

December 6, 2010

MEMORANDUM for the Northhampton County Board of Supervisors

FROM: William A. Hughes

SUBJECT: Wastewater Treatment System

As a resident of Fairview, Virginia, I am writing to express my personal opinion and concerns regarding the issues surrounding the proposal of a mandated wastewater treatment system for Fairview residents.

For several years Fairview has received and utilized grant monies to rehabilitate and or construct 34 homes, to install 12 new septic systems and 14 wells in Fairview proper. Presently there is a push to get a countywide system with Fairview as a targeted community.

The citizens of Fairview do not want nor can they afford to have this treatment system constructed. We are an elderly community predominantly living on social security, welfare and otherwise fixed incomes. Any additional monthly expenses could very well require securing a second mortgage (which based on the economic conditions of Fairview residents would be problematic) and the very real eventuality of the loss of property. Additionally, many of these properties are headed by single females. Further indication that proceeding in the proposed manner has not been sufficiently researched is identified in the October 28, 2010 Cape Charles Town Hall meeting minutes where the fact that the monthly costs to be imposed on our residents cannot yet be determined.

The idea of groundwater contamination by septic systems in Fairview, while promulgated as a basis for this proposal, has not been proven and in the unlikely event that it would be, less costly environmentally friendly corrective methods such as installation of new septic systems is a more viable solution than that currently proposed. An engineering report, currently on file in Eastville, Virginia, concluded that salt water intrusion is a greater danger than septic.

There is a critical need for Fairview and other communities to have relief from storm water drainage. That relief however, should not put residents at risk in other social economic areas as this current proposal would do.

I request that this memorandum be read into the minutes.

Sincerely,

signed
WILLIAM A. HUGHES

cc: Katherine H. Nunez, County Administrator
Willie Randall, District 1 Supervisor