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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

August 14, 2001

Mr. John Dorney
NC Division of Water Quality
1621 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1621

Dear Mr. Dorney,

SUBJECT: Report on Final Mitigation Requirements for Improvements to US 64 from
Plymouth to Columbia, NC; TIP-R-2548, NCDWQ ID No. 000980.

Please reference North Carolina Division of Water Quality Certification 3302
(DWQ project No. 000980) issued to the North Carolina Department of Transportation on
September 22, 2000. As per special condition 7 of the referenced certification, the
following information is submitted for your review.

The NCDOT will mitigate for unavoidable wetland impacts by:

1. Removing and restoring approximately 4,340 linear feet of existing US 64 in the R-2548E segment of the project. The existing road will be removed and graded down approximately 3.28 feet below the grade of the surrounding wetlands. The excavated area will then be back-filled with undercut material removed during the construction of the R-2548F segment to restore 6.13 acres of wetland in the historic ox-bow. The site will then be planted with an equal mixture, pending availability, of the following species: swamp black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica* var. *biflora*), bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), tupelo gum (*Nyssa aquatica*), Atlantic white cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*), overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*), and willow oak (*Q. phellos*). Planting will be at a rate of 680 stems per acre.
2. The NCDOT will purchase 144 credits from the Great Dismal Swamp Mitigation Bank. Each credit from the Timberlake Farm portion of the GDSMB represents 0.8 acres of restoration and 1.0 acres of preservation of Peatland Atlantic White Cedar Forest and Non-riverine Swamp Forest. However, the USACE asked for a credit ratio of 1.8 to 1. Therefore, we have debited 144 credits to compensate for 79.912 acres of impact. This will provide 115.2 acres of restoration and 144 acres of preservation.

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1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH NC

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call Mr. Lindsey Riddick of my staff at (919) 733-7844, extension 304.

Sincerely,
W.D. Gilmore
for William D. Gilmore, PE, Manager
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch

CC: File R-2548