

Resolution



City Council
City of Wilmington
North Carolina

Introduced By: Rebecca L. Hawke, City Manager

Date: 3/24/2026

Resolution to Sign the Cape Fear Council of Government’s Joint Letter to the Environmental Management Commission Identifying Specific Concerns Related to Fuquay-Varina’s Proposed Interbasin Transfer Request

LEGISLATIVE INTENT/PURPOSE:

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, the Town of Fuquay-Varina submitted a Notice of Intent to Request an Interbasin Transfer (“IBT”) requesting an average day transfer of approximately 4 million gallons per day (“MGD”) and a maximum day transfer of 8 MGD from the Cape Fear River basin to the Neuse River basin; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal’s Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”) does not account for any of the 6.17 MGD to be returned from the benefiting Neuse River basin to the impacted Cape Fear River basin; and,

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2025, Wilmington City Council unanimously passed a resolution formally opposing the Town of Fuquay-Varina’s IBT certificate request and draft EIS as submitted and amended; and,

WHEREAS, Wilmington’s 2026 Legislative Agenda includes our intention to “Protect the Cape Fear River as a source of raw water by preventing water removal without appropriate return;” and,

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Council of Governments will be submitting a joint letter on behalf of concerned municipal and county governments in Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, and Pender counties ahead of the April 1 public comment deadline; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Wilmington recognizes the value of regional collaboration in communicating a unified voice about shared challenges.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT, Wilmington City Council agrees to sign on to the Cape Fear Council of Government’s joint letter to the Environmental Management Commission identifying specific concerns related to Fuquay-Varina’s proposed Interbasin Transfer Request.

Adopted at a _____ meeting

On _____ 2026

Attest:

Bill Saffo, Mayor

Approved As To Form:

Penelope Spicer-Sidbury, City Clerk

City Attorney