



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MACHELLE SANDERS
SECRETARY

September 13, 2017

Ms. Lynn Jarvis
North Carolina Department of Commerce
Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325

Re: SCH File # 18-E-4600-0038; Amended Application of ABD Farm Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 4.99 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Randolph Co. Docket #SP-4345, Sub 0.

Dear Ms. Jarvis:

The above referenced environmental impact information has been reviewed through the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act.

Attached to this letter are comments made in the review of this document. Because of the nature of the comments, it has been determined that no further State Clearinghouse review action on your part is needed for compliance with the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act. The attached comments should be taken into consideration in project development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Crystal Best".

Crystal Best
State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments
cc: Region G



ROY COOPER
Governor
MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

OFFICIAL COPY

Sep 13 2017

MEMORANDUM

To: Crystal Best
State Clearinghouse Coordinator
Department of Administration

From: Lyn Hardison *LBH*
Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service
Environmental Assistance and Project Review Coordinator
Washington Regional Office

RE: 18-0038 (15-0020)
Environmental Review – AMENDED Application of ABD Farm Solar, LLC for Certificate to
construct a 4.99 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating facility
Randolph County

Date: September 12, 2017

The Department of Environmental Quality has completed its review of the proposal for the referenced project. Based on the information provided, several of our agencies have identified permits that may be required and offered some valuable guidance to minimize impacts to the natural resources, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources within and around the project area. The comments are attached for the applicant's review.

If the applicant has any questions pertaining to NCDEQ permitting processes, please ask them to contact Marcia Allocco, Permit Assistance Coordinator, in the Department's Mooresville Regional Office, (704)663-1699. The proposed project is located within her geographic working territory.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Attachment




North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Assistance and SEPA Coordinator
NCDENR Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Services

FROM: Olivia Munzer, Western Piedmont Coordinator 
Habitat Conservation

DATE: 24 August 2017

SUBJECT: Amended Application of ABD Farm Solar, LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 4.99-MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility, Randolph County. Docket No. SP 4345, Sub 0. DEQ Project No. 18-0038.

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) have reviewed the proposed project description. Comments are provided in accordance with certain provisions of the North Carolina (N.C.) Environmental Policy Act (G.S. 113A-1 through 113A-10; 1 NCAC 25) and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

ABD Farm Solar, LLC proposes to construct a 4.99-MW photovoltaic electric generating facility located on approximately 45 acres near the intersection of Sunflower Drive and U.S. Highway 64 East in Asheboro, Randolph County, N.C. On 4 August 2017, ABD Farm Solar, LLC submitted an amendment to construct an additional access road along Sunflower Drive, which will be widened for the construction of the facility. The NCWRC provided comments on the original application on 30 July 2014.

The site drains to Gabriels Creek and its tributaries in the Cape Fear River basin. Gabriels Creek is classified as a Class C stream by N.C. Division of Water Resources (NCDWR). There are records for the federally and state endangered Schweinitz's sunflower (*Helianthus schweinitzii*) near the site. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists the federally threatened and state significantly rare northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as having the potential to occur within or near the proposed site if suitable habitat is present. The lack of records from the site does not imply or confirm the absence of federal or state-listed species or state Species of Greatest Conservation Need listed in the 2015 State Wildlife Action Plan (<http://www.ncwildlife.org/plan>); we are unaware of any protected-species surveys having occurred within or adjacent to the project area.

Constructing the solar facility primarily within the pasture and avoiding clearing the forested areas will have less impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife species. Furthermore, solar projects should be sited to avoid impacts to wetlands, streams, floodplains, riparian buffers, and priority wildlife habitat. In addition to the recommendations submitted on 30 July 2014, we offer the following recommendations to minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources:

1. The project footprint should be surveyed for wetlands and streams to ensure there are no impacts to surface waters. In addition to providing wildlife habitat, wetland areas and streams aid in flood control and water quality protection. United States Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permits and NCDWR Section 401 Certifications are required for any impacts to jurisdictional streams or wetlands.
2. Streams and wetland areas should be avoided where possible. Placing fill in aquatic resources can alter hydrology, result in significant negative impacts to downstream areas, and eliminate aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat. Additional impervious surface results in an increase in stormwater runoff that can exert significant impacts on stream morphology. This will cause further degradation of aquatic habitat through accelerated stream bank erosion, channel and bedload changes, altered substrates, and scouring of the stream channel. In addition, pollutants (e.g., sediment, heavy metals, pesticides, and fertilizers) washed from developed landscapes can adversely affect and extirpate species downstream.
3. Maintain or establish a minimum 100-foot undisturbed, native forested buffer along each side of perennial streams and 50-foot undisturbed, native forested buffer along each side of intermittent streams and wetlands. Forested riparian buffers provide habitat areas and travel corridors for wildlife species. In addition, forested riparian buffers protect water quality by stabilizing stream banks and filtering stormwater runoff.
4. Avoid tree clearing activities during the maternity roosting season for bats (May 15 – August 15).
5. Use bridges for all permanent roadway crossings of streams and associated wetlands to eliminate the need to fill and culvert, where practicable. If culverts must be used, the culvert should be designed to allow passage of aquatic organisms.
6. Fencing around large solar facilities can impact wildlife movements. We recommend using wildlife-friendly fencing, such as leaving gaps at the bottom of the fence and avoid using barbed wire.
7. Re-seed disturbed areas with seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife. Avoid fescue-based mixtures because fescue is invasive and provides little benefit to wildlife. Consider planting native, wildflower seed mixes that will create pollinator habitat within the project boundary. Shade-tolerant plants that are within 12 to 18 inches can be selected for plantings both underneath and around the solar panels. Pollinator habitat can also be created in buffer areas outside of the panel region. **Planting native vegetation can reduce costs of maintenance.** In addition, consider adding other habitat-enhancing features, such as wildlife-friendly fencing, bat boxes, and brush piles that will minimize impacts from habitat loss. Further information and **free** technical guidance from the NCWRC is available upon request.
8. Sediment and erosion control measures should be installed prior to any land clearing or construction. The use of **biodegradable and wildlife-friendly sediment and erosion control devices** is strongly recommended. Silt fencing, fiber rolls and/or other products should have loose-weave netting that is made of natural fiber materials with movable joints between the vertical and horizontal twines. Silt fencing or similar materials that have been reinforced with plastic or metal mesh should be avoided as they impede the movement of terrestrial wildlife species. Excessive silt and sediment loads can have detrimental effects on aquatic resources including destruction of spawning habitat, suffocation of eggs and clogging of gills.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project. Please contact me at (336) 290-0056 or olivia.munzer@ncwildlife.org if there are any questions about these comments.

State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT COMMENTS

Reviewing Regional Office: WSRO
Project Number: 18-0038 Due Date: 09/06/2017
County: Randolph

After review of this project it has been determined that the DEQ permit(s) and/or approvals indicated may need to be obtained in order for this project to comply with North Carolina Law. Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office indicated on the reverse of the form. All applications, information and guidelines relative to these plans and permits are available from the same Regional Office.

	PERMITS	SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate wastewater treatment facilities, non-standard sewer system extensions & sewer systems that do not discharge into state surface waters.	Application 90 days before begins construction or award of construction contracts. On-site inspection may be required. Post-application technical conference usual.	30 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate, sewer extensions involving gravity sewers, pump stations and force mains discharging into a sewer collection system	Fast-Track Permitting program consists of the submittal of an application and an engineer's certification that the project meets all applicable State rules and Division Minimum Design Criteria.	30 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NPDES - permit to discharge into surface water and/or permit to operate and construct wastewater facilities discharging into state surface waters.	Application 180 days before begins activity. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Additionally, obtain permit to construct wastewater treatment facility-granted after NPDES. Reply time, 30 days after receipt of plans or issue of NPDES permit-whichever is later.	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Use Permit	Pre-application technical conference usually necessary.	30 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Construction Permit	Complete application must be received and permit issued prior to the installation of a groundwater monitoring well located on property not owned by the applicant, and for a large capacity (>100,000 gallons per day) water supply well.	7 days (15 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dredge and Fill Permit	Application copy must be served on each adjacent riparian property owner. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Filling may require Easement to Fill from N.C. Department of Administration and Federal Dredge and Fill Permit.	55 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate Air Pollution Abatement facilities and/or Emission Sources as per 15 A NCAC (2Q.0100 thru 2Q.0300)	Application must be submitted and permit received prior to construction and operation of the source. If a permit is required in an area without local zoning, then there are additional requirements and timelines (2Q.0113).	90 days
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Any open burning associated with subject proposal must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 2D.1900	N/A	60 days (90 days)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demolition or renovations of structures containing asbestos material must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 20.1110 (a) (1) which requires notification and removal prior to demolition. Contact Asbestos Control Group 919-707-5950	Please Note - The Health Hazards Control Unit (HHCU) of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, must be notified of plans to demolish a building, including residences for commercial or industrial expansion, even if no asbestos is present in the building.	60 days (90 days)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 must be properly addressed for any land disturbing activity. An erosion & sedimentation control plan will be required if one or more acres are to be disturbed. Plan must be filed with and approved by applicable Regional Office (Land Quality Section) at least 30 days before beginning activity. A NPDES Construction Stormwater permit (NCG010000) is also usually issued should design features meet minimum requirements. A fee of \$65 for the first acre or any part of an acre. An express review option is available with additional fees.		20 days (30 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addressed in accordance with NCDOT's approved program. Particular attention should be given to design and installation of appropriate perimeter sediment trapping devices as well as stable Stormwater conveyances and outlets.		(30 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addressed in accordance with _____ Local Government's approved program. Particular attention should be given to design and installation of appropriate perimeter sediment trapping devices as well as stable Stormwater conveyances and outlets.		Based on Local Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with 15A NCAC 2H .0126 - NPDES Stormwater Program which regulates three types of activities: Industrial, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System & Construction activities that disturb ≥1 acre.		30-60 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with 15A NCAC 2H 1000 -State Stormwater Permitting Programs regulate site development and post-construction stormwater runoff control. Areas subject to these permit programs include all 20 coastal counties, and various other counties and watersheds throughout the state.		45 days (90 days)

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State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT COMMENTS

Reviewing Regional Office: WSRO
Project Number: 18-0038 Due Date: 09/06/2017
County: Randolph

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Sep 13 2017

	PERMITS	SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mining Permit	On-site inspection usual. Surety bond filed with DEQ Bond amount varies with type mine and number of acres of affected land. Affected area greater than one acre must be permitted. The appropriate bond must be received before the permit can be issued.	30 days (60 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dam Safety Permit	If permit required, application 60 days before begin construction. Applicant must hire N.C. qualified engineer to: prepare plans, inspect construction, and certify construction is according to DEQ approved plans. May also require a permit under mosquito control program. And a 404 permit from Corps of Engineers. An inspection of site is necessary to verify Hazard Classification. A minimum fee of \$200.00 must accompany the application. An additional processing fee based on a percentage or the total project cost will be required upon completion.	30 days (60 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil Refining Facilities	N/A	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to drill exploratory oil or gas well	File surety bond of \$5,000 with DEQ running to State of NC conditional that any well opened by drill operator shall, upon abandonment, be plugged according to DEQ rules and regulations.	10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geophysical Exploration Permit	Application filed with DEQ at least 10 days prior to issue of permit. Application by letter. No standard application form.	10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Lakes Construction Permit	Application fee based on structure size is charged. Must include descriptions & drawings of structure & proof of ownership of riparian property	15-20 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	401 Water Quality Certification	Compliance with the T15A 02H .0500 Certifications are required whenever construction or operation of facilities will result in a discharge into navigable water as described in 33 CFR part 323.	60 days (130 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with Catawba, Goose Creek, Jordan Lake, Randleman, Tar Pamlico or Neuse Riparian Buffer Rules is required. Buffer requirements: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/401-wetlands-buffer-permits/401-riparian-buffer-protection-program		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nutrient Offset: Loading requirements for nitrogen and phosphorus in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River basins, and in the Jordan and Falls Lake watersheds, as part of the nutrient-management strategies in these areas. DWR nutrient offset information: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/planning/nonpoint-source-management/nutrient-offset-information		
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MAJOR development	\$250.00 - \$475.00 fee must accompany application	75 days (150 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MINOR development	\$100.00 fee must accompany application	22 days (25 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Abandonment of any wells, if required must be in accordance with Title 15A. Subchapter 2C.0100.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Notification of the proper regional office is requested if "orphan" underground storage tanks (USTS) are discovered during any excavation operation.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plans and specifications for the construction, expansion, or alteration of a public water system must be approved by the Division of Water Resources/Public Water Supply Section prior to the award of a contract or the initiation of construction as per 15A NCAC 18C .0300 et. seq., Plans and specifications should be submitted to 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1634. All public water supply systems must comply with state and federal drinking water monitoring requirements. For more information, contact the Public Water Supply Section, (919) 707-9100.		30 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	If existing water lines will be relocated during the construction, plans for the water line relocation must be submitted to the Division of Water Resources/Public Water Supply Section at 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1634. For more information, contact the Public Water Supply Section, (919) 707-9100.		30 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plans and specifications for the construction, expansion, or alteration of the _____ water system must be approved through the _____ delegated plan approval authority. Please contact them at _____ for further information.		

State of North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT COMMENTS

Reviewing Regional Office: WSRO
Project Number: 18-0038 Due Date: 09/06/2017
County: Randolph

Other Comments (attach additional pages as necessary, being certain to comment authority)

Division	Initials	No comment	Comments	Date Review
DAQ	LDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	see above	8/15/17
DWR-WQROS (Aquifer & Surface)	GSS &SH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	&	9/5/17 / /
DWR-PWS	EAH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project is not scheduled for review by regional PWS Section	8/17/17
DEMLR (LQ & SW)	MEG	<input type="checkbox"/>	See Above	8/15/17
DWM – UST	LME	<input type="checkbox"/>	See above	8/24/17
Other Comments		<input type="checkbox"/>		/ /

REGIONAL OFFICES

Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office marked below.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asheville Regional Office
2090 U.S. 70 Highway
Swannanoa, NC 28778-8211
Phone: 828-296-4500
Fax: 828-299-7043 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fayetteville Regional Office
225 Green Street, Suite 714,
Fayetteville, NC 28301-5043
Phone: 910-433-3300
Fax: 910-486-0707 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mooreville Regional Office
610 East Center Avenue, Suite 301,
Mooreville, NC 28115
Phone: 704-663-1699
Fax: 704-663-6040 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raleigh Regional Office
3800 Barrett Drive,
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone: 919-791-4200
Fax: 919-571-4718 | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington Regional Office
943 Washington Square Mall,
Washington, NC 27889
Phone: 252-946-6481
Fax: 252-975-3716 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilmington Regional Office
127 Cardinal Drive Ext.,
Wilmington, NC 28405
Phone: 910-796-7215
Fax: 910-350-2004 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Winston-Salem Regional Office
450 Hanes Mill Road, Suite 300,
Winston-Salem, NC 27105
Phone: 336-776-9800
Fax: 336-776-9797 | |

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: RANDOLPH

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0038
DATE RECEIVED: 08/10/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 09/06/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 09/11/2017

MS RENEE GLEDHILL-EARLEY
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
MSC 4617 - ARCHIVES BUILDING
RALEIGH NC



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DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce
TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Review

DESC: Amended Application of ABD Farm Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 4.99 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Randolph Co. Docket #SP-4345, Sub 0. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type SP-4345 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located at 3224 US Highway 64, Asheboro, NC

Amended due to the addition of an additional access road to the site plan.

CROSS-REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-E-4600-0020

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your response by the above indicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1301.

If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☒ NO COMMENT ☐ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:

Renee Gledhill-Earley

DATE:

9.6.17

AUG 21 2017

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Sep 13 2017

14-1649
CH 17-1531
A @ 8/23/17
H
due 8/30

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

AUG 15 2017

COUNTY: RANDOLPH

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0038
DATE RECEIVED: 08/10/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 09/06/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 09/11/2017

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Sep 13 2017

MS CINDY WILLIAMS
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
4218 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC

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PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

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TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act
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AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☐ NO COMMENT ☒ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:



DATE:

24 August 2017



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Emergency Management

Roy Cooper, Governor
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Michael A. Sprayberry, Director

August 24, 2017

State Clearinghouse
N.C. Department of Administration
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1301

Subject: Intergovernmental Review State Number: 18-E-4220-0032
NCDOT TIP U-5739, US-258 Improvements, Onslow County

As requested by the North Carolina State Clearinghouse, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management Risk Management reviewed the revised documents for ABD Farm Solar, LLC project in Randolph County and offers the following comments, identical to the ones provided for 15-E-4600-0020 on July 29, 2014:

- 1) The project site is located in Randolph County. Randolph County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and enforces a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance that requires a Floodplain Development Permit be issued for all development located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) within its jurisdiction. Please ensure Randolph County's Floodplain Administrator reviews and issues permits for each part of the CSE II, LLC Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility within a SFHA.
- 2) The site outlined in the application encroaches on the SFHA of Gabriels Creek. Please see Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel 7772. Any grading, fill or placement of equipment or materials in the SFHA will require a floodplain development permit issued by Randolph County.
- 3) If the site encroaches upon the Non-Encroachment Area (NEA) of Gabriels Creek, then a hydraulic analysis must be performed to determine the impact on flood levels during the base flood discharge due to the proposed construction. An increase in flood levels will require approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision prior to construction. If there are no increases in flood levels, a "No-Rise" study and certification will be required prior to construction.
- 4) All structures and utilities should be protected to the regulatory flood protection elevation as described in Randolph County's ordinance and 44 CFR 60.3.

MAILING ADDRESS:
4218 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-4218
www.ncdps.gov
www.ncfloodmaps.com



An Equal Opportunity Employer

RM OFFICE LOCATION:
4105 Reedy Creek Road
Raleigh, NC 27607
Telephone: (919) 825-2341
Fax: (919) 825-0408

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Sep 13 2017

August 24, 2017

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have any questions concerning the above comments, please contact me at (919) 825-2300, by email at dan.brubaker@ncdps.gov or at the address shown on the footer of this document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Brubaker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent.

John D. Brubaker, P.E., CFM
NFIP Coordinator
Risk Management

cc: Milton Carpenter, NFIP Central Planner

Jay Dale, Planning and Zoning Director, Randolph County

File

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Sep 13 2017

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW**

COUNTY: RANDOLPH

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0038
DATE RECEIVED: 08/10/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 09/06/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 09/11/2017

MR JOSEPH HUDYNIA
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
1001 MSC - AGRICULTURE BLDG
RALEIGH NC

REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

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PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce
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Located at 3224 US Highway 64, Asheboro, NC

Amended due to the addition of an additional access road to the site plan.

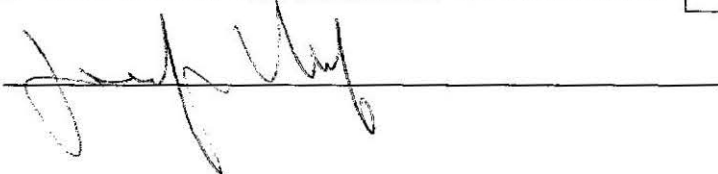
CROSS-REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-E-4600-0020

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If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☐ NO COMMENT ☒ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:



DATE:

8/29/2017

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Sep 13 2017



Dr. Richard Reich
Assistant Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Agricultural Services

Joseph Hudyncia
Environmental Programs

Crystal Best
State Clearinghouse
N.C. Department of Administration
1301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1301

RE: S# 18-E-4600-0038

August 29, 2017

Dear Ms. Best:

The proposed ground-mounted photovoltaic electric generating facility has the potential to negatively impact agricultural, environmental and economic balance in the immediate area. As farmland is removed from production, the associated potential for providing food and fiber for a growing population is reduced; and with it a substantial amount of associated, recurring economic activity generated by farming dollars. Development of all types continues to be a threat to one of the state's most valuable natural resources – farmland.

If implementation of the solar project moves forward on this tract of land, we encourage conservation of highly productive soils for their best use, i.e. agriculture, and we encourage the developer to locate solar installations on less productive sites located on this tract if possible. Prioritization of sites based on potential agricultural productivity may help mitigate some of the impact of this type of development.

Additionally, the use of best practices in construction and maintenance of the facility are encouraged to ensure that the productive capabilities of the land for any future agricultural activity is maintained and the integrity of unique or sensitive habitats is not destroyed. It is also recommended that a decommissioning plan that clearly defines the responsible party, process, time-line, and specific responsibilities (including restoration to prior condition) is incorporated.

We have cross-referenced the parcel for existing easements related to agriculture and found no CREP conservation easements, swine buyout easements, ADFP easements, plant conservation easements or plant conservation priority sites on the subject property.

Respectfully,

Joseph Hudyncia
Environmental Programs
NCDA&CS
joseph.hudyncia@ncagr.gov

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Michael Orr
Hemang

COUNTY: RANDOLPH

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-003
DATE RECEIVED: 08/10/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 09/06/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 09/11/2017

MS CARRIE ATKINSON
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATEWIDE PLANNING - MSC #1554
RALEIGH NC

REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce
TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act
Environmental Review

DESC: Amended Application of ABD Farm Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 4.99 MW Solar Photovoltaic Electric Generating Facility in Randolph Co. Docket #SP-4345, Sub 0. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type SP-4345 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located at 3224 US Highway 64, Asheboro, NC

Amended due to the addition of an additional access road to the site plan.

CROSS-REFERENCE NUMBER: 15-E-4600-0020

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your response by the above indicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1301.

If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☐ NO COMMENT ☒ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:

Chy M. H.

DATE:

8-23-17



RECEIVED
Secretary's

AUG 24 2017

Office
DOA

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Sep 13 2017



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

August 23, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: NC State Clearinghouse
Administrative Building, 5th Floor, Room #5106

FROM: Hemang M. Surti, PE *HMS*
Transportation Engineer
Triad and Forecasting Planning Group – Transportation Planning Branch

SUBJECT: 18-E-4600-0038

These are comments from the NCDOT – Transportation Planning Branch regarding North Carolina State Clearinghouse of Administration Intergovernmental Review #18-E-4600-0038.

US 64, near the project area, traveling east to west transitions from an existing 5 lane major thoroughfare to a 4 lane divided expressway. It is recommended within the Randolph Comprehensive Transportation Plan (adopted by NCBOT on January 6, 2011) as well as the Asheboro Comprehensive Transportation Plan (adopted by NCBOT on March 6, 2014) to be upgraded to freeway standards with a nearby proposed interchange at US 64 and the Asheboro Southern Bypass. These improvements have the potential to affect the project area.

Please see the attached CTP map which includes the proposal. The CTP maps can be viewed online at

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/Pages/Comprehensive-Transportation-Plans.aspx?county=randolph>

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 919-707-0989 or email at hmsurti@ncdot.gov.

Attachment:
Randolph County CTP Highway Map
Asheboro CTP Highway Map

Highway Map



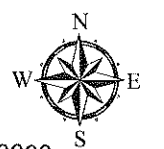
Randolph County

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Plan date: June 30, 2010

- Freeways**
 - Existing
 - Needs Improvement
 - Recommended
- Expressways**
 - Existing
 - Needs Improvement
 - Recommended
- Boulevards**
 - Existing
 - Needs Improvement
 - Recommended
- Other Major Thoroughfares**
 - Existing
 - Needs Improvement
 - Recommended
- Minor Thoroughfares**
 - Existing
 - Needs Improvement
 - Recommended
- Existing Interchange
- Proposed Interchange
- Existing Grade Separation
- Proposed Grade Separation

0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles



Sheet 2 of 5

Base map date: December 2009
Refer to CTP document for more details

DAVIDSON COUNTY

CHATHAM COUNTY

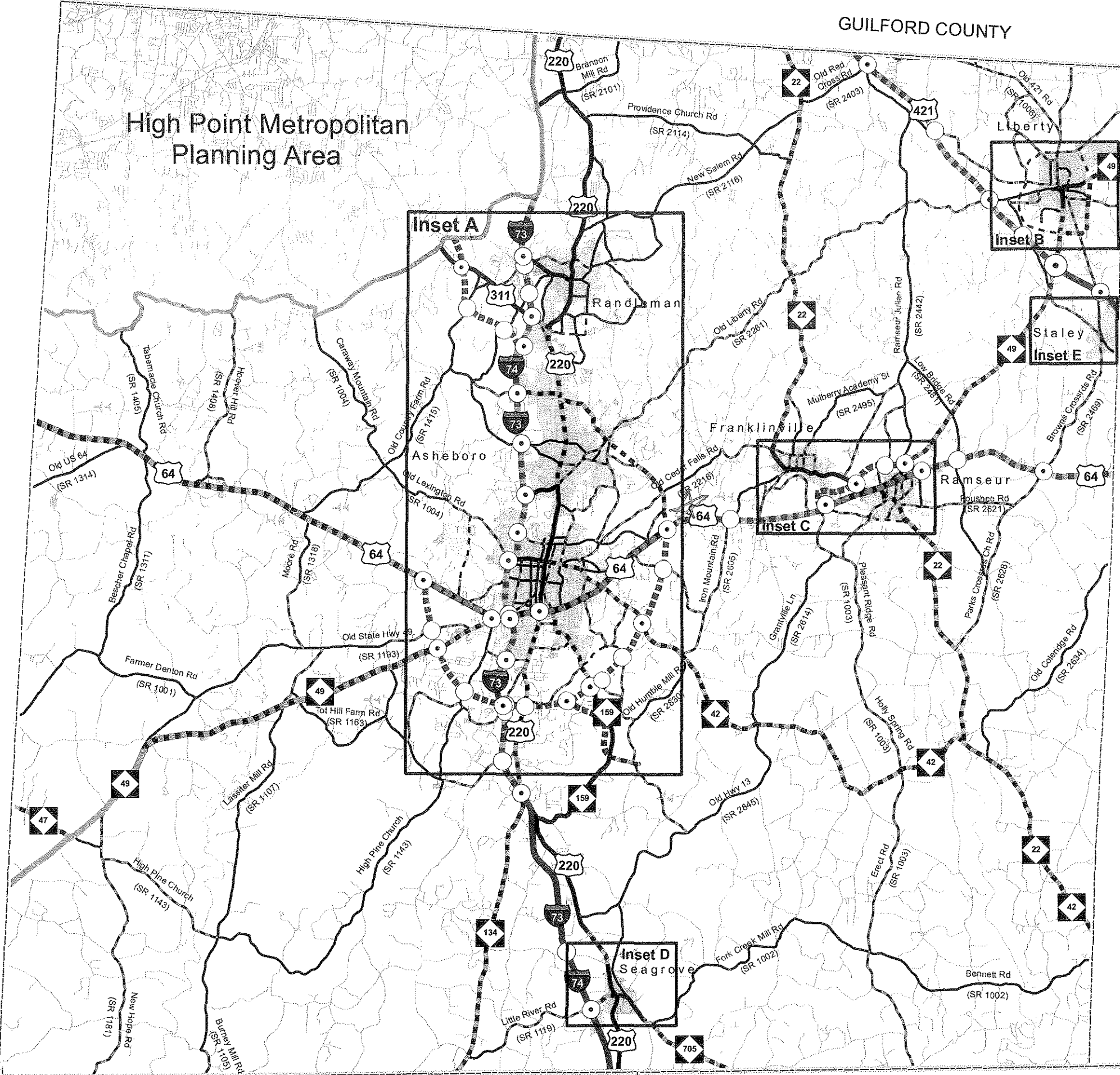
GUILFORD COUNTY

ALAMANCE COUNTY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

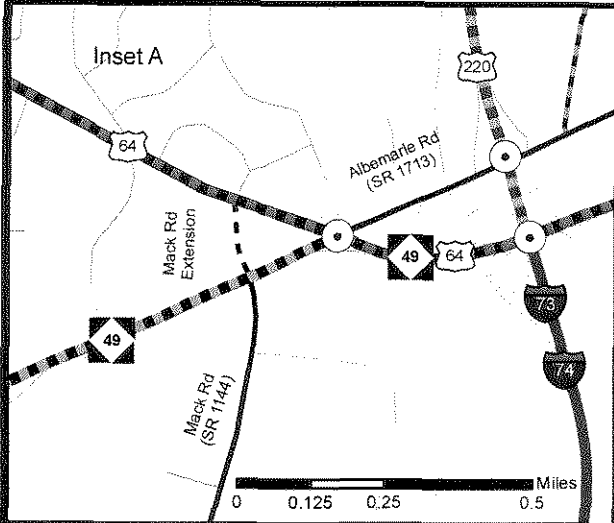
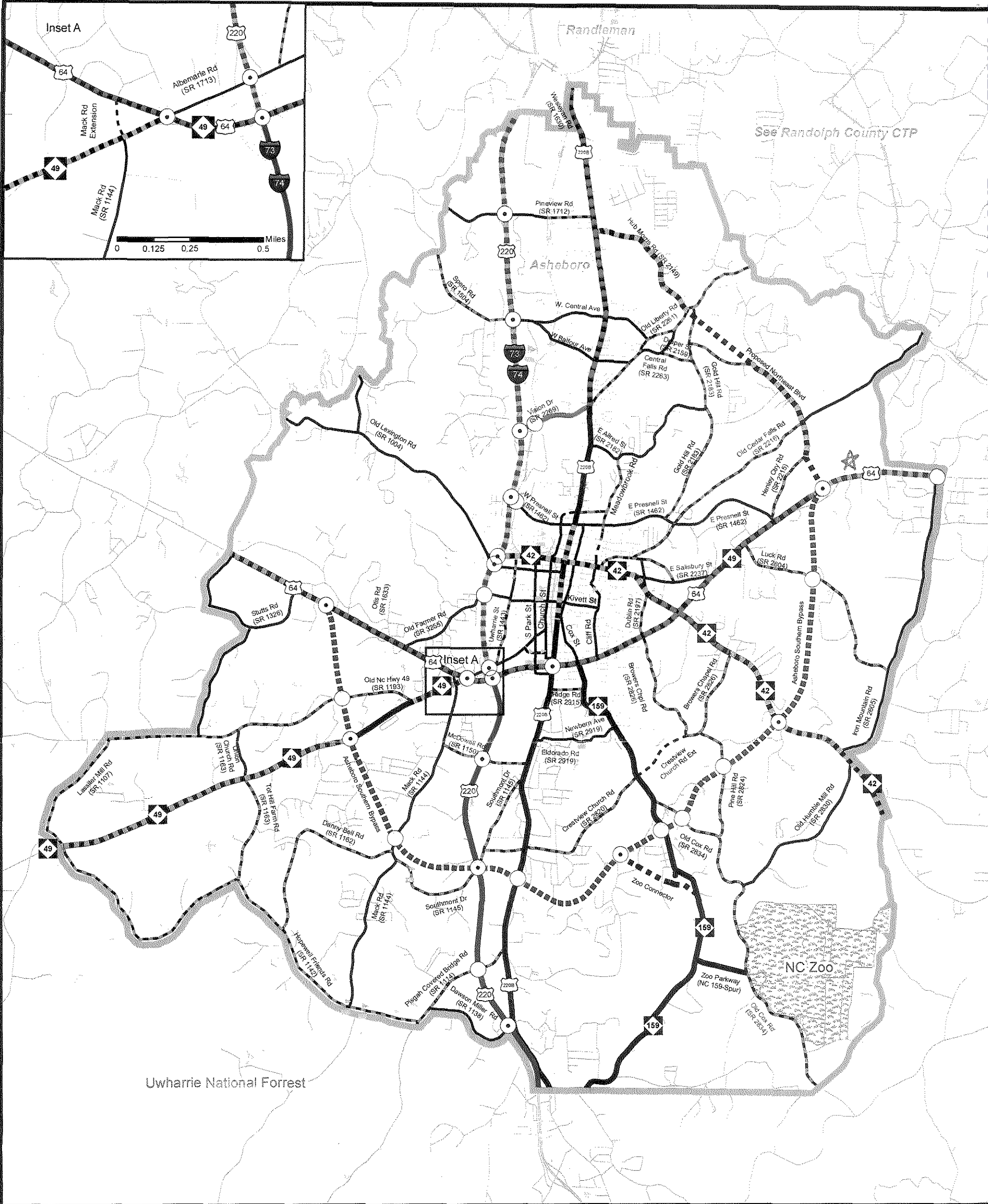
MOORE COUNTY

High Point Metropolitan Planning Area



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Sep 13 2017



Freeways

- Existing
- Needs Improvement
- Recommended

Expressways

- Existing
- Needs Improvement
- Recommended

Boulevards

- Existing
- Needs Improvement
- Recommended

Other Major Thoroughfares

- Existing
- Needs Improvement
- Recommended

Minor Thoroughfares

- Existing
- Needs Improvement
- Recommended

Interchanges

- Existing Interchange
- Proposed Interchange
- Interchange Needs Improvement

Grade Separations

- Existing Grade Separation
- Proposed Grade Separation

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

FIGURE 1
Sheet 2 of 5

Base map date: September 2012

Refer to CTP document for more details

Highway Map

CITY OF ASHEBORO
NORTH CAROLINA

Comprehensive Transportation Plan
Plan date: November 20, 2013