be required to install equipment that would monitor average SO₂ air levels in the areas highlighted in that model, such as Ballantree, to determine whether emissions limits are being violated on a regular basis.

In addition, Duke should be required to install air monitoring equipment in a convenient location on the school complex off of Long Shoals Road. There are four Buncombe County public schools located across the street from the coal-fired plant: William W. Estes Elementary, C.T. Koontz Intermediate, Valley Springs Middle and T.C. Roberson High. Over 3,000 children attend these schools every day and breathe the emissions and any particulate matter coming from the plant.

Duke should be required to submit these results on a quarterly basis to the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency and allow periodic inspections of the equipment by a neutral third party.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit and for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Anne & Vijay Kapoor
8 Braddock Way
Asheville, NC 28803

Alex & Lynn Schneider
35 Ballantree Drive
Asheville, NC 28803

Al & Cathy Nichols
31 Braddock Way
Asheville, NC 28803

Richard Hudspeth, M.D.
8 Elmwood Lane
Asheville, NC 28803

Dorothy & Matthew Manning
11 Gardenwood Drive
Asheville, NC 28803

✓
25B Trillium Ct.

Asheville, NC 28805

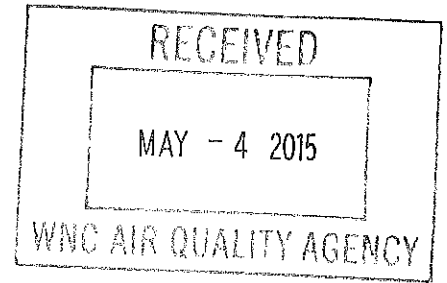
April 29, 2015

Brett Louin

Director, Air Quality Board

49 Mt. Carmel Rd.

Asheville, NC. 28806



Dear Mr. Louin:

It has been brought to my attention that, in spite of evidence that Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant has been emitting extremely high levels of harmful sulfur dioxide, much higher than levels considered safe by EPA, that the Air Quality Board has released a draft permitting allowing these high levels of pollution. This is unconscionable.

I therefore ask the WNC Regional Air Quality Board to revise the SO₂ emission limit in the coal plant's new air permit to adhere to National Health-Based Standards.

Sincerely,

Joye Furkenholz



✓
City of Asheville
Office of the Mayor

P.O. Box 7148
• Asheville, NC 28802

Office: 828-259-5600
www.ashevillenc.gov

April 29, 2015

Chairman Britt Lovin
WNC Regional Air Quality Board
49 Mount Carmel Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Delivered via email to betsy.brown@buncombecounty.org

Dear Chairman Lovin,

On behalf of the Asheville City Council, I am writing to express concern about the draft Title V air permit recently issued by the Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency (WNCRAQA) for Duke Energy's Asheville Steam Electric Plant. Specifically, Council is concerned that the suggested permit limit for sulfur dioxide (SO₂) is insufficient to protect city and county residents from harmful air pollution, and we ask that you strengthen that limit to ensure our residents can breathe healthy air.

As you know, even short-term exposure to SO₂ is linked with an array of adverse respiratory effects, including bronchoconstriction and increased asthma symptoms. Elevated concentrations of SO₂ in the air leads to more emergency room visits and hospital admissions, particularly for children, the elderly, and people with asthma.

According to a recent report that uses a model approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for tracking SO₂ pollution, emissions from the Asheville plant have been causing violations of the ambient air quality standard for SO₂ established by EPA. Indeed, the report states that the pollution in residential and recreational areas is at concentrations up to 3.5 times higher than levels EPA has determined to be safe. These exceedances have occurred approximately one out of every three to four days since 2010.

I am concerned that the newly released draft air permit maintains the same SO₂ emissions limit that the plant has had for years. This limit is nearly 80 times higher than the limit necessary to attain EPA's public health-based SO₂ standard, and we believe it is insufficient to protect our community from the impacts of air pollution.

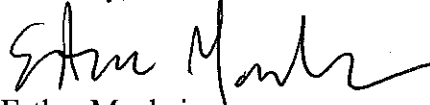
The final Title V permit should contain limits that allow ambient air in the Asheville area to meet EPA's standard. We understand that limit to be no more than 61.7 lb/hr of SO₂ for each coal-burning unit, or a plant-wide average of 0.029 lb/MMBtu. We also understand that these

"our quality of service, your quality of life"

levels are achievable if the plant's air pollution controls are run at full efficiency, as they were when they were first installed, or if the plant stops using high sulfur content coal.

Part of our job as elected officials is to ensure the safety of our community. There seems to be a clear path to addressing this problem and ensuring healthy air for our residents, and the first step on that path is for the plant's air permit to contain appropriate SO₂ limits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Esther Manheimer", written in a cursive style.

Esther Manheimer
Mayor

RECEIVED

MAY - 7 2015

4/14/15

To whom it may concern,

According to the EPA, even short-term sulfur dioxide (SO_2) are linked with an array of adverse respiratory effects, including bronchoconstriction & increased asthma symptoms. Elevated concentrations of SO_2 in the air leads to more emergency room visits & hospital admissions, particularly for children, the elderly, & people with asthma. New evidence shows that operations at Duke Energy's Ashewille coal plant have been causing SO_2 pollution at concentrations up to 3.5 times higher than what the EPA has determined to be safe in neighborhoods downwind of the plant.

The EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards for sulfur dioxide are designed to protect public health, but the draft permit does not ensure that emissions from the Ashewille coal plant will not cause exceedances of those standards. In fact, the numeric emission limit for SO_2 included in the draft permit currently proposed by the Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency (WNC RAQA) is nearly 80 times higher than the limit necessary to attain the EPA's health-based air quality standard. This is unacceptable, especially considering that a coal plant without any air pollution controls could easily meet the limits set forth in this permit for sulfur dioxide pollution.

This is woefully inadequate & cannot guarantee the protection of the health & welfare of surrounding communities. I ask that you & your fellow WNC RAQA board members update the draft permit to be in alignment with the levels of SO_2 found safe by the EPA & to adopt a numeric emission limit of 61.7 pounds per hour for each coal-burning unit or 0.029 lb/MMBtu for the plant.

Setting a clear, strict numeric emission limit is the only way to protect the surrounding communities

2005 7-14 AM

from the harmful SO₂ pollution from Duke Energy's
Asheville coal plant.

Sincerely,

Hannah Wood
UNCA Box 8149
2500 University Heights
Asheville, NC, 28804
(919) 448-4095
hwood1@unca.edu



AFFILIATED CONSULTANTS, ENGINEERS
15 HI VIEW DR BLACK MOUNTAIN NC 28711
Mobile: 828/280/8194 all@aconsltingengineer.com
Founded 1974 www.aconsltingengineer.com

TO: Air Quality Board Hearing 29 April 15 on SO2 Air Pollution in WNC

LOVE CREATION

I am Phil Bisesi, PE speaking from an integrative viewpoint as a

Science based engineer – member of the Association of Energy Engineers

Ecumenical person of faith – Member of the Creation Care Alliance of WNC

Social Justice Advocate – Member of Physicians for Social Responsibility - registered Independent

I speak for all of Creation

People who can not speak for themselves

The trees and the crops

The Birds and Bees

The fish and the farm animals

The pets, the children, and the elders

CLEAN AIR AND WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT GUARANTEED BY THE NC CONSTITUTION

I hope to change attitudes and policies from exploit to LOVE CREATION

The natural world follows everlasting laws. We must learn from nature and be guided by observing all of creation.

The earth receives abundant energy from the SUN. Harvest it; do not fight it.

Nature does not waste. All religions espouse using the gifts of nature wisely and not wasting.

All of us, by loving Creation, can change our lives and improve our health.

The Union of Concerned Scientists reports that the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water act, and resulting policies have a 40 year proven track record of cutting pollution and preventing about 1 million premature deaths and hundreds of millions of cases of respiratory and other pollution caused disease. These regulations have spurred development. Industries adopted innovative solutions to reduce pollution, improve the economy and generate millions of meaningful US jobs. UCS also reports that global warming results in extreme weather events, threatens health and wellness, and wastes our resources. The human tragedy is unacceptable.

Good science and engineering, guided by a love of nature and society wide total economics and living by basic principles and ethics, not just doing the minimum that the law requires, will improve lives; that's a BIG PAYBACK.

My hope is that all of us will stop dualistic thinking, start reasoning and dialoging to promote holistic thinking. We then will obey the laws of nature, stop polluting and wasting, and get back to effective healthy living; all because we LOVE CREATION.

April 29, 2015

Duke Energy -

2,21

Please lower the SO_2 limits
to EPA standards or lower.

Please also consider transitioning
to a healthier energy production
like solar energy.

Stop polluting the air that
we breathe and the water
that we drink.

Do the right thing.

Thank you,

Audrey Miller
81 Shope Creek Rd.
Asheville, NC 28805

✓
2

Dear Air Quality Board,

We share the same community, grocery store, ball field and green spaces. We also share our air with dangerous toxins that need to be more strictly regulated. Please do what is right for our community and tighten SO_2 limits from the Duke Energy power plant.



ANTHONY EDWARDS
Buncombe Co.

2, 21, 22

4-29-15

Dear Betsy Brown,

I have attended the Air Quality public hearing and agree with the majority of the speakers in the room. Our air is important to all citizens and creatures in supporting life and as a citizen of Asheville, I would like stronger regulations to reduce sulfur dioxide pollution. The EPA standard of 61.7 lbs. per hour SO_2 per generating unit should be applied to the Duke Progress plant in our community. I also think that Duke should post their emission data as a part of increasing accountability. Please make future recommendations

to Duke / Progress to
incorporate more renewable
options in their portfolio
so that emissions can
be reduced further.
Thank you.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Hon

Asheville, NC 28805

PLEASE APPLY ✓
THE STRICTEST
STANDARD TO
DUKE ENERGY!

— Steve

Rasmussen
a Dixie
Newman

~~INTERCOM~~

Limit Sulfur dioxide
emissions. Spirit of
Clean Air Act. Go Richard
Nixon!

Daniel Short
179 Chunns Cove
Asheville, NC

✓ 12.23
Our public representatives
need to start representing
the People - their health
and safety and stop
being bought off by
a corporate monopoly
(duke) which undermines
our democracy, our
environment and our
health! No Permit!

Anne Craig
132 Murdock Ave
Asheville NC
28801

✓ 2,21
Do the right thing

If the state wants
to continue to use
Duke coal to supply
electricity for our
communities.... do
it correctly - enforce
EPA regulations

AND

support renewable
energy

Don't Let Duke off the Hook

Comment:

The Air Quality Board
must protect the
air of WNC from
Duke ENERGIES
ACTIONS.

✓
3,11,24

To: WNC Regional Air Quality Agency

From: John Diefenbach
1975 NC Hwy 9
Black Mountain, NC 28711



Date: April 29, 2015

Subject: Air Quality Permit (Duke Power) Title V

I am asking you to revise the current draft for the Asheville Coal Plant Title V, air pollution permit to include specific numeric emissions limits for SO₂ that reflects Federal Standards. My request of you is to allow a maximum of 61.7 pounds per hour of each coal burning unit, equating to a plant-wide SO₂ limit of .029 pounds per 1 million BTU's.

After reviewing the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency's minimum health-based standards dated Nov. 14, 2011, I question your legal authority to supersede and lesser the existing Federal minimum standards, however you do have the legal authority to apply reasonable stricter standards. 2

There is no apparent reason for the limit to be so high.

April 29, 2015

Public Meeting re **Asheville Steam Electric Plant, Title V Permit**

I am speaking out tonight concerning the draft air quality permit currently under consideration for Duke Energy's Asheville coal-powered electric plant located at Long Shoals.

I understand that this draft permit will allow the release of sulfur dioxide and other toxic chemicals into the atmosphere at an unprecedented high level, far exceeding the limits established by the federal Environmental Protection Agency as "acceptable" for public safety. In managing the plant so as to reduce expenses, Duke Energy has already been in violation of EPA standards since 2010 and now intends to inflict even more egregious pollution on area residents and the local environment.

I moved back to my native state of North Carolina about a year and a half ago, with the goal of savoring the beauty of Western North Carolina, including its clean air. I live in a LEED Silver Certified "green" home, heated by solar collectors, so I "walk my talk" when it comes to energy conservation and concern for the environment. Duke Energy decision-makers and local air quality enforcers need to show the same kind of concern.

Duke Energy, as a mega-corporation, now wields immense clout in political and governmental arenas. It is completely unacceptable that Duke Energy be allowed to continue its lax practices, already in violation of EPA standards, which result in serious negative health consequences for many of us living in the shadow of its electric plant. It is even less acceptable to contemplate that drastically less, not more, stringent regulations may soon be in place. The role of the Regional Air Quality Agency is to ensure clean air for citizens of Western North Carolina, not bow to the exigencies of big business at the expense of public health.

I urge you at the WNCRAQA Board to re-think their priorities and provide guidelines that oblige Duke Energy to meet EPA health-based standards, **by revising the SO₂ emission limit to a plant-wide average of 0.029 lb/MMBtu.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Anne deBuys
16 Sevan Court
Asheville, NC 28806



✓
2, 3, 4
spoke

April 29, 2015

Betsy Brown, Air Quality Supervisor
Britt Lovin, Chair
WNC Regional Air Quality Agency
49 Mt Carmel Rd
Asheville, N.C. 28806

My name is Laura Wenzel. I am with Medical Advocates for Healthy Air, a program of Clean Air Carolina. We oppose the proposed Title V permit for the Duke Energy Progress, Inc. - Asheville Steam Electric Plant located at 200 CP&L Drive in Arden, North Carolina because of sulfur dioxide's effect on North Carolinian's health.

Take a deep breath. It should feel good. The ability to take a deep breath is something so normal that many of us take it for granted. Deep breathing relieves stress, lowers blood pressure and increases energy. It is a gift – one we should do everything possible to protect.

Sulfur dioxide annihilates that freedom to take a deep breath. It makes us choke and wheeze. It tightens our chest. It fills our lungs with fluid. It makes our eyes hurt and our nose and throat and skin burn. In addition to being a noxious gas on its own, sulfur dioxide carries fine particles deep into our lungs, at levels beyond any possible treatment.

Short-term exposures to high levels of sulfur dioxide can kill us. Long-term exposure to persistent levels of sulfur dioxide can destroy our lungs and intensify heart disease, according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. The EPA cites studies showing that for people with asthma, even low levels can trigger attacks and scrambles to the emergency room, making it impossible to exercise outdoors and enjoy our mountains.

Because sulfur dioxide is so toxic, our government carefully regulates how much is allowed to be emitted into our air. Duke Energy has regularly and severely violated these rules at its Asheville plant over several years. The study of emissions from 2011 through 2013 by Air Resource Specialists

(<https://docs.google.com/a/cleanaircarolina.org/file/d/0Bw7481zyeacqT1RUMkdRQzN>)

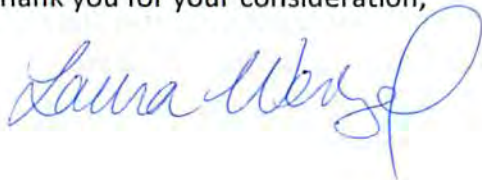
NanM/edit) found that this plant broke these rules nearly 75% of the time, polluting the community's air with concentrations of sulfur dioxide at as much as 3 and a half times over the legal limit.

The Air Quality Agency's mission is to safeguard public health and the environment, while preserving the quality of life and economic vitality of the area. The new permit under consideration would allow the limit of sulfur dioxide emissions to be nearly 80 times higher than what is necessary to attain the EPA standard designed to protect our health. It unequivocally fails to protect our health, degrades our quality of life and threatens our long-term economic vitality.

The American Lung Association finds that nearly 20,000 children and adults in Buncombe County already suffer from asthma and have difficulty taking a deep breath. Increased sulfur dioxide emissions could make this number even larger. This not only degrades the quality of life for individuals, it sabotages our economy by increasing absences from school and work.

We must guard against allowing the siren song of a fleeting profit to hijack our heritage of fresh, pure mountain air. As medical and public health professionals, Medical Advocates for Healthy Air urges the agency to revise the current draft Asheville coal plant Title V air pollution permit to limit SO₂ emissions to the federal minimum standards 61.7 pounds per hour for each coalburning unit, equating to a plant-wide SO₂ limit of .029 pounds per one million British Thermal Units (BTU's) -- the standard necessary to ensure our ability to take a deep breath.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Meyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

12.3.14

Laura Wenzel
Medical Advocate for Healthy Air

Duke Energy's Asheville Coal Power Plant must meet health standards

"Short-term exposures to high levels of sulfur dioxide can kill us. Long-term exposure to persistent levels of sulfur dioxide can destroy our lungs and intensify heart disease. The EPA cites studies showing that for people with asthma, even low levels can trigger attacks.

Air Resource Specialists' study of emissions from 2011 through 2013 found that Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant broke the EPA rules on sulfur dioxide emissions nearly 75% of the time, polluting the community's air with concentrations of sulfur dioxide at as much as 3 and a half times over the legal limit.

The Air Quality Agency's mission is to safeguard public health and the environment, while preserving the quality of life and economic vitality of the area. The new permit under consideration would allow the limit of sulfur dioxide emissions from Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant to be nearly 80 times higher than what is necessary to attain the EPA standard designed to protect our health. It unequivocally fails to protect our health, degrades our quality of life and threatens our long-term economic vitality.

I urge the agency to require Duke Energy's Asheville coal plant to limit SO2 emissions to .029 lb/mmBTU, the limit determined to be safe by the EPA."

First Name	Last Name	Email	Zip	State	Organization	Date
Fred & Alice	Stanback Jr.	stanback@aol.com	28144	NC		4/27/2015 15:35
William	Blackley MD	wblackley@gmail.com	28621	NC	self	4/27/2015 15:49
Aaron	Levy, MD	aaron.levy@carolinashhealthcare.org	28203		Resident Physician	4/27/2015 16:34
Jennifer	Mullendore, MD, MSPH	jmulendore@hotmail.com	28801	NC	Buncombe County Health Center	4/27/2015 17:21
Libby & Dave	Cable	libbycable13@gmail.com	28036	NC	Clean Air Carolina	4/27/2015 17:28
Kim	Gaetz	kim_gaetz@unc.edu	27607		Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center	4/27/2015 20:11
Janis	Hammett	janis_hammett@yahoo.com	27403	NC		4/27/2015 21:05
Lisa	Johnson	lcjohnso@vidanthealth.com	28504	NC	Vidant Medical Center	4/28/2015 7:45
James	Kenny	jshomecoming@suddenlink.net	27858	NC	MAHA	4/28/2015 8:32
Jane and John	Pasquini	jjPasquini@aol.com	28207	NC	Presbyterian Hospital Charlotte NC	4/28/2015 8:41
Jonathan	Korch	jonathan_korch@unc.edu	27599		Gillings School of Global Public Health	4/28/2015 10:17
Frank	Bronander, RN	frank.bronander@carolinashhealthcare.org	28203		CMC/Main OR	4/28/2015 12:38
Karen	Mosteller	kenmosteller@gmail.com	28461	NC		
Mackenzie	Purser	macpurser@yahoo.com	28201	NC		

✓ 2

Testimony, WNC Regional Air Quality Agency, public hearing

April 29, 2015

I am Mahan Siler, a retired Baptist pastor. Thank you for listening.

My comments are brief and simple. One, obvious lest we forget, clean air is non-negotiable for all that lives, including us humans. It is a gift, not a commodity we can modify or manipulate for short term gain. Our responsibility, your responsibility is to protect it, treasure it, and strive for its purity.

My second comment. I urge you to place this question at the center of your decision-making: who suffers from your action? Who benefits? I am eighty, Whatever you decide will not likely have much impact on my life. But I am not here speaking for myself. I am speaking for my grandchildren, for their children and children's children. I am speaking for your grandchildren, their children and children's children. They cannot speak for themselves. I am their voice. You are their voice. Your action must benefit them. Our legacy to them must be clean air, cleaner than we now have, not less.

I urge you to revise the current draft Asheville coal plant Title V pollution permit to include emission limit for SO₂ that reflects federal ^{health} ~~minimum~~ standards. Thank you.

Duke Energy has operated their flue gas desulfurization units or "scrubbers" at less than 100% efficiency for over 4 years (as low as 75%), and that they have been burning higher sulfur coal – both of which have resulted in sulfur dioxide emissions of up to 3.5 times the safe limit set by the EPA. Sulfur dioxide emissions are a major source of health damage, and are the primary source of acid rain and regional haze. Although the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency Board has been apprised of Duke's procedures and their potential health impacts for months, the current draft Title V Permit for Duke Energy does not reflect adequate sulfur dioxide emission limits – limits that would require Duke Energy to operate within the EPA's safe standard for Sulfur Dioxide. 16

The 2014 Annual Report of the WNC Regional Air Quality Agency states that "the mission of the agency is to monitor and regulate the air quality of the City of Asheville and Buncombe County to **safeguard public health** and the environment, while preserving the quality of life and economic vitality of the area. The Agency is responsible for implementing and enforcing the provisions of the federal Clean Air Act and all additional state and local air quality regulations in Buncombe County."

Given the Agency's mission, the fact that it has the responsibility of implementing and enforcing the provisions of the Federal Clean Air Act, and the fact that it is the authority which regulates the Title V Permits, it is the responsibility of the Agency to safeguard public health and uphold the Clean Air Act regulations by implementing safe sulfur dioxide emissions limits in their Title V Permits - as the cause and effect of the emissions cannot be separated. I am therefore respectfully requesting that the Agency revise the current draft Asheville Coal Plant Title V Air Pollution Permit to include a numeric emission limit for sulfur dioxide that reflects the federal minimum standards and ensures the protection of public health; specifically, a limit of 61.7 pounds per hour for each coal-burning unit, equating to a plant-wide SO₂ limit of .029 pounds per one million British Thermal Units (BTU's).

I am requesting the Agency take this action, not only because it is within the Agency's power and mission, but because Duke Energy has already demonstrated that it will not self-regulate to protect public health, and has routinely put profit above the welfare of North Carolinians. The only reasons for Duke Energy to use its current unsafe methods are:

- A. To cut operating costs; and
- B. Because they can under their current Title V Permit.

Let's not allow them to continue to pollute Buncombe County's air – our families deserve clean air! Duke Energy has the equipment to operate within the safe standards – equipment that we've already paid for. I find it hard to believe that they say it costs too much to operate that equipment, as they made a net profit of approximately 1.8 billion last year. As I see it those profits were stolen from the people of NC. We've already paid for the equipment, why should we pay again for the pollution while Duke Energy brings in billions? Doing what is necessary to protect the health and wellbeing of the people of NC while providing their service is the cost of doing business in NC – and if Duke Energy doesn't feel the same way - then they shouldn't be allowed to operate in our state. That is why it is imperative that the Agency set the permit regulations to protect the people.

Respectfully,



Sabrina DiCarlo
Asheville Resident

References:

<http://www.buncombecounty.org/common/WncAir/documents/reports/Annual/2014-summary-report.pdf>

<http://elawreview.org/articles/volume-43/issue-43-4/state-environmental-policy-innovations-north-carolinas-clean-smokestacks-act/>

<http://content.sierraclub.org/coal/north-carolina/asheville/new-report-toxic-pollution>

<http://www.duke-energy.com/pdfs/Annual-Report-2014.pdf>

✓
3/23/24

**Testimony – Richard Fireman, M.D.
SO₂ Hearing WNC AIR QUALITY BOARD
APRIL 29, 2015**

I am a retired physician. I practiced Emergency Medicine for over 30 years, so I have seen the effects of bad air on the health of children and adults. I guarantee that you don't want to experience the terrible air hunger that these people experience when breathing toxic air.

I was born and raised in Pittsburgh when it was known as the Smoky City. In 1946, when I was 3, Mayor David Lawrence said, "I am convinced that our people want clean air. There is no other single thing which will so dramatically improve the appearance, the health, the pride, the spirit of the city." By 1954, Pittsburgh's air was 90 percent cleaner.

Lawrence's vision was that of a committed citizen, like you on the Board, who have volunteered to serve your community and who love this land, this city, and want the best for those living here

I settled in North Carolina because these old mountains felt like home, and want in ensure, as best I can, that they remain beautiful and healthy for those who chose to live here.

I was surprised and dismayed then to read the first draft to the new permit that you have proposed, which had the same values for SO₂ as the prior permit. The amount of SO₂ emissions allowed under the new permit, if passed, will not ensure that ambient air concentrations of SO₂ pollution will meet the EPA health standards of 75ppb established in 2010.

Now I understand that Asheville/Buncombe County area is an area in which the EPA has not issued an official designation because there are no air monitors here, nor official guidelines for air modeling.

But we can't wait till 2022, when the EPA will rule on final state attainment plans.

Let's be clear. You have the authority to write a strong permit, so that when the state and EPA determine how North Carolina will model or monitor SO₂ levels, we will meet the 75ppb 1-hour health standard.

How do I know that you have this authority, because your agency was established by the General Assembly, which gets its authority from the North Carolina Constitution?

Section 2 reads:

All political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole.

Please look around you at these people. People who, like the courageous David Lawrence, believe that "...our people want clean air..." You, the Board, have the opportunity to be part of "*the government of right*".

Your neighbors in this auditorium are telling you exercise your **authority** and **responsibility** to write the strongest rule possible, with **numeric values for SO₂ emissions low enough**, so that when air quality modeling or monitors come to Asheville/Buncombe County in 2023, we will be in compliance with their guidelines for healthy air, and as few people as possible will have suffered from SO₂ toxicity in the intervening years.

✓ 2
Cp 12

**Air Quality Board Permit Hearing
April 29, 2015**

My name is Scott Hardin-Nieri, I am a father, husband, Director of Creation Care Alliance of Western North Carolina, a Pastor with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a member of the human family and all of creation. I am here to share my hopes that the Air Quality Board will lower the permitted SO₂ emitted by the Duke Asheville Coal plant to be within what the EPA deems as healthy limits.

(Specifically revise the Title V air pollution permit to include a numeric emission limit for SO₂ that reflects the federal minimum standards. Please place a limit of 61.7 pounds per hour for each coal- burning unit, equating to a plant-wide SO₂ limit of .029 pounds per one million British Thermal Units (BTU's).)

My young children, wife and I recently arrived to Asheville and as we tried to get to know our new home, we discovered the creeks and paths in the Bent Creek area. My children splashed in the creek, we skipped among the beautiful trees and walked along the winding paths. In a time of great transition and grief, we connected more deeply with one another and were able find some healing and joy in the ripples of the water, the light breeze and deep green of leaves that waved around us.

**Our family was somehow welcomed.
For us Bent Creek became Sacred Ground.**

It is this kind of hospitality of connection, healing, compassion, justice and joy that is found so often in the sacred texts of my spiritual tradition. The hospitality of caring for the sick, welcoming the stranger and feeding the hungry were not only nice things to do but indicated the very presence of God. As a Christian, I am invited to embody the hospitality of a loving God everywhere I go.

And so tonight I speak on behalf of a deep hospitality. A hospitality that has been spoken of for generations. An ancient hospitality. A hospitality that is desperately needed in our world.

A Great Big Welcome to clean air. For the people who live, work and play in this community and for the creatures great and small.

This is an important opportunity for your board to partner with this community and Duke Energy to create a more hospitable future, not only for the kids splashing in Bent Creek, but for the hills of Western North Carolina and our planet.

✓ B
I urge the Air
Quality Board to
adopt the most
stringent air quality
standards to insure
us clean air to breathe.

The current proposals
are way too weak