



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources**  
Land Quality Section

Tracy E. Davis, PE, CPM  
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**Additional Options and Clarification Regarding the Stormwater Program  
Policy Documents Prepared by the Stormwater Technical Review Workgroup**

March 7, 2014

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	<u>Initials</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Approvals:</b> Bradley Bennett, DEMLR Stormwater Program Supervisor	<u>BB</u>	<u>3/7/14</u>
Toby Vinson, DEMLR Acting Land Quality Section Chief	<u>TV</u>	<u>3/7/14</u>

**Background Information:**

This memo conveys the five work products of the Stormwater Technical Review Workgroup (TRW). The TRW and the Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources (DEMLR) agree that these products meet the intent and spirit of the existing stormwater rules and statutes. Please note that all of these documents constitute guidance for the engineering and regulated community and, as such, cannot be required by the Division. They provide additional tools and flexibility to the engineering community in meeting the stormwater rules and statutes. Such alternatives are available through stipulations in 15A NCAC 2H .1008(h), which allow alternative designs that “provide equal or better stormwater control, equal or better protection of waters of the state and result in no increased potential for nuisance conditions.”

**These work products are:**

**Definitions of Frequently Used Stormwater Terms:** This document provides guidance on defining a number of frequently used stormwater terms that are not currently included in 15A NCAC 02H .1002. These definitions may be included in stormwater rule language in the future.

**Calculating Runoff Volume Using the SCS Method as a Voluntary Alternative to the Simple Method:** This document provides an alternative to the runoff volume calculation method (“Simple Method”) reference in 15A NCAC 02H .1008(c)(1).

**Options for Meeting the Diffuse Flow Provision of the Stormwater and Riparian Buffer**

**Protection Programs:** Designers have typically met the diffuse flow requirements found in the stormwater and riparian buffer protection rules by providing a level spreader and vegetated filter strip at each stormwater discharge point. This document provides guidance on additional options for meeting diffuse flow requirements.

**Options for Complying with the No Direct Discharge to SA Waters Provision of the Coastal**

**Stormwater Rule:** This guidance is intended to clarify the options that are available under current rule language for releasing stormwater to SA waters under Session Law 2008-211.

**Standards for Relaxing the Two Foot Separation between Infiltration Systems and the**

**Seasonal High Water Table:** The rule language in 15A NCAC 2H .1008(d)(2) requires that “the bottom of infiltration systems be a minimum of two feet about the seasonal high water table.” This document provides guidance on the information that will be requested of applicants to demonstrate that their alternative infiltration design with a less than 24-inch separation will control stormwater and protect water quality equally as well as a design with a full two-foot separation.

**Schedule of Immediate Actions:**

- a. Within 60 days after signatures, the DEMLR Stormwater Program will incorporate the revised guidance in permit application reviews.
- b. Within 7 days of signatures, the DEMLR Stormwater Program will distribute this guidance to the regulated community via the various stormwater listservs. This guidance is open for comments and suggestions.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bradley Bennett at (919) 807-6378 or [bradley.bennett@ncdenr.gov](mailto:bradley.bennett@ncdenr.gov) or Annette Lucas at (919) 807-6381 or [annette.lucas@ncdenr.gov](mailto:annette.lucas@ncdenr.gov).

**Attachments:**

Definitions of Frequently Used Stormwater Terms

Calculating Runoff Volume Using the SCS Method as a Voluntary Alternative to the Simple Method

Options for Meeting the Diffuse Flow Provision of the Stormwater and Riparian Buffer Protection Programs

Options for Complying with the No Direct Discharge to SA Waters Provision of the Coastal Stormwater Rule

Standards for Relaxing the Two Foot Separation between Infiltration Systems and the Seasonal High Water Table