

**AGENDA ITEM:** 14-42 **Request for adoption of the Hearing Officer's Recommendations on proposed Triennial Review amendments to the Surface Water Rules in 15A NCAC 02B .0200.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) is requested to approve proposed amendments to the 15A NCAC 02B .0200 regulations in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act Triennial Review.

On November 19, 2013, NC DENR held a Public Hearing in Raleigh NC to accept comments on potential modifications to 15A NCAC 02B regulations. Steve Tedder, Chairman of the Water Quality Committee of the EMC served as the appointed Hearing Officer. Using the recommendations presented to the EMC by the Hearing Officer on March 13, 2014, DWR proposed revisions to the 15A NCAC 02B regulations and presented them, along with the accompanying fiscal note, to the Water Quality Committee and the full Environmental Management Commission on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, respectively. Permission was granted to proceed to public hearings.

Two public hearings were held. The first on July 15, 2014, 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC, the second on July 16, 2014, 300 South Center Street, Statesville, NC. Approximately 130 people attended the two hearings, with 35 requesting to speak. During the public comment period, approximately 925 written comments were received. A full record of the proceedings and the comments appears in the Hearing Officer's Report of Proceedings.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Following a careful and comprehensive review of all the submitted written and oral comments, supporting data, and attachments to the record, the Hearing Officer recommends that the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission adopt amendments as described in Section VI and rule language as amended in Section VII of the "Report of Proceedings to the Environmental Management Commission on the Proposed Changes to the Surface Water Quality Standards and Classifications Regulations" .