



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

MACHELLE SANDERS  
SECRETARY

April 20, 2020

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

**Re: SCH File # 20-E-4600-0210; Application of American Beech Solar, LLC for  
Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar Facility in Halifax Co.  
Docket #EMP-108, Sub 0.**

Dear Ms. Campbell:

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 L



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER  
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
Secretary

JAMIE RAGAN  
Director

## MEMORANDUM

To: Crystal Best  
State Clearinghouse Coordinator  
Department of Administration

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

RE: 20-0210  
Environmental Review - Application of American Beech  
Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar  
Facility, Docket # EMP-108, sub 0.  
Halifax County

Date: April 14, 2020

The Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed 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 help the applicant minimize impacts to fish and wildlife resources and surrounding environmental resources. The comments are attached for the applicant's review.

The Department agencies will continue to be available to assist the applicant through any environmental review or permitting processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Attachments



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

Reviewing Regional Office: Raleigh  
Project Number: 20-0210 Due Date: 04/13/2020  
County: Halifax

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 _____ <b>Local Government's</b> 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)

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

Reviewing Regional Office: Raleigh  
Project Number: 20-0210 Due Date: 04/13/2020  
County: Halifax

	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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with Catawba, Goose Creek, Jordan Lake, Randleman, Tar Pamlico or Neuse Riparian Buffer Rules is required. Buffer requirements: <a href="http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/401-wetlands-buffer-permits/401-riparian-buffer-protection-program">http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater-branch/401-wetlands-buffer-permits/401-riparian-buffer-protection-program</a>		
<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: <a href="http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/planning/nonpoint-source-management/nutrient-offset-information">http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/planning/nonpoint-source-management/nutrient-offset-information</a>		
<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 checked="" 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: Raleigh  
Project Number: 20-0210 Due Date: 04/13/2020  
County: Halifax

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

Division	Initials	No comment	Comments	Date Review
DAQ	MRF	<input type="checkbox"/>	See checked boxes above.	3/17/2020
DWR-WQROS (Aquifer & Surface)	JSB &	<input type="checkbox"/>	See checked boxes above. &	4/2/2020
DWR-PWS		<input type="checkbox"/>		/ /
DEMLR (LQ & SW)	CDA	<input type="checkbox"/>	see checked boxex above	4/14/2020
DWM – UST	MRP	<input type="checkbox"/>	See checked box above.	4/6/2020
Other Comments		<input type="checkbox"/>		/ /

**REGIONAL OFFICES**

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

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




## ☒ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ☒

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Lyn Hardison, Environmental Assistance Coordinator  
NCDEQ Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach (DEAO)

**FROM:** Maria T. Dunn, Coastal Habitat Coordinator  
Habitat Conservation Division 

**DATE:** April 9, 2020

**SUBJECT:** American Beech Solar LLC, 110 MW Solar Facility, Docket #EMP-108 Sub 0, Halifax County, North Carolina.  
**OLIA No. 20-0210**

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) have reviewed the subject document and we are familiar with the habitat values of the area. Our comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667e), and North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 113-131 et seq.).

The applicant proposes to construct a 110 MW solar facility located on well over 1,250 acres on several different parcels bordered by NC Hwy 125, Sand Pit Road, Sorietown Road, Old 125 Rad, Bynums Bridge Road, and 13 Bridges Road near Scotland Neck, NC.

A map of the proposed project site indicates the majority of the solar facility has been sighted in open agricultural land, outside the "FEMA Zone". In general, the NCWRC supports solar facilities located in open areas. However, the conversion of forests and wetlands to support solar development is causing increasing concern due to the loss of wildlife habitat, the fragmentation of wildlife habitat, and vegetative management needed post conversion for wetland and other forested areas. The cumulative impact from this project as well as other developments in the vicinity may pose significant impacts to important aquatic resources.

The project area is adjacent Deep Creek and its riparian wetland areas. Most of these wetlands are the vegetated areas adjacent the agricultural lands. Included in the USFWS Halifax County records are Dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmodonta heterodon*), Tar River spinymussel (*Parvaspina steinstansana*), Yellow lance (*Elliptio lanceolata*), Atlantic pigtoe (*Fusconaia masoni*), and Green floater (*Lasmigona subviridis*). Several other species important to the NCWRC and listed in the Wildlife Action Plan are Eastern Elliptio (*Elliptio complanata*) and Creeper (*Strophitus undulatus*). In addition to the freshwater mussels, Carolina



madtom (*Noturus furiosus*) may be found in the area. Therefore due to the project's size, layout, and the area's important watershed functions, NCWRC recommends a minimum 200-foot native, forested buffer on perennial streams and a 100-foot forested buffer on intermittent streams, or the full extent of the 100-year floodplain, adjacent to features that contain threatened or endangered species. Maintaining undisturbed, forested buffers along these areas would reduce impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources and improve water quality. Grassed buffers do not provide the necessary and highly valuable functions that forested buffers provide. Sediment and erosion control structures as well as stormwater treatment measures should also be located outside of these buffers.

In addition to the concerns above, the following statements should be observed:

1. As mentioned above, a 200-foot native, forested buffer on perennial streams and a 100-foot forested buffer on intermittent streams, or the full extent of the 100-year floodplain, adjacent to features that contain threatened or endangered species should be established.
2. 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 aquatic life passage. Fords may be appropriate and preferred for intermittent stream crossings or where crossings will be used only once or twice a year. For fords, crossings in riffles are preferred with the banks lowered upstream and downstream of the crossing. Stabilize the stream bottom with geo-textile fabric and rock; concrete should not be used for bed stabilization.
3. Avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands during construction. In addition to providing wildlife habitat, wetland areas perform important functions of flood control and water quality protection. US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permits and NCDWR Section 401 Certifications are required for any impacts to jurisdictional streams or wetlands. Temporarily disturbed wetland areas should be returned to original soils and contours and reseeded with annual small grains appropriate for the season (e.g. oats, millet, rye, wheat, or rye grass) and should be allowed to revert to natural wetland vegetation.
4. If additional overhead transmission lines will be installed, then measures to minimize impacts to birds should be implemented. These can include increasing line visibility, insulating wires to cover exposed connections, and increasing the distance between wires so no contact with ground or other energized wire can be made. For more information see <http://www.fws.gov/birds/documents/powerlines.pdf>.
5. Consider establishing vegetative cover on the site that is beneficial to wildlife. Plantings should include native warm season grasses and/or wildflower seed mixes to create pollinator habitat within the project boundary. Shade-tolerant plants that are grow between 12 to 18 inches can be selected for planting both underneath and around solar panels. Further information and free technical guidance from the NCWRC is available upon request.
6. If site and/or transmission line maintenance is needed, avoid mowing between April 1 and October 1 to minimize impacts to nesting wildlife. We suggest a maintenance schedule that incorporates a portion of the area (e.g., one-third of the area) each year. Pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, and other chemicals should not be used in wetland areas or near streams.
7. Pesticides or chemicals should not be used for site maintenance, especially in areas near wetlands and water courses. If used on parts of the property, stormwater runoff from the site should be

directed to bio-retention areas prior to discharge to streams or wetlands to provide additional protection for water quality and aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitats.

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. All sediment and erosion control measures should be routinely inspected and properly maintained. Excessive silt and sediment loads can have numerous detrimental effects on aquatic resources including destruction of spawning habitat, suffocation of eggs, and clogging of gills of aquatic species.
9. A plan should be developed that identifies the party responsible for decommissioning the facility as well as the conditions under which decommissioning will occur. In addition, the plan should emphasize that all equipment must be removed from the sites, and the land should be restored to pre-construction conditions.
10. Measures to mitigate secondary and cumulative impacts can be found in NCWRC's *Guidance Memorandum to Address and Mitigate Secondary and Cumulative Impacts to Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Resources and Water Quality* (August 2002; [http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Conserving/documents/2002\\_GuidanceMemorandumforSecondaryandCumulativeImpacts.pdf](http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Conserving/documents/2002_GuidanceMemorandumforSecondaryandCumulativeImpacts.pdf)).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If our agency can be of further assistance, please contact me at (252) 948-3916 or at [maria.dunn@ncwildlife.org](mailto:maria.dunn@ncwildlife.org).





NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
*Secretary*

MICHAEL SCOTT  
*Director*

Date: March 19, 2020

To: Michael Scott, Director  
Division of Waste Management

Through: Janet Macdonald  
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch – Special Projects Unit

From: Bonnie S. Ware  
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch

Subject: SEPA Project #20-0210, NC Department of Commerce, Halifax County, North Carolina

The Superfund Section has reviewed the proximity of sites under its jurisdiction to the NC Department of Commerce project. Proposed project is for the Environmental Review - Application of American Beech Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar Facility in Halifax Co.

No sites were identified within one mile of the project as shown on the attached report.

Please contact Janet Macdonald at 919.707.8349 if you have any questions.



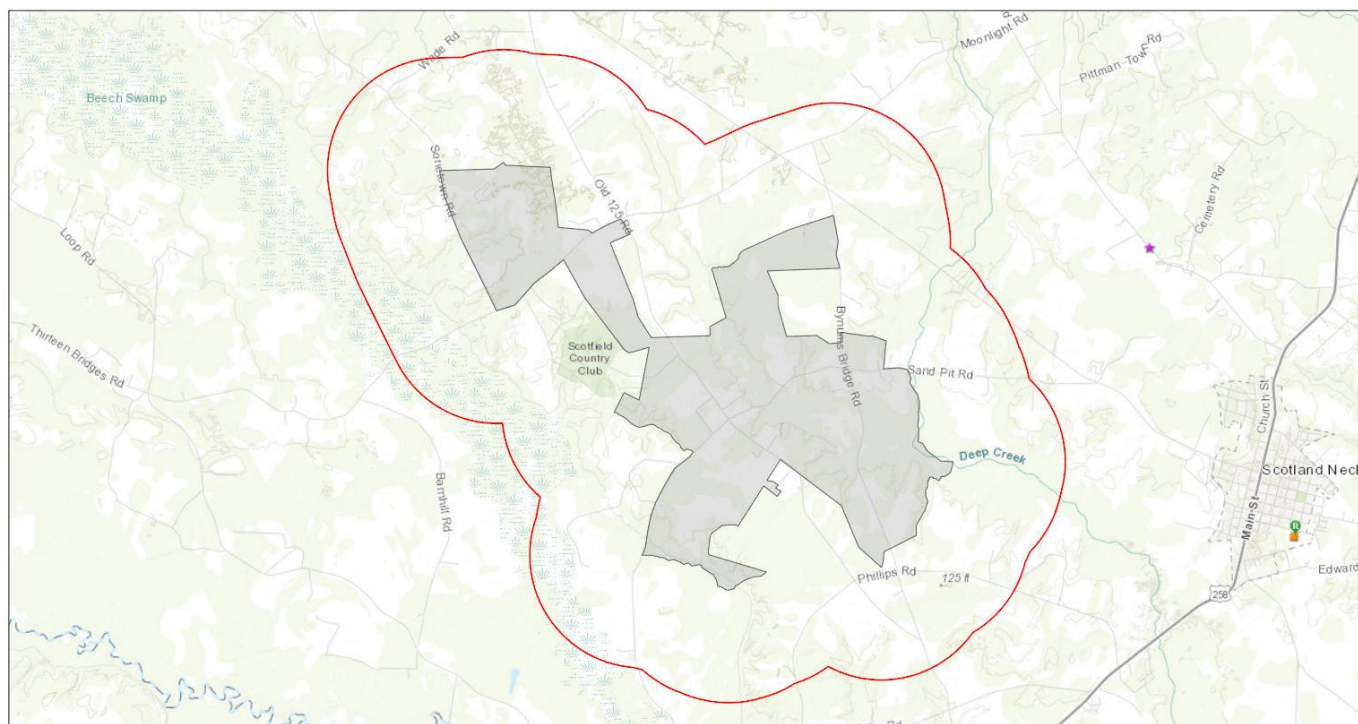


# SEPA/NEPA Review Report

## Area of Interest (AOI) Information

Area : 16,628.47 acres

Mar 19 2020 13:17:42 Eastern Daylight Time



NC Brownfields Location\_View

- Recorded
- Pre Regulatory Landfill Sites
- Inactive Hazardous Sites

1:60,120  
0 0.5 1 2 mi  
0 0.75 1.5 3 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Geobase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

20-0210 Halifax County

Summary

Name	Count	Area(acres)	Length(mi)
Certified DSCA Sites	0	N/A	N/A
Federal Remediation Branch Sites	0	N/A	N/A
Inactive Hazardous Sites	0	N/A	N/A
Pre-Regulatory Landfill Sites	0	N/A	N/A
Brownfields Program Sites	0	N/A	N/A

Received: 4/2/2020

Historic Preservation Office

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: HALIFAX

H11: ENERGY RELATED  
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 20-E-4600-0210  
DATE RECEIVED: 03/17/2020  
AGENCY RESPONSE: 04/13/2020  
REVIEW CLOSED: 04/16/2020

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

ER 19-2192

Due: 4/16/2020

A-- See Letter/ MBF

Due: 4/16/2020

S-- See Letter/ KBH

REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE  
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE  
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
DOA - COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
UPPER COASTAL PLAIN COG

PROJECT INFORMATION

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

DESC: Application of American BeechSolar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar Facility in Halifax Co. Docket #EMP-108, Sub 0. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type EMP-108 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located on 23 parcels of land along portions of Thirteen Bridges Road, Sorietown Road, Old 125 Road, Bynums Bridge Road, and Sand Pit Road in Halifax County.

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:

4/16/2020





**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

April 16, 2020

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Crystal Best  
North Carolina State Clearinghouse  
Department of Administration

**FROM:** Ramona M. Bartos, Deputy *RMB for Ramona M. Bartos*  
State Historic Preservation Officer

**SUBJECT:** Construct 160 MW American Beech Solar Farm, Old Highway 125, Scotland Neck,  
Halifax County, ER 19-2192

Thank you for your notification concerning the above referenced project. We have reviewed the materials provided and offer the following comments.

In August 2019 correspondence with the applicant, we recommended a comprehensive archaeological survey be conducted by an experienced archaeologist. We are in receipt of the resultant archaeological survey report, which needs to be reviewed before we can provide informed comments. As soon as our review is complete, we will provide you with a copy of our recommendations.

The proposed solar installation boundaries are directly adjacent to the James A. White Farm (HX0482), which has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and the Barrow-Powell House (HX0389), which is on the North Carolina State Study List. We are pleased to note your intent to install a vegetative buffer between the array and surrounding properties as it will serve to minimize the array's visual impact. As proposed, the project will have no adverse effect on historic properties based on the following conditions.

- A mixed species, evergreen vegetative buffer or screen should be installed, specifically along boundaries adjacent to historic properties.
- For our records, photographs of the buffer adjacent to the historic properties must be provided once construction is completed.

We recommend that the final buffer design be approved only after the survey for archaeological resources has been completed and consultation with the Office of State Archaeology concluded to ensure that no eligible resources are impacted.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

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

COUNTY: HALIFAX

H11: ENERGY RELATED  
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 20-E-4600-0210  
DATE RECEIVED: 03/17/2020  
AGENCY RESPONSE: 04/13/2020  
REVIEW CLOSED: 04/16/2020

MR GREG RICHARDSON  
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR  
DOA - COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
1317 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH NC

**REVIEW DISTRIBUTION**

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE  
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE  
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
DOA - COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
UPPER COASTAL PLAIN COG

RECEIVED  
Indian Affairs  
MAR 20 2020

Office  
DOA

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

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

DESC: Application of American BeechSolar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar Facility in Halifax Co. Docket #EMP-108, Sub 0. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type EMP-108 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

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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: *Gregory A. Richardson*

DATE: 3-24-2020

*This project requires consultation with the Halifax-Spawville Indian Tribe. The Tribe Contact information is attached.*

## TRIBES & ORGANIZATION

December 20, 2019

### **MODIFIED**

#### **Coharie Tribe**

**Tribal Administrator:** Greg Jacobs  
**Mailing Address:** 7531 N U.S. Hwy.  
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**Phone:** 910-564-6909  
**Fax:** 910-564-2701  
[www.coharietribe.org](http://www.coharietribe.org)

#### **Cumberland County Association for Indian People**

**Executive Director:** Gladys Hunt  
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**Phone:** 910-483-8442  
**Fax:** 910-483-8742  
[ccaip@netzero.net](mailto:ccaip@netzero.net)  
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#### **Eastern Band of Cherokee**

**Tribal Administrators:** Paxton Myer;  
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#### **Guilford Native American Association**

**Director:** Rick Oxendine  
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Studio #10, Greensboro, NC 27435  
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[www.guilfordnative.org](http://www.guilfordnative.org)  
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#### **Haliwa Saponi Indian Tribe**

**Tribal Administrator:** Jamie Oxendine  
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**Fax:** 252-586-3918  
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#### **Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina**

**Tribal Administrator:** Dr. Freda  
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6984 NC Hwy 711W; P O Box 2709  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
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**Phone:** 910-522-2221  
**Phone:** 910-521-7861  
**Phone:** 800--659-6585  
**Fax:** 910-521-7790  
**Fax Adm.:** 910-521-2278  
[www.lumbeetribe.com](http://www.lumbeetribe.com)

#### **Meherrin Indian Tribe**

##### **Chief & Tribal Administrator:**

Wayne Brown  
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[chiefbrownmeherrin@yahoo.com](mailto:chiefbrownmeherrin@yahoo.com)  
[www.meherrinnation.org](http://www.meherrinnation.org)

#### **Metrolina Native American**

##### **Association**

**Executive Director:** Toni Henderson  
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#### **Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation**

**Tribal Administrator:** Vickie Jefferies  
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#### **Sappony Indian Tribe**

**Executive Director:** Dante Desiderio  
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[www.sappony.org](http://www.sappony.org)

#### **Triangle Native American Society**

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Raleigh, NC 27611

**Email:** [tnaspresident@aol.com](mailto:tnaspresident@aol.com)  
[www.tnasweb.org](http://www.tnasweb.org)

#### **Waccamaw Siouan Tribe**

**Housing Director:** Brenda Moore  
**Address:** P O Box 69,  
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**Phone:** 910-655-8778  
**Fax:** 910-655-8779  
[siouan@aol.com](mailto:siouan@aol.com)  
[www.waccamaw-siouan.com](http://www.waccamaw-siouan.com)

This project requires consultation with the \_\_\_\_\_  
tribe of North Carolina. The tribes contact information is  
marked above.



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

MAR 18 2020

COUNTY: HALIFAX

H11: ENERGY RELATED  
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 20-E-4600-0210  
DATE RECEIVED: 03/17/2020  
AGENCY RESPONSE: 04/13/2020  
REVIEW CLOSED: 04/16/2020

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

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DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
DOA - COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
UPPER COASTAL PLAIN COG

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

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

DESC: Application of American BeechSolar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 110 MW Solar Facility in Halifax Co. Docket #EMP-108, Sub 0. - View document at <http://starwl.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type EMP-108 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located on 23 parcels of land along portions of Thirteen Bridges Road, Sorietown Road, Old 125 Road, Bynums Bridge Road, and Sand Pit Road in Halifax County.

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: John D Brubaker  
Digitally signed by John D Brubaker  
DN: cn=John D Brubaker, o=NCDCPS, ou=Emergency  
Management, email=dan.brubaker@ncdps.gov, c=US  
Date: 2020.03.17 16:51:10 -0400

DATE: 17 March 2020

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
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