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## Commissioners unanimous on full Terry Creek cleanup

By WES WOLFE [wwolfe@thebrunswicknews.com](mailto:wwolfe@thebrunswicknews.com) Sep 19, 2018



The Terry Creek outfall ditch, Dupree and Terry creeks are visible in this aerial photograph taken July 6.

Wes Wolfe/The Brunswick News

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While an agreement between the federal government and Hercules for remediation of the Terry Creek Superfund site appears rolling along regardless of the desires of local officials, the commissioners for the city of Brunswick and Glynn County voted unanimously Tuesday to oppose the consent decree and demand a full cleanup.

The resolution, as Brunswick Mayor Cornell Harvey read it at the meeting, calls for “the complete removal of all contamination in Operable Unit 1; (urges) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Justice to reconsider the selected remedial action set forth in the consent decree and to withdraw and/or amend the proposed consent decree to require the complete removal of all contamination; and requesting that the members of the United States Congress and the Georgia

General Assembly representing the city of Brunswick and Glynn County oppose the remedial action set forth in the consent decree...,” along with urging the DOJ and the EPA to amend the decree to include complete removal of contamination at the site.

State Reps. Don Hogan and Jeff Jones, both St. Simons Island Republicans, said at the meeting they support the effort.

State Sen. William Ligon, R-White Oak, was unable to attend because of a family medical concern.

However, Glynn County Commission Chairman Bill Brunson read part of the statement Ligon sent, in which Ligon wrote, “I’m dismayed that the consent decree would fall short of requiring a complete removal and remediation of all the contamination. That is the only way to ensure the long-term viability of the site, and our water supply and our fisheries.

“I heartily commend you and the Board of Commissioners, as well as Brunswick Mayor Cornell Harvey and the commissioners of the city of Brunswick for your pro-active efforts to support our environment. It is my hope that the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Justice will heed the wisdom of local officials.”

Brunson also read part of a letter of support from the Glynn County Board of Health.

Several business groups are also on board. Woody Woodside, speaking for the three, said, “We’re three of the shared-vision partners of which y’all – the city and the county and many others in the community – are part of the shared vision for our community and its future.

Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, Brunswick (and Glynn County) Development Authority and the Golden Isles Convention and Visitors Bureau will officially be submitting in a written, joint statement to the U.S. Department of Justice tomorrow, in support of the joint resolution by the county and the city, calling for the complete removal of the contamination in Operable Unit 1.”

It’s unknown at the moment the position of U.S. Sens. Johnny Isakson and David Perdue, and U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter. Representatives from the legislators’ respective offices said they would relay the city and county’s position up the chain.

“I would like to find out if the senators and the congressman support this effort, individually,” Glynn County Commissioner Allen Booker said.

“That will let me know how hard the efforts will be going forward to try to get something done. I grew up five blocks from this place. My sister died from cancer. So, this is personal for me, so I would like to have an answer for them.”

Late Wednesday, Carter said in a statement, “I support Brunswick and Glynn County on their efforts. I stand ready to assist in whatever ways may be helpful.”

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