February 12, 2014

Dan River Incident

**Recreational Water Advisory**
Because the Duke Power-Eden coal ash spill is located in North Carolina’s portion of the Dan River, a potential hazard exists immediately downstream of the release. Therefore, the North Carolina Department of Public Health is recommending that people avoid recreational contact with water and sediment in the Dan River in North Carolina downstream of the Duke Power-Eden spill site. We also recommend that people do not contact submerged or floating coal ash, or ash washed up on the riverbank. Direct contact with the water or sediment may cause skin irritation. Wash skin that has been exposed to the water or sediment with soap and water. The Department will continue to monitor data as it becomes available to identify when health risks are not a concern.

**Fish and Shellfish Consumption**
Because the Duke Power-Eden coal ash spill is located in North Carolina’s portion of the Dan River, a potential hazard exists immediately downstream of the release. The North Carolina Department of Public Health is recommending that people not consume any fish or shellfish collected from the Dan River in North Carolina downstream of the Duke Power-Eden spill site. We are working with other agencies to collect fish downstream of the spill. We will evaluate the data from fish samples as it becomes available to identify when health risks associated with eating the fish are not a concern.