



QUEEN CITY AGENDA

QUEEN CITY AGENDA

Duke Energy, city: Water quality 'concern' but still safe

Aug 13, 2015, 6:26pm EDT
Updated Aug 14, 2015, 5:49am EDT



Erik Spanberg
Senior Staff Writer
Charlotte Business Journal

Share





Duke Energy added calcium bromide to coal to improve air quality at two area plants,... [more](#)

DUKE ENERGY

The city, county and [Duke Energy discussed concerns over water quality in Charlotte](#) on Thursday even as they proclaimed the supply to be within federal guidelines and declared the water poses no risk to residents. A combination of factors has led to elevated levels of trihalomethanes, or THMs, in eight of the 12 water-sampling stations around town, according to regularly scheduled water tests this month.

A Duke Energy spokeswoman called the utility's use of bromide cleaners at two area coal plants a "triggering event" contributing to the increase in THMs since January 2014. In 2013, Duke started using calcium bromide at [Allen Steam Station in Gaston County](#) and [Marshall](#)

Steam Station in Catawba County to meet federal air-quality rules, including the removal of mercury.

In May of this year, Duke **stopped using bromide as a cleaner**. These effects are unrelated to continuing concerns over the disposal of coal-ash and its impact on drinking water. Last year, a faulty pipe at an abandoned Duke plant on the North Carolina-Virginia state line **resulted in 39,000 tons of polluted water and debris flowing into the Dan River**. To date, **Duke has spent \$120 million on clean-up and fines** stemming from the environmental damage caused by the spill.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Whitley Wood
Gensler



Tonya McEachin
Retail Properties of America, Inc.



Sam Stubbs
Cushman & Wakefield

Earlier on Thursday, the city water department hand-delivered letters to customers and property owners where THMs tested in excess of the federal limit this month. Those sites remain within federal rules because THM levels are calculated on the basis of an average of the last four quarterly measurements. Eighty parts-per-million, or 0.08, is the threshold. None of the 12 sites on the rolling-average criteria exceeds that amount, but, during third-quarter testing this month, eight of the 12 site samples did exceed the 0.08 level. State rules require customers be notified any time samples exceed permissible limits — even when the overall average is in compliance.

Letters delivered Thursday stated that while “multiple water samples are necessary to determine a system’s compliance,” people who drink water “where the allowable limits are exceeded are still susceptible to adverse health effects.” People who drink water with THM levels above the federal limits “may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer,” according to the state-mandate notices issued by the city.

BIZSPACE SPOTLIGHT

SPONSOR LISTING



Property Spotlight: 300 South Tryon

[See All Bizspace Properties](#)

INDUSTRIES [ENVIRONMENT](#) [ENERGY](#)

TOPICS [WEATHER](#) [POLITICS](#) [POLICY](#)

SUGGESTED READING

RETAILING AND RESTAURANTS

SouthPark mall retailer to close

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Vikings sue Wells Fargo over 'photo bomb' rooftop signs near U.S. Bank Stadium

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

New towers coming as market continues to tighten

Here's What Happened When I Tried Dollar Shave Club

Dollar Shave Club

10 Things You Didn't Know About The Andy Griffith Show

Answers

The Richest Person In Every State

Forbes

JOHN STUMPF

Why Wells Fargo CEO John Stumpf wakes up at 4:30 a.m.

RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

Condo owned by musician Chris Daughtry part of Charlotte's top 5 home sales in October

by Taboola

FEATURED EVENT



FEBRUARY 24, 2016 , 5:30PM

Corporate Counsel Awards Dinner

Join the Charlotte Business Journal as we honor the top in-house attorneys and general counsels at corporations and nonprofits in the Charlotte region. Meet the Queen City's legal champions and celebrate their outstanding work at the 5th annual Corporate Counsel Awards Dinner.

Register

[See all Events](#)

LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION

New domestic routes, drop in international traffic at CLT

MANUFACTURING

Former Electrolux CEO delivers damaging testimony in government case against GE deal (PHOTOS)

BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

This Wells Fargo unit ranks among world's richest family offices

16 Things You Never Knew About Robert Duvall

Answers

The Best Credit Cards Of 2016 (6% Cash Back, 18 Month 0% Intro APR...)

LendingTree

Top 10 Cheap All-Inclusive Resorts

TripCurator

RETAILING AND RESTAURANTS

High-end restaurant targeting March opening in uptown Charlotte

EDUCATION

Gov. Nikki Haley keeping a close eye on Charlotte this weekend

by Taboola