

# PERSON COUNTY PRIDE

*Person County People Rising In Defense of Ecology*

916 Mann Oakley Road Rougemont, North Carolina 27572

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Person County PRIDE Launches Ad Campaign Against Coal Ash Dumping**

Today Person County PRIDE launched a radio ad campaign to block the dumping of coal ash and contaminated Dan River silt from coming to the Republic Servicesø Upper Piedmont Landfill in Rougemont. Republic plans to bring five million pounds of the toxic mixture from Duke Energyø Eden coal plant spill to Person County. On May 8<sup>th</sup>, the Person County Board of Commissioners and Roxboro City Council will host an informational meeting on coal ash to hear from all sides of the debate.

Pat Hill, Co-chair of PC PRIDE, said, øWe are gravely disappointed in Republic for wanting to accept this dangerous waste. Our ads center on the horror stories in Perry County, Alabama which accepted coal ash from the TVA spill in 2008.ö She continued, øWe also focus on the transfer of liability from Duke to Person County taxpayers for the inevitable cleanup costs.ö

Lou Zeller, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League and an invited speaker to the May 8 meeting, will detail his organizationø findings and alternatives to landfills. His conclusion, øNo community should allow itself to become the industryø coal scuttle.ö

The 30-second radio spots state:

Republic wants to bring Dukeø toxic coal ash to Person County. When coal ash was dumped in a landfill in Perry County, Alabama, it formed poisonous clouds which fell onto porches and cars and into peopleø lungs. Roadsides were

coated with black. This means the contamination of roadsides spanning most of Person County. Hundreds of trucks, millions of pounds of ash, on the roads in our communities. Call Person County commissioners today and tell them the coal ash scheme is just too risky.

Who should be liable for Duke's coal ash spill? Duke, or the people of Person County? In a landfill, all wastes are considered equal. But, compared to soil, coal ash can have twice the mercury, 8 times more lead, and 20 times more arsenic. When the landfill leaks, and they all do, the people and the businesses of Person County will be left holding the bag. Tell Person County commissioners that this liability transfer scheme is just not fair.

Republic wants to bring five million pounds of Duke's coal ash mix to the Person County dump. Five million pounds would be 126 pounds for every man, woman and child in Person County. People living near the landfill and along transport routes would eat, drink and breathe this ash. Call Person County commissioners and say "No" to Duke's toxic ash.

The ads began today on WPTF-AM in Raleigh. Person County PRIDE urges residents to call the commissioners and to turn out to the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, which takes place at 6 PM at the Person County Office Building auditorium at 304 Morgan Street in Roxboro.

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