



ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services
to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

September 11, 2009

Mayor Kevin Foy
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

**SUBJECT: OWASA BOARD'S RESOLUTION REGARDING COMPLETION OF
THE PHASE III ODOR CONTROL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT THE
MASON FARM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Dear Mayor Foy:

On September 10, 2009, the OWASA Board adopted the attached resolution committing to a completion date for the Phase III Odor Control project no later than 2014.

This resolution follows up on the presentation by Gordon Merklein, OWASA Board Vice Chair, on June 8th regarding the delay in completing the Phase III Odor Control project, which will cover and treat the air from 8 of the 16 aeration basins at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). After Mr. Merklein's presentation and Council's discussion, you suggested that the OWASA Board consider adopting a resolution committing to a completion date for the Phase III project. Mr. Merklein replied that he believed this request was reasonable and that he expected the OWASA Board to consider same.

We appreciate the understanding and patience of our WWTP neighbors and the Town Council as we work hard to complete our odor elimination work in a reasonable period of time while minimizing the rate impact on our customers.

Best regards,

Randy Kabrick, P.E., Chair
Orange Water and Sewer Authority

Attachment

c: Mr. Roger L. Stancil, Chapel Hill Town Manager
OWASA Board of Directors
Ed Kerwin, OWASA Executive Director
Robert Epting, OWASA General Counsel

**RESOLUTION REGARDING COMPLETION OF THE
PHASE III ODOR CONTROL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT THE
MASON FARM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

WHEREAS, in March 2004, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) sought approval of a Special Use Permit (SUP) Modification from the Town of Chapel Hill to allow for an upgrade and expansion of the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); and

WHEREAS, the OWASA Board of Directors adopted, on March 1, 2004, a *Resolution Regarding the Town of Chapel Hill's Special Use Permit for the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant*, which reaffirmed OWASA's goal of no off-site objectionable odors from the WWTP; and

WHEREAS, the SUP Modification approved by the Chapel Hill Town Council on March 1, 2004, included the requirement to eliminate off-site odor from the WWTP to the satisfaction of the Council; and

WHEREAS, in June 2007, OWASA and its WWTP neighbors agreed to a Draft Definition of Odor Elimination which included limits on the annual number of odor complaints, hydrogen sulfide concentrations, and a dilution-to-threshold (D/T) value; and

WHEREAS, OWASA expects to complete by September 2009 the Phase II Odor Control Project, which will cover and treat the air from all three (3) of the primary clarifiers at the WWTP; and

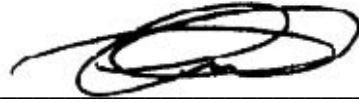
WHEREAS, OWASA's current Five-Year Capital Improvements Budget for Fiscal Years 2010-2014 includes funding of approximately \$3 million for the Phase III Odor Control Project to cover and treat the air from 8 of the 16 aeration basins;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ORANGE WATER AND
SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

1. That the OWASA Board of Directors recognizes that it is bound by the SUP from the Town of Chapel Hill to eliminate off-site odor to the satisfaction of the Town Council.
2. That the OWASA Board of Directors is committed to completing the Phase III Odor Control Project as soon as practical, but no later than calendar year 2014.
3. That the OWASA Board of Directors reaffirms its commitment to be a good neighbor through its odor elimination program, which will include a total capital investment upon completion of the Phase III Project of about \$11.5 million and an annual operating cost of about \$250,000.
4. That OWASA will continue to keep its WWTP neighbors and Town Council informed regarding its odor elimination work.

Orange Water and Sewer Authority
September 10, 2009
Page 2

Adopted this the 10th day of September, 2009.



Randy Kabrick, P.E., Chair

ATTEST:



Braxton Foushee
Secretary