

North Carolina General Assembly

Senator Graig Meyer 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1121 Raleigh, NC 27601-1096 919 733-5804

Graig.Meyer@ncleg.gov

December 4, 2024

Mary Penny Kelley Secretary North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality 217 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms. Kelley:

As a member of the North Carolina General Assembly, representing Orange County in NC Senate District 23 I appreciate that DAQ will be holding a public hearing regarding the University of North Carolina's Minor NSR Permit Application (Application #) for the approval to combust a new engineered pelletized fuel.

However, it has come to my attention that the hearing is scheduled to take place on January 16, 2025, at Orange High School in Hillsborough.

I would ask that you find an alternative site in closer proximity to UNC's main campus. Orange High School is more than fifteen miles away from UNC's main campus and very difficult to access via public transportation. Holding the public hearing that far away from the UNC's student body as well as the Chapel Hill and Carrboro residents who live in closest proximity to UNC's co-generation facility will limit community participation.

I respectfully request that you change the venue to a location on or near UNC's main campus to better accommodate the citizens who will be most impacted by this permit application.

It is also worth noting that UNC classes end this week, and students aren't expected to return until January 8, 2025, which allows for a very small window in which they can submit public comments. I would also respectfully request that the comment period be extended by two weeks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Graig Meyer

GM/dbq

cc (via email): Michael Abraczinskas, Director DAQ