NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

GEOTECHNICAL UNIT

SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION

	SOIL AND ROCK LEGE	ND, TERMS, SYMBOLS, A	ND ABBREVIATIONS	
SOIL DESCRIPTION	GRADATION		ROCK DESCRIPTION	TERMS AND DEFINITIONS
SOIL IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE UNCONSOLIDATED, SEMI-CONSOLIDATED OR WEATHERED EARTH MATERIALS WHICH CAN BE PENETRATED WITH A CONTINUOUS FLIGHT POWER AUGER, AND WHICH YIELDS LESS THAN 1808 BLOWS PER FOOT ACCORDING TO STANDARD PENETRATION TEST (AASHTO T206, ASTIM D-1586). SOIL CLASSIFICATION IS BASED ON THE AASHTO SYSTEM AND BASIC DESCRIPTIONS GENERALLY SHALL INCLUDE: CONSISTENCY, COLOR, TEXTURE, MOISTURE, AASHTO CLASSIFICATION, AND OTHER PERTINENT FACTORS SUCH AS MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION, ANOLULARITY, STRUCTURE, PLASTICITY, ETC. EXAMPLE: **VERY STIFF, GRAW SULY CLAY, WOST WITH WITERBEDDED FINE SAMD LAVER, HEAVY PLASTIC, A-7-6	WELL GRADED: INDICATES A GOOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE TO COARS UNIFORM- INDICATES THAT SOIL PARTICLES ARE ALL APPROXIMATELY THE SAME SIZE. (ALSO POORLY GRADED) GAP-GRADED: INDICATES A MIXTURE OF UNIFORM PARTICLES OF TWO OR MORE SIZES. ANGULARITY OF GRAINS THE ANGULARITY OR ROUNDNESS OF SOIL GRAINS ARE DESIGNATED BY THE TERMS; ANGULAR, SUBANGULAR, SUBROUNDED, OR ROUNDED.	ROCK LINE INDICATES I SPT REFUSAL IS PENET IN NON-COASTAL PLAIN OF WEATHERED ROCK.	STAL PLAIN MATERIAL THAT WHEN TESTED, WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL, AN INFERRED HE LEVEL AT WHICH NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL, RATION BY A SPLIT SPOON SAMPLER EDUAL TO OR LESS THAN 0.1 FOOT PER 60 BLOWS, MATERIAL, THE TRANSITION BETWEEN SOIL AND ROCK IS OFTEN REPRESENTED BY A ZONE YPICALLY DIVIDED AS FOLOWS: NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL THAT YIELDS SPT N VALUES > 100 BLOWS PER FOOT.	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. ARGILLACEOUS - 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 GENERAL GRANULAR MATERIALS SILT-CLAY MATERIALS CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY	MINERAL OGICAL COMPOSITION MINERAL NAMES SUCH AS QUARTZ, FELDSPAR, MICA, TALC, KAOLIN, ETC, ARE USED IN DESCRIPTION	CRYSTALLINE CRYSTALLINE	FINE TO COARSE GRAIN IGNEOUS AND METAMORPHIC ROCK THAT WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED, ROCK TYPE INCLUDES GRANITE.	AT WHICH IS IS ENCOUNTERED, BUT WHICH DOES NOT NECESSARILY RISE TO OR ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE.
CLASS. (.35% PASSING *200) C35% PASSING *200) ORGANIC MATERIALS GROUP A-1 A-3 A-2 A-4 A-5 A-6 A-7 A-1, A-2 A-4, A-5	WHENEVER THEY ARE CONSIDERED OF SIGNIFICANCE. COMPRESSIBILITY	ROCK (CR)	GNEISS, GABBRO, SCHIST, ETC. FINE TO COARSE GRAIN METAMORPHIC AND NON-COASTAL PLAIN	CALCAREOUS (CALC.) - SOILS WHICH CONTAIN APPRECIABLE AMOUNTS OF CALCIUM CARBONATE.
CLASS. A-1-a A-1-b A-2-4 A-2-5 A-2-6 A-2-7 A-7-6 A-3 A-6, A-7	SLIGHTLY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT LESS THAN 30 MODERATELY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT 31-50	ROCK (NCR)	SEDIMENTARY ROCK THAT MOULD YELLO SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED. ROCK TYPE INCLUDES PHYLLITE, SLATE, SANDSTONE, ETC. COASTAL PLAIN SEDIMENTS CEMENTED INTO ROCK, BUT MAY NOT YIELD	<u>COLLUVIUM</u> - ROCK FRAGMENTS MIXED WITH SOIL DEPOSITED BY GRAVITY ON SLOPE OR AT BOTTOM OF SLOPE.
SYMBOL	HIGHLY COMPRESSIBLE LIDUD LIMIT GREATER THAN 50 PERCENTAGE OF MATERIAL	SEDIMENTARY ROCK (CP)	SPT REFUSAL ROCK TYPE INCLUDES LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, CEMENTED SHELL BEDS, ETC.	<u>CORE RECOVERY (REC.)</u> - TOTAL LENGTH OF ALL MATERIAL RECOVERED IN THE CORE BARREL DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
■ 10 50 MX GRANULAR SILT MUCK, CLAY PEAT	ORGANIC MATERIAL GRANULAR SILT- CLAY OTHER MATERIAL SOILS SOILS OTHER MATERIAL		WEATHERING	<u>DIKE</u> - A TABULAR BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK THAT CUTS ACROSS THE STRUCTURE OF ADJACENT ROCKS OR CUTS MASSIVE ROCK.
10 ID HAT	TRACE OF ORGANIC MATTER 2 - 3% 3 - 5% TRACE 1 - 10% LITTLE ORGANIC MATTER 3 - 5% 5 - 12% LITTLE 10 - 20%	, HAMMER IF	, CRYSTALS BRIGHT, FEW JOINTS MAY SHOW SLIGHT STAINING, ROCK RINGS UNDER CRYSTALLINE.	<u>DIP</u> - THE ANGLE AT WHICH A STRATUM OR ANY PLANAR FEATURE IS INCLINED FROM THE HORIZONTAL.
LASTIC INDEX 6 MX N.P. 10 MX 10 MX 11 MN 11 MN 10 MX 10 MX 11 MN 11 MN LITTLE OR HIGHLY	MODERATELY ORGANIC 5 - 10% 12 - 20% SOME 20 - 35% HIGHLY ORGANIC >10% >20% HIGHLY 35% AND	ABOVE (V. SLI.) CRYSTALS (ALLY FRESH, JOINTS STAINED, SOME JOINTS MAY SHOW THIN CLAY COATINGS IF OPEN, N A BROKEN SPECIMEN FACE SHINE BRIGHTLY, ROCK RINGS UNDER HAMMER BLOWS IF ALLINE NATURE.	<u>DIP DIRECTION (DIP AZIMUTH) -</u> THE DIRECTION OR BEARING OF THE HORIZONTAL TRACE OF THE LINE OF DIP, MEASURED CLOCKWISE FROM NORTH.
SROUP INDEX 0 0 0 4 MX 8 MX 12 MX 16 MX No MX MODERATE AMOUNTS OF SINGE FRAGS. FINE SILTY OR CLAYEY SILTY CLAYEY ORGANIC	GROUND WATER ✓ WATER LEVEL IN BORE HOLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER DRILLING.	SLIGHT ROCK GENER	ALLIY FRESH, JOINTS STAINED AND DISCOLORATION EXTENDS INTO ROCK UP TO N JUINTS MAY CONTAIN CLAY. IN GRANITOID ROCKS SOME OCCASIONAL FELDSPAR	<u>FAULT</u> - A FRACTURE OR FRACTURE ZONE ALONG WHICH THERE HAS BEEN DISPLACEMENT OF THE SIDES RELATIVE TO ONE ANOTHER PARALLEL TO THE FRACTURE.
F MAJOR GRAVEL AND SAND GRAVEL AND SAND SOILS SOILS MATTER	STATIC WATER LEVEL AFTER 24 HOURS.	CRYSTALS A	RE DULL AND DISCOLORED. CRYSTALINE ROCKS RING UNDER HAMMER BLOWS. PORTIONS OF ROCK SHOW DISCOLORATION AND WEATHERING EFFECTS, IN	FISSILE - A PROPERTY OF SPLITTING ALONG CLOSELY SPACED PARALLEL PLANES.
SEN.BATING AS A EXCELLENT TO GOOD FAIR TO POOR POOR POOR UNSUITABLE SUBGRADE	PERCHED WATER, SATURATED ZONE OR WATER BEARING STRATA	(MOD.) GRANITOID F	NOCKS, MOST FELDSPARS ARE DULL AND DISCOLORED, SOME SHOW CLAY, ROCK HAS UNDER HAMMER BLOWS AND SHOWS SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF STRENGTH AS COMPARED	FLDAT - ROCK FRAGMENTS ON SURFACE NEAR THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION AND DISLODGED FROM PARENT MATERIAL.
P.I. OF A-7-5 ≤ L.L 30 : P.I. OF A-7-6 > L.L 30	SPRING OR SEEPAGE	WITH FRESH MODERATELY ALL ROCK E	ROCK. XCEPT QUARTZ DISCOLORED OR STAINED, IN GRANITOID ROCKS, ALL FELDSPARS DULL	FLOOD PLAIN (F.P.) - LAND BORDERING A STREAM, BUILT OF SEDIMENTS DEPOSITED BY THE STREAM.
CONSISTENCY OR DENSENESS PRIMARY SOIL TYPE COMPACTNESS OR PANDARD RESISTENCE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH	MISCELLANEOUS SYMBOLS III ROADWAY EMBANKMENT AND SPIT TECH POPUNG COMPANY	(MOD, SEV.) AND CAN BE	DRED AND A MAJORITY SHOW KADLINIZATION. ROCK SHOWS SEVERE LOSS OF STRENGTH EXCAVATED WITH A GEOLOGIST'S PICK. ROCK GIVES 'CLUNK' SOUND WHEN STRUCK.	<u>FORMATION (FM.)</u> - A MAPPABLE GEOLOGIC UNIT THAT CAN BE RECOGNIZED AND TRACED IN THE FIELD.
CONSISTENCY (N-VALUE) (TONS/FT2)	ROADWAY EMBANKMENT WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION ROADWAY EMBANKMENT WITH SOIL DESCRIPTION ROADWAY EMBANKMENT DESIGNATION OFFICIAL PROPERTY OF CPT OFF	IONS SEVERE ALL ROCKS	<u>Would yield spt refusal</u> Except Quartz Discolored or Stained Rock Fabric Clear and Evident but reduced	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
GENERALLY VERY LUUSE <4 GRANULAR LOOSE 4 TO 10 MATERIAL MEDIUM DENSE 10 TO 30 N/A	SOIL SYMBOL AUGER BORING S- BULK SYMBOL ARTIFICIAL FILL OTHER THAN SS- SPLIT S	AMPLE EXTENT. SO	H TO STRONG SOIL. IN GRANITOID ROCKS ALL FELDSPARS ARE KAOLINIZED TO SOME ME FRAGMENTS OF STRONG ROCK USUALLY REMAIN. **YELDS SPT N VALUES > 100 BPF** **TELDS SPT N VALUES SPT N VALUES > 100 BPF** **TELDS SP	TIS LATERAL EXTENT. LENS - A BODY OF SOIL OR ROCK THAT THINS OUT IN ONE OR MORE DIRECTIONS.
(NON-COHESIVE) DENSE 30 TO 50 VERY DENSE >50	ROADWAY EMBANKMENTS ————————————————————————————————————	VERY SEVERE ALL ROCK E	SCEPT QUARTZ DISCOLORED OR STAINED, ROCK FABRIC ELEMENTS ARE DISCERNIBLE BUT S EFFECTIVELY REDUCED TO SOIL STATUS, WITH ONLY FRAGMENTS OF STRONG ROCK	MOTILED (MOT.) - IRREGULARLY MARKED WITH SPOTS OF DIFFERENT COLORS. MOTTLING IN SOILS USUALLY INDICATES POOR AERATION AND LACK OF GOOD DRAINAGE.
VERY SOFT	INFERRED SOIL BOUNDARIES MONITORING WELL SITE INFERRED ROCK LINE RS- ROCK S	REMAINING.	SAPROLITE IS AN EXAMPLE OF ROCK WEATHERED TO A DEGREE SUCH THAT ONLY MINOR THE ORIGINAL ROCK FABRIC REMAIN. <i>IF TESTED, YIELDS SPT N VALUES < 100 BPF</i>	PERCHED WATER - WATER MAINTAINED ABOVE THE NORMAL GROUND WATER LEVEL BY THE PRESENCE OF AN INTERVENING IMPERVIOUS STRATUM.
SILT-CLAY MEDIUM STIFF 4 TO 8 0.5 TO 1 MATERIAL STIFF 8 TO 15 1 TO 2	PIEZOMETER TTTTTT ALLUVIAL SDIL BOUNDARY ALLUVIAL SDIL BOUNDARY ALLUVIAL SDIL BOUNDARY	COMPLETE ROCK REDUC	ED TO SOIL. ROCK FABRIC NOT DISCERNIBLE, OR DISCERNIBLE ONLY IN SMALL AND CONCENTRATIONS. QUARTZ MAY BE PRESENT AS DIKES OR STRINGERS. SAPROLITE IS	RESIDUAL SOIL - SOIL FORMED IN PLACE BY THE WEATHERING OF ROCK.
(COHESIVE) VERY STIFF 15 TO 30 2 TO 4 HARD >30 >4	25/025 DIP/DIP DIRECTION OF SLOPE INDICATOR TRIAXIA SLOPE INDICATOR TRIAXIA INSTALLATION CBR - CBR	AL SAMPLE ALSO AN EX		ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (R.O.D.) - A MEASURE OF ROCK QUALITY DESCRIBED BY: TOTAL LENGTH OF ROCK SEGMENTS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 4 INCHES DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
TEXTURE OR GRAIN SIZE J.S. STD. SIEVE SIZE 4 10 40 60 200 270	SPT N-VALUE		SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR SHARP PICK, BREAKING OF HAND SPECIMENS REQUIRES	SAPPOLITE (SAP.) - RESIDUAL SOIL WHICH RETAINS THE RELIC STRUCTURE OR FABRIC OF THE
PENING (MM) 4.76 2.0 0.42 0.25 0.075 0.053	ABBREVIATIONS	HARD CAN BE SC	ARD BLOWS OF THE GEOLOGISTS PICK. RATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK ONLY WITH DIFFICULTY. HARD HAMMER BLOWS REQUIRED	PARENT ROCK. SILL - AN INTRUSIVE BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK OF APPROXIMATELY UNIFORM THICKNESS AND DESCRIPTION THIN COMPANY AND A TOTAL OF THE THIRD APPROXIMATELY UNIFORM THICKNESS AND
BOULDER CDBBLE GRAVEL CDARSE FINE SILT CLAY (BLDR.) (COB.) (GR.) (CSE. SD.) (F. SD.) (SL.) (CL.)	AR - AUGER REFUSAL PMT - PRESSUREMETER TEST	1	HAND SPECIMEN. RATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK. GOUGES OR GROOVES TO 0.25 INCHES DEEP CAN BE	RELATIVELY THIN COMPARED WITH ITS LATERAL EXTENT, WHICH HAS BEEN EMPLACED PARALLEL TO THE BEDDING OR SCHISTOSITY OF THE INTRUDED ROCKS
GRAIN MM 305 75 2.0 0.25 0.05 0.005 SIZE IN 12* 3*	BT - BORING TERMINATED SD SAND, SANDY CL CLAY SL SILT, SILTY CPT - CONE PENETRATION TEST SLI SLIGHTLY		BY HARD BLOW OF A GEOLOGISTS PICK. HAND SPECIMENS CAN BE DETACHED	SLICKENSIDE - POLISHED AND STRIATED SURFACE THAT RESULTS FROM FRICTION ALONG A FAULT OR SLIP PLANE.
SOIL MOISTURE - CORRELATION OF TERMS	CSE CDARSE TEST TCR - TRICONE REFUSAL DMT - DILATOMETER TEST 7 - UNIT WEIGHT	HARD CAN BE EX	OOVED OR GOUGED 0.05 INCHES DEEP BY FIRM PRESSURE OF KNIFE OR PICK POINT. CAVATED IN SMALL CHIPS TO PEICES 1 INCH MAXIMUM SIZE BY HARD BLOWS OF THE	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 BJ. FOOT PENETRATION
SOIL MOISTURE SCALE FIELD MOISTURE GUIDE FOR FIELD MOISTURE DESCRIPTION OUTPER OUTPE	• - VOID RATIO 724 - DRY UNIT WEIGHT	SOFT CAN BE GR	A GEOLOGISTS PICK. OVED OR GOUGED READILY BY KNIFE OR PICK. CAN BE EXCAVATED IN FRAGMENTS	WITH 60 BLOWS.
- SATURATED - USUALLY LIQUID; VERY WET, USUALLY	F FINE W - MOISTURE CONTENT FOSS FOSSILIFEROUS V VERY FRAC FRACTURED VST - VANE SHEAR TEST	PIECES CAI	S TO SEVERAL INCHES IN SIZE BY MODERATE BLOWS OF A PICK POINT. SMALL, THIN N BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE.	STRATA CORE RECOVERY (SREC.) - TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATA MATERIAL RECOVERED DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATUM AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE. STRATA PROCEDURAL TYPE SECRETARIAL OF D.D.D. A MESCURE OF DOCK OF THE TYPE SECRETARIAL OF D.D.D.D. A MESCURE OF DOCK OF THE TYPE SECRETARIAL OF D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.D.
LL LIOUID LIMIT (SAT.) FROM BELOW THE GROUND WATER TABLE	FRAGS FRAGMENTS MED MEDIUM		RVED WITH KNIFE. CAN BE EXCAVATED READILY WITH POINT OF PICK. PIECES 1 INCH N THICKNESS CAN BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE. CAN BE SCRATCHED READILY BY	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.
RANGE CPI) PLASTIC LIMIT SEMISOLID, REQUIRES DRYING TO ATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	EQUIPMENT USED ON SUBJECT PROJECT	FRACTURE	SPACING BEDDING	TOPSOIL (T.S.) - SURFACE SOILS USUALLY CONTAINING ORGANIC MATTER.
OM OPTIMUM MOISTURE - MOIST - (M) SOLID; AT OR NEAR OPTIMUM MOISTURE	DRILL UNITS: ADVANCING TOOLS: HAMMER TYPE: AUTOMATIC	IERM VERY WIDE	SPACING IERM THICKNESS MORE THAN 10 FEET VERY THICKLY BEDDED > 4 FEET THICKLY BEDDED 1.5 - 4 FEET	BENCH MARK: BL-4 STA, 15+27,25
SL SHRINKAGE LIMIT	MOBILE B- CLAY BITS 6° CONTINUOUS FLIGHT AUGER CORE SIZE:	WIDE	3 TO 10 FEET	ELEVATION: 39.81'
- DRY - (D) REQUIRES ADDITIONAL WATER TO ATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	BK-51 8* HOLLOW AUGERS -B	VERY CLOSE	LESS THAN 0.16 FEET THICKLY LAMINATED 0.008 - 0.03 FEET THINLY LAMINATED < 0.008 FEET	NOTES:
PLASTICITY PLASTICITY INDEX (PI) DRY STRENGTH	■ CME-45B	FOR SEDIMENTARY ROCKS, I	INDURATION NDURATION IS THE HARDENING OF THE MATERIAL BY CEMENTING, HEAT, PRESSURE, ETC.	
PLASTIC 0-5 VERY LOW PLASTICITY 6-15 SLIGHT	CME-550 TUNG,-CARBIDE INSERTS -H -H	FRIABLE	RUBBING WITH FINGER FREES NUMEROUS GRAINS; GENTLE BLOW BY HAMMER DISINTEGRATES SAMPLE.	
PLASTICITY 16-25 MEDIUM 16H PLASTICITY 26 OR MORE HIGH	PORTABLE HOIST TRICONE 2% STEEL TEETH POST HOL	LE DIGGER MODERATELY INC	JURATED GRAINS CAN BE SEPARATED FROM SAMPLE WITH STEEL PROBE;	
COLOR	OTHER TRICONE TUNG, CARB. HAND AUGI		BREAKS EASILY WHEN HIT WITH HAMMER. GRAINS ARE DIFFICULT TO SEPARATE WITH STEEL PROBE;	
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 OTHER VANE SHE	1100	DIFFICULT TO BREAK WITH HAMMER.	
	OTHER	EXTREMELT INDU	SAMPLE BREAKS ACROSS GRAINS.	
				REVISED 09/15/00