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Interim Director



To whom it may concern,

Beginning July 1, 2024, The Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources will be implementing administrative changes as directed by [Session Law 2023-134](#), passed last year. These changes may result in some changes to the process you have followed when applying for Post-Construction Stormwater Permits under DEQ.

In Section 12.12(a) of the law linked above, the Stormwater Program will have 70 calendar days from receipt of an administratively complete application package to conduct a technical review of application materials and ask Post-Construction Stormwater permit applicants for additional information, as necessary, on their application. Upon receiving a response from the applicant within their required 30-day response period, the Program shall have 30 additional days to render a decision on the permit. If the Stormwater Program "fails to act on an application for a permit or for a renewal of a permit as specified in this subsection after the applicant submits all information required by the Commission, the application shall be deemed approved without modification."

In order to meet this new law and its expedited timeline, the Stormwater Program will be strictly enforcing its terms on responses to requests for additional information. If an applicant does not respond within the 30 days granted by law, the application will be deemed incomplete and will be returned; a new application, along with applicable fees, shall be necessary to restart the review process. No extensions will be granted.

It is our hope that these timelines and standards will provide consistent process for both applicants and the Program. Feel free to reach out to Michael Lawyer, Stormwater Program Supervisor, at mike.lawyer@deq.nc.gov, with any questions on these changes.

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