ROY COOPER Governor ELIZABETH S. BISER Secretary BRIAN WRENN Director



December 16, 2021

Mr David McHenry North Carolina Department of Transportation Division 14 Environmental Supervisor 253 Webster Road Sylva, NC 28779

Subject: Trout Buffer Zone Waiver Haywood Bridge 3 – Chinquapin TB-HAYWO-2022-002 Haywood County

Dear Mr McHenry:

This office has received your plan for construction of a bridge and roadway approaches at Chinquapin in Haywood County. Your plan was submitted to this office for approval because of the proposed encroachments into the buffer zone of designated trout waters. In accordance with NCGS 113A-57(1) and Title 15A NCAC 4B .0125(c) this letter will serve as written approval to encroach on the buffer zone of the East Fork of the Pigeon River which is class WS-III, Trout. This authority has been delegated to me by Brian Wrenn, Director, Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources, in accordance with NCGS 143B-10. The following conditions will apply to this approval:

- 1. This approval is based on the revised plans received December 6, 2021.
- 2. All plantings within the buffer shall be in accordance with the Riparian Planting Plan.
- 3. Contact the North Carolina Wildlife Recourses Commission (NCWRC) to determine if a moratorium between October 15 and April 15 is applicable.

The contact information is:

Andrea Leslie Mountain Habitat Conservation Coordinator NC Wildlife Resources Commission 20830 Great Smoky Mountain Expressway Waynesville, NC 28786 828-558-6011; 828-400-4223 (cell)



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4. This approval does not absolve the permittee from compliance with the surface water quality turbidity standard. More protective erosion and sedimentation control measures may be required to comply with this water quality standard. If any work is proposed in a stream a 401/404 permit may be required.

Your cooperation in protecting our environment is most appreciated. If you have any questions about this approval, please contact me at <u>Stan.Aiken@ncdenr.gov</u> or (828) 296-4610.

Sincerely, 51h Stanley E. Aiken, PEGA

Regional Engineer Land Quality Section

Enclosure: Guidelines for Riparian Buffer Restoration

ec: Brian Wrenn, Director, DEMLR (brian.wrenn@ncdenr.gov) Julie Coco, PE, State Sediment Specialist (julie.coco@ncdenr.gov) Landon Davidson, PG, Division of Water Resources (landon.davidson@ncdenr.gov)