HELP FOR
PROEJCT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Shortened version of the Criteria - North Carolina Environmental Policy Act

Note: The designation of Non-Major status for a proposed only determines whether environmental documentation needs to be prepared, in compliance with the NC Environmental Policy Act. This determination does not eliminate the need to perform a complete environmental regulatory applicability analysis for the project to identify other potential permitting, plan approvals, etc.

The following is an abbreviated listing of criteria for classifying a proposed project as Non-Major.

Non-Major Projects

1) Standard maintenance or repair or other facility operations needed to maintain the originally defined function of a facility.

2) Sampling, surveying, and related research activities.

3) Minor construction, demolition, or real estate acquisitions not involving sensitive areas or resources.

   Any new construction activity meeting the following criteria;
   - A building or structure less than 10,000 sqft in footprint and not involving the handling or storage of hazardous materials, and/or
   - Grading or disturbing of less than five (5) acres of previously undisturbed ground
   - Construction of a two-lane road of less than 500 feet in length
   - Acquisition of real estate in which the intended us is consistent with current use or is consistent with local land use plans
   - Construction of utility systems limited to,
     - Water supply wells, pumping stations, and water tanks
     - Water and utility lines in existing rights of way of less than five (5) miles in length
     - Sewer lines not exceeding the minimum criteria of the permitting agency and not located in sensitive areas.

4) Natural resource, land, and forest management activities performed in accordance with approved plans and/or in compliance with applicable local, state, and federal requirements.

Presence of a surface water feature

The proper identification of a surface water feature is not necessarily associated with visual observation, but is rather a combination of inputs.

The University Project Manager (PM) generally does not have the information resources, knowledge of current approach and regulations, or experience with this sometimes-subjective determination. Therefore, the PM should assign this determination to the project Designer. If this is a small project, being performed with the services of an outside Design Consultant, then the PM should contact NC State Environmental Affairs for this determination.

Stormwater Device

A proposed action to install or modify an existing stormwater device needs to be reviewed with the NC State Stormwater Program Manager.

A stormwater devices can include:

Ponds
Outfalls
Rain gardens
Sand filters
Wet Detention Ponds
Constructed Wetlands
Sand Filters
Riparian Buffers
Bioretention Areas
Grass Swales
Level Spreaders

Facilities Operations maintains an inventory of existing stormwater devices at the Raleigh campus.

For remote facilities, any action to install a new or modify an existing stormwater device should be discussed with Environmental Affairs (duane_knudson@ncsu.edu)

PCB Management

PCB-containing fluid or material has a PCB concentration exceeding 50 ppm

Potential PCB-containing equipment includes

- Fluorescent light ballasts
- Transformers
- Capacitors

However, PCB-containing fluids can also be found in such applications as hydraulic oil.

Therefore, if the project involves equipment which may have been manufactured before about 1980, and contains such fluids or materials, an evaluation of the materials should be made.

If the unit was manufactured after 1980 or if it specifically says that it contains Non-PCB fluid, then it is PCB-free.

Bulk oil storage container

Bulk storage is any oil storage container equal or greater than 55 gallons. These bulk oil storage containers should be indicated on a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC Plan). Check with the facility manager or Environmental Affairs (duane_knudson@ncsu.edu) for the existence of an applicable SPCC Plan.

Existing public water supply system

This does not include work on municipal (e.g., City of Raleigh) water supply systems, which are not University owned.

Currently, the University owns and operates only one public water supply system, at the Sertoma 4-H Camp.