



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NC DWQ) grant application for the FY13 EPA Region 4 Wetland Program Development entitled "Hydraulic Fracturing Reference Network". The goal of this grant is to identify a network of reference streams and wetlands in the areas of NC most likely to be drilled and characterize the water quality and aquatic community in these systems prior to drilling. In support of this goal, NCDOT will provide the GIS layer of the predicted wetland locations produced by the LiDAR-based model developed for Triassic Basin.

The wetland model results are one component of the WPP Priority 2.5.e and EPA Core Element Reg.3.b: "Establishment of the baseline stream and wetland conditions in areas likely to be impacted by hydraulic fracturing will allow for the identification of any changes in streams or wetlands due to hydraulic fracturing activities". This grant will contribute greatly to the development of a regulatory program for the management of hydraulic fracturing required by the Clean Energy and Economic Security Act, Session Law 2012-143.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 919-707-6146 or by email at lpaugh@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Lei Lani Paugh, Supervisor
NEU- ICI/Onsite Mitigation Group

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