NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

GEOTECHNICAL UNIT

SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION

	SOIL AND ROCK	K LEGEND, TERMS	, SYMBOLS, AND ABE	REVIATIONS	
SOIL DESCRIPTION	GRADATION			ROCK DESCRIPTION	TERMS AND DEFINITIONS
DIL IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE UNCONSOLIDATED, SEMI-CONSOLIDATED OR WEATHERED EARTH MATERIALS HICH CAN BE PENETRATED WITH A CONTINUOUS FLIGHT POWER AUGER, AND WHICH YIELDS LESS THAN 180 BLOWS PER FOOT ACCORDING TO STANDARD PENETRATION TEST (ARSHTO T206, ASTM D-1586), SOIL ASSIFICATION IS BASED ON THE AASHTO SYSTEM AND BASIC DESCRIPTIONS GENERALLY SHALL INCLUDE: DINSISTENCY, COLOR, TEXTURE, MOISTURE, AASHTO CLASSIFICATION, AND OTHER PERTINENT FACTORS SUCH SEMINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION, ANDULARITY, STRUCTURE, PLASTICITY, ETC. EXAMPLE: VERY STIFF, GRAY SULY CUN, MOST WITH INTERBEDUED FINE SHID UVERS, HIGHUP PLASTIC, AT-6 WELL GRADED- INDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM. FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FINDICATES A COOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARSE UNIFORM.		E SIZES. ERMS; ANGULAR.	HARD ROCK IS NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL THAT WHEN TESTED, WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL, AN INFERRED ROCK LINE INDICATES THE LEVEL AT WHICH NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL. SPT REFUSAL IS PENETRATION BY A SPLIT SPOON SAMPLER EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN 0.1 FOOT PER 60 BLOWS. IN NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL, THE TRANSITION BETWEEN SOIL AND ROCK IS OFTEN REPRESENTED BY A ZONE OF WEATHERED ROCK. ROCK MATERIALS ARE TYPICALLY DIVIDED AS FOLOWS: WEATHERED ROCK (WR) PORCK (WR) ROCK (WR) POR CRYSTALLINE ROCK (CR) FINE TO COARSE GRAIN IGNEOUS AND METAMORPHIC ROCK THAT WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED. ROCK TYPE INCLUDES GRANITE, ORNERS, GABBRO, SCHIST, ETC. FINE TO COARSE GRAIN METAMORPHIC AND NON-COASTAL PLAIN		ALLUVIUM (ALLUV.) - SOILS WHICH HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED BY WATER. AQUIFER - A WATER BEARING FORMATION OR STRATA. ARENACEOUS - APPLIED TO ROCKS THAT HAVE BEEN DERIVED FROM SAND OR THAT CONTAIN SAND. AREILLACEOUS - APPLIED TO ALL ROCKS OR SUBSTANCES COMPOSED OF CLAY MINERALS, OR HAVING A NOTABLE PROPORTION OF CLAY IN THEIR COMPOSITION, AS SHALE, SLATE, ETC. ARTESIAN - GROUND WATER THAT IS UNDER SUFFICIENT PRESSURE TO RISE ABOVE THE LEVEL
SOIL LEGEND AND AASHTO CLASSIFICATION SENERAL GRANULAR MATERIALS SILT-CLAY MATERIALS CLASS. (\$5% PASSING *200) ORGANIC MATERIALS (\$5% PASSING *200)	MINERAL OGICAL COMPOSITION MINERAL NAMES SUCH AS QUARTZ, FELDSPAR, MICA, TALC, KAOLIN, ETC. ARE USED IN DESCRIPTIONS WHENEVER THEY ARE CONSIDERED OF SIGNIFICANCE.				AT WHICH IS IS ENCOUNTERED, BUT WHICH DOES NOT NECESSARILY RISE TO OR ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE. CALCAREOUS (CALC.) - SOILS WHICH CONTAIN APPRECIABLE AMOUNTS OF CALCIUM CARBONATE.
GROUP A-1 A-3 A-2 A-4 A-5 A-6 A-7 A-1, A-2 A-4, A-5 CLASS. A-1-9 A-1-b A-2-4 A-2-5 A-2-6 A-2-7 A-7-8 A-3 A-6, A-7 SYMBOL	COMPRESSIBILITY SLIGHTLY COMPRESSIBLE MODERATELY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT LE HIGHLY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT OF	ESS THAN 30 1-50	NUN-LYTSTALLINE	IENTARY ROCK THAT WOULD YEILD SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED. ROCK TYPE DES PHYLLITE, SLATE, SANDSTONE, ETC. "AL PLAIN SEDIMENTS CEMENTED INTO ROCK, BUT MAY NOT YIELD REFUSAL. ROCK TYPE INCLUDES LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, CEMENTED	COLLUVIUM - ROCK FRAGMENTS MIXED WITH SOIL DEPOSITED BY GRAVITY ON SLOPE OR AT BOTTOM OF SLOPE. CORE RECOVERY (REC.) - TOTAL LENGTH OF ALL MATERIAL RECOVERED IN THE CORE BARREL DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
PASSING	PERCENTAGE OF MATERIAL GRANULAR SILT- CLAY		(CP) SHELI	WEATHERING	DIKE - A TABULAR BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK THAT CUTS ACROSS THE STRUCTURE OF ADJACENT
* 10 50 MX GRANULAR CLAY SOILS SOILS SOILS SOILS CLAY C		1 - 10%	FRESH ROCK FRESH, CRYSTALS BRIGHAMMER IF CRYSTALLINE.	HT, FEW JOINTS MAY SHOW SLIGHT STAINING, ROCK RINGS UNDER	ROCKS OR CUTS MASSIVE ROCK. DIP - THE ANGLE AT WHICH A STRATUM OR ANY PLANAR FEATURE IS INCLINED FROM THE HORIZONTAL.
0UID LIMIT	MODERATELY ORGANIC 5 - 10% 12 - 20% SOME HIGHLY ORGANIC >10% >20% HIGHL	20 - 35%		INTS STAINED, SOME JOINTS MAY SHOW THIN CLAY COATINGS IF OPEN, ECIMEN FACE SHINE BRIGHTLY, ROCK RINGS UNDER HAMMER BLOWS IF	DIP DIRECTION (DIP AZIMUTH) - THE DIRECTION OR BEARING OF THE HORIZONTAL TRACE OF THE LINE OF DIP, MEASURED CLOCKNISE FROM NORTH.
SUBL TYPES STONE FRACS. FINE SILTY OR CLAYEY SILTY CLAYEY ORGANIC	WATER LEVEL IN BORE HOLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER DE		(SLI.) 1 INCH. OPEN JOINTS MAY (INTS STAINED AND DISCOLORATION EXTENDS INTO ROCK UP TO ONTAIN CLAY. IN GRANITOID ROCKS SOME CCCASIONAL FELDSPAR ISCOLORED. CRYSTALLINE ROCKS RING UNDER HAMMER BLOWS.	FAULT - A FRACTURE OR FRACTURE ZONE ALONG WHICH THERE HAS BEEN DISPLACEMENT OF THE SIDES RELATIVE TO ONE ANOTHER PARALLEL TO THE FRACTURE. FISSILE - A PROPERTY OF SPLITTING ALONG CLOSELY SPACED PARALLEL PLANES.
ATERIALS SAND SHIND SHIN	STATIC WATER LEVEL AFTER 24 HOURS.		MODERATE (MOD.) SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS OF ROCK SHOW DISCOLORATION AND WEATHERING EFFECTS. IN GRANITOID ROCKS, MOST FELDSPARS ARE DULL AND DISCOLORED, SOME SHOW CLAY, ROCK HAS DULL SOUND UNDER HAMMER BLOWS AND SHOWS SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF STRENGTH AS COMPARED WITH FRESH ROCK. MODERATELY SEVERE (MOD. SEV.) AND CAN BE EXCAVATED WITH A GEOLOGIST'S PICK. ROCK GIVES "CLUNK" SOUND WHEN STRUCK. IF TESTED, WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL		FLOAT - ROCK FRAGMENTS ON SURFACE NEAR THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION AND DISLODGED FROM PARENT MATERIAL.
SUBGRADE PUCK SPRING OR SEEPAGE P.I. OF A-7-5 ≤ L.L 30 : P.I. OF A-7-6 > L.L 30					FLOOD PLAIN (F.P.) - LAND BORDERING A STREAM, BUILT OF SEDIMENTS DEPOSITED BY THE STREAM.
CONSISTENCY OR DENSENESS COMPOSITION OF RANGE OF STANDARD RANGE OF UNCONFINED	MISCELLANEOUS SYMBOLS ROADWAY EMBANKMENT WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION OFFICIAL TOTAL OF				FORMATION (FM.) - A MAPPABLE GEOLOGIC UNIT THAT CAN BE RECOGNIZED AND TRACED IN THE FIELD.
PRIMARY SOIL TYPE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTI (N-VALUE) COMPRESSIVE STRENGTI (TONS/F12)	WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION VST PHT TEST BORING		SEVERE ALL ROCKS EXCEPT QUARTZ	DISCOLORED OR STAINED, ROCK FABRIC CLEAR AND EVIDENT BUT REDUCE	JOINT - FRACTURE IN ROCK ALONG WHICH NO APPRECIABLE MOVEMENT HAS OCCURRED. LEDGE - A SHELF-LIKE RIDGE OR PROJECTION OF ROCK WHOSE THICKNESS IS SMALL COMPARED TO
VERY LOOSE CANDILLAR LOOSE CANDILLAR MEDIUM DENSE LOOSE CANDILLAR MEDIUM DENSE LOOSE	SOIL SYMBOL AUGER BORING ARTIFICIAL FILL OTHER THAN	S- BULK SAMPLE SS- SPLIT SPOON		DIL. IN GRANITOID ROCKS ALL FELDSPARS ARE KAOLINIZED TO SOME DF STRONG ROCK USUALLY REMAIN. MALUES > 100 BPF	ITS LATERAL EXTENT. LENS - A BODY OF SOIL OR ROCK THAT THINS OUT IN ONE OR MORE DIRECTIONS.
(NON-COHESIVE) UENSE 30 10 50 VERY DENSE >50 VERY SOFT <2 <0.25	ROADWAY EMBANKMENTS - CORE BORING - INFERRED SOIL BOUNDARIES MONITORING WELL	SAMPLE ST- SHELBY TUBE	(V. SEV.) THE MASS IS EFFECTIVELY REMAINING, SAPROLITE IS A	DISCOLORED OR STAINED. ROCK FABRIC ELEMENTS ARE DISCERNIBLE BUT REDUCED TO SOIL STATUS, WITH ONLY FRAGMENTS OF STRONG ROCK N EXAMPLE OF ROCK WEATHERED TO A DEGREE SUCH THAT ONLY MINOR	MOTILED (MOT) - IRREGULARLY MARKED WITH SPOTS OF DIFFERENT COLORS, MOTTLING IN SOILS USUALLY INDICATES POOR AERATION AND LACK OF GOOD DRAINAGE. PERCHED WATER - WATER MAINTAINED ABOVE THE NORMAL GROUND WATER LEVEL BY THE PRESENCE OF AN INTERVENING IMPERVIOUS STRATUM.
GENERALLY SOFT 2 TO 4 0.25 TO 0.5 SILT-CLAY MEDIUM STIFF 4 TO 8 0.5 TO 1 MATERIAL STIFF 8 TO 15 1 TO 2 (COHESIVE) VERY STIFF 15 TO 30 2 TO 4	INFERRED ROCK LINE TITT ALLUVIAL SOIL BOUNDARY DIEZOMETER INSTALLATION	RS- ROCK SAMPLE RT- RECOMPACTED TRIAXIAL SAMPLE	COMPLETE ROCK REDUCED TO SOIL. RO SCATTERED CONCENTRATIONS	ROCK FABRIC REMAIN. <u>IF TESTED, YIELDS SPT N VALUES < 100 BPF</u> CK FABRIC NOT DISCERNIBLE, OR DISCERNIBLE ONLY IN SMALL AND I. QUARTZ MAY BE PRESENT AS DIKES OR STRINGERS. SAPROLITE IS	RESIDUAL SOIL - SOIL FORMED IN PLACE BY THE WEATHERING OF ROCK. ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (R.Q.D.) - A MEASURE OF ROCK QUALITY DESCRIBED BY: TOTAL LENGTH OF
HARD >30 >4 25/925 DIP/DIP DIRECTION OF INSTALLATION CBR - CBR SAMPLE			ALSO AN EXAMPLE. ROCK HARDNESS		ROCK SEGMENTS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 4 INCHES DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN ANI EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
TEXTURE OR GRAIN SIZE J.S. STD. SIEVE SIZE 4 10 40 60 200 270	● - SOUNDING ROD SPT N-VALUE SPT REFUSAL		VERY HARD CANNOT BE SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR SHARP PICK, BREAKING OF HAND SPECIMENS REQUIRES SEVERAL HARD BLOWS OF THE GEOLOGISTS PICK.		SAPROLITE (SAP.) - RESIDUAL SOIL WHICH RETAINS THE RELIC STRUCTURE OR FABRIC OF THE PARENT ROCK.
	ABBREVIATIONS		CAN BE SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK ONLY WITH DIFFICULTY. HARD HAMMER BLOWS REQUIRED TO DETACH HAND SPECIMEN.		SILL - AN INTRUSIVE BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK OF APPROXIMATELY UNIFORM THICKNESS AND RELATIVELY THIN COMPARED WITH ITS LATERAL EXTENT, WHICH HAS BEEN EMPLACED PARALLEL TO THE BEDDING OR SCHISTOSITY OF THE INTRUDED ROCKS
COBAIN MM 305 75 2.0 0.25 0.05 0.005	AR - AUGER REFUSAL PMT - PRESSUREMETER TEST BT - BORING TERMINATED SD SAND, SANDY CL CLAY SL SILT, SILTY		MODERATELY CAN BE SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK. GOUGES OR GROOVES TO 0.25 INCHES DEEP CAN BE HARD EXCAVATED BY HARD BLOW OF A GEOLOGISTS PICK. HAND SPECIMENS CAN BE DETACHED BY MODERATE BLOWS.		SLICKENSIDE - POLISHED AND STRIATED SURFACE THAT RESULTS FROM FRICTION ALONG A FAULT OR SLIP PLANE.
CPT - CONE PENETRATION TEST SLI SLIGHTLY CSE COARSE TCR - TRICONE REFUSAL DMT - DILATOMETER TEST DPT - DYNAMIC PENETRATION TEST OPT - DYNAMIC PENETRATION TEST		MEDIUM CAN BE GROOVED OR GOUGED 0.05 INCHES DEEP BY FIRM PRESSURE OF KNIFE OR PICK POINT. HARD CAN BE EXCAVATED IN SMALL CHIPS TO PEICES I INCH MAXIMUM SIZE BY HARD BLOWS OF THE POINT OF A GEOLOGISTS PICK.		STANDARD PENETRATION TEST (PENETRATION RESISTANCE) (SPT) - NUMBER OF BLOWS (N OR B.P.F.) OF A 140 LB. HAMMER FALLING 30 INCHES REQUIRED TO PRODUCE A PENETRATION OF 1 FOOT INTO SOIL WITH A 2 INCH OUTSIDE DIAMETER SPLIT SPOON SAMPLER, SPT REFUSAL IS LESS THAN 0.1 FOOT PENETRATION	
SOIL MOISTURE SCALE (ATTERBERG LIMITS) FIELD MOISTURE DESCRIPTION GUIDE FOR FIELD MOISTURE DESCRIPTION GUIDE FOR FIELD MOISTURE DESCRIPTION F FINE FOSS FOSSILIFEROUS V VERY		WEIGHT	SOFT CAN BE GROVED OR GOUGED READILY BY KNIFE OR PICK. CAN BE EXCAVATED IN FRAGMENTS FROM CHIPS TO SEVERAL INCHES IN SIZE BY MODERATE BLOWS OF A PICK POINT. SMALL, THIN PIECES CAN BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE. VERY CAN BE CARVED WITH KNIFE. CAN BE EXCAVATED READILY WITH POINT OF PICK. PIECES 1 INCH SOFT OR MORE IN THICKNESS CAN BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE. CAN BE SCRATCHED READILY BY		WITH 60 BLOWS. STRATA CORE RECOVERY (SREC.) - TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATA MATERIAL RECOVERED DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATUM AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
- SATURATED - USUALLY LIQUID; VERY WET, USUALLY (SAT.) FROM BELOW THE GROUND WATER TA LIQUID LIMIT	FRACS FRACTURED VST - VANE SHEAR TEST FRAGS FRAGMENTS MED MEDIUM				STRATA ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (S.R.Q.D.) - A MEASURE OF ROCK QUALITY DESCRIBED BY: TOTAL LENGTH OF ROCK SEGMENTS WITHIN A STRATUM EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 10 CENTIMETERS DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATA AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
LASTIC SEMISOLID; REQUIRES DRYING TO RANGE - WET - (W) OFFICING POTATION OF THE PROPERTY O	EQUIPMENT USED ON SUBJECT PR	ROJECT	FINGERNAIL. FRACTURE SPACING	BEDDING	TOPSOIL (T.S.) - SURFACE SOILS USUALLY CONTAINING ORGANIC MATTER.
(PI) PLASTIC LIMITATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	DRILL UNITS: ADVANCING TOOLS:	HAMMER TYPE:	TERM SPACIN	TERM THICKNESS	BENCH MARK:
OM OPTIMUM MOISTURE - MOIST - (M) SOLID; AT OR NEAR OPTIMUM MOIST		X AUTOMATIC MANUAL	VERY WIDE MORE THAN 10 WIDE 3 TO 10 FEET	THICKLY BEDDED 1.5 - 4 FEET	EL EVATION.
SL SHRINKAGE LIMIT	MOBILE B- G'CONTINUOUS FLIGHT AUGER		MODERATELY CLOSE 1 TO 3 FEET CLOSE 0.16 TO 1 FEE	THINLY BEDDED 0.16 - 1.5 FEET VERY THINLY BEDDED 0.03 - 0.16 FEET	ELEVATION:
- DRY - (D) REQUIRES ADDITIONAL WATER TO ATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	BK-51 X 8* HOLLOW AUGERS	CORE SIZE:	VERY CLOSE LESS THAN 0.		NOTES:
PLASTICITY PLASTICITY INDEX (PI) DRY STRENGTH	HARD FACED FINGER BITS		FOR SEDIMENTARY ROCKS, INDURATION IS	HE HARDENING OF THE MATERIAL BY CEMENTING, HEAT, PRESSURE, ETC.	1
NONPLASTIC 0-5 VERY LOW	X TUNG,-CARBIDE INSERTS	H	FRIABLE	RUBBING WITH FINGER FREES NUMEROUS GRAINS;	
LOW PLASTICITY 6-15 SLIGHT MED. PLASTICITY 16-25 MEDIUM	CASING W/ ADVANCER PORTABLE HOIST TRICONE *STEEL TEETH	HAND TOOLS:		GENTLE BLOW BY HAMMER DISINTEGRATES SAMPLE. GRAINS CAN BE SEPARATED FROM SAMPLE WITH STEEL PROBE:	
HIGH PLASTICITY 26 OR MORE HIGH	TRICONE TUNG-CARB.	POST HOLE DIGGER HAND AUGER	MODERATELY INDURATED	BREAKS EASILY WHEN HIT WITH HAMMER.	
COLOR DESCRIPTIONS MAY INCLUDE COLOR OR COLOR COMBINATIONS (TAN, RED, YEL-BRN, BLUE-GRAY) MODIFIERS SUCH AS LIGHT, DARK, STREAKED, ETC. ARE USED TO DESCRIBE APPEARANCE.	OTHER CORE BIT OTHER OTHER	SOUNDING ROD X VANE SHEAR TEST	INDURATED	GRAINS ARE DIFFICULT TO SEPARATE WITH STEEL PROBE; DIFFICULT TO BREAK WITH HAMMER. SHARP HAMMER BLOWS REQUIRED TO BREAK SAMPLE;	
PRODUCTION SUCT HS LIGHT, DHINN, STITEHALD, LITE, HAC USED TO DESCRIBE HEFERMANCE.	UINER	OTHER	EXTREMELY INDURATED	SAMPLE BREAKS ACROSS GRAINS.	
					REVISED 09/15/00