



TOWN OF CARRBORO

NORTH CAROLINA

TRANSMITTAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To: Kevin Belanger, Public Works Director
Kristen Benoit, Assistant to Public Works Director

From: Randy Dodd, Stormwater Utility Manager
Heather Holley, Stormwater Specialist

Date: April 11, 2024

Subject: Biodiesel tank at Public Works

The purpose of this memo is to provide information pertaining to the biodiesel fuel tank at Public Works as it relates to the NPDES permit for the facility as well as the sensitivity of the receiving waters in the event of any spill.

The Town has a separate NPDES permit for the Public Works facility, falling under EPA's authority, and administered by the State. The purpose of this permit is to regulate activities to minimize and control the impacts of runoff from the facility on surface waters. With regard to the biodiesel tank, it is included as one of the site features regulated in the permit, with the responsibility remaining with the Town to be prepared for, respond to, and be liable for any release associated with the tanks operation, or natural or other unanticipated disasters or events. In the event that the tank were to be removed, the permit could be revised to recognize the removal and discontinue this regulation, and the associated staff and contractor time involved in monitoring, inspections, and reporting.

There are downstream areas of concern for health, safety, and environmental impact from a potential release of fuel from the above ground biofuel storage tank. Frank Porter Graham Elementary School and a half dozen ecologically significant areas including Mason Farm Biological Reserve and Jordan Lake Reservoir are down stream of the Public Work Facility. The downstream areas are known to contain multiple flora and fauna species of note that are listed by the state, including bald eagles, bobcats, sharp-shinned hawks, four-toes salamanders and ice age relict rhododendron bluffs.