



# Preserve Rural Orange.org

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February 2, 2010

Secretary Dee Freeman  
North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
512 North Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604

Dear Mr. Freeman,

We are writing with regard to illegal animal wastewater discharges at the UNC Research Resource Facility in Orange County, resulting in a Notice of Violation issued by the Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section on December 18, 2009. We are particularly concerned that there were significant delays in reporting and stopping the leaks.

We, the undersigned, are requesting that you:

1. Investigate a series of illegal discharges and equipment malfunctions occurring at the UNC facility in 2009 and 2010, and the university's failure to report the incidents when they occurred—DENR was not notified in at least two instances until one and two months later, respectively.
2. Revoke the "deemed permitted" status of the UNC facility's animal wastewater system and require the university to apply for a permit to ensure compliance and to protect surface and ground water, the environment and public health.

We look forward to hearing from you, and hope to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the matter.

Sincerely,

Laura Streitfeld, Chair, Preserve Rural Orange  
Elaine Chiosso, Haw Riverkeeper, Haw River Assembly  
Hope Taylor, Executive Director, Clean Water for North Carolina  
Myra Markham Dotson, Chair, Sewage Sludge Action Network chapter of Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League