

## **Utilities Unit**

Ronald B. Wilkins, PE- State Utilities Manager  
J. Robert Memory, CPM- State Utility Agent  
Roger Worthington, PE- State Utilities Engineer  
Byron Sanders, PE- State Encroachment Engineer

### **Our Mission Statement**

Safely and efficiently manage and facilitate the relocation and accommodation of utilities along NCDOT highways.

### **Our Responsibilities**

The Utilities Unit facilitates and manages the relocation, adjustment, removal and addition of utilities along NCDOT highways and rights of ways while maintaining the integrity of the highway system and ensuring the safety of its users. The NCDOT Utilities Unit is comprised of three sections; Utilities Coordination, Utilities Engineering, and Utilities Encroachments.

### **Utilities Coordination Section**

J. Robert Memory, CPM- State Utility Agent

The Utilities Coordination Section through coordination with the utility owner regulates the removal, relocation or adjustments of utility facilities occupying highway rights of ways when construction of highway improvements by NCDOT makes such removal, relocations or adjustments necessary. This Section works to ensure that utilities are relocated or adjusted by the utility owner in a timely and efficient manner to the benefit of both NCDOT and the owner. It establishes close-working relationships with utility owners keeping them abreast of highway projects, project schedules, policy changes and other highway utility related issues.

This Section also handles all contractual agreements and payment transactions between NCDOT and the utility owners and governmental agencies for relocating utilities. This Section insures that agreements and bonds are secured with the utility companies and governmental agencies operating in North Carolina concerning proposed highway construction, encroachments, drainage, and utility conflicts.

### **Utilities Engineering Section**

Roger Worthington, PE- State Utilities Engineer

The Utilities Engineering Section is the technical engineering side of the Utilities Unit. The Engineers of this section analyze utility facilities for construction conflicts and safety issues with Centrally Let TIP highway projects. They engineer solutions, obtain permits, and create contract documents for these highway projects. This section's products are Utility Environmental Permit Drawings, Utilities by Others plans, Utility Agreement Plans, and Utility Construction plans. This section also provides technical expertise concerning public utilities to NCDOT and maintains the Utilities Engineering Manuals.

## Utilities Encroachments Engineering Section

Byron Sanders, PE- State Encroachment Engineer

The Utilities Encroachments Engineering Section reviews, provides guidance, processes and provides recommendations regarding encroachment requests of both utility (water, sewer, gas, power lines, communication lines, etc.) and non-utility (bridge, culvert, drainage structure, fencing, groundwater monitoring well, sidewalk etc.) encroachments within NCDOT right of way. Every effort is made to reasonably accommodate these encroachment requests to be within NCDOT's right of way without diminishing the primary functionality and integrity of North Carolina's highways. The applicable rules, policies and engineering practices are adhered to while serving internal (Division, District Engineer's Office, Utilities Coordination Section, etc.) and external (Cities, Townships, Municipalities, utility owners, etc.) customers, including the citizens of North Carolina.