Local Program Report to the SCC

Orange County

Orange County’s Local Program was reviewed November 18, 2005. Currently a staff of four contributes three and a half full time equivalents to erosion control. There are currently 105 active projects that are above an acre. The County disapproved approximately 30 plans since last year, approved 105 projects and conducted 1800 inspections since last year. No civil penalties were assessed and approximately eight stop work orders have been issued. The County frequently uses stop work orders to gain compliance.

Five projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Four of the sites were in compliance with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. The site that was found to be out of compliance was Oakdale Village. Oakdale Village is a 10.9-acre site constructed for residential purposes. A storm drain system was currently being installed; however, there was a lack of protection at partially completed inlets along the primary drain line. In the event of a heavy storm, sediment would have been lost via the partially installed storm drain system and would have discharged into a lake below the site. During the site visit, the inspector met with the contractor who was on site to alert the contractor of the violations and threatened issuance of an NOV if the problems were not corrected by the end of the day.

General documentation was good. The County needs to keep copies of their inspection reports in the files, which should be carried with them during their on-site inspections in the event they are needed for reference. The County is sending Letters of Approval. However the County needs to use a formal disapproval letter for notifying clients when the plan is not approved.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.

City of Greensboro

The City of Greensboro Local Program was reviewed April 14, 2009. Currently a staff of (2) two is dedicated to sediment and erosion control. Two other inspectors have been reassigned to zoning violations due to the lack of new construction. There are currently 243 active projects. The staff has approved 69 projects since last year. The staff conducted 2,381 inspections and issued 32 notices of violations. No civil penalties were assessed, but seven stop work orders were issued in the past year. The City of Greensboro Local Program requires surety bonds on sites greater than (5) five acres at $2,000 per acre and have cashed in approximately $250,000 in forfeited bonds in the past year.

Six projects were evaluated. General documentation contained in the files was adequate. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Three
sites were noncompliant with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. The sites that were found to be noncompliant were Creswell Phase 2, Spring Lake Apartments, and Spartan Crossing.

Creswell Phase 2 was an 8.91 acre residential site. It was observed that the storm drainage needs to discharge into a measure. The construction sequence did not address cover removal or the use of the pond.

Spring Lake Apartments was a 14.4 acre residential subdivision site. This site was under notice of violation. Field evaluation observed that slopes that were hydro-seeded without mulching had washed away. Storm drainage led to a “mud hole” where the basin shown on the approved plan should have been. The metal riser pipe for the basin was on-site, but did not appear to have ever been installed. A Certificate of Occupancy was denied on the completed unit in the complex.

Spartan Crossing was a 1.81 acre residential site. This site was under notice of violation for failure to follow approved plan, failure to take all reasonable measures, and mud in the street. Site evaluation and inspection observed that the stock piles were not protected and runoff was restricted from flowing into the sediment trap. The silt fence on site was in poor condition and failed inlet protection on the streets was right beside the creek.

Appropriate enforcement action was being taken on the sites that were out of compliance. Staff recommends continued delegation of the program, with the recommendation that a ratio of one inspector for every 80 active projects be maintained.

**City of High Point**

The City of High Point Local Program was reviewed April 29, 2009. Currently a staff of three is dedicated to sediment and erosion control. There are currently 33 active projects. The staff has approved 26 projects since last year. The staff conducted 440 inspections and issued 12 notices of violation. No civil penalties or stop work orders were issued last year. The City of High Point Local Program uses its authority to cash surety bonds as a form of enforcement for sites to become compliant. As a result the local program has not assessed civil penalties in the last year.

Seven projects were evaluated. The sedimentation and erosion control plans for each of the sites were adequate. Two sites were noncompliant with the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act. The sites that were found to be noncompliant were the Premier Medical Plaza and Wrenn Farm.

The Premier Medical Plaza was a 12.50 acre commercial/medical office building site. It was observed that slopes on the stormwater pond needed stabilization and silt fence was needed at the toe of the slopes. It was recommended that the sediment trap off of Wendover Avenue be removed when the parking lot is stable so that slopes can be completed and stabilized. It was noted that the silt fence below stock pile needed to be
replaced where it has been damaged. It was also noted that all perimeter slopes needed to be seeded when they are finished.

Wrenn Farm was a 60.17 acre residential subdivision site. This site was under Notice of Violation due to failure to maintain measures, failure to cover slopes, and failure to plant cover. Field evaluation observed that there was severe erosion of diversions onsite. Baffles in two traps needed to be replaced as well as needing maintenance. The large diversions needed to be stabilized. There were bare spots that needed seeding. There was evidence of 4-wheeler damage that needed correction. The City plans to cash the $206,000 bond in November if the site is not stabilized.

General documentation was adequate. The County utilizes activity logs and inputs them into an electronic database. The County does a great job with keeping copies of their inspection reports in the files.

Staff recommends continued delegation of the program.