Dear Cape Fear Plant and Brickhaven Mine neighbor,

Duke Energy is committed to permanently and safely closing ash basins at its coal plants, and we've already begun work at three of our Carolinas sites. We recently updated our safe basin closure plans to include excavating coal ash from an additional 12 basins in North Carolina in ways that protect people and the environment. I wanted to update you on this plan and our ash basin closure recommendation for Duke Energy Progress’ Cape Fear Plant and plans for the Brickhaven Mine on Moncure Flatwood Road.

**Overview of safe basin closure plans:** Science and engineering studies tell us we need to excavate these 12 basins, including the five basins at Cape Fear. This brings to 24 the total number of basins in the Carolinas slated for full excavation, with the material recycled into lined structural fills or lined landfills.

While these facilities continue to operate safely, they are not suited for long-term storage of coal ash or will not comply with strict new state and federal regulations. Our recommendations for closure are subject to public input and require approvals from state regulators and North Carolina's Coal Ash Management Commission.

**Closure recommendation for Cape Fear Plant:** After an extensive scientific and engineering study at the Cape Fear Plant, we have determined that the best plan for the site is to excavate ash at the facility and recycle it in a lined structural fill at the Brickhaven Clay Mine. Our studies noted the possible risk of flooding during extreme weather events at the plant site, so excavation is the best option to ensure long-term safe storage of the material.

The transportation method and schedule will be determined in the coming months. Our focus will be on minimizing impact to the community. We will share more information about transportation and other site activities in the weeks ahead to keep you fully informed throughout this process.

**Plans for the Brickhaven Mine:** We plan to store coal ash in a fully lined structural fill at the mine, which will allow the land to potentially be reused for other purposes in the future. In addition to the Cape Fear Plant, our current plans call for ash from the Riverbend Steam Station in Mt. Holly, N.C., and the Sutton Plant in Wilmington, N.C., to be stored at the mine.

Ash will be placed in a series of liners, with the top and bottom impermeable liners being heat-welded to safely contain the ash. The completed structural fill will be covered with soil. This project will meet all state and federal standards for a structural fill, including groundwater monitoring and reporting.

We are committed to updating you and all our neighbors throughout the ash basin closure process. If you would like more information, please visit duke-energy.com/SafeBasinClosure or feel free to email us at CoalAshQuestions@duke-energy.com. If you’d like to discuss the plan with me, please call me at 919.687.3200 or email me at Indira.Everett@duke-energy.com.

Sincerely,

Indira Everett
District Manager