

VIRGINIA ROANOKE RIVER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Charles D. Poindexter
Chairman

3019 Peters Creek Road
Roanoke, VA 24019

Mike McEvoy
1st Vice-Chairman
Watt Foster
2nd Vice-Chairman

November 30, 2005

Dear Virginia Roanoke River Basin Constituents, Legislature Members, and Local Governments:

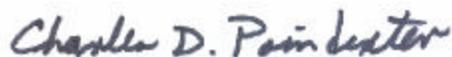
I am writing to you regarding the Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee (VRRBAC) and the associated Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission that were established by the General Assembly in the executive branch of State government during 2002. The purpose of the Commission in short is to safeguard the Roanoke River Basin's natural resources, while the function of the Advisory Committee is to assist the Virginia delegation in achieving the purposes and in fulfilling the powers and duties of the Commission.

These bodies were created after the State Water Commission studied and then recommended their formation. This study was directed by the 2000 General Assembly Bill HJR 149 whose patrons were Delegates Bennett, Armstrong, Byron, Clement, Cranwell, Ruff and Woodrum and Senators Hawkins and Reynolds. This bill further recognized the Roanoke River as a great resource for the Commonwealth and Basin localities. It further noted basin problems including drought, transfer of large quantities of water from the basin, and PCB contamination. It cited the importance of cooperation between the local governments for the economic vitality and appropriate development of the region, suggested that action was needed to ensure the adequacy of water resources to meet economic development and water conservation needs, promoted greater citizen involvement and participation in water quality and quantity issues, encouraged basin-wide regional cooperation, and stressed that each basin locality needed to cooperate in establishing a framework to coordinate the management of water resources.

VRRBAC has been meeting since December 2002 and has made progress towards its goals and those of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission. The attached report highlights the accomplishments to date including recommendations and problems. The Committee needs the continued support of its localities, legislature members, and constituents to obtain the financial and other resources necessary to accomplish its objectives. Additionally, recommendations of knowledgeable people to serve on subcommittees are needed.

I thank you for your support and service to the group since the formation. I ask that you provide feedback on your needs, concerns, and ideas to help the group achieve its mission. Also, please forward this report to others that you deem pertinent.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Poindexter
VRRBAC Chairman