



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MACHELLE SANDERS
SECRETARY

November 7, 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-4600-0076; Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Certificate to construct approximately 11.5 miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston Co. Docket # E-2, Sub 1150.

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. The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources has requested additional information prior to their concurrence with the above referenced document.

Therefore, pursuant to 1 NCAC 25 .0506(c), this office requests that a supplemental document providing the additional information requested by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources be submitted to the Clearinghouse for further review and comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Crystal Best".

Crystal Best
State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments
cc: Region J

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
1301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1301

Telephone: (919) 807-2425
Fax: (919) 733-9571
COURIER #51-01-00
Email: state.clearinghouse@doa.nc.gov
Website: www.ncadmin.nc.gov

Location:
116 WEST JONES STREET
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

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Nov 08 2017



ROY COOPER
Governor
MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

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Nov 08 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: 18-0076
Environmental Review – Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Certificate to
construct approximately 11.5 miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line
Johnston County

Date: November 6, 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 suggest to the applicant to contact Cameron Weaver, Permit Assistance Coordinator, in the Department's Raleigh Regional Office, (919) 791-4200. The proposed project is located within his 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 Coordinator
NCDEQ Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Services

FROM: Gabriela Garrison
Eastern Piedmont Coordinator
Habitat Conservation *Gabriela Garrison*

DATE: November 1, 2017

SUBJECT: Request for Environmental Scoping for the Construction of the Cleveland-Matthews Transmission Line, Johnston County, DEQ Project No. 18-0076.

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) have reviewed the subject document. 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), North Carolina Environmental Policy Act (G.S. 113A-1 through 113A-10; 1 NCAC 25) and North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 113-131 et seq.).

Duke Energy Progress, LLC (Duke) proposes to construct approximately 11.5 miles of new 230kv transmission line in the Cleveland area of Johnston County. The proposed line consists of a 125-foot-wide easement and will connect the Cleveland-Matthews Road T-D Substation to one of three existing transmission lines: Lee-Milburnie 230kv, Erwin-Milburnie 230kv or Erwin-Selma 230kv. The right-of-way will cross 20.8 acres of forested wetlands. Forested wetlands will be maintained as scrub/shrub or emergent wetlands. Best management practices in wetland areas include hand-clearing and the use of construction matting in jurisdictional wetlands to avoid discharges. Duke will avoid placing structures in streams or smaller wetlands by spanning these areas. The proposed line will cross multiple streams and wetlands, to include Middle Creek and Black Creek. There are records for the following rare species in Middle Creek: the federal and state-endangered, dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*); the federal species of concern and state-endangered, yellow lance (*Elliptio lanceolata*) and Atlantic pigtoe (*Fusconaia masoni*); the federal species of concern and state-threatened, triangle floater (*Alasmidonta undulata*) and Roanoke slabshell (*Elliptio roanokensis*); the state-threatened, eastern lampmussel (*Lampsilis radiata*) and creeper (*Strophitus undulatus*); the federal species of concern and state-special concern, notched rainbow (*Villosa constricta*); the state-significantly rare, northern lance (*Elliptio fisheriana*); and the Carolina slabshell (*Elliptio congaraea*), a species on the Natural Heritage Program's Watch List.

Recommendations made by NCWRC Research Coordinator, Vann Stancil, at prior scoping meetings in the spring of 2017 include conducting an aquatic species survey at the proposed Middle Creek crossing location. The survey should focus on freshwater mussels, but efforts should be made to locate and identify NC spiny crayfish (*Orconectes carolinensis*), Neuse River waterdog (*Necturus lewisi*), Carolina

November 1, 2017
Cleveland Matthews Transmission Line (Duke)
DEQ Project No. 18-0076

madtom (*Noturus furiosus*) and other rare aquatic species. The NCWRC recommends that mussel surveys start 100 meters upstream of the crossing area and extend 300 meters downstream of the crossing area. Locations of any listed species should be recorded with GPS. Additional aquatic surveys at other waterbodies crossed by the Cleveland - Matthews Road 230kV Transmission Tap Line are not anticipated at this time. Surveyors need appropriate collection permits and should be familiar with mussel species inhabiting Middle Creek.

Aquatic species may need to be relocated depending on the potential impacts at the crossing location. Grubbing should not occur within 50 feet of surface waters with sensitive species outside of the growing season (Time of Year Restriction from November 15 – April 1) to protect mussels from sedimentation impacts. In addition, the NCWRC requests that any unvegetated fill be stabilized at the end of each work day with an acceptable erosion control cloth, blanket or matting until the fill is ready to be permanently stabilized.

The NCWRC offers the following additional recommendations to minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources:

1. Maintain a minimum 100-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a 50-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands. Maintaining undisturbed, forested buffers along these areas will minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources, water quality and aquatic habitat both within and downstream of the project area. If the transmission line parallels any streams, the edge of the construction corridor should be located at least 100 feet from perennial stream banks and 50 feet from intermittent stream banks. If the waterway supports federally listed species, maintain a 200-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a 100-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands.
2. Avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands during construction. Where feasible, wetland areas should be spanned. In addition to providing wildlife habitat, wetland areas perform important functions of flood control and water quality protection. 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, or wheat) and allowed to revert to natural wetland vegetation.
3. Disturbed areas should be re-seeded with seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife. Avoid fescue-based mixtures as fescue is invasive and provides little benefit to wildlife. Native, annual small grains appropriate for the season are preferred and recommended. Pollinator mixes are commercially available and provide forage and shelter for numerous species of bees, butterflies, moths and birds. Where feasible, use woody debris and logs from corridor clearing to establish brush piles and downed logs adjacent to the cleared right-of-way to improve habitat for wildlife. Allowing the corridor area to re-vegetate into a brush/scrub habitat would maximize benefits to wildlife. For areas adjacent to residential areas, a native shrub/grass option may also be beneficial.
4. Minimize corridor maintenance and prohibit mowing between April 1 and October 1 to minimize impacts to nesting wildlife. Create a maintenance schedule that incorporates only a portion of the area (one third of the area, for example) each year instead of the entire project area every 3 to 4 years. Pesticides and herbicides should never be used in wetland areas or near streams.
5. 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

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Cleveland Matthews Transmission Line (Duke)
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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>.

6. Sediment and erosion control measures should be installed prior to any land-disturbing activity. 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 that has been reinforced with plastic or metal mesh should be avoided as it impedes 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. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (910) 409-7350 or gabriela.garrison@ncwildlife.org.

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

Reviewing Regional Office: RALEIGH
Project Number: 18-0076 Due Date: 10/26/17
County: JOHNSTON

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 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: RALEIGH
Project Number: 18-0076 Due Date: 10/26/17
County: JOHNSTON

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	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 of 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 checked="" 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 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.		
<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.		
<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: 18-0076 Due Date: 10/26/17
County: JOHNSTON

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

Division	Initials	No comment	Comments	Date Review
DAQ	DDM	<input type="checkbox"/>		10/13/17
DWR-WQROS (Aquifer & Surface)	DS & RB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>- A project that disturbs 1 acre or greater is required to secure an erosion and sedimentation control plan and must comply with construction stormwater permit conditions (NCG010000)</p> <p>-Footprint of drains to tributaries in the Neuse River Basin.- Nutrient Sensitive Waters.</p> <p>-Utility Lines that cross streams/impacting streamside areas, areas subject to riparian buffer rules will need to comply with the below listed rules. Compliance with the rules includes complying with supper requisites for exempt and allowable (see supper scripts references 1, 2, and 3 listed below). If the permittee has questions they are welcome to call the RRO at (919) 791-4200 and ask for Stephanie Goss or Danny Smith</p> <p>Overhead electric utility lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts other than perpendicular crossings in Zone 2 only3 - Exempt X • Impacts other than perpendicular crossings in Zone 1 1,2,3 - Exempt X <p>Overhead electric utility line perpendicular crossings of streams and other surface waters subject to this Rule3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perpendicular crossings that disturb equal to or less than 150 linear feet of riparian buffer1 - Exempt X • Perpendicular crossings that disturb greater than 150 linear feet of riparian buffer 1, 2 - Allowable X <p>-The USGS Topographic map did depict topographic crenulations, indicating stream may be present adjacent to or within the project footprint. (Note: the soil survey was not reviewed.)</p> <p>-If wetland, riparian buffers or stream impacts are proposed, this project will need to comply with/secure a 404 permit from the USACE, obtain a 401 Water Quality Certification authorization and comply with riparian buffer rules, as appropriate. &</p>	11/5/17 10/25/17
DWR-PWS	WAH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		10/26/17
DEMLR (LQ & SW)	CDA	<input type="checkbox"/>		10/25/17
DWM – UST	KEG	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have reviewed the above-mentioned project and from the figures available, multiple UST facilities and petroleum release incidents are possible in the 11.5 mile project area. Please have petitioner refer to http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/waste-management-rules-data/waste-management-gis-maps/rust-map to view registered UST facilities and UST Incidents plotted on the online map to refine their search. Ken Currie, Fayetteville Regional Office 910-433-3300	10/9/17
Other Comments		<input type="checkbox"/>		/ /

REGIONAL OFFICES

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

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

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <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 checked="" 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 | |

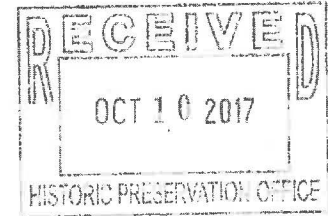
NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: JOHNSTON

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0076
DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 10/30/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 11/03/2017

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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DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
TRIANGLE J COG

PROJECT INFORMATION

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

DESC: Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Certificate to construct approximately 11.5 miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston Co. Docket # E-2, Sub 1150. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type E-2 Sub 1150 in the Docket Number search line.

Located approximately 11.5 miles of new 230-kV transmission line in Johnston 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:

10/10/17

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Nov 08 2017



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

August 22, 2017

Lawrence B. Somers
Deputy General Counsel
Duke Energy
410 S. Wilmington Street, NCRH 20
Raleigh, NC 27601

bo.somers@duke-energy.com

Re: 11.5 Miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston County, ER 17-1334

Thank you for your letter of July 24, 2017, concerning the above referenced project. We have reviewed the information provided and offer the following comments.

The preferred alternative, Route 31, was designed to avoid known historic properties. However, most of this route has not been surveyed to identify archaeological sites. As Route 31 crosses uplands associated with Black Creek, Middle Creek, and their tributaries, significant archaeological sites may be present in the project's area of potential effect.

We recommend that prior to the initiation of any ground disturbing activities within the project area, a comprehensive archaeological survey of the preferred route be conducted by an experienced archaeologist. The purpose of this survey will be to identify and evaluate the significance of archaeological sites that may be damaged or destroyed by the proposed project. Potential effects on unknown resources must be assessed prior to the initiation of construction activities. Please note that our office now requests consultation with the Office of State Archaeology Review Archaeologist to discuss appropriate field methodologies prior to the archaeological field investigation.

One paper and one digital copy of all resulting archaeological reports, as well as one copy of the North Carolina site form for each site recorded, should be forwarded to the Office of State Archaeology through this office for review and comment as soon as they are available and in advance of any construction or ground disturbance activities.

A list of archaeological consultants who have conducted or expressed an interest in contract work in North Carolina is available at www.archaeology.ncdcr.gov/ncarch/resource/consultants.htm. The archaeologists listed, or any other experienced archaeologist, may be contacted to conduct the recommended survey.

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 comments, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above-referenced tracking number.

Sincerely yours,

Ramona Bartos

Ramona Bartos

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: JOHNSTON

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4601-0078
DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 10/30/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 11/03/2017

MR. RODNEY BUTLER
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR
DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
1651 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC

REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

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PROJECT INFORMATION

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

DESC: Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Certificate to construct approximately 11.5 miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston Co. Docket # E-2, Sub 1150. - View document at [http://starvl.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc page/Dockets/portal.aspx](http://starvl.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc%20page/Dockets/portal.aspx). Type E-2 Sub 1150 in the Docket Number search line.

Located approximately 11.5 miles of new 230-kV transmission line in Johnston 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)607-2425.

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

SIGNED BY: 

DATE: 10/23/17

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: JOHNSTON

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0076
DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 10/30/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 11/03/2017

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

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TRIANGLE J COG

PROJECT INFORMATION

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

DESC: Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Certificate to construct approximately 11.5 miles of New 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston Co. Docket # E-2, Sub 1150. - View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type E-2 Sub 1150 in the Docket Number search line.

Located approximately 11.5 miles of new 230-kV transmission line in Johnston 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: 

DATE: 10/30/2017

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Nov 08 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-4600-0076, Docket E-2 Sub 1150

October 27, 2017

Dear Ms. Best:

The proposed new 230-kV transmission line in the Cleveland area of Johnston County has the potential to negatively impact agricultural, environmental and economic balance in the immediate area. Agriculture and agribusiness (food, fiber and forestry) account for one-sixth of the state's income and employees (NCSU, 2016). As an example, Johnston County ranked fourth in the State for total farm cash receipts from crops in 2015. The farm cash receipt value of corn, wheat and soybeans was \$2,701,000, \$2,736,000 and \$13,969,000 respectively (USDA-NASS). The cash receipt value of flue-cured tobacco was \$50,981,000 and the value of livestock was \$106,580,000. As cropland or forestland is removed from production, or crop selection and production alternatives are limited by easement constraints, the associated potential for production is reduced; and with it the associated, recurring economic activity generated by local farming dollars. It is estimated that for every 40 acres converted from agricultural production, one agribusiness job and its associated economic activity is lost indefinitely.

Farm and forest lands are natural resources with very challenging mitigation potential. Johnston County has 1,175 farms with a median size of 48 acres (USDA, 2012). These agribusiness resources are rarely replaced or relocated once converted to other uses. Routing of the transmission line should show preference for a route that reduces potential negative impacts on farms and key agricultural production centers. These plans should also minimize the formation of incompatible and inaccessible land units that degrade agricultural production capabilities associated with the area's farms and agribusinesses.

The relative advantages of routing the transmission line through cropland indicated in the filing do not necessarily factor all disadvantages to the cropland owner. Height restrictions under the lines can limit the movement of large agricultural equipment and therefore limit the types of crops that can be grown in the easement area. This may also limit the moving of equipment or addition of water lines across the easement to access other portions of land on a farming tract. In addition, continuous access needed by the utility to the easement area could potentially subject a valuable growing crop to damage by utility equipment. These limitations may, in turn, have a negative impact on a farmland's value in the future.

Based on the secondary, cumulative, and direct impacts, this project may have an adverse impact on the agricultural, environmental and economic resources in the proposed area. The total negative impact on the environmental and agribusiness economy will be proportionately related to the total acres of farm and forest land taken out of production. Increased division of land units and reduced accessibility for agricultural production will also increase the negative impact on agriculture.

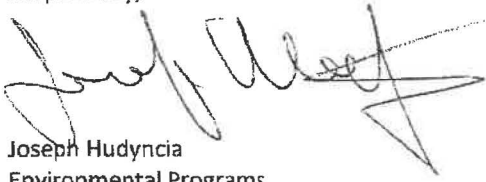
E-mail: joseph.hudyncia@ncagr.gov
1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1001 (919) 707-3015 • Fax (919) 733-1141
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We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed project and its potential impact.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Hudyncia', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Scott Walston

COUNTY: JOHNSTON

H11: ENERGY RELATED
FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0076
DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/2017
AGENCY RESPONSE: 10/30/2017
REVIEW CLOSED: 11/03/2017

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Nov 08 2017

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

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

SIGNED BY:

Michelle Horn

DATE:

10/26/17

RECEIVED
Secretary's
OCT 30 2017
Office
DOA

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

OCT 06 2017

COUNTY: JOHNSTON

H11: ENERGY RELATED
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STATE NUMBER: 18-E-4600-0076
DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/2017
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Nov 08 2017

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

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SIGNED BY:



DATE: 16 OCT 2017

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OCT 19 2017

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North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Emergency Management

Roy Cooper, Governor
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Michael A. Sprayberry, Director

October 16, 2017

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

Subject: Intergovernmental Review State Number: 18-E-4600-0076
New 230-kV Transmission Lines, Duke Energy Progress, Johnston County

As requested by the North Carolina State Clearinghouse, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management Risk Management reviewed the information documents for the Duke Energy Progress, LLC 11.5-mile 230-kV Transmission Line in Johnston County and offers the following comments:

- 1) The project site is located in Johnston County. Johnston 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 Johnston County's Floodplain Administrator reviews and issues permits for each part of the Duke Energy Progress, LLC transmission line within a SFHA. Any grading, fill or placement of equipment or materials in the SFHA will require a floodplain development permit issued by Johnston County.
- 2) The Environmental Assessment should list all potential SFHA crossings and impacts for each alignment.
- 3) It is unclear based on the documents provided whether the applicant proposes structural encroachments within the Floodways or Non-Encroachment Areas of the streams to be crossed. If there are proposed encroachments within the Floodway or Non-Encroachment Area, then a hydraulic analysis shall 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. No structures shall be impacted by the increase in flood levels. If there are no increases in flood levels, a "No-Rise" study and certification will be required prior to construction.

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



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

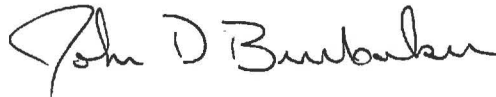
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Nov 08 2017

- 4) All structures and utilities should be protected to the regulatory flood protection elevation as described in Johnston County's ordinance and 44 CFR 60.3.

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,



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

cc: Milton Carpenter, NFIP Central Planner

Berry Gray, Planning Director, Johnston County (berrygray@johnstonnc.com)

File