



May 9, 2006

## MEMORANDUM

**RE:** Vegetation management as it pertains to airport facilities in the Neuse, Catawba and Tar-Pamlico Protected Riparian Buffers

**Problem:** The current table of uses does not address removal of vegetation when it is necessary to comply with FAA requirements (i.e. radar uses), under the vegetation management provision of the Neuse River Basin Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B.0233), the Tar-Pamlico River Basin Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B.0259), and the Catawba River Basin Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B.0243).

**Solution:** Vegetation and tree removal is allowable within the protected riparian buffers when:

- It is necessary in order for airport facilities to comply with FAA requirements;
- Heavy equipment is not used in Zone 1;
- Vegetation is not compromised in Zones 1 or 2;
- Trees that are cut down are removed only by chain;
- No permanent felling of trees occurs in the buffers or in the buffered streams;
- Stump removal is only performed by grinding;
- At the completion of the tree removal project, the area is re-vegetated; and
- Zones 1 & 2 of the protected riparian buffers meet the requirements of Items (4) and (5) of the buffer rules.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5/9/06