

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

MACHELLE SANDERS ROY COOPER GOVERNOR SECRETARY

June 11, 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-4600-0253; Application of Sumac Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 120 MW Solar Facility in Bertie Co. Docket #EMP-110 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,

Crystal Best

Cuptal Best

State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments cc: Region Q

Mailing Address:

RALEIGH, NC 27699-1301



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: 20-0253

Environmental Review - Application of Sumac Solar, LLC for Certificate

to construct a 120 MW Solar, Docket #EMP-110 Sub 0.

**Bertie County** 

Date: June 10, 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.

or

The Department of Environmental Quality has completed its review of the proposal for the referenced project. The agencies have offered some valuable guidance to be performed prior to application submittals and ground disturbance which will help reduce any impacts to the natural resources within the project area. 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** 





ROY COOPER Governor MICHAEL S. REGAN Secretary MICHAEL SCOTT

Director

# **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Michael Scott, Division Director through Sharon Brinkley

FROM: Drew Hammonds, Eastern District Supervisor - Solid Waste Section

DATE: June 10, 2020

SUBJECT: Review: SW 20-0253 – Bertie County (ER – NC Dept. of Comm. – Application of Sumac Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 120 MW Solar facility in Bertie Co.)

The Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section (Section) has reviewed the documents for the subject project in Bertie County, NC. Based on the information provided in this document, the Section does not see an adverse impact on the surrounding community and likewise knows of no situations in the community, which would affect this project.

As with any proposed project, it is recommended that during any land clearing, demolition and the construction of this project, the Sumac Solar, LLC and/or its contractors should make every feasible effort to minimize the generation of waste, to recycle materials for which viable markets exist, and to use recycled products and materials in the development of this project where suitable. Any waste generated by this project that cannot be beneficially reused or recycled must be disposed of at a solid waste management facility permitted by the Division. The Section strongly recommends that Sumac Solar, LLC require all contractors to provide proof of proper disposal for all generated waste to permitted facilities.

Permitted solid waste management facilities are listed on the Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section portal site at: <a href="https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/waste-management-rules-data/solid-waste-management-annual-reports/solid-waste-permitted-facility-list">https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/waste-management-annual-reports/solid-waste-permitted-facility-list</a>

Questions regarding solid waste management for this project should be directed to Mr. John College, Environmental Senior Specialist, Solid Waste Section, at (919) 268-1524.

cc: John College, Environmental Senior Specialist



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

 $\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{Reviewing Regional Office: } \underline{\text{Washington}} \\ \text{Project Number: } \underline{\text{20-0253}} & \text{Due Date: } \underline{\text{06/05/2020}} \\ \end{array}$ 

County: Bertie

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)	
	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. Postapplication technical conference usual.	30 days (90 days)	
	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)	
	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. Preapplication 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)	
	Water Use Permit	Pre-application technical conference usually necessary.	30 days (N/A)	
	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)	
	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)	
	Permit to construct & operate Air Pollution Abatement facilities and/or Emission Sources as per 15 A NCAC (2Q.O100 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	
$\boxtimes$	Any open burning associated with subject proposal must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 2D.1900	N/A	60 days (90 days)	
$\boxtimes$	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)	
$\boxtimes$	The Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 r sedimentation control plan will be required if one by applicable Regional Office (Land Quality Section Stormwater permit (NCG010000) is also usually is for the first acre or any part of an acre. An expres	20 days (30 days)		
	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addre attention should be given to design and installation Stormwater conveyances and outlets.	(30 days)		
	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addressed in accordance withLocal 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.			
		rmwater Program which regulates three types of activities: Industrial, uction activities that disturb ≥1 acre.	30-60 days (90 days)	
$\boxtimes$	Compliance with 15A NCAC 2H 1000 -State Stormwater Permitting Programs regulate site development and post-			

 $\begin{array}{cc} \text{Reviewing Regional Office: } \underline{\text{Washington}} \\ \text{Project Number: } \underline{\text{20-0253}} & \text{Due Date: } \underline{\text{06/05/2020}} \\ \end{array}$ 

County: Bertie

		Normal Process		
PERMITS	SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	(statutory time limit)		
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)		
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)		
Oil Refining Facilities	N/A	90-120 days (N/A)		
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		
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		
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		
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)		
	ake, Randleman, Tar Pamlico or Neuse Riparian Buffer Rules is required. visions/water-resources/water-resources-permits/wastewater- n-buffer-protection-program			
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>				
CAMA Permit for MAJOR development	\$250.00 - \$475.00 fee must accompany application	75 days (150 days)		
CAMA Permit for MINOR development	\$100.00 fee must accompany application	22 days (25 days)		
Abandonment of any wells, if required must be in accordance with Title 15A. Subchapter 2C.0100.				
Notification of the proper regional office is requested if "orphan" underground storage tanks (USTS) are discovered during any excavation operation.				
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				
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.				
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.				

Reviewing Regional Office: <u>Washington</u>
Project Number: <u>20-0253</u> Due Date: <u>06/05/2020</u>

County: Bertie

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

Division	Initials	No comment	Comments	Date Review
DAQ	FDB		No Comments	5/19/2020
DWR-WQROS (Aquifer & Surface)	DRS &ADS		& Based on a review of the proposed project, the Division of Water Resources recommends coorfination with the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the identification of jurisdictional wetlands and/or waters and any required permits that maybe involved with impacts prior to the implementation of the project. In addition, DWR recommends coordination with the DWR Washington Regional Office regarding complaince with Water Quality Standards associated with Streams and Wetlands prior to the implementation of the project.	5/18/2020
DWR-PWS	CWW		Plan Approval required if waterlines to be relocated	5/18/2020
DEMLR (LQ & SW)	SD		E&S and SW required	5/18/20
DWM – UST	SNH		See attached comments	6/2/2020
Other Comments				/ /

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



ROY COOPER Governor MICHAEL S. REGAN Secretary MICHAEL SCOTT Director

TO: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Coordinator

FROM: Sylvia Newsom-Hunneke, Regional UST Supervisor

COPY: Scott Bullock, Corrective Action Branch Head

COPY: Sharon Brinkley, Administrative Secretary

DATE: June 2, 2020

RE: Environmental Review – Project Number 20-0253 – Sumac Solar, LLC application to construct a 120

MW Solar Facility in Bertie County.

I searched the Petroleum Underground Storage Tank (UST) and Non-UST Databases and review of those databases did not indicate any petroleum releases within the proposed project area. I reviewed the above proposal and determined that this project should not have any adverse impact upon groundwater. The following comments are pertinent to my review:

- 1. The Washington Regional Office (WaRO) UST Section recommends removal of any abandoned or out-of-use petroleum USTs or petroleum above ground storage tanks (ASTs) within the project area. The UST Section should be contacted regarding use of any proposed or on-site petroleum USTs or ASTs. We may be reached at (252) 946-6481.
- 2. Any petroleum USTs or ASTs must be installed and maintained in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. For additional information on petroleum ASTs it is advisable that the North Carolina Department of Insurance at (919) 661-5880 ext. 239, USEPA (404) 562-8761, local fire department, and Local Building Inspectors be contacted.
- 3. Any petroleum spills must be contained and the area of impact must be properly restored. Petroleum spills of significant quantity must be reported to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Waste Management Underground Storage Tank Section in the Washington Regional Office at (252) 946-6481
- 4. Any soils excavated during demolition or construction that show evidence of petroleum contamination, such as stained soil, odors, or free product must be reported immediately to the local Fire Marshall to determine whether explosive or inhalation hazards exist. Also, notify the UST Section of the Washington Regional Office at (252) 946-6481. Petroleum contaminated soils must be handled in accordance with all applicable regulations.
- 5. Any questions or concerns regarding spills from petroleum USTs, ASTs, or vehicles should be directed to the UST Section at (252) 946-6481.



# NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: BERTIE H11: ENERGY RELATED STATE NUMBER: 20-E-4600-0253

FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES DATE RECEIVED: 05/11/2020

**AGENCY RESPONSE:** 06/05/2020 **REVIEW CLOSED:** 06/10/2020

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

#### REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

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DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MID EAST COMMISSION

## PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce

TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act

Environmental Review

DESC: Application of Sumac Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 120 MW Solar

Facility in Bertie Co. Docket #EMP-110 Sub 0. - View document at

Docket Number search line.

Located on Woodard Road near Morning Road on its western side, and Middle Tract Road to the east, outside of Windsor, NC

Road to the east, outside of Windsor, NC						
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: $oxed{oxed}$ NO COMMENT $oxed{oxed}$ COMMENTS ATTACHED						
SIGNED BY: Jintao Wen DATE: 5/28/2020						

Roy Cooper, Governor Erik A. Hooks, Secretary Michael A. Sprayberry, Director

May 28, 2020

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

Subject: Intergovernmental Review State Number: 20-E-4600-0253 Sumac Solar, LLC, Bertie County, North Carolina

As requested by the North Carolina State Clearinghouse, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management Risk Management reviewed the Sumac Solar project located in Bertie County. From the submitted site plan it appears the proposed project site will encroach on the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Please see Flood Insurance Rate Map Panels 6729, 6739, 6728, 6738,6739, 6810 and 6820. We offer the following comments if the proposed site encroaches into the SFHA:

- 1) The project site is located in Bertie County. Bertie 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 the County's Floodplain Administrator reviews and issues permits for each part of the proposed Solar Project within a SFHA.
- 2) Any grading, fill or placement of equipment or materials in the SFHA will require a floodplain development permit issued by Bertie County.
- 3) All structures and utilities within SFHA should be protected to the regulatory flood protection elevation as described in Bertie County's Flood Damage Prevention 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) 825-2317, by email at <u>jintao.wen@ncdps.gov</u> or at the address shown on the footer of this document.

Sincerely,

### **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 Jintao Wen Jintao Wen, Ph.D., P.E. NC NFIP Engineer

Emergency Management

cc: Randy Mundt, NC NFIP Coordinator

Eryn Futral, NFIP Eastern Branch Planner

Traci White, Planning Director, Bertie County

File

# NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

COUNTY: BERTIE **STATE NUMBER:** 20-E-4600-0253 H11: ENERGY RELATED

FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

**DATE RECEIVED:** 05/11/2020 AGENCY RESPONSE: 06/05/2020 **REVIEW CLOSED:** 06/10/2020

MS JEANNE STONE CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION STATEWIDE PLANNING - MSC #1554 RALEIGH NC

#### REVIEW DISTRIBUTION

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

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DNCR - NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MID EAST COMMISSION

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: North Carolina Department of Commerce

TYPE: State Environmental Policy Act

Environmental Review

DESC: Application of Sumac Solar, LLC for Certificate to construct a 120 MW Solar Facility in Bertie Co. Docket #EMP-110 Sub 0. - View document at https://starwl.ncuc.net/NCUC/page/Dockets/portal.aspx, Type EMP-110 Sub 0 in the Docket Number search line.

Located on Woodard Road near Morning Road on its western side, and Middle Tract Road to the east, outside of Windsor, NC

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for

intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your resindicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699		bove	
If additional review time is needed, please contact this of	fice at (919)80	7-2425.	
AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED:	NO COMMENT	COMMENTS	ATTACHED
SIGNED BY: Larney Hogan	DATE:	6/1/2020	
O s			