

SUBCHAPTER 7H - STATE GUIDELINES FOR AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN

SECTION .0100 - INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL COMMENTS

- 15A NCAC 07H .0101 INTRODUCTION**
- 15A NCAC 07H .0102 CAMA PROVISIONS FOR AECS**
- 15A NCAC 07H .0103 SELECTION OF PROPOSED AREAS FOR AEC DESIGNATION**

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-124;
Eff. September 9, 1977;
Amended Eff. December 1, 1985;
Expired Eff. April 1, 2018 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A.*

15A NCAC 07H .0104 APPLICATION OF EROSION RATE SETBACK FACTORS

(a) Development on lots created on or after June 1, 1979 shall utilize the current erosion rate setback factor in the calculation of the development setback pursuant to 15A NCAC 07H .0304. If application of the current erosion rate setback factor in the calculation of the development setback would preclude the placement of permanent buildings, then the erosion rate in effect at the time that the lot was created may be utilized in the calculation of the development setback, provided that the development:

- (1) shall comply with the current erosion rate setback factor to the maximum extent possible;
- (2) is located at the landward most position of the lot without violating local zoning requirements;
- (3) shall extend no further oceanward than the landward-most adjacent building; and
- (4) shall be no more than 2,000 square feet in total floor area.

(b) Development on lots created prior to June 1, 1979 shall comply with the provisions of 15A NCAC 07H .0309(b) and (c).

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-113; 113A-124;
Eff. September 15, 1979;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2010; April 1, 2004; April 1, 1997; April 1, 1995; May 1, 1990; November 1, 1988; September 1, 1988;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2020.*

15A NCAC 07H .0105 EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULE AMENDMENTS

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, the state guidelines for Areas of Environmental Concern and local land use plans in effect at the time of permit decision shall be applied to all development proposals covered by this Subchapter.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-107; 113A-124;
Eff. December 1, 1982;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2020.*

15A NCAC 07H .0106 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply whenever these terms are used in this Chapter:

- (1) "Normal High Water" is the ordinary extent of high tide based on site conditions such as presence and location of vegetation which has its distribution influenced by tidal action, and the location of the apparent high tide line.
- (2) "Normal Water Level" is the level of water bodies with less than six inches of lunar tide during periods of little or no wind. It can be determined by the presence of such physical and biological indicators as erosion escarpments, trash lines, water lines, marsh grasses and barnacles.
- (3) Unless specifically limited, the term structures includes, but is not limited to, buildings, bridges, roads, piers wharves and docks (supported on piles), bulkheads, breakwaters, jetties, mooring pilings and buoys, pile clusters (dolphins), navigational aids and elevated boat ramps.
- (4) "Mining" is defined as:
 - (a) The breaking of the surface soil in order to facilitate or accomplish the extraction or removal of mineral, ores, or other solid matter.
 - (b) Any activity or process constituting all or part of a process for the extraction or removal of minerals, ores, soils, and other solid matter from their original location.
 - (c) The preparation, washing, cleaning, or other treatment of minerals, ores, or other solid matter so as to make them suitable for commercial, industrial, or construction use.

This definition applies regardless of whether the mining activity is for a commercial or noncommercial purpose, and regardless of the size of the affected area. Activities such as vibracoring, box coring,

surface grab sampling, and other drilling and sampling for geotechnical testing, mineral resource investigations, or geological research are not considered mining. Excavation of mineral resources associated with the construction or maintenance of an approved navigation project in accordance with 15A NCAC 07B .0200 is not considered mining.

- (5) "Wind Energy Facility" means the turbines, accessory buildings, transmission facilities, and any other equipment necessary for the operation of the facility that cumulatively, with any other wind energy facility whose turbines are located within one-half mile of one another, have a rated capacity of three megawatts or more of energy.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113A-102; 113A-107;
Eff. June 1, 1995;
Amended Eff. February 1, 2011; August 1, 1998; October 1, 1996;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2020.