

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the construction of a new road through multiple wetland and stream systems in Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: October 14, 2020 to November 13, 2020

**PERMIT NAME:** Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

**APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER:** Lindsey S. Hodges; 4219 Campbell Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501; VWPP No. **20-4068**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Virginia Department of Transportation has applied for a new individual permit for the Berry Hill Connector Road, proposing to construct new alignment from the Oak Ridge Farms Road Interchange at Route 58 to Berry Hill Road in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. The permit will allow the applicant to construct a new road consisting of a two-mile long, two-lane divided highway with grading for a future four-lane divided highway and will provide access to the Berry Hill Industrial Park. The proposed activity would permanently impact 2.06 acres of palustrine forested wetland, 1.72 acres of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland, and 0.22 acre of palustrine emergent wetland. Total temporary wetland impacts are 0.53 acres of palustrine forested wetland, 0.36 acres of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland, and 0.07 acre of palustrine emergent wetland. The total permanent stream impacts are 1,915 linear feet, and total temporary stream impacts are 360 linear feet. The activity proposed in the permit will affect fifteen (15) wetland and stream crossings, impacting Childress Creek, tributaries to Childress Creek, tributaries to the Dan River, tributaries to McGuff Creek and associated wetlands in the Roanoke watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the affected area, the applicant would purchase 6.92 acres total of wetland credits and 2,285 LF of stream credits from a DEQ approved mitigation bank. DEQ's preliminary decision is to issue the permit.

**HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING:** DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

**CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Mackenzie Scott; Central Office, 1111 East Main Street, Suite 1400, Richmond, Virginia 23219; E-mail: [Mackenzie.Scott@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Mackenzie.Scott@deq.virginia.gov); Phone: (804) 698-4371. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.