



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER  
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
Secretary

BRAXTON C. DAVIS  
Director

CRC-19-29

September 3, 2019

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Coastal Resources Commission  
**FROM:** Tancred Miller  
**SUBJECT:** 2020 Sea Level Rise Report Update - Charge to Science Panel

Following the Commission's guidance at your July meeting, staff has prepared the following draft Charge to the Science Panel for the 2020 Sea Level Rise Assessment Report Update. The draft was shared with Science Panel Chairman Birkemeier, who had no suggested changes.

Once the Charge is finalized, staff will deliver it to the Science Panel, which is ready to begin work.

### **CHARGE TO THE SCIENCE PANEL**

September 18, 2019 (draft)

The issue of sea level rise is of great importance to the State, its policy makers and the citizens of NC. Periodic updates using current data are vital to help inform planning and decision making.

The CRC therefore charges the Science Panel to conduct a comprehensive review of scientific literature and available North Carolina data that addresses the full range of North Carolina-specific sea level change. The CRC further charges the Science Panel to report regional rates of potential sea level rise as was done in the 2015 Report. The time period assessed in the report should extend a minimum of 30 years.

The Panel should have a draft ready for technical peer review by February 1, 2020, and a peer-reviewed draft ready for public review by May 1, 2020. The CRC requests a final report by August 31, 2020.

