

From: [lesa cude](#)
To: [David Salvers](#); [Water Permits](#); vojijin.janjic@tn.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Support for Water Authority of Dickson County Permit Application TN0082376
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:29:52 PM

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. *****

My apologies - attachment included now.

Thank you!
Lesa D. Cude

On Thu, May 25, 2023 at 12:24 PM lesa cude <lesacude@gmail.com> wrote:

Good afternoon! Thank you for hearing from the community regarding the Water Authority of Dickson County's discharge permit application TN0082376. My attached letter in support of this much needed facility is attached.

Thank you for your consideration of approval of this project.

Lesa D. Cude
615-430-1293

May 25, 2023

601 Bear Creek Valley Road
Bon Aqua, TN 37055

Commissioner David W. Salyers, PE
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
312 Rosa Parks Blvd
Nashville, TN 37243
Delivery via Electronic Mail

Dear Commissioner Salyers,

As a fourth generation land owner in the southern part of Dickson County, I am writing to express my strong support for permit application #TN0082376 filed by the Water Authority of Dickson County (WADC) to build, own and operate a water-reclamation facility in eastern Hickman County. This water reclamation project is being designed consistent with Clean Water Act and TCA Water Quality regulations as well as TDEC design criteria. WADC has an exceptional compliance history with its three water treatment and two wastewater treatment plants, and it has proven throughout its history to be an outstanding steward of environmental protection. I cannot express in any stronger terms how critical this project is to the future of residential development in Dickson and Hickman counties, and for the availability of affordable housing throughout the Dickson/Hickman/Williamson region.

As Middle Tennessee has continued to experience significant employment and population growth, the demand for housing has grown outside of Davidson County and into bedroom communities in Western Williamson, Dickson and Hickman counties. Adding to the demand for suburban housing is ongoing economic and population expansion in Davidson County, which is pushing population further out into neighboring counties. With a growing concentration of industry around Dickson, creating more housing is critical for maintaining workforce and housing affordability. Without additional sewer capacity, all development around the northernmost stretch of I-840 will be halted. These are among the last undeveloped areas within a 30-minute drive of Nashville's central business district.

As a concrete example, the my family owns 118 acres south of Interstate 40 in Dickson. Eighteen of those acres have high visibility from Interstate 40 and are under consideration for a high density, environmentally responsible, residential project that will be denied approval by WADC for insufficient wastewater treatment capacity. Those limitations make our project and those of numerous Dickson, Hickman, and Williamson Countians impossible to realize.

WADC is approaching capacity of its Jones Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and the collection system that feeds it. As I'm certain you're aware, it is environmentally infeasible to significantly expand the discharge into Jones Creek. I understand the WADC evaluated multiple locations for discharge from a new treatment facility—including the Cumberland River, Harpeth River, Jones Creek, Duck River, Beaverdam Creek and Piney River. The proposed discharge into Lick Creek represents the best combination of environmental protection and practical sewerage for growing communities in Williamson, Hickman, and Dickson Counties.

The proposed water reclamation facility meets federal, state, and local environmental and other regulations. I understand the effluent quality standards mandated for a treatment plant by EPA and TDEC are fully supportive of aquatic life. The WADC indicates sampling of the stream shows that the proposed plant effluent is higher quality water than what is naturally flowing down the stream due to agriculture runoff and livestock feces. The proposed facility is essential to future economic opportunity in Dickson, Hickman, and Western Williamson counties without harming the environment. It seems perhaps, an uninformed, biased campaign has presented the WADC project in a different manner. I urge you to objectively evaluate the environmental, engineering, and economic implications of the proposed water reclamation facility and reconsider the reported intent to deny the WADC facility permit.

If additional information is needed, please contact me at 615-430-1293 or lesacude@gmail.com.

Sincerely,


Lesa Dudley Cude