The South Landfill and Sludge Ponds at McIntosh were not built to withstand the influence of sinkholes—and attempting to retrofit them now could trigger a catastrophic sinkhole collapse.

McIntosh’s monitor wells show contaminants typically found in coal combustion residuals (CCR or “coal ash”), such as arsenic, throughout the soil and groundwater of the McIntosh site.

A sinkhole collapse would spread contaminants from the McIntosh site to public drinking supplies.

The best way to manage sinkhole and contamination risks at McIntosh and to protect Lakeland’s drinking water is to stop onsite coal ash disposal, remove the accumulated coal ash and decontaminate the site.