



NEWS RELEASE

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The North Carolina Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Public Meeting: Civil Rights and Environmental Justice in North Carolina

Atlanta, GA – The North Carolina Advisory Committee to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a series of panel discussions to examine the adverse impact of coal ash on communities of color in North Carolina. The meeting will take place on April 7, 2016 at the 106 5th Street, Walnut Cove, North Carolina from 9:00 am. to 5:15 pm EDT. The complete agenda is listed below. This meeting is open to the public, and parking is available. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations should contact the Southern Regional office prior to the meeting to make appropriate arrangements.

The Committee will hear testimony from diverse stakeholders in the state. Members of the public will be invited to speak during the open comments session, scheduled to take place from 11:30 to 11:50 EDT and 4:00 to 5:00 pm EDT. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to jhinton@usccr.gov by May 6, 2016.

Commission Chairman Martin Castro stated, “Our North Carolina State Advisory Committee's decision to take on the issue of environmental justice through the lens of coal ash will support our national project on this topic. The work of the NC SAC will contribute tremendously to our report to the President and Congress,” he said. The North Carolina Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with studying and advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing a federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about the reports and meetings of the Commission and its State Advisory Committees, visit <http://www.usccr.gov>.

Agenda

- I. Introductory Remarks by Chair: 9:00 a.m.**
Ms. Matty Lazo-Chadderton
- II. Panel 1: 9:10 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.**
Rev. Gregory Hairston Rising Star Baptist Church
Sarah Kellogg Appalachian Voices
Tracey Edwards Community Advocate
- Questions from Committee
- III. Break: 10:20 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**
- IV. Panel 2: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.**
Irv Joyner Professor of Law, NCCU, School of Law (NAACP)
Chandra Taylor Southern Environmental Law Center
Tom Reeder NC Department of Environmental Quality
- Questions from Committee
- V. Open Comments Period AM: 11:30 – 11:50**
- VI. Lunch: 11:50 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.**
- VII. Panel 3: 1:20p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**
Marie Garlock Breast Cancer Action
Peter Harrison Waterkeeper Alliance
Will Scott Yadkin Riverkeeper
Dr. Rebecca Fry Associate Professor at UNC
- Questions from Committee
- VIII. Break: 2:30p.m. – 2:40 p.m.**
- IX. Panel 4: 2:40 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
Mark D. McIntire Duke Energy
Amy Adams Appalachian Voices NC Campaign Coordinator
Lisa Evans Earth Justice
- Questions from Committee
- X. Open Comments Period: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**
- XI. Adjourn Briefing – 5:15 p.m.**