

## Ashe Letter Could Derail Boone Water

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Could a road stop new water from coming to Boone? A road crossing into Ashe County as part of the water intake project on the New River is now at issue, with the Ashe County Commission now taking official action against the project. The problem is access to the pump site on the New River, bought by the Town of Boone from the Cooper family, including a subdivision-grade 3,000-foot-long road, a portion of that road crossing into Ashe County. With that county line crossing, which would include a portion of the path of the pipe from the river, the Ashe County Board of Commissioners sent a letter “opposed to any section of the access road crossing Ashe County land,” that in response to Steve Garrett of the N.C. Department of Public Safety requesting Ashe County to sign off on federal floodplain documents for the project. The Sept. 24 letter is signed by Ashe County Manager Pat Mitchell. Whether the project can be accomplished without crossing into Ashe remains to be seen.