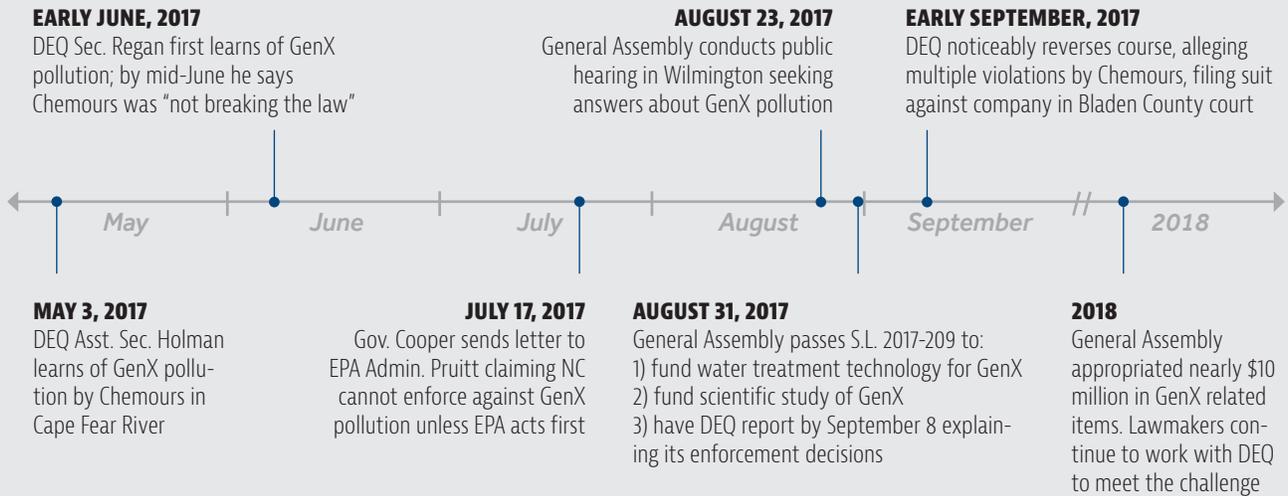




## 2017/18: Changing DEQ Responses After Learning of GenX Pollution



**THIRD** - Within a week after receiving the ratified bill, the Cooper administration reversed course, threatening the company's permit, issuing a Notice of Violation, and filing a complaint in a Bladen County court alleging a wide range of violations by the company.

### Where Things Stand Today

Pressure to act imposed by the General Assembly through its GenX legislation has stopped the discharge and pushed the threat to southeastern North Carolina to the top of the state's priority list.

The administration's changed position was best summarized by Joel A. Mintz, a former chief attorney with the EPA, when he noted DEQ's shift in their approach: "Rather than persist in its passive tolerance of the company's pollution, the DEQ began to exercise its enforcement authority in a more vigorous manner."

**Pressure to act imposed by the General Assembly through its GenX legislation has stopped the discharge and pushed the threat to southeastern North Carolina to the top of the state's priority list.**



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