



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Media Advisory: Chemours Files Appeal of the Final NPDES Permit (NC0090042)**

Chemours regrets that we must file an appeal of the Final NPDES Permit (NC0090042) issued by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources (NCDEQ) dated September 15, 2022, related to the water treatment system for our mile-long barrier wall designed to further reduce PFAS loading from groundwater into the Cape Fear River. Unfortunately, late changes to the permit as issued included future effluent limits that exceed the design basis of the proposed treatment system, giving rise to compliance uncertainty with the permit terms within the timeframe required.

Chemours takes compliance with our permits and the commitments we make seriously; we are unable to agree to permit terms when we are uncertain if such commitments can be met or exceeded. We continue to pursue ambitious timelines to complete and start-up the system to reduce PFAS loading to the river. We are hopeful that we can work with NCDEQ to quickly resolve this matter to continue realizing the significant reductions we have been achieving.

**Background**

For over 15-months, Chemours has worked with the NCDEQ on design of the water treatment system for our mile-long barrier wall that is under construction and submitted its initial permit application for the system in June 2021. Based on the requirements agreed under the Consent Order Addendum with NC DEQ and Cape Fear River Watch, the water treatment system was designed to remove 99% of PFAS compounds associated with the site before the captured, treated water was discharged.

A draft NPDES Permit was prepared on March 15, 2022, by NCDEQ that reflected the Consent Order Addendum and the system's design basis. Additionally, in discussions with NCDEQ Chemours offered to investigate additional voluntary reductions following system start-up, once validated system performance data was available.

Unfortunately, given the timing of the final permit issuance and the new limitations contained in the permit, Chemours is uncertain whether the system design will be able to comply with these new limitations within the timeframe necessary for completion of the barrier wall and treatment system construction required in the Consent Order Addendum.