

The town of Candor's decision to ban incinerated chicken waste as a source of electrical power solves only part of the problem. Southern Pines is also uneasy with the alternative. Commissioners in the small Montgomery County town of Candor this week amended a local ordinance to prohibit the burning of animal products, including chicken litter. The amendment does not prohibit, however, an incinerator which would consume 70 tons of wood waste a day. After Monday Night's rejection, Montaire Farms now plans to build a power plant at its poultry feed mill on the south side of town using wood products. The plant would be just 15-hundred feet from the headwaters of Drowning Creek, the sole source of water for Southern Pines, whose board of commissioners was represented when Candor reached its decision on a fuel alternative. Town Councilman Chris Smithson asked the Candor government body to slow the permitting process so the environmental impact could be studied. Southern Pines also sells water to the Moore County System and to Whispering Pines, so any contamination of Drowning Creek could be catastrophic.