

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT SECRETARY

June 4, 2007

Mr. William Wescott U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Field Office Post Office Box 1000 Washington, NC 27889-1000

Mr. Stephen Lane Division of Coastal Management N. C. Dept. of Env. & Natural Resources 400 Commerce Avenue Morehead City, NC 28557

Dear Sir:

Subject: Request for Modification of 404 Individual Permit, 401 Water Quality

> Tar-Pamlico Buffer Authorization, and CAMA Certification Permit. Consistency for the proposed Washington Bypass. US 17 From South of SR 1127 (Possum Track Road) to North of SR 1509 (Springs Road). TIP Number: R-2510, Federal Aid Project MAF-75-3(26). Debit \$475 for WQC Modification from WBS

Element No. 34440.1.1

Reference: USACE Action ID 199301143

DWQ Project No. 050785, WQC No. 3527

Coastal Area Management Act Consistency Concurrence

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is requesting a modification to Permit No. 199301143 for wetland and surface water impacts associated with R-2510A. Included in this package are the following: additional wetland impacts, Tar-Pamlico Riparian Buffer Impacts, and revised utility drawings.

The revised design does not compromise NCDOT's compliance with the existing permit conditions. The revision has been evaluated for compliance with the avoidance/minimization criteria and is in compliance with all previous issues, including the following:

- Protected Species
- Aquatic Life passage
- FEMA compliance
- Cultural Resources

Summary of Changes

NCDOT proposes to hand clear 0.15 acre of non-riverine wetlands (refer to sheets 9 & 10) and to hand clear 343 square feet of riparian buffers in Zone 1 (sheet 21). This work is required for the relocation of a power line.

TELEPHONE: 919-733-3141 FAX: 919-733-9794

WEBSITE: WWW.NCDOT.ORG

LOCATION: TRANSPORTATION BUILDING 1 South WILMINGTON STREET RALEIGH NC

General Project Description

The NCDOT proposes to improve existing US 17 to a high speed, multi-lane highway that bypasses the City of Washington. R-2510A will include the widening of approximately 4.2 miles of US 17 from South of SR 1127 (Possum Track Road) to South of SR 1149 (Price Road). The proposed roadway will be a four-lane, divided highway, with grass shoulders and ditches, and a 46-foot wide grassed median.

Tar-Pamlico Buffer Impacts

The total Tar-Pamlico River riparian buffer impacts associated with R-2510A at site BZ 1 (sheet 21) consist of 0.01 acre (437 sq. ft.) in Zone 1.

Hand Clearing

Additional proposed impacts to CWA jurisdictional areas of R-2510A consist of 0.15 acre of non-riverine wetlands (refer to sheets 9 & 10).

PERMITTING ACTIVITY TO DATE

Clean Water Act Section 404 Individual Permit

The project received a Clean Water Act Section 404 Individual Permit (Action ID # 199301143) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wilmington District on November 28, 2005. This permit authorized construction for Section R-2510A. A modification dated January 17, 2007 to the permit was received by NCDOT.

Section 401 Water Quality Certification

The project received a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (DWQ Project No. 050785, WQC No. 3527) from the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) on September 6, 2005. A modification dated February 13, 2007 was received by NCDOT.

Tar-Pamlico Riparian Buffer Authorization

The project received a Tar-Pamlico Riparian Buffer Authorization (DWQ Project No. 050785, WQC No. 3527) from the NCDWQ on September 6, 2005. A modification dated February 13, 2007 was received by NCDOT.

Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Consistency Certification

A Consistency Certification was issued by North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Coastal Management (NCDCM) on October 31, 2005 for the entire R-2510 project.

MITIGATION

<u>Jurisdictional Wetland Mitigation</u>: NCDOT does not propose mitigation for these impacts due to handclearing.

<u>Tar-Pamlico Buffer Mitigation</u>: The powerline is crossing the stream at a perpendicular angle. Therefore, the impacts are exempt and compensatory mitigation is not proposed.

REGULATORY APPROVALS

The NCDOT respectfully requests that the referenced Section 404 Permit be modified to reflect the changes in jurisdictional impacts as outlined in this letter and presented in the attached drawings. The NCDOT is also requesting a modification to the 401 Water Quality Certification and Tar-Pamlico Buffer Authorization from the NCDWQ. In compliance with Section 143-215.3D(e) of the NCAC, we have provided a method of debiting \$475, as noted in the subject line of this application, as payment for processing the Section 401 permit modification application. We are providing five copies of this modification application to the NCDWQ for their review and approval. Additionally, NCDOT certifies that the proposed activity remains in compliance with the enforceable policies of North Carolina's approved management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program. Please find the attached updated permit drawings.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Mr. Chris Underwood at (919) 715-1451.

E. J. Luck

Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D., Environmental Management Director Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch

Cc:

W/attachment

Mr. John Hennessy, NCDWQ (5 Copies)

Mr. Travis Wilson, NCWRC

Ms. Kathy Matthews, USEPA

Mr. Ronald Mikulak, USEPA - Atlanta, GA

Mr. Clarence W. Coleman, P.E., FHWA

Mr. Gary Jordan, USFWS

Mr. Ron Sechler, NMFS

Mr. Michael Street, NCDMF

Mr. Steve Sollod, NCDCM

Dr. David Chang, P.E., Hydraulics

Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E., Structure Design

Mr. Victor Barbour, P.E., Project Services Unit

Mr. Mark Staley, Roadside Environmental

Mr. C. E. Lassiter, P.E., Division 2

Mr. Jay Johnson, Division 2

W/o attachment

Mr. Scott McLendon, USACE, Wilmington

Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E., Roadway Design

Mr. Majed Alghandour, P.E., Programming & TIP

Mr. Art McMillan, P.E., Highway Design

Mr. Brian Yamamoto, P.E., PDEA

Mr. Carl Goode, P.E., Human Environment





