



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Roy Cooper  
GOVERNOR

Machelle Sanders  
Secretary

August 3, 2020

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

Re: SCH File # 19-E-4600-0118 Application of Edgecombe Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 75 MW Solar Facility in Edgecombe Co. Docket #EMP-101, Sub 0.

View document at <http://starw1.ncuc.net/NCUC/portal/ncuc/page/Dockets/portal.aspx>, Type EMP-101 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line. Located at approximately 600 acre

Dear Kimberley 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,

Crystal Best  
State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments

*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](mailto:state.clearinghouse@doa.nc.gov)  
*Website:* [www.ncadmin.nc.gov](http://www.ncadmin.nc.gov)

*Location:*  
116 WEST JONES STREET  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

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Aug 03 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

July 24, 2020

Jonathan Libbon  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
80 Emerson Lane, Suite 1306  
Bridgeville, PA 15017

[jlibbon@swca.com](mailto:jlibbon@swca.com)

Re: Phase I Archaeological Survey and Phase II Archaeological Evaluation of 31ED479, 31ED480, 31ED483, 31ED488, 31ED496, and 31ED503 for the Edgcombe Solar Project, Edgcombe County, CH 18-3970

Dear Mr. Libbon:

Thank you for your July 2, 2020, letter transmitting the revised archaeological report for the above-referenced project. We have reviewed the information provided and offer the following comments.

Survey activities have identified 30 archaeological sites in the project area. In a letter dated February 10, 2020, we concluded that 23 of these sites are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (31ED477, 31ED478, 31ED481, 31ED482, 31ED484 – 31ED487, 31ED489 – 31ED495, 31ED497 – 31ED502, 31ED504, and 31ED505). We also found that while site 31ED476 remains unassessed for the National Register, the portion of the site that will be impacted by the proposed project does not contribute to its National Register eligibility.

The remaining 6 sites are documented in the subject report. Sites 31ED480, 31ED483, 31ED488, and 31ED496 are not considered eligible for listing in the National Register due to their limited research potential, and no further work is proposed at these sites. We concur with this recommendation.

Site 31ED479 yielded artifacts from the Middle Archaic Period through the eighteenth century. While one cultural feature was identified at site 31ED479, most of the site exhibits poor integrity. It is recommended that site 31ED479 remain unassessed with regard to the National Register, and the portion of the site with evidence of intact cultural features be avoided by the proposed project. We concur with this recommendation.

Site 31ED503 yielded artifacts from the Middle Archaic and Woodland Periods. While one possible cultural feature was identified at site 31ED503, most of the site exhibits poor integrity. It is recommended that site 31ED503 remain unassessed with regard to the National Register, and the portion of the site with evidence of intact cultural features be avoided by the proposed project. We concur with this recommendation.

Project plans show that the identified cultural features at site 31ED479 and 31ED503, inclusive of 25-meter buffers, will be avoided by the proposed solar arrays. In addition, high-visibility fencing will be used to ensure that these areas are not impacted during construction. Given these conditions, we find that the proposed project will have no effect on any archaeological sites eligible for listing in the National Register. Please note that if human skeletal remains are encountered during construction, the provisions of North Carolina General Statute Chapter 70, Article 3 apply. All ground disturbing activities should stop and the county medical examiner be contacted immediately.

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 919-814-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above-referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,



 Ramona Bartos, Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer