

**RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY,  
GEORGIA REQUESTING STRICT REGULATION OF COAL COMBUSTION  
RESIDUALS**

**WHEREAS**, Coal Ash stored in unlined wet ponds across the United States and Southeast poses a significant risk to the health of people and the natural environment of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Coal Ash contains at least twenty five (25) heavy metals, carcinogens, and radioactive elements that are easily introduced to and transported by water and can easily become hazards to human health when ingested; and

**WHEREAS**, the access to clean water is a critical requirement of the County's visitors, residents, employees and economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Environmental Protection Agency downgraded the relative hazard classification of Coal Ash in order to promote the relocation of Coal Ash from dangerous, unlined ash ponds in Georgia and across the country;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Natural Resources recently adopted rules governing the storage of Coal Ash in utility owned facilities and Municipal Solid Waste landfills; and

**WHEREAS**, these rules are inadequate in that they allow utilities to "cap in place" existing unlined ash ponds and to move Coal Ash into lined Municipal Solid Waste landfills without any further evaluation regarding site suitability; and

**WHEREAS**, Coal Ash ponds and Municipal Solid Waste landfills are located in rural areas and contamination from these sites disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities; and

**WHEREAS**, there has reportedly been a recent surge in the transport and deposit of coal ash from nearby states, including North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida, into Georgia;

**WHEREAS**, local governments should be able to protect residents against surface and groundwater contamination from neighboring communities through ordinances, based on local conditions and resources at stake.

**NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA, AS FOLLOW:**

The storage and transportation of Coal Ash within the State of Georgia should be strictly regulated for the protection of Georgia's citizens, its waterways, and its landscape; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Georgia General Assembly should amend existing state laws to better protect Georgia's citizens, waterways, and landscapes from the dangers of Coal Ash; **and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governor of the State of Georgia should sign and approve such legislation.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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**STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW**  
Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**  
Clerk

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**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**  
County Attorney