

Project Submittal Interim Form

Updated December 4, 2023



*Please note: fields marked with a red asterisk * below are required. You will not be able to submit the form until all mandatory questions are answered.*

Project Type: *

- ☐ For the Record Only (Courtesy Copy)
- ☐ New Project
- ☒ Modification/New Project with Existing ID
- ☐ More Information Response
- ☐ Other Agency Comments
- ☐ Pre-Application Submittal
- ☐ Re-Issuance/Renewal Request
- ☐ Stream or Buffer Appeal

Project Contact Information

Name: Erin Cheely
Who is submitting the information?

Email Address: * ekcheely@ncdot.gov

Project Information

Existing ID #: *

20231008
20170001 (no dashes)

Existing Version: *

2
1

Project Name: * I-2513 Asheville Connector

Is this a public transportation project? *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Is this a DOT project? *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Is the project located within a NC DCM Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)? *

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

Does this project involve maintenance dredging funded by the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund, electric generation projects located at an existing or former electric generating facility, or involve the distribution or transmission of energy or fuel, including natural gas, diesel, petroleum, or electricity? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is this project connected with ARPA funding? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

TIP#:

I-2513

WBS#:

34165.1.2

(Applies to DOT projects only)

County (ies) *

Buncombe

Please upload all files that need to be submitted.

[Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document](#)

I-2513 2025-10-06 Modification Application Package.pdf 3.84MB

Only pdf or kmz files are accepted.

Describe the attachments or add comments:

* ☒ By checking the box and signing box below, I certify that:

- I, the project proponent, hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I, the project proponent, hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.
- I agree that submission of this online form is a "transaction" subject to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I agree to conduct this transaction by electronic means pursuant to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I understand that an electronic signature has the same legal effect and can be enforced in the same way as a written signature; AND
- I intend to electronically sign and submit the online form.

Signature: *



Submittal Date:

10/6/2025



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

October 6, 2025

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Field Office
151 Patton Avenue, Room 208
Asheville, NC 28805

NC Division of Water Resources
Transportation Permitting Branch
2090 U.S. 70 Highway
Swannanoa, NC 28778-8211

ATTN: Ms. Lori Beckwith
NCDOT Coordinator

Ms. Amy Annino
NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Request for Utility Permit Modification of the Section 404 Individual Permit, Section 10, and 401 Water Quality Certification** for the proposed I-26 Asheville Connector, From I-40 east of SR 1224, to US 19/23 near the Broadway St Interchange; Federal Aid Project No. NHF-26-1(53), Division 13. Debit \$570 from WBS 34165.1.2. TIP No. I-2513

References: (1) Sections 404 & 10 Individual Permit, Action ID No. SAW-2004-9986803, issued February 6, 2024 and June 26, 2025; (2) Section 401 Water Quality Certification No. 006377, NCDWR Project No. 20231008, issued October 30, 2023 and June 24, 2025; (3) Modified Biological Opinion USFWS Service Log #02-252, issued May 12, 2025.

Dear Madams:

The purpose of this letter is to request a Utility Permit Modification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Individual Permit, Action ID No. SAW-2004-9986803 and associated North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) Section 401 Water Quality Certification No. 006377 for the subject project, specifically for in-water utility work for I-2513AA/AB under I-40, east of the Smokey Park Highway Interchange. This action occurs mostly outside of the originally permitted area.

I-40WB near existing Exit 44 is being widened to accommodate a new off ramp serving westbound traffic. This widening includes the extension of a triple culvert currently carrying Ragsdale Creek as shown in the previously permitted Site 2 (Permit Drawing Sheet 5 of 26 – attached to this submittal as Utility Permit Mod Sheet 1). An existing 18” sewer line runs along Ragsdale Creek, through the eastern barrel of the culvert, and into Site 2. To accommodate the culvert extension and removal of the existing sewer from Ragsdale Creek, a new line was planned to the east running under I-40. This action will result in <0.01 acre of temporary impacts to Ragsdale Creek at the outlet of the culvert into Permit Site 2. These utility impacts to Ragsdale Creek are within the footprint of the permitted Site 2 impacts. It will also result in <0.01 acre of temporary impacts to the UT to Ragsdale Creek on the south side of I-40.

This new sewer alignment is to be constructed utilizing trenchless installation of a 36” encasement pipe transverse to the interstate travel lanes. The new 18” sewer runs through encasement pipe and will tie to existing lines located within Site 2. To accomplish this, excavation across the UT to Ragsdale Creek for

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ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598

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1000 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE
RALEIGH NC 27610

installation of a trench box/shoring will be necessary. To mitigate impacts at the site, typical BMPs will be utilized. Impervious dikes will be installed up and downstream of the trench box in the UT. Dewatering of the site will be completed by pumping into a special stilling basing. The UT will be pumped from upstream of the impervious dike to Ragsdale Creek (clean to clean). Once the new sewer line is clear of the UT, the channel can be restored and stabilized utilizing coir fiber matting and native seed blends.

Once the new line is completely tied in and active, the existing line will be abandoned. Since the existing line currently runs along Ragsdale Creek and through the culvert, it is preferable to remove the abandoned line from the creek entirely. In order to remove the line from the culvert, a cable system will be run through to pull sections of pipe back towards the TUE/PUE and out of the creek. To prevent any additional permanent impacts to Ragsdale Creek, installation of an impervious dike is recommended. This option will move all water to the unaffected barrels while the abandoned pipe is removed. A summary of impacts is detailed on the attached Utility Permit Mod Sheet 3.

With the proposed impacts to jurisdictional waters being temporary, no additional compensatory mitigation is proposed with this request. Additionally, no changes have occurred to special commitments for this project.

NCDOT requests to modify the referenced permits for this project. Application is hereby made for modification of the USACE Section 404 Permit and the NCDWR Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

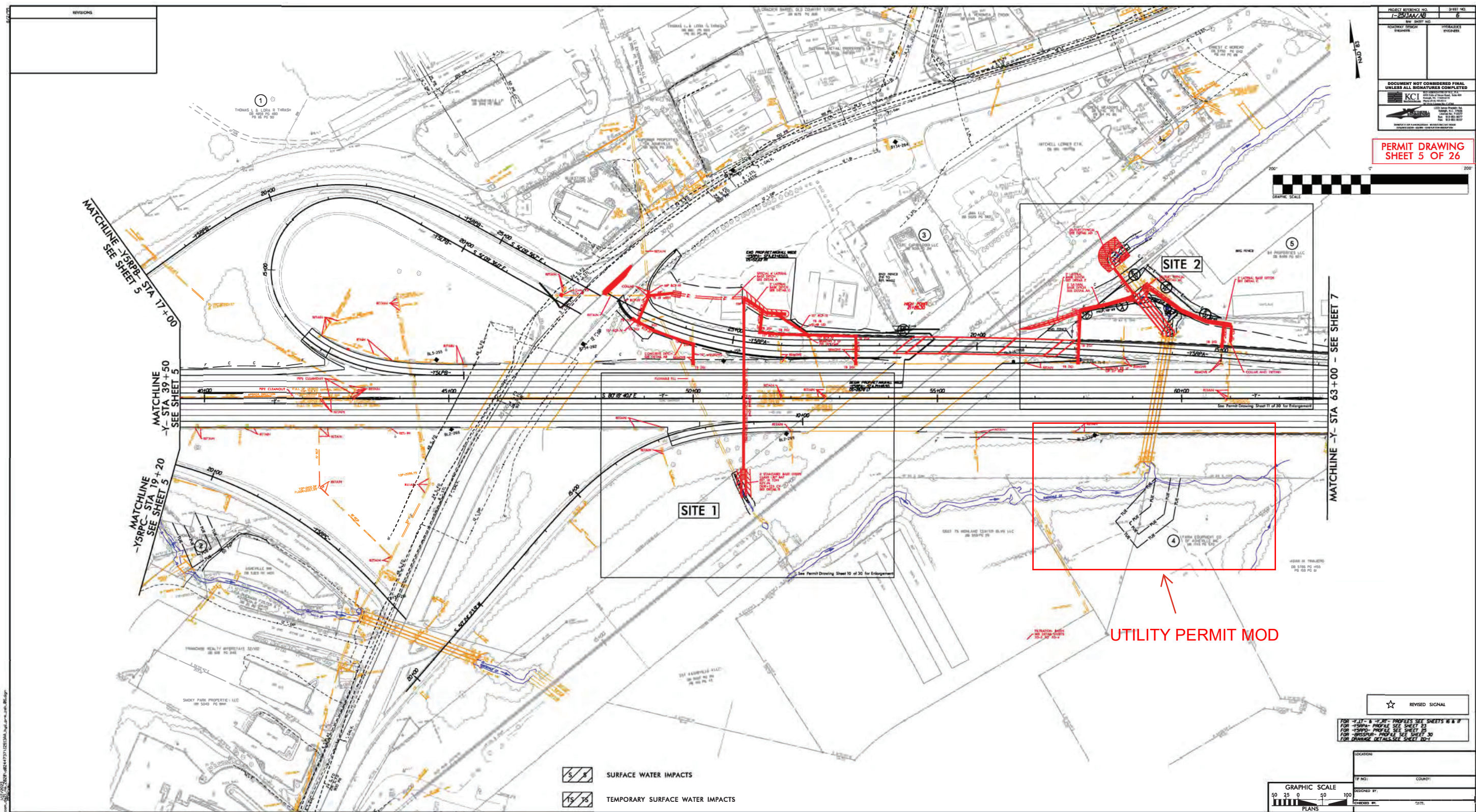
Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jeff Hemphill at jhemphill@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6126. A copy of this modification request and distribution list will also be posted on the NCDOT website at: <http://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Environmental>.

Sincerely,

 Digitally
signed by
Michael
Turchy

Michael Turchy
Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group Leader
Environmental Analysis Unit

Enclosures



i-2513AA/AB UTILITY PERMIT DRAWINGS
SHEET 1



