WHEREAS, Durham County and City of Durham are committed to improving water quality in Falls Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Durham City Council and the Durham Board of County Commissioners are signatories of *Consensus Principles to Guide Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy*; and

WHEREAS, Section 9 of the *Consensus Principles to Guide Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy* states that "The process by which the proposed regulatory scheme has been developed relied on a limited data base which will be substantially enhanced by a more rigorous program of sampling, monitoring and analysis. In addition, it may not be feasible to attain all currently designated uses in the Upper Lake and attempting to do so may result in substantial and widespread economic and social impact."; and

WHEREAS, the Durham Environmental Affairs Board (EAB) is a citizen board charged with advising the City of Durham and Durham County elected officials on environmental policies and practices that affect the natural environment of Durham; and

WHEREAS, The Strategic Plans adopted by the City of Durham and Durham County support environmental stewardship through specific water quality goals; and

WHEREAS, Durham has signified a continued commitment to the environment and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR) has developed a two stage nutrient management strategy for Falls Lake with ultimate nutrient reductions of 40% nitrogen and 77% phosphorus from the baseline year of 2006; and

WHEREAS, the DENR fiscal note for the two stage strategy estimates the cost of Stage 1 to be $640,000,000 and the cost of Stage II to be $945,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) undertook a study to determine the feasibility of achieving the Stage II reduction goals and found that the goals are not technically, logistically or financially feasible; and

WHEREAS, the UNRBA study found that the estimated cost of Stage II will be greater than two percent of the median household income in the Falls Lake watershed, falling into the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) High Economic Impact category; and

WHEREAS, the nutrient management strategy for nearby Jordan Lake was delayed for three additional years by the North Carolina General Assembly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the EAB recommends that the Durham City Council and the Durham County Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution in favor of continuing to seek cost-

effective and sustainable nutrient management strategies, such as nutrient-removal facilities and other resources,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, based on time required for permitting and pilot studies, the EAB recommends that the Durham City Council and the Durham County Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution in favor of extending the Falls Lake Nutrient Strategy deadline for completion of Stage II,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the EAB recommends that through the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) the Durham City Council and the Durham Board of County Commissioners support further studies on nutrient reduction opportunities in the watershed and to evaluate benefits to the lake that would result from those reduction opportunities during the implementation of Stage I, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the EAB recommends that through the UNRBA the Durham City Council and the Durham Board of County Commissioners support further evaluations of economic impacts and financial burdens to the citizens in the watershed such that the impacts fall within the EPA's Low Economic Impact category,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the EAB recommends that the Durham City Council and the Durham County Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution pursuing a site-specific Chlorophyll a standard for the Upper Lake (above NC Highway 50),

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the EAB recommends that the Durham City Council and the Durham County Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution pursuing revised regulations that recognize water level changes above NC Highway 50, or the Upper Lake, due to reservoir operation.
