

**Statement Regarding Application by Aqua North Carolina
Expansion of a Non-Conforming Use at:
3896 Setzer St., Claremont, NC**

The purpose of the proposed project is to address elevated concentrations of naturally-occurring iron and manganese in groundwater wells that provide potable water to Aqua North Carolina's (Aqua) customers. Elevated levels of Iron and Manganese, although safe to drink, result in unwanted aesthetic effects such as taste, appearance and odor. Observed aesthetic effects include a black or brown-colored and sediment-laden water, which can stain household fixtures and clothes, as well as a bitter metallic taste.

Aqua proposes to provide treatment to remove iron and manganese using an oxidation/filtration system with an engineered zero-discharge process that captures filter backwash water, treats it, and recycles it back into the system. This technology has been installed by Aqua at several other Aqua wells across the state. Plans for the two (2) proposed installation sites in Catawba County have been approved by the NCDENR Public Water Supply Section, as well as the NC Utilities Commission's Public Staff. Aqua is confident that these systems will provide the most efficient, environmentally-friendly, and cost-effective solution for its customers.