



**RESOLUTION TITLE: GASTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COMPLETE EXCAVATION OF
THE UNLINED COAL ASH BASIN AT ALLEN STEAM PLANT**

WHEREAS, the NC Department of Environmental Quality held a series of information sessions for the public to learn about options for closing coal ash impoundments; and,

WHEREAS, the NC Department of Environmental Quality solicited public comments about the three methods identified by Duke Energy for closure at Allen Steam Plant including Closure-In-Place, Closure-By-Removal (to an on-site landfill) and Hybrid Closure (a plan including Closure-In-Place and Closure-By-Removal); and,

WHEREAS, the public's health and well-being is of critical concern and essential to a healthy, prosperous environment for our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to a court order and settlement agreement when 39,000 tons of coal ash were released into the Dan River, Duke Energy was required to excavate all of the coal ash from eight of its coal ash sites across North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, the Allen Steam Plant is located in the South Point Township, on Lake Wylie in Gaston County is one of six sites where Duke Energy is proposing to leave its coal ash alongside a river or lake; and,

WHEREAS, there are 19 million tons of coal ash in the unlined basin at Allen Steam Plant where Duke Energy is balancing the risk of keeping coal ash onsite with the cost of excavation; and,

WHEREAS, the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources, Land Quality Section rated the Allen Steam Plant's ash basin dam as "High Hazard Potential" in a Notice of Inspection with recommendations for maintenance improvements issued March 11, 2014 to Duke Energy; and,

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is requiring Dominion Energy to excavate all the coal ash from its unlined waterfront lagoons, and the State of South Carolina requires the excavation of all unlined, utility-owned riverfront coal ash lagoons - including Duke Energy lagoons.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby request Governor Cooper and the General Assembly to take action to require Duke Energy to excavate the coal ash from the unlined basin at Allen Steam Plant for off-site removal by rail car to a lined, hazardous waste landfill away from Lake Wylie.

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:
