

The following is an exchange between *Carolina Journal* and the Department of Environmental Quality:

*Given the extremely high profile GenX has gained over Chemours' release of the emerging contaminant into the Cape Fear River Basin, and DEQ's principal role in response to the situation, is DEQ exploring the potential for contamination from solar panels or other solar components that might contain residue or higher levels of GenX? If not, why not?*

The Department of Environmental Quality is currently focused on communities in the lower Cape Fear that have been impacted by Gen X. The department will continue to follow the science to address threats to public health and the environment.

*Has DEQ had conversations with Chemours and DuPont about GenX's use in the Teflon film production process to verify its presence, and determine its prevalence?*

DEQ's investigation into the Fayetteville Works Plant has focused on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) levels in the environment at the facility and surrounding areas. This includes monitoring other facilities located at the complex to ensure permit compliance.

*Is DEQ or any other agency attempting to determine what companies might be using Teflon film or other solar components that were produced using GenX, whether those solar panels or other components have been installed in North Carolina? If they are or have been used in North Carolina, has DEQ determined where and in what volume?*

As stated above, DEQ is currently focused on communities that have been impacted by GenX. With continued guidance and expertise provided by the Secretaries' Science Advisory Board, our agency will prioritize future efforts for effectively addressing emerging compounds statewide.