AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59C .0303

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 5 – do you mean "and" or "or"? Line 8 – replace "landowner(s)" with "landowners" Line 8 – replace "indicating" with "stating" or "describing" Line 10 – delete the comma after "acquisition" Line 12 – add "a property" before "interest" if that is what you mean. Line 13 – replace "which" with "that" Line 15 – replace "owner's" with "landowner's" if that is what you mean.

Line 22 – delete "etc" or add examples to explain what is meant.

1	02 NCAC 59C	0303 is readopted as published in 31:05 NCR 369 as follows:
2		
3	02 NCAC 59C	.0303 APPROVALS TO EXERCISE THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN
4		
5	-	watershed district may apply to the commission for approvals to exercise the power of eminent domain.
6	Before the com	mission will approve an applicant's request to condemn land for a proper purpose, that applicant shall
7	provide the com	mission the following information at least 30 days prior to a commission hearing:
8	<u>(1)</u>	a written statement with copies to the division and to the landowner(s) involved, indicating the applicant's
9		purpose:
10	(2)	a resolution adopted by the local Soil and Water Conservation District supporting the acquisition, and
11		identifying each parcel by landowner and by specific watershed development site;
12	(3)	a written statement describing efforts made to secure interest in each parcel and a copy of the appraisal;
13	(4)	a map of the land needed from each specific landowner, which shows:
14		(a) the location of the needed land in relation to the specific project site;
15		(b) the location of the needed land in relation to the owner's total tract:
16		(c) the location of that portion of the land devoted to:
17		(i) the permanent pool;
18		(ii) the flood pool;
19		(iii) other purposes of water storage; if applicable,
20		(iv) the borrow area;
21		(v) the construction work area; and
22		(vi) recreational facilities, etc.
23		
24	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4(d);
25		Eff. September 1, 1982;
26		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06C .0303 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
27		Readonted Eff. November 1, 2017.

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59E .0101

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Lines 9-10 – consider deleting "In agreement with the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) and the Division of Environmental Management (DEM), Water Resources (DWR),"

1 02 NCAC 59E .0101 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2269 as follows:

- 2 3 SUBCHAPTER 59E - PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT THE NONDISCHARGE RULE FOR 4 ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS 5 6 02 NCAC 59E .0101 PURPOSE 7 This Subchapter describes rules to implement the provisions of 15A NCAC 02H .0200-15A NCAC 02T Section .1300 -8 Waste Not Discharged To Surface Waters: Animal Waste Management Systems, hereinafter called the Nondischarge 9 Rule for Animal Waste Management Systems. In agreement with the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) and 10 the Division of Environmental Management (DEM), Water Resources (DWR), the Soil and Water Conservation Commission sets forth these Rules for certification of animal waste management systems in accordance with 15A NCAC 02H .0217. 15A 11 12 NCAC 02T Section .1300. Alternatively, and in lieu of these Rules, the requirements of 15A NCAC 02H .0200 may be satisfied also by receiving an individual nondischarge permit from the Division of Environmental Management in accordance 13 14 with 15A NCAC 02H .0217(d). An owner must either obtain certification under these Rules or meet DEM requirements for 15 an individual nondischarge permit. The review process of the District does not abrogate the responsibilities of the owner to 16 either obtain a certification or to meet DEM requirements for an individual nondischarge permit. 17 18 History Note: Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-2; 139-4; 19 Temporary Adoption Eff. December 9, 1993 for a Period of 180 Days or Until the Permanent Rule 20 Becomes Effective, Whichever is Sooner;
- 21 *Eff. March 1, 1994;*
- 22 Transferred from 15A NCAC 06F .0101 Eff. May 1, 2012. 2012;
- 23 <u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59E .0102

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Lines 4-5 - Please place the statutory citations in numerical order

Line 5 – what does "0T" in "15A NCAC 0T .0103" refer to?

Line 10 – what "certification"? G.S. 143-215.10C(d) refers to "approval" of a plan by a technical specialist. Is the specialist certifying his or her approval as required by the statute? If not, what authority governs this certification? If so, consider revising as follows:

(1) "Certification" means a statement from a technical specialist that an animal waste management plan complies with 15A 02T Section .1300 and G.S. 143-215.10C and that a technical specialist has approved the plan as required by G.S. 143-215.10C(d).

Line 11 – replace "the" with "an"

Line 11 – add "NCAC" after "15A"

Line 32 - replace "are to" with "meet"

02 NCAC 59E .0102 is readopted with changes as published in 31:23 NCR 2269 as follows:

2		
3	02 NCAC 59E .0	0102 DEFINITIONS
4	The terms used ir	n this Subchapter shall be as defined in G.S. 139-3; <del>143–215.74; <u>106-850;</u> 143B–294; <u>106-840;</u> <del>15A NCAC</del></del>
5	<del>02H .0203;</del> <u>143-</u>	15.10B; 15A NCAC 0T .0103; 02 NCAC 59D .0102; and as follows:
6	(1)	"Agronomic rates" means those amounts of animal waste or compost to be applied to lands as contained in
7		the nutrient management standard of the USDA Soil Conservation Service Technical Guide Section IV or
8		as recommended by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Cooperative
9		Extension Service at the time of certification of the animal waste management plan.
10	<del>(2)<u>(1)</u></del>	"Certification" means the certification required in the Nondischarge Rule for Animal Waste Management
11		Systems (15A NCAC 02H .0217). for the animal waste management plan in 15A 02T Section .1300 and
12		<u>G.S. 143-215.10C.</u>
13	(2)	"Certified Crop Advisor" means an individual who has obtained and maintained the Certified Crop Advisor
14		Credential from the American Society of Agronomy.
15	(3)	"DEM" "DWR" means the Division of Environmental Management, Department of Environment, Health,
16		and Natural Resources, and the agency to receive the certification forms and responsible for enforcement of
17		15A NCAC 02H .0200. Water Resources of the Department of Environmental Quality.
18	(4)	"Design approval authority" means that authority granted by the Commission to designated individuals or
19		groups of individuals to certify that a BMP or the system of BMPs for waste management has been
20		designed to meet the standards and specifications of practices adopted by the Commission.
21	<del>(5)<u>(4)</u></del>	"Installation approval authority" means that authority granted by the Commission to designated individuals
22		or groups of individuals to certify a BMP or system of BMPs for waste management has been installed to
23		meet the standard of practices adopted by the Commission. "Interagency Nutrient Management
24		Committee" means a committee represented by the Agronomics Division of the NC Department of
25		Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Division of Water Resources of the NC Department of
26		Environmental Quality, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service - Department of Soil and Crop
27		[Science,] Sciences, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the United States
28		Department of Agriculture to provide uniform nutrient management recommendations based on scientific
29		data and research.
30	<del>(6)</del> (5)	"Technical Specialist" means individuals or groups of individuals an individual designated by the
31		Commission at 02 NCAC 59E .0105 to certify an entire or portion of an animal waste management plan.
32		that the planning, design, and implementation of BMPs, including all or part of an animal waste
33		management plan, are to the standards and specifications of the Commission or NRCS.
34		
35	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850; 139-4;
36		Temporary Adoption Eff. December 9, 1993 for a Period of 180 Days or Until the Permanent Rule
37		Becomes Effective, Whichever is Sooner;

1	Eff. March 1, 1994;
2	Transferred from 15A NCAC 06F .0102 Eff. May 1, 2012. 2012;
3	Readoption Eff. <u>November 1, 2017.</u>
4	

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59E .0103

#### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

This Rule references a "certification," but that term is not used in G.S. 143-215.10C. The terms used by the statute are "approve" and "permit." Is this issue resolved by the technical change requests to Rule .0102? Please review and ensure that the rules are using terms that are consistent with the enabling statute.

Lines 4-6 – consider revising as follows:

(a) An animal waste management plan shall not be deemed approved as required by G.S. 143-215.10C(d) unless a technical specialist certifies that the system is designed and installed to properly collect, treat, store, or [and?] apply animal waste as required by G.S. 143-215.10C and 15A 02T .1300.

Line 5 – do you mean "or" or "and"?

Line 16 – delete "minimum"

Line 16 – delete "as approved by the Commission"

Line 23 – replace "must" with "shall"

Please retype the rule accordingly and resubmit it to our office at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

Jason Thomas Commission Counsel Date submitted to agency: October 2, 2017

#### 02 NCAC 59E .0103 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2269-2270 as follows:

#### 3 02 NCAC 59E .0103 REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS

#### 4 (a) In order for an animal waste management plan to receive the certification required by G.S. 143-215.10C and 15A

5 02T.1300, the technical specialist shall certify that the system is designed and installed to properly collect, treat, store, or

6 apply animal waste as required in G.S. 143-215.10C. In accordance with 15A NCAC 02H .0217(a)(1), owners of animal

7 waste management systems are required to:

- 8
   (1)
   obtain certification that the system will properly collect, treat, store, or apply animal waste to the land

   9
   such that no discharge of pollutants occurs to surface waters of the state by any means except as a

   10
   result of a storm event more severe than the 25 year, 24 hour storm as required in 15A NCAC 02H

   11
   .0203(3); or
- 12 (2) receive an individual nondischarge permit from the Division of Environmental Management in
   13 accordance with 15A NCAC 02H .0217(d).

14 (b) The certification is to shall be made by a Technical Specialist technical specialist designated pursuant to this

Subchapter, and will shall confirm that the best management practices (BMPs) contained in the animal waste management plan meet applicable minimum standards and specifications. specifications as approved by the Commission

17 <u>pursuant to Rule .0104 of this Subchapter.</u> BMPs in an existing system <del>are not</del> <u>shall not be</u> required to meet current

- 18 standards and specifications as established by the Commission as long as the system is certified to be nondischarging as
- 19 required in <del>15A NCAC 02H .0203(3).</del> <u>G.S. 143-215.10C.</u>

20 (c) More than one Technical Specialist technical specialist may be consulted for the design of BMPs and installation of

21 BMPs. A Technical Specialist technical specialist must shall certify the entire animal waste management plan as

22 installed. only parts of the animal waste management plan within their approved designated category pursuant to 02

23 NCAC 59G .0104 and for which they are technically competent. The technical specialist must provide a copy of the

24 certification to the owner or operator of the animal waste management system.

25 (d) Upon receiving a certification from a Technical Specialist, the owner must submit a copy of the certification to DEM

26 and a copy of both the certification and the waste management plan to the District in which the system is or is to be
27 located.

- (e) The District shall review the waste management plan and, within 30 days of receipt of the plan, notify the owner, the
   certifying Technical Specialist, DEM and the Division if the District does not concur that the certification was signed by
   an approved Technical Specialist and that the waste management plan satisfies the purpose of proper conservation and
   utilization of farm generated animal by products. If the District, upon review, concurs with the certification, no further
- 32 action is required.
- 33 (f) The District shall maintain a copy of all animal waste management plans and the accompanying certification form.
- 34 (g) If the District does not concur that the certification was signed by a Technical Specialist, or that the waste
- 35 management plan is acceptable, and if either the owner or the DEM requests that the District reconsider its decision, the
- 36 District shall review its decision and within 45 days of the request, notify the owner, the certifying Technical Specialist,
- 37 DEM, and the Division of the District's final decision. The District is encouraged to utilize other technical specialists,

1	local agricultural agencies and disinterested agricultural producers in reconsidering its initial decision. If the District fail			
2	to act within 45 days on a request for reconsideration, the District's initial decision shall become final.			
3	(h) An owner not receiving concurrence from the District may request that the Commission mediate a dispute over			
4	concurrence. N	othing in this Rule creates an administrative remedy which must be exhausted prior to exercising permit		
5	appeal rights pu	rsuant to the rules of the Environmental Management Commission.		
6	(i) An owner w	ho does not obtain a certification is not deemed permitted pursuant to G.S. 143-215.1(d) and must apply		
7	for an individua	al permit from the Division of Environmental Management. Nothing in these Rules prohibits permit		
8	appeal rights pu	rsuant to the rules of the Environmental Management Commission.		
9	<del>(j)(d)</del> Any <del>prop</del>	<del>osed</del> modification of an animal waste management plan <del>requires approval by a Technical Specialist.</del> <u>shall</u>		
10	be certified by a	a technical specialist.		
11	(k) Any modifications made in the system as a result of changes in the operation such as types and numbers of animals			
12	equipment, or crops, must be in accordance with the BMP standards and specifications approved by the Commission and			
13	in effect at the time of the modification.			
14	(1)(e) A change in the cropping pattern as a result of weather-caused delays after application of animal waste shall not			
15	require the owner to obtain a new certification certification, as long as the owner followed the application rates set forth			
16	in the certified waste management plan application rates and no discharge occurs to surface waters.			
17	(m)(f) The certi	fying Technical Specialist technical specialist and the District are not shall not be required to spot check		
18	or otherwise ass	ure proper maintenance and operation of an animal waste management system installed to meet the DEM		
19	certification requirements. requirements pursuant to G.S. 143-215.10C. Enforcement of the Nondischarge Rule for			
20	Animal Waste I	Management Systems (15A NCAC 02H .0217) shall remain the responsibility of DEM.		
21				
22	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850; 139-4;		
23		Temporary Adoption Eff. December 9, 1993 for a Period of 180 Days or Until the Permanent Rule		
24		Becomes Effective, Whichever is Sooner;		
25		Eff. March 1, 1994;		
26		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06F .0103 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> 2012:		
27		<u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>		

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59E .0104

#### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Is this Rule intended to "establish criteria governing approval of … best management practices" as authorized in G.S. 139-4(d)(12)? Are these BMPs "policy" as defined in G.S. 150B-2(7a)? If the answers to these questions is yes, please consider the following requested changes. If the answer is no, please call to discuss.

Line 5 – delete "system."

Line 7 – delete "As required by DEM in 15A NCAC 02H .0217, 15A NCAC 02T Section .1300,"

Line 8 – delete "must"

Lines 9 and 11 - delete "minimum"

Line 11 – what does "standards and specifications as otherwise determined by the Commission" mean? Specify the rules that set forth these standards or consider replacing "as otherwise determined" with "set forth in rules adopted" if that is what is meant.

Line 14 - delete "as"

Line 16 – replace "for these purposes" with "for the purpose of this Rule"

Line 17 - replace "following" with "that follow"

Line 18 – replace "is" with "are"

Line 20 – replace "acceptable" with "deemed approved"

Lines 23-26 – revise as follows:

With concurrence from a NCDA&CS Regional Agronomist, a voting member of the NC Agricultural Consultants Association (NCACA), or a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA), a technical

Jason Thomas Commission Counsel Date submitted to agency: October 2, 2017 specialist may use plant and tissue analysis to justify additional nitrogen and extend the application period.

Line 28 – replace "are acceptable" with "shall be approved"

Line 28 – what does "no practical alternative exists" mean? Are there rules, standards, or examples that could be cited to give this phrase meaning?

Line 29 – what does "requirements for Nondischarge" mean? Are there rules, standards, or examples that could be cited to give this phrase meaning?

02 NCAC 59E .0104 is readopted with changes as published in 31:23 NCR 2270-2271 as follows:

3 02 NCAC 59E .0104 **APPROVED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)** 4 (a) The Commission will approve a list of BMPs that are acceptable as part of an approved animal waste management 5 system. plan. The list of BMPs will be approved annually (by August 1) and revised as needed during the year by the 6 Commission. 7 (b) As required by DEM in 15A NCAC 02H .0217, 15A NCAC 02T Section .1300, a BMP or system of BMPs designed 8 and installed for an animal waste management plan at the time of certification must shall either: 9 (1)meet the minimum standards and specifications of the US Department of Agriculture Soil 10 Conservation Service Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Technical Guide, Section IV or minimum standards and specifications as otherwise determined by the Commission; or 11 12 (2) the owner must receive an approved individual nondischarge permit as required for the animal waste 13 management system. meet the Swine Waste System Performance Standards pursuant to 15A 02T 14 .1307 and follow the approval process as described in 15A NCAC 02T .1308. (c) BMPs approved for use in the Agriculture Cost Share Program for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control are hereby 15 16 shall be deemed approved for these purposes. 17 (d) Land application BMPs following the nutrient management standard contained in the Section IV of the SCS NRCS 18 Technical Guide or as recommended by the Agronomic Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and 19 Consumer Services (Soil (predictive Soil Test Report and predictive Waste Analysis, Form AD 10) Analysis [Report,] 20 Report) and the Cooperative Extension Service (AG 439 4) (AG 439 5) (AG 439 28) are shall be acceptable. In cases 21 where NC agronomic rates are not specified in the nutrient management standard established for a specific crop or 22 vegetative type, application rates may be determined using the best judgement of the certifying Technical Specialist after 23 consultation with NCDA or CES. by the NC Interagency Nutrient Management Committee. A technical specialist may 24 use plant and tissue analysis to justify additional nitrogen and extend the application period with concurrence from a 25 NCDA&CS Regional Agronomist, a voting member of the NC Agricultural Consultants Association (NCACA), or a 26 Certified Crop Advisor (CCA). (e) Exemptions from the minimum buffer requirements for animal waste storage and treatment facilities and animal 27 28 concentration areas are acceptable if no practical alternative exists and the BMP installed as an equivalent control meets 29 the requirements for Nondischarge except as a result of a storm event more severe than the 25-year, 24-hour storm. 30 31 History Note: Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850; 139-4; 32 Temporary Adoption Eff. December 9, 1993 for a Period of 180 Days or Until the Permanent Rule 33 Becomes Effective, Whichever is Sooner; 34 *Eff. March 1, 1994;* 35 Transferred from 15A NCAC 06F .0104 Eff. May 1, 2012: 2012; 36 Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017. 37

1	02 NCAC 59E i	s repealed as published in 31:23 NCR 2271 as follows:
2		
3	02 NCAC 59E	.0105 TECHNICAL SPECIALIST DESIGNATION
4		
5	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850; 139-4;
6		Temporary Adoption Eff. December 9, 1993 for a Period of 180 Days or Until the Permanent Rule
7		Becomes Effective, Whichever is Sooner;
8		Eff. March 1, 1994;
9		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06F .0105 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
10		<u>Repealed Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>
11		

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59F .0106

#### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 4 – where is CREP defined? Can you cite that definition or provide the phrase that CREP stands for?

Line 4 – replace "must" with "shall"

Line 5 – replace "to do so" with "of noncompliance from the Division"

Lines 5-6 – replace this phrase with "The notice shall include:"

Line 10 – replace with "(4) a schedule for correcting the noncompliance."

Line 11 – what statute authorizes the Commission to assign liability? Isn't this just a legal opinion? Consider deleting this sentence.

Lines 15 and 16 – replace "will" with "shall"

Line 16 – replace "for repairing the easement area" with "to correct the noncompliance"

Line 16 – delete "of repair"

Lines 17-18 – replace "Once a plan is approved in writing by the Division, the landowner has 90 days from the date of said approval to complete restoration of the easement area" with "After a plan is approved in writing by the Division, the landowner shall correct the noncompliance within 90 days after the date of the approval"

Line 17 – replace "For vegetative practices, applicants are given one calendar year to reestablish the vegetation" with "For vegetative practices, applicants shall restablish vegetation within one year after the date of the approval"

Lines 21-25 – delete Paragraph (c) entirely.

Jason Thomas Commission Counsel Date submitted to agency: October 2, 2017

1 02 NCAC 59F .0106 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2271-2272 as follows: 2 3 **DISPUTE RESOLUTION** NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CREP AGREEMENT 02 NCAC 59F .0106 4 (a) If noncompliance with any CREP agreement is determined, the landowner must return the enrolled area to the 5 condition that meets the guidelines of the CREP upon receiving written notification to do so. The notice, from the 6 appropriate CREP agency, Division, will contain: 7 a detailed description of the enrolled area; (1)8 (2)a description of the area in noncompliance; 9 (3) recommended measures for repair of the practice; and to correct the noncompliance; and 10 (4) a time frame for repair. 11 Any expense incurred due to correct the noncompliance of a practice will be the responsibility of the landowner. 12 Landowners are not responsible for repayment of cost-share due to a failure of a practice through no fault of their own. If 13 the noncompliance involves a cost-shared practice that is within the state cost share contract maintenance period, then the 14 requirements in 02 NCAC 59D .0107 shall be followed. (b) From the date of the notice of noncompliance, the landowner will be given 30 days to reply in writing to the Division 15 16 with a plan for repairing the easement area. The Division will work with the landowner to ensure that the plan of repair 17 meets the CREP objectives. Once a plan is approved in writing by the Division, the landowner has 90 days from the date 18 of said approval to complete restoration of the easement area. For vegetative practices, applicants are given one calendar 19 year to re-establish the vegetation. An extension may be granted by the Division if it is determined that compliance 20 cannot be met due to circumstances beyond the landowner's control. 21 (c) In the event that an easement has been found to be noncompliant and the landowner does not agree to repair or re-22 implement the cost shared practice, the landowner and the Division may jointly request the Commission to mediate the 23 case as set forth in the NC CREP contract between the parties. To invoke this method, both parties must stipulate that 24 said mediation is binding. correct the noncompliance, the Division may invoke procedures to achieve resolution to the 25 noncompliance, including any and all remedies available to it under the easement or applicable law. 26 27 History Note: Authority G.S. 106-840; 106-850(a); 139-4; 28 Temporary Adoption Eff. October 1, 2000; 29 Eff. August 1, 2002; 30 Transferred from 15A NCAC 06G .0106 Eff. May 1, 2012: 2012; 31 Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017. 32

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59G .0101

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

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The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 9 – replace "where" with "if"

1	1 02 NCAC 59G .0101 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2272 as follows:			
2	2			
3	3 SUBCHAPTER 59G - APPROVAL OF TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS AND BM	PS FOR WATER QUALITY		
4	4 PROTECTION			
5	5			
6	6 02 NCAC 59G .0101 PURPOSE			
7	7 This Subchapter describes criteria and procedures for the Soil and Water Conservation	n Commission to approve water		
8	8 quality technical specialists and to approve Best Management Practices (BMPs) for	use in water quality protection		
9	9 programs of the Department. programs. These criteria and procedures are intended for	r use by the Commission where		
10	10 technical specialists or BMPs are needed in conjunction with actions by the Environmen	technical specialists or BMPs are needed in conjunction with actions by the Environmental Management Commission or		
11	11 other commissions in Department water quality protection programs. Commission.			
12	12			
13	13 History Note: Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4;			
14	14 Temporary Adoption Eff. October 22, 2001;			
15	15 <i>Eff. April 1, 2003;</i>			
16	16 Transferred from 15A NCAC 06H .0101 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>			
17	17 <u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>			
18	18			

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59G .0102

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

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In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 8 – delete "the"

Line 17 – if "USDA" is not defined, revise as follows: "Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture"

Line 18 – delete "a BMP for"

Line 18 – add a comma after "form"

Line 23 - replace "are to" with "meet"

02 NCAC 59G .0102 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2272 as follows:

-		
3	02 NCAC 59G .	.0102 DEFINITIONS
4	When used in th	is Subchapter:
5	(1)	"Best Management Practice" (BMP) means a structural or nonstructural management practice used
6		singularly or in combination to reduce nonpoint source inputs to receiving waters.
7	(2)	"Certified Animal Waste Management Plan" means the animal waste management plan certified by a
8		technical specialist as required in the EMC Nondischarge Rule for 15A NCAC 02T Section .1300
9		Animal Waste Management Systems (15A NCAC 02H .0217). Systems.
10	(3)	"Commission" means the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
11	(4)	"Department" means the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
12	<del>(5)</del> (4)	"EMC" means the Environmental Management Commission.
13	<u>(5)</u>	"Land application" means providing nutrients to a receiving crop by spraying, spreading, or injecting
14		inorganic fertilizer or animal waste (including liquid, solid, or sludge) pursuant to a certified nutrient
15		or animal waste management plan.
16	(6)	"NCCES" means the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service.
17	(7)	"NRCS" means the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.
18	(8)	"Nutrient management" means a BMP for managing the amount, source, placement, form and timing
19		of nutrients to ensure adequate fertility for plant production and to minimize the potential for water
20		quality impairment.
21	(9)	"Technical Specialist" means an individual designated by the Commission to certify that the planning,
22		design and implementation of BMPs BMPs, including all or part of an animal waste management plan,
23		are to the standards and specifications of the Commission or NRCS.
24	(10)	"Technical specialist designation category" means a designation specific to any of several individual
25		or groups of BMPs. category specified in 02 NCAC 59G .0104(a).
26	(11)	"Water management" means a BMP for control of water levels in the soil profile, including but not
27		limited to, the use of flashboard risers or other similar structures placed in drainage ditches to benefit
28		meet crop water needs and reduce nutrient loss.
29		
30	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4;
31		Temporary Adoption Eff. October 22, 2001;
32		<i>Eff. April 1, 2003;</i>
33		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06H .0102 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
34		Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.
35		

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59G .0103

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 4 – when "may" the Commission approve the individual BMPs? What are the factors of consideration? How is the individual approval requested? Please clarify the standards and process.

Line 6 – delete "minimum"

Lines 6-7 – what is the referenced document? Is it an outside party's document? If so, incorporate by reference in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.6.

Line 8 – I think we may have erred in asking for the comma after "Technical" – please remove it if this sentence refers to three separate things: (1) BMPs Practices, (2) Technical or Performance Specifications, and (3) Operation and Maintenance requirements.

Lines 9, 10, 13, and 15 - replace "where" with "if"

Line 16 – delete the comma

1	02 NCAC 59G.	0103 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2272 as follows:
2		
3	02 NCAC 59G	0103 APPROVAL OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)
4	(a) The Commis	ssion may approve individual BMPs or systems of BMPs in conjunction with water quality protection
5	programs for ag	ciculture and other nonpoint sources.
6	(b) Approved B	MPs shall meet the minimum technical standards of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
7	<u>Field Office</u> Tec	hnical Guide, <u>Section IV</u> , Raleigh, North Carolina, except as specified in Paragraph (c) of this Rule.
8	(c) The Commis	sion shall approve alternative BMPs Practices, Technical Technical, or Performance Specifications, and
9	Operation and M	laintenance requirements where any of the following criteria are met:
10	(1)	Where no existing USDA technical standard specifically achieves the desired exists for water quality
11		protection benefits; benefits equivalent to the benefits achieved by an approved BMP as established in
12		Paragraph (a) of this Rule:
13	(2)	Where an existing USDA technical standard includes design or installation requirements for purposes
14		other than those necessary to achieve the desired for water quality protection benefits; or protection; or
15	(3)	Where there is a need for additional operator flexibility to reduce the initial cost of installing or
16		implementing the BMP, while providing equivalent water quality protection benefits. benefits
17		equivalent to the benefits achieved by an approved BMP as established in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
18	(d) In approvir	ng BMPs, the Commission shall consider technical input from persons engaged in agriculture or
19	experienced in n	onpoint source management.
20		
21	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4;
22		Temporary Adoption Eff. October 22, 2001;
23		Eff. April 1, 2003;
24		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06H .0103 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
25		<u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>
26		

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59G .0104

#### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 5 – delete "technical specialist designation"

Line 14 – delete the comma after "loss"

Line 20 – delete "and"

Line 22 – add "and" at the end of this line

Lines 27-28 – what does "pursuant to NRCS job approval authority or engineering licensure" mean? Does this mean that a technical specialist in the runoff control category is to approve any erosion control BMP that is prepared by a licensed professional engineer or someone who has NCRS job approval authority? Since you are simply identifying categories. Wouldn't this be sufficient:

The Runoff Control category provides for the approval of the design and installation of erosion control BMPs.

Page 2, line 2 - replace "to comply" with "in compliance with"

Page 2, line 20 – do you mean "or" or "and"?

Page 2, line 24 - replace "Individuals" with "Technical specialists other than those described in Subparagraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this Rule"

Page 2, line 36 – add "this" before "education"

Page 3, line 3 – replace "included in" with "who meet the requirements of"

Page 3, line 3 – to remain consistent with your punctuation in this Rule, replace the semicolon with a period.

Page 3, line 7 – delete the comma

Jason Thomas Commission Counsel Date submitted to agency: October 2, 2017 Page 3, line 17 – delete the comma

Page 3, line 24 - replace "must" with "shall"

Page 3, line 27 – replace "will" with "shall." When and how will applicants be notified?

Page 3, line 30 – add a comma after "2003"

Page 3, line 31 – add a comma after "Course"

Page 3, line 34 – replace "Technical" with "A technical"

Page 4, line 1 – replace this line with "Technical specialists shall complete six hours of training approved by the"

Page 4, line 4 – replace "the finding" with "a finding"

Page 4, lines 4-9 – consider revising as follows:

j) Upon the finding by the Commission that the work of a technical specialist designated pursuant to this Rule fails to comply with the requirements of 15A NCAC 02T Section .1300, this Subchapter, or the NRCS Technical Guide, or that a technical specialist has submitted false data in the course of his or her work, the Commission may withdraw its designation of the technical specialist in any or all categories. In addition, technical specialist designation shall be rescinded by the Commission for failure to complete the approved additional training by the end of each three-year period.

Page 4, line 7 – what determines whether the Commission "may" withdraw a designation? What standards or factors guide such a decision? Is there a rule or statute that could be cited the states those standards or factors?

Page 4, line 14 – what determines whether the Commission "may" withdraw a designation? What standards or factors guide such a decision? Is there a rule or statute that could be cited the states those standards or factors?

1	02 NCAC 59G .0	104 is	readopted with changes as published in 31:23 NCR 2273-2275 as follows:
2			
3	02 NCAC 59G .0		APPROVAL OF WATER QUALITY TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS
4	· · · ·		designation categories and roles are as follows: specialists shall be designated in one or more of
5	the following tech	nnical s	specialist designation categories:
6	(1)	The S	tructural Animal Waste category provides for the approval of the design and construction
7		inspee	tion installation of lagoons, storage ponds, dry stacks stacks, and other similar structures. This
8		<u>catego</u>	bry also includes the design and installation of a spillway in conjunction with the
9		decom	missioning of a lagoon or storage pond.
10	(2)	The W	Vaste Utilization Plan Plan/Nutrient Management category provides for:
11		(A)	The development Development of land application plans plans, including crop acreages
12			available to meet nutrient and hydraulic loading rates, application windows, determination of
13			animal waste nutrient amounts, and other similar determinations such as evaluation of fields
14			for phosphorous loss, and field buffers and related measures; buffers;
15		(B)	Confirmation of storage volumes, exterior lots, lagoon closures, and cropping systems; and
16			systems;
17		(C)	Development and establishment of buffers and setbacks to manage runoff from exterior lots.
18			verification of land application setbacks;
19		(D)	Certification [that] of the land application component of a USDA Comprehensive Nutrient
20			Management Plan; and
21		(E)	Authority to approve nutrient management plans to comply with Rule .0105 of this
22			Subchapter.
23		(F)	Decommissioning of a lagoon or storage structure other than the design or installation of a
24			<mark>spillway.</mark>
25	(3)	The R	unoff Control category provides for the approval of the design and implementation of filter
26		strips,	diversions, grass channels and related BMPs which manage runoff from exterior lots.
27		install	ation of erosion control BMPs pursuant to NRCS job approval authority or engineering
28		licensu	ure.
29	(4)	The Ir	rigation Equipment category provides for the approval of the design and installation of irrigation
30		system	ns to include pipe size, pump horsepower, nozzle size, and system layout, and other system
31		<del>param</del>	eters. layout including required land application setbacks.
32	(5)	The W	Vettable Acres category provides for the determination of irrigated acreage in accordance with a
33		Certifi	ied Animal Waste Management Plan.
34	(6)	The V	Vaste Utilization Plan/Nutrient Management category provides for the items included in
35		<u>Subpa</u>	ragraph (a)(2) of this Rule and the authority to approve river basin nutrient management plans
36		and to	certify the land application component of a USDA Comprehensive Management Plan.

1	<del>(7)<u>(6)</u></del>	The Inorganic Fertilizer/Nutrient Management category provides for approval of river basin nutrient
2		management plans to comply with Rule .0105 of this Subchapter for inorganic fertilizer only.
3	<del>(8)<u>(7)</u></del>	The Water Management category provides for the approval of the design and installation of subsurface
4		water management systems.
5	[ <del>(8)</del>	The Waste Facility Closure category provides for the design and oversight of decommissioning waste
6		storage ponds, lagoons, and other similar structures.]
7	(b) The Commis	sion designates shall designate the following individuals who meet the criteria and training requirements
8	of this Rule as te	echnical specialists:
9	(1)	Individuals who to whom the NRCS has have been assigned approval authority for a designation to
10		conduct the activities specified in a technical specialist category by the USDA NRCS, the North
11		Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Division of Soil and Water
12		Conservation, or the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. Soil and Water Conservation
13		District employees are assigned approval authority by the USDA NRCS. Agency employees who do
14		not have a designation at the time this Rule becomes effective must meet the training requirements
15		included in Subparagraph (c)(2) of this Rule in order to receive a designation; described in Paragraph
16		(a) of this Rule;
17	(2)	Professional engineers subject to the "The NC Engineering and Land Surveying Act" for the categories
18		of structural animal waste, Structural Animal Waste, waste utilization plan, Waste Utilization Plan,
19		runoff control, Runoff Control, irrigation equipment Irrigation Equipment and water management
20		designation; Water [Management] and [Waste Facility Closure designation;] Management; or
21	(3)	Individuals not included in Subparagraph (b)(1) and (b)(2) who meet the criteria in Paragraph (c) of
22		this Rule.
23	(c) Those indivi	duals not designated in Subparagraphs (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this Rule must have an existing designation at
24	the time this Rul	e becomes effective under 02 NCAC 59E .01025 or must Individuals shall meet the following criteria
25	and training requ	uirements:
26	(1)	Minimum criteria Criteria for each technical specialist designation category are: shall be the following:
27		(A) The Irrigation Equipment designation category requires designation as an irrigation designer
28		by the National Irrigation Association or three years experience in the design of irrigation
29		systems for waste application.
30		(B) The Wettable Acres designation <u>category</u> requires holding either the waste utilization plan
31		Waste Utilization Plan/Nutrient Management or irrigation equipment Irrigation Equipment
32		designation.
33		(C) The Waste Utilization Plan/Nutrient Management and the Inorganic Fertilizer Only/Nutrient
34		Fertilizer/Nutrient Management designations categories require either three years experience
35		in nutrient management, a four year degree in agronomy or related field field, or a
36		combination of education and experience totaling four years.

1	(D)	The Structural Animal Waste, Runoff Control and Control, and Water Management [and
2		Waste Facility Closure] designations categories are reserved only for those individuals
3		included in Subparagraphs (b)(1) or (b)(2);
4	(2) Training	requirements are: shall be the following:
5	<u>(A)</u>	For all categories except Inorganic Fertilizer/Nutrient Management category, NC Rules and
6		Regulations Governing Animal Waste Management Systems taught by the Division or
7		Department of Environmental Quality, and advertised through the Division website.
8	( <u>A)(B)</u>	For the category of Waste Utilization Plan/Nutrient Management, Management and Inorganic
9		Fertilizer/Nutrient Management, North Carolina Nutrient Management Course taught by the
10		Division, NCCES NCCES, or the NRCS and the North Carolina Nutrient Management
11		Software Course taught by the Division or the NCCES. NCCES, and advertised through the
12		Division website.
13	<del>(B)</del>	For the category of Inorganic Fertilizer Only/Nutrient Management, North Carolina
14		Inorganic Fertilizer Nutrient Management Course taught by the NCCES or the NRCS and the
15		North Carolina Nutrient Management Software Course taught by the Division or the NCCES.
16	(C)	For the category of Wettable Acres, the North Carolina Wettable Acres Course taught by the
17		NCCES. NCCES, and advertised through the Division website.
18	(3) Provide	to the Division an "Application for Designation for Technical Specialist" and evidence of
19	experien	ce and training required for each designation category. A list of three references who can
20	attest to t	the applicant's technical competence must accompany the application.
21	(4) Be deter	mined by the Commission to meet the requirements of this Rule for designation.
22	(d) All individuals reque	esting technical specialist designation shall provide to the Division an "Application for
23	Designation for Technical	Specialist" and evidence of expertise, skills, and training required for each designation
24	category. A list of three	references who can attest to the applicant's technical competence must accompany the
25	application.	
26	(e) All individuals reques	sting technical specialist designation shall be determined by the Commission to meet the
27	requirements of this Rule [	and] in order to be approved by the Commission for designation. Applicants will be notified
28	of the Commission's action	<u>ns.</u>
29	(d)(f) Professional Enginee	ers included in Subparagraph (b)(2) who are licensed after the effective date of this Rule must
30	April 1, 2003 shall attend the	ne North Carolina Nutrient Management <del>Course and the</del> <u>Course, the</u> North Carolina Nutrient
31	Management Software Cou	urse and the NC Rules and Regulations Governing Animal Waste Management Systems in
32	order to use the waste utiliz	zation plan Waste Utilization Plan/Nutrient Management designation.
33	(e)(g) All technical specia	lists must attend training as provided by the Division, NRCS or NCCES when new areas
34	evolve within their designa	tion in order to maintain their designation. Technical specialist shall perform services only in
35	areas of the technical speci	alist's designated category and technical competence.
36	(h) The Division shall mai	ntain a database and make available the names of designated technical specialists and their
37	designated categories on th	ne Division's website.

1	(i) A valid desig	gnation as a technical specialist shall be maintained by completion of six hours of training approved by
2	the Commission	n during each three-year period following initial [designation] designation or each three-year period
3	following the ef	fective date of this rule.
4	(f)(j) Upon the	finding by the Commission that the work of a technical specialist designated under Subparagraph (b)(3)
5	<del>of <u>pursuant to</u> t</del>	his Rule fails to comply with the requirements of 15A NCAC 02H .02017(a), 15A NCAC 06F, 15A
6	NCAC 02T Sect	tion .1300, 02 NCAC 59E, the NRCS Technical Guide Guide, or any applicable state or federal laws, or
7	submits false da	ata or is in any other way dishonest, the Commission may withdraw its designation of the technical
8	specialist in any	or all categories. In addition, technical specialist designation shall be rescinded by the Commission for
9	failure to compl	ete the approved additional training by the end of each three-year period.
10	(k) Upon the fir	nding by the commission that When the Commission makes findings regarding the work of a technical
11	specialist design	nated under Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule Rule, the Commission shall forward these findings to the
12	respective agen	cy with the request that the agency provide documentation that their technical specialist has received
13	training to corre	ect deficiencies in the area of work concern to retain a designation. If the agency fails to provide such
14	documentation,	the Commission may withdraw its designation of the technical specialist for any or all categories.
15		
16	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4;
17		Temporary Adoption Eff. October 22, 2001;
18		Eff. April 1, 2003;
19		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06H .0104 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
20		<u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>
21		

AGENCY: Soil and Water Conservation Commission

RULE CITATION: 02 NCAC 59G .0105

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: Friday, October 13, 2017

# <u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> This request may extend to several pages. Please be sure you have reached the end of the document.

The Rules Review Commission staff has completed its review of this Rule prior to the Commission's next meeting. The Commission has not yet reviewed this Rule and therefore there has not been a determination as to whether the Rule will be approved. You may call our office to inquire concerning the staff recommendation.

In reviewing this Rule, the staff recommends the following technical changes be made:

Line 6 – replace "may be used to" with "shall"

Line 12 - replace "or" with "of the"

1	02 NCAC 59G .0105 is readopted as published in 31:23 NCR 2273 as follows:	
2		
3	02 NCAC 59G	.0105 APPLICATION OF BMP APPROVAL AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIST
4		DESIGNATION TO WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAMS
5	Approved BMP	s or systems of BMPs and technical specialist designation designations by the Commission under this
6	Subchapter may be used to satisfy the requirements of:	
7	(1)	The Neuse Basin Rule in 15A NCAC 02B .0238(8)(b)(x) and (c)(i) and 15A NCAC 02B .0239(2)(a)
8		and (b);
9	(2)	The Tar-Pamlico Rule in 15A NCAC 02B .0256 and 15A NCAC 02B .0257(f)(2); and
10	(3)	Other applicable water quality protection rules to address agricultural nonpoint source impacts, as
11		adopted by the EMC or other commissions that include agricultural BMP development or
12		implementation or technical specialist designation by the Commission.
13		
14	History Note:	Authority G.S. 106-840; 139-4;
15		Temporary Adoption Eff. October 22, 2001;
16		Eff. April 1, 2003;
17		Transferred from 15A NCAC 06H .0105 Eff. May 1, <del>2012.</del> <u>2012;</u>
18		<u>Readopted Eff. November 1, 2017.</u>
19		