

Land

Erosion and Sediment Control Certificate of Approval

*Express Option**

What Activities Require This Plan Approval? Any land-disturbing activity covering one acre or more, except certain agricultural activities which include production of plants or animals for the benefit of mankind, mining, reclamation of converted wetlands back to wetlands from agricultural use, and forestry activities conducted in accordance with N.C. Forest Practice Guidelines related to water quality.

What Is The Purpose of This Plan Approval? To provide protective measures to vulnerable areas in developments against accelerated (man-made) erosion and sedimentation that damages adjoining properties, streams and other water resources of the state.

Who Issues This Plan Approval? NCDEQ's Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources (DEMLR) and Local Governments with delegated Erosion & Sedimentation Control Programs. Local Programs vary, and may be more stringent than state or DEMLR's requirements. As such, if your project requires approval from a delegated Local Program, consult the approving agency for their requirements, fees, and application process.

How Much Will This Plan Approval Cost? Fee: \$100 per acre. The fee is calculated by rounding the disturbed acreage up to the next whole acre and then multiplying this acreage figure by \$100. For example:
4.08 acres = 5 acres x \$100/per acre = \$500 is the correct review fee.

What Are My Payment Options for Plan Approval Application Fees? The Erosion and Sediment Control application and fee payment are now available online through NCDEQ's new AccessDEQ Digital Hub. <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-and-land-resources/erosion-and-sediment-control/erosion-and-sediment-control-forms> Business, Personal or Cashier's Check or money orders are still accepted payment methods.

If Paying by Paper Check, to Whom Do I Make the Check Payable and Where Do I Send the Check? The check should be made out to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources (DEMLR) and the check should be sent to the DEMLR Regional Office which oversees the area in which the project will take place. Please visit the [Regional Offices map webpage](#).

Where Can I Get The Application For This Plan Approval? Not applicable. However, the required financial responsibility/ownership form is now available through the AccessDEQ Digital Hub: <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/erosion-sediment-control/forms>. An example erosion and sediment control plan may be found in Chapter 7 of the [NC Erosion and Sediment Control Planning and Design Manual](#).

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? 30 calendar days (upon receipt of a complete application package) unless the responsible party takes advantage of the Express Permitting option. This option requires meetings prior to a plan review, an additional fee of \$250/acre up to 8 acres, and final reviews are generally negotiated and completed within a 3 to 5 day review period (upon receipt of a complete application).

Where Do I Submit My Application? Complete application packages will be submitted to the appropriate regional office via the AccessDEQ Digital Hub. Click on the following link to determine which regional office's area your project is in if you have questions about your application: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/contact-demlr> (scroll down to the DEMLR Regional Office Contacts)

How Long Is My Plan Approval or License or Certificate Valid? Three years if no land-disturbing activity has been undertaken.

Notes/Comments: Erosion control plans must be submitted at least 30 days prior to beginning a land-disturbing activity and the plans must be approved prior to beginning the activity.

* The express permitting option is available for this Plan Approval type. This option offers quicker review times than the

standard review process. [Learn more](#) about express permitting.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference: GS 113A-50 thru GS 113A-66.

Link: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-and-land-resources/erosion-and-sediment-control/erosion-and-sediment-control-forms>

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Statewide Contact Information:

NC Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources
Sediment Program
1612 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1612
Telephone: (919) 707-9220