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WWALS is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit

charity est. June 2012.

WWALS advocates for conservation and stewardship of the surface waters and groundwater of the Suwannee River Basin and Estuary, in south Georgia and north Florida, among them the Withlacoochee, Willacoochee, Alapaha, Little, Santa Fe, and Suwannee River watersheds, through education, awareness, environmental monitoring, and citizen activities.











To: Virginia H. Johns

Board Chair

virginia.johns@srwmd.org

Cc: Hugh Thomas

Executive DIrector

Hugh.Thomas@srwmd.org

Suwannee River Water Management District

Re: Please take Nutrien Water Use Permit off the SRWMD Board Consent Agenda Dear SRWMD,

Staff seem unaware of a recent fish kill on Swift Creek, one of the "offsite discharge locations" cited in the Memorandum on the proposed five-year extension of the Nutrien Water Use Permit 2-047-219878. A fish kill is not a natural system "healthy and functioning well."

That alone should be enough reason to remove that item from the Consent Agenda and to schedule a public hearing on that WUP.

Specifically, on your agenda for Tuesday morning, in this item,

5. Consideration of the following Items Collectively by Consent:

Please remove this one:

 Agenda Item No. 22 - Water Use Permit 219878-7 Nutrien-White Springs, Hamilton County

The corresponding Memorandum on BCS 66 says in its last paragraph:

"District staff inspected the environmental conditions at the mine operation of the offsite discharge locations, Mill Creek, Camp Branch, Swift Creek, Roaring Creek, and Rocky Creek. Staff also inspected reclamation area wetlands. The landcover and natural system appeared healthy and functioning well."

On June 19, a short video of dead fish in Swift Creek was posted on the facebook group, Hamilton County Florida News, Gossip and Ventiing Zone. See still picture attached.

I have corresponded with the person who took that video, Russell Hart. He has publicly confirmed that he took it at the SE 78th Place bridge over Swift Creek, looking southwest into his property. See attached Hamilton County Property Appraiser map.

The attached WWALS map shows Swift Creek running down from the Nutrien mine past that bridge to the Suwannee River.

I don't know how that location fits with the Swift Creek outfall mentioned in the Memorandum, because there were no associated maps or geographical coordinates.

Please hold a public hearing on the Nutrien Water Use Permit 2-047-219878.

For the rivers and the aquifer,

John S. Quarterman

Suwannee Riverkeeper

IL 1. HAZ

229-560-4317

Attachments: Image of dead fish in Swift Creek, Hamilton PA map, WWALS map, And SRWMD Agenda BCS 66 Memorandum.