A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

1. **Call to Order**
   Vice Chairman Washington called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. **Introduction of Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee Members**
   Several members from the public, from Accomack and Northampton Counties, as well as attendees on the Zoom platform, were present at the meeting. Member Grossman introduced the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee members who were in attendance. They would be participating and voting during the committee sessions.

   Member Grossman made a motion to change the agenda and move New Business (Northampton Resolution Deep Well Injection) to item 3 due to the large attendance of the public at the meeting. The Committee will introduce and discuss a resolution to oppose the deep well drilling. It was seconded by Member Sturgis. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

3. **Public Participation**
   Public participation from Accomack and Northampton Counties were in attendance to voice their opposition to a proposed deep well injection project. Many people stated their opposition to such a project.

   Stephen Lawson from Jamesville, VA read a statement, supporting Accomack County's Zoning decision, disallowing the deep well injection. It also stated the lack of any proven documentation of any benefits or the safety of this type of project. This could potentially lead to contamination that could carry lasting economic and environmental consequences for agriculture, tourism, and local communities.

   Matt Hickman, President of the Accomack County VA Farm Bureau, wanted to adamantly voice their opposition to the deep well injection.

   Member Grossman gave out a copy of the draft resolution. This was Protecting the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer from Deep Well Injection, Resolution No. 2026-01.

   Member Grossman made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-01, Protecting the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer from Deep Well Injection. It was seconded by Member Mastyl. The motion was carried by unanimous vote

   After further discussion regarding the above resolution they made a few amendments to the resolution:

   - **Page 1 Paragraph 1** Changed "over the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer" in the first paragraph to "under the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer".

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

- **Page 2 1. Official Opposition** Changed "over the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer" in the first paragraph to "under the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer".
- **Page 2 5. Public Notification** Added two additional certified copies to Northampton County Board of Supervisors and Virginia Department of Health.

Member Grossman made a motion to amend the above information in Resolution No. 2026-01, Protecting the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer from Deep Well Injection. It was seconded by Member Hershey. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Member Grossman made a motion to adopt the above amended Resolution No. 2026-01, Protecting the Eastern Shore Sole Source Aquifer from Deep Well Injection. It was seconded by Member Mastyl. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

4. **Minutes of the November 18, 2025 Meeting & Committee Attendance**
Approval of the minutes for November 18, 2025 and the Committee Attendance Record were requested. Member Mastyl wanted some corrections.

Member Masty moved to approve the amended minutes from the November 18, 2025 meeting and the Committee Attendance Record. It was seconded by Member Grossman, the motion was carried by unanimous vote with two abstentions.

5. **Financial Status Report**
The Financial Status Report was presented. Member Grossman had a question or clarification of a line item under the Ground Water Plan Project Implementation Well Testing. Staff will get an updated financial statement next month.

Member Grossman moved to adopt the Bills Payable as of the January 15, 2026 portion of the Financial Status Report as presented. This was seconded by Member Mastyl, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

6. **January 20, 2026 Staff Report**
Old Business:

Water Supply Planning
Contracts have been completed for the award to Arcadis for routine professional services and for the update to the Eastern Shore Ground Water Plan due in 2029.

Eastern VA Groundwater Management Advisory Committee
Morgan Emanuel, DEQ Regulatory Analyst, has accepted the request that Rita Chandler be appointed to the committee, replacing Kellen Singleton. She also accepts the request to appoint

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

Consultant Britt McMillan as the alternate. The appointment requests have been presented to DEQ Director Rolband. They are currently pending his approval.

Ground Water Award

A-NPDC staff will reach out to the family of Paul Muhly. They will ask the family what will work for the family in receiving the award on behalf of Paul Muhly.

New Business:

Northampton Resolution Deep Well Injection

This topic was moved and discussed earlier in the agenda.

Meeting Packet List

Member Mastyl voiced concern about the public being sent the Ground Water Packets. Member Meil said there was a statement on the website for the public to contact us and request if they wanted to receive certain information or to be added to the meeting packet list. Member Mastyl alleged the statement was misleading. Further discussion will be included in the February worksession.

February Worksession

GWC McMillan would like to go through the attachments on the website. He would like to update the website with more current information.

Member Grossman made a motion to use the February meeting as a worksession to develop a priority list of projects that will be useful in planning their activities for the coming year. It was seconded by Member Mastyl. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Member Meil asked the GWC to review the Groundwater Research Needs Chart to Reference ESVA Groundwater Resource Protection and Preservation Plan 2013.

Permits Requests:

- The Commonwealth Chesapeake Company, LLC has applied for reissuance of a permit for an electricity-generating power plant located at New Church, VA in Accomack County.
  - The permit would authorize the withdrawal of a maximum of 61,400,000 gallons per year and 10,800,000 gallons per month from the Surficial and Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifers.
  - DEQ has made the tentative decision to issue the permit.

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

7. Groundwater Consultant Report

1. There is one draft permit currently submitted for public comment.

Facility		Type	Aquifers				New	Draft Permit (Gal)			Percentile	Public Comment Deadline
				YTEO								
Permit No	Name		S	U	M	L		Monthly	Annual	Increase		
GW1000362	Outten Farm	I		✓	✓	✓	N	5,474,000	8,399,000	-80%*	36%	Nov 18
GW1000463	Town of Parksley	P	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	3,351,938	25,082,530	-14%	75%	Jan 09
GW1000204	CCC Power Station	I	✓	✓			N	10,800,000	61,400,000	0%	77%	Feb 01

Notes:

Type: A = Agriculture
CA = CAFO (Confined Animal Feeding Operation)
I = Industrial
P = Public Water Supply

Aquifers:
S = Surficial aquifer (the % indicates the percent of the total withdrawal from the surficial aquifer)
YTEO = Yorktown-Eastover aquifer system
U, M, L = Upper, Middle, Lower YTEO

New:
Y = New Permit
N = Re-issued Permit

Percentile: Compares annual amount to other permitted withdrawals on the Eastern Shore. For a percentile of 75%, 75% of the permits are less than the draft permit and 25% are greater. Large withdrawals (> 75-percentile) are presented in orange.

*: Decrease between draft current permit and draft permit is due to a lower number of acres assumed farmed. Actual irrigation amount per acre increased under the draft permit.

Facility		Special Conditions		
Permit No	Name	WQ	Alt	Other
GW1000362	Outten Farm			Pond water level control

Town of Parksley (GW1000463) is for a renewed permit for an existing groundwater withdrawal. This is not a seasonal/agricultural withdrawal and a permit term limit is not needed.

Groundwater use is for potable water supply to the residents and small businesses within the Town of Parksley. There are approximately 457 service connections and 48 commercial connections supplied by the community water system.

The majority of the water is supplied by two wells screened in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer. One emergency supply well is screened in the Upper and Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer and is used for only emergency fire water protection.

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

Vaulted Deep News Articles

- Vaulted Deep appeals to Accomack BZA for deep injection on Oak Hall farm - Shore Daily News: Discusses the finding by Accomack County that "*...the proposed use is not allowed anywhere in the county under current zoning language*" on October 10, 2025 and an appeal application submitted by Vaulted Deep. As part of the appeal "*the applicant is requesting that the Board of Zoning Appeals structure the hearing so county officials first explain the basis of the October 10 zoning determination, after which the applicant would present a rebuttal.*" The hearing will be scheduled for March 2026 at the request of Vaulted Deep. Full text can be found: https://shoredailynews.com/headlines/vaulted-deep-appeals-to-accomack-bza-for-deep-injection-on-oak-hall-farm/

- *Northampton Supervisors unanimously approve resolution strongly condemning deep well injection - Shore Daily News:* Northampton County voted January 12, 2026 to oppose any industrial deep well injection of waste over the Eastern Shore sole source aquifer. The resolution:
  - Cites "*...concerns about irreversible risks to public health and the local economy...*",
  - "*...establishes Northampton County's opposition to industrial deep well injection over the aquifer...*",
  - "*...directs staff to engage state and federal legislative delegations...*",
  - "*...petitions the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to apply heightened scrutiny and restrictions to any such proposals...*,
  - "*...allows the County to pursue state-level legislation that would prohibit industrial deep well injection in areas dependent on a single source aquifer...*", and
  - "*...authorizes coordination with Accomack County and regional groundwater partners, with the county attorney preparing potential legal strategies...*".

  Full text can be found: https://shoredailynews.com/headlines/northampton-supervisors-unanimously-approve-resolution-strongly-condemning-deep-well-injection/

Commonwealth Chesapeake Power Station (GWI000204) is for a renewed permit for an existing groundwater withdrawal. Requested amount current permitted amounts are provided below:

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

Permit	Permit term		Annual		Max Month	
	Gallons	GPD avg	Gallons	GPD avg	Gallons	GPD avg
Current	NA	NA	61,400,000	168,219	10,800,000	360,000
Proposed	NA	NA	61,400,000	168,219	10,800,000	360,000
% Change	0%		0%		0%	

Note: This is not a seasonal/agricultural withdrawal and a permit term limit is not needed.

Groundwater use is principally to supply cooling water and water for air emissions control for the operation of a peaking power plant that provides electricity as needed when demand peaks and fluctuates. In addition to providing supplemental power during periods of peak electricity demand, the power station may also be required to operate to maintain grid reliability.

All groundwater for operation of the power station is provided by nine wells screened in the surficial aquifer. One well, screened in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer, is used to provide potable water and water for sanitary use. The Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer well accounts for less than 3% of the permitted use.

GWC McMillan recommended the GWC to send a comment to DEQ. Member Mastyl made a motion to have GWC McMillan send a comment to DEQ regarding Commonwealth Chesapeake Power Station renewal permit. Member Grossman seconded the motion. It was carried by unanimous vote.

The current status of the permits according to the DEP Permitting Enhancement & Evaluation Platform (PEEP).

Facility Name	Permit No.	Owner	Current Status		Public Comment	Target Decision Date
Town of Parksley	GWI00465	Town of Parksley	viii.	Permit Decision	01/09/2026	02/09/2026
Commonwealth Chesapeake Corp	GWI000204	CCC LLC	vii.	Public Comment	02/01/2026	03/16/2026
Home Farm & Fitchett Farm	GWI000355	Donald Fitchett and David Mason	iv.	Draft Permit Decision	01/29/2026	05/17/2026
Town of Eastville	GWI000216	Town of Eastville	i.	Application Review	01/07/2026	07/25/2026
Edgewater Farm	GWI000232	Robert Dorman	ii.	Technical Evaluation	10/30/2025	03/22/2026
Lumber Hall Farm	GWI000359	Tankard Nurseries	i.	Application Review	01/05/2026	09/17/2026

8. Attachments

A-NPDC
ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301
(757) 787-2936 • TOLL FREE (866) 787-3001 • FAX: (757) 787-1221
WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

9. **Other Matters**
   There were no other matters at this time.

10. **Scheduled Next Meeting**
    The next scheduled meeting for the Groundwater Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce's Boardroom in Melfa, Virginia.

11. **Adjournment**
    Member Grossman made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Member Hershey, the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

_____
Calvin Washington, Vice Chairman

_____
Elaine K. N. Meil, Secretary/Treasurer