What Do We Know about GenX?

1) Is our drinking water safe?
   According to a release by the NC Department of Health and Human Services, “There are no U.S. regulatory
guideline levels for GenX. However, as part of the European chemical registration, a two-year chronic toxicity
and cancer study with rats was performed. They reported a Derived No Effect Level of 0.01 mg/kg bw/day.
Based on U.S. risk assessment calculations, this corresponds to a concentration in drinking water of 70,909 ng/L
of GenX—more than 100 times greater than the mean value of 631 ng/L detected in the Cape Fear River. Based
upon these data, the GenX levels detected in 2013-2014 would be expected to pose a low risk to human
health.”

There are several thousand compounds that are not regulated by the EPA. GenX is one of those. We take water
quality very seriously, and with our advanced treatment processes we continue to meet all state and federal
drinking water standards for safety.

2) What do we know about GenX?
   We know that it is unregulated and measured in parts per trillion. According to Dupont Chemours, GenX is a
technology developed to make high-performance polymers used in cabling, cookware non-stick coatings,
laptops, cell phones, and a host of similar applications.

3) With GenX in the Cape Fear River, what action will CFPUA take to ensure the water is safe?
   According to a release by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), “State environmental
regulators will collect water samples” from the Cape Fear River and finished water from both CFPUA treatment
plants and Brunswick and Pender County plants. “These samples will be sent to a laboratory capable of
detecting GenX in water at low concentrations. The laboratory has indicated that the materials the state is
required to use for the water collection and testing should arrive next week. DEQ staff are prepared to mobilize
as soon as the sampling materials arrive from the lab. After meeting with DEQ staff this week, Chemours agreed
to bear all costs for the water collection and testing.”

CFPUA treats its source water above and beyond current state and federal standards, and maintains a robust
sampling and monitoring schedule. We will continue to participate in studies that seek to find new, unregulated
contaminants such as the study that found GenX.

4) What can be done at the treatment plant to remove GenX from the water?
   GenX is an emerging contaminant, and we are unaware of technologies capable of removing this compound
from the water at this time. We will continue to seek out any and all available treatment options, and will
immediately inform the public if we become aware of one.

   CFPUA is calling on Chemours to stop releasing GenX into the Cape Fear River at any level.

5) Can customers put a filter on their tap to remove GenX? What about Reverse Osmosis?
   GenX is an emerging, unregulated compound and we are unaware of technologies capable of removing it from
the water. The Department of Health and Human Services has issued a statement that GenX, at the levels found
in 2013-2014, is expected to pose a low risk to human health.