TOWN OF MOORESVILLE Wastewater Expansion Analysis



Where is the Town of Mooresville?

The Town of Mooresville is located in Iredell County, North Carolina immediately north of Mecklenburg County and Charlotte, along I-77. It has a current population of about 54,000 people. The Town is located along the ridgeline between the Catawba and Yadkin-Pee Dee River basins.

Where does the Town of Mooresville receive its water supply?

The Town has a water supply intake in Lake Norman and has historically received its water supply from the Catawba River Basin – even before Duke Energy impounded Lake Norman in the early 1960s. They have a current treatment and withdrawal capacity of 18 MGD (million gallons per day) and do not need to increase this capacity.

Where does the Town of Mooresville discharge treated wastewater?

Wastewater is treated and discharged to Dye Branch, a tributary to the Rocky River, which eventually flows into the Pee Dee River. The Town currently has a permitted wastewater discharge capacity of 7.5 MGD (max month average day, MMAD).

So the Town of Mooresville has an Interbasin Transfer (IBT) Certificate?

Technically, no. The Town has an approved legacy IBT allowance of 9.54 MGD (max day basis) based on the existing capacity to transfer water when the IBT Statute was first passed in 1993. Because the Town only has a legacy IBT allowance, any resulting certificate under the NC Statute will be treated as a new certificate.



Is the Town of Mooresville growing?

Yes, and to meet future demands the Town needs to begin wastewater treatment capacity expansion within the next five years.

How does the Town of Mooresville intend to acquire this additional capacity?

The Town is exploring multiple alternatives and, while still evaluating other options, is currently focusing on three primary alternatives:

1. Continue Existing Discharge:

Expand capacity at the current wastewater treatment plant and continue discharge to Dye Branch. This would require an IBT Certificate with a total transfer of 12.6 MGD MMAD.

2. Catawba Basin Discharge:

Expand capacity at the current wastewater treatment plant and build a pipeline to discharge a portion of the treated wastewater into Lake Norman in the Catawba River Basin to stay under the legacy IBT allowance.

3. Neighboring Utility:

Divert a portion of untreated wastewater to Charlotte Water's system for treatment at the McDowell Wastewater Treatment Plant, which discharges to a tributary flowing into Mountain Island Lake (Catawba River Basin), allowing the Town to stay under the legacy IBT allowance.

What has the Town of Mooresville completed to date?

The Town and its consultants have been meeting and communicating with NC DEQ staff since May 2023. Because one of the alternatives involves obtaining an IBT certificate, the Town is moving forward within the framework of the IBT requirements. The Town will follow these requirements as well as the requirements of the 2010 Settlement Agreement between SC and NC. The Town and its consultants have also briefed representatives of the SC Department of Environmental Services (DES).

What are the next steps?

Since an IBT Certificate is one of the alternatives under consideration, the Town plans to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for an IBT certificate to the NC Environmental Management Commission (EMC) in late August/early September 2024. Public meetings will be held within 90 days of this submission.

Who will be notified of the public meetings?

The Town of Mooresville and its consultants have been compiling lists of contacts necessary to provide notice of these meetings for NC and SC (in accordance with requirements) in preparation for this process. While not required, the Town also plans to use social media and other means to ensure interested parties are notified to the best of our abilities. The purpose of these meetings is to solicit input on various alternatives since no decision has been made on which alternative to pursue.

Who should I reach out if I have questions?

The Town of Mooresville Water Resources Director – Allison Kraft, PE at 704-799-4066, akraft@mooresvillenc.gov.