1	15A NCAC 02O .0101 is proposed for amendment as follows:	
2		
3	SUBCHAPTER 02O - FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNERS AND	
4	OPERATORS OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS	
5		
6	SECTION .0100 - GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS	
7		
8	15A NCAC 02O .0101 GENERAL	
9	(a) The purpose of this Subchapter is to establish the requirements for financial responsibility for owners Owners	and
10	operators of underground storage tanks underground storage tank systems that are subject to regulation pursuant t	o 40
11	CFR 280.10 and located in North Carolina. North Carolina, shall comply with the financial responsibility requirements	nents
12	in this Subchapter.	
13	(b) The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources Environmental Quality (Department), Divi	ision
14	of Waste Management (Division) shall administer the underground storage tank financial responsibility compliance.	ance
15	program for the State of North Carolina.	
16	(c) Department staff may conduct inspections as necessary to ensure compliance with this Subchapter.	
17		
18	History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.3(a)(15); 143-215.94H; 143B-282(2)(h)143B-282(a)(2)(h);	
19	Eff. July 1, 1992;	
20	Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. Marc	ch 6,
21	<del>2018.</del> <u>2018;</u>	
22	Amended Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.	

1	15A NCAC 02O .0102 is proposed for amendment as follows:
2	
3	15A NCAC 02O .0102 COPIES OF REFERENCED FEDERAL REGULATIONS FINANCIA
4	RESPONSIBILITY
5	(a) Copies of applicable Code of Federal Regulations sections incorporated in this Subchapter are available for
6	inspection at Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources regional offices. They are:
7	(1) Asheville Regional Office, Interchange Building, 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville, North Carolin
8	<del>28802;</del>
9	(2) Winston Salem Regional Office, Suite 100, 8025 North Point Boulevard, Winston Salem, Nor
10	Carolina 27106;
11	(3) Mooresville Regional Office, 919 North Main Street, Mooresville, North Carolina 28115;
12	(4) Raleigh Regional Office, 3800 Barrett Drive, Post Office Box 27687, Raleigh, North Carolin
13	<del>27611;</del>
14	(5) Fayetteville Regional Office, Wachovia Building, Suite 714, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301;
15	(6) Washington Regional Office, 1424 Carolina Avenue, Farish Building, Washington, North Carolin
16	<del>27889;</del>
17	(7) Wilmington Regional Office, 127 Cardinal Drive Extension, Wilmington, North Carolina 28405.
18	(b) Copies of such regulations can be made at these regional offices for ten cents (\$0.10) per page. Individu
19	complete copies may be obtained from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Underground Storage
20	Tanks, Post Office Box 6044, Rockville, Maryland 20850 for no charge.
21	(a) The governing Federal Regulations set forth below are hereby incorporated by reference excluding any subseque
22	amendments and editions. Copies may be obtained at www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse at no cost.
23	(1) 40 CFR 280.90, "Applicability";
24	(2) 40 CFR 280.91, "Compliance Dates";
25	(3) 40 CFR 280.94, "Allowable Mechanisms and Combinations of Mechanisms";
26	(4) 40 CFR 280.96, "Guarantee";
27	(5) 40 CFR 280.98, "Surety Bond";
28	(6) 40 CFR 280.99, "Letter of Credit";
29	(7) 40 CFR 280.102, "Trust Fund";
30	(8) 40 CFR 280.103, "Standby Trust Fund";
31	(9) 40 CFR 289.104, "Local Government Bond Rating Test";
32	(10) 40 CFR 280.105, "Local Government Financial Test";
33	(11) 40 CFR 280.106, "Local Government Guarantee";
34	(12) 40 CFR 280.107, "Local Government Fund";
35	(13) 40 CFR 280.108, "Substitution of Financial Assurance Mechanisms by Owner or Operator";
36	(14) 40 CFR 280.109, "Cancellation or Nonrenewal by a Provider of Financial Assurance";
37	(15) 40 CFR 280.110, "Reporting by Owner or Operator";

1	(16)	40 CFR 280.112, "Drawing on Financial Assurance Mechanisms";
2	(17)	40 CFR 290.113. "Release from the Requirements".
3		
4	History Note:	Authority G.S. 12-3.1(c); 143-215.3(a)(15); 143B-282(2)(h);
5		Eff. July 1, 1992;
6		Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 6,
7		<del>2018.</del> 2018;
8		Amended Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	O .0103 is proposed for repeal as follows:	
2			
3	15A NCAC 02	O .0103 SUBSTITUTED SECTIONS	
4	(a) References	to sections of the Federal Regulations incorporated by reference will refer to those sections and any	
5	subsequent amo	endments and editions.	
6	(b) References	to 40 CFR 280.93 are to be taken as references to Rule .0204 of this Subchapter, with Paragraph	
7	correspondence	being: 40 CFR 280.93(a) corresponds to 15A NCAC 2O .0204(a) and (b); 40 CFR 280.93(b)	
8	corresponds to 15A NCAC 2O .0204(c) and (d); 40 CFR 280.93(c) and (d) have no correspondence; and 40 CFF		
9	280.93(e), (f), (g), and (h) correspond to 15A NCAC 2O .0204(f), (g), (h), and (i), respectively.		
10	(c) References to 40 CFR 280.95 are to be taken as references to Rule .0302 of this Subchapter, with Paragraph		
11	correspondence	being: 40 CFR 280.95(a), (e), (f), and (g) correspond to 15A NCAC 2O .0302(a), (c), (d), and (e),	
12	respectively; 40	CFR 280.95(b) and (c) correspond to 15A NCAC 2O .0302(b); 40 CFR 280.95(d) corresponds to	
13	15A NCAC 20	.0302(f) and (g).	
14			
15	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 143-215.94T; 150B-21.6;	
16		Eff. July 1, 1992;	
17		Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 6,	
18		<del>2018.</del> 2018;	
19		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.	

1	15A NCAC 020	O .0201 is proposed for readoption as a repeal as follows:
2		
3		SECTION .0200 - PROGRAM SCOPE
4		
5	15A NCAC 020	O .0201 APPLICABILITY
6	(a) The provision	ons for "Applicability" contained in 40 CFR 280.90 are hereby incorporated by reference including
7	any subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of	
8	this Subchapter.	<del>.</del>
9	(b) The Rules of	contained in this Subchapter apply to all dual usage tanks as defined in Rule .0203 of this Section.
10		
11	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94A; 143-215.94H; 143-215.94T; 150B-21.6;
12		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
13		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0202 is proposed for readoption as a repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0202 COMPLIANCE DATES
4	The provisions	for "Compliance Dates" contained in 40 CFR 280.91 are hereby incorporated by reference including
5	any subsequent	amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of
6	this Subchapter	<del>.</del>
7		
8	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94A; 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.1992;</del>
10		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1 15A NCAC 02O .0203 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows: 2 3 15A NCAC 02O .0203 **DEFINITIONS** (a) The definitions contained in 15A NCAC 2N .0203 and 40 CFR 280.92 are hereby incorporated by reference 4 5 including any subsequent amendments and editions, reference, except for "Director of the Implementing Agency", 6 "Occurrence", and "Financial Reporting Year". Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule 7 .0102 of this Subchapter.as modified below. The federal regulation may be accessed at www.ecfr.gov/cgi-8 bin/ECFR?page=browse at no charge. 9 "Director of the Implementing Agency" shall mean the Director of the Division of Waste (1) 10 Management. "Financial reporting year" shall be modified to allow a compilation report to be used to support a 11 (2) financial test. The compilation report shall be prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or 12 13 Certified Public Accounting Firm (CPA Firm) as defined in 21 NCAC 08A .0301. (b) The following definitions are defined for the purposes of shall apply throughout this Subchapter: 14 15 "Annual Operating Fee" is an annual fee required to be paid by the owner or operator of each commercial underground storage tank, as defined in G.S. 143 215.94A, in use on or after January 1 16 17 of the year, beginning with 1989. 18 "Dual Usage Tank" means an underground storage tank which has had varied usage which would (2)19 cause the tank to be considered an underground storage tank regulated in accordance with 15A 20 NCAC 2N during certain times and an unregulated tank during other times and for which both the 21 regulated and unregulated usages were integral to the operation or existence of the tank. "Director of the Implementing Agency" means the Director of the Division of Environmental 22 23 Management of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. 24 "Financial reporting year" means the latest consecutive twelve month period for which any of the 25 following reports used to support a financial test is prepared: 26 (A) a 10K report submitted to the SEC; (B) an annual report of tangible net worth submitted to Dun and Bradstreet; 27 28 (C) annual reports submitted to the Energy Information Administration or the Rural 29 Electrification Administration; or 30 (D) a compilation report by a Certified Public Accountant or Certified Public Accounting Firm. 31 "Occurrence" means one or more releases which result(s) in a single plume of soil, groundwater, (5)and/or surface water contamination (consisting of free product and/or associated dissolved 32 33 contaminants exceeding standards established under 15A NCAC 2L .0202 or any other applicable 34 laws, rules, or regulations) emanating from a given site. 35 (1) "Independent" Certified Public Accountant or Certified Public Accounting Firm shall mean a CPA 36 or CPA firm that examines the financial records and business transactions of an owner, operator or 37 guarantor for whom the CPA or CPA firm is not affiliated.

1	(2)	"Financial assurance" shall mean per occurrence and annual aggregate amounts of financial
2		responsibility, collectively.
3		
4	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94A; 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
5		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.<u>1</u>992;</del>
6		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 02O .0204 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:
2	
3	15A NCAC 02O .0204 AMOUNT AND SCOPE OF REQUIRED FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
4	(a) Owners or operators of petroleum underground storage tanks located in North Carolina must demonstrate financi
5	responsibility for at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for taking corrective action and for
6	compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by accidental releases arising from the
7	operation of petroleum underground storage tanks.
8	(b) Compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations relating to the Commercial Leaking Petroleum Undergrour
9	Storage Tank Cleanup Fund shall constitute demonstration of financial responsibility for that amount specified
10	Paragraph (a) of this Rule which is in excess of the sum of the amounts required to be paid per occurrence by the
11	owner or operator for cleanup and for third party claims.
12	(c) Owners or operators of petroleum underground storage tanks located in North Carolina must demonstrate financi
13	responsibility for taking corrective action and for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage
14	caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of petroleum underground storage tanks in at least the
15	following annual aggregate amounts:
16	(1) For owners or operators of one to 100 petroleum underground storage tanks, one million dolla
17	(\$1,000,000); and
18	(2) For owners or operators of 101 or more petroleum underground storage tanks, two million dolla
19	<del>(\$2,000,000).</del>
20	(d) If all laws, rules, and regulations relating to the Commercial Leaking Petroleum Underground Storage Tar
21	Cleanup Fund are complied with, the owner or operator may meet the financial responsibility requirements
22	Paragraph (c) of this Rule by providing an annual aggregate financial assurance of at least the sum of the amoun
23	specified in Subparagraphs (d)(1), (2), and (3) of this Rule as follows, in addition to the assurance provided by the
24	Commercial Fund:
25	(1) The average maximum amount required to be paid by an owner or operator per occurrence for
26	cleanup as determined in accordance with Paragraph (e) of this Rule;
27	(2) The average maximum amount required to be paid by an owner or operator per occurrence for this
28	party claims as determined in accordance with Paragraph (e) of this Rule; and
29	(3) Three percent of the multiple of:
30	(A) the amount in Subparagraph (d)(1) of this Rule; and
31	(B) the number of tanks being covered.
32	(e) An owner or operator providing financial assurance for more than one underground storage tank where the various
33	tanks do not all require the same maximum amounts to be paid per occurrence for cleanup and/or third party clain
34	shall calculate an average maximum amount to be paid per occurrence as follows:
35	(1) Determine the maximum amount to be paid per occurrence for each underground storage tank beir
36	assured;

1	(2)	Sum the values determined in Subparagraph (e)(1) of this Rule and divide by the number of	
2		underground storage tanks being assured.	
3	(a) Pursuant to	G.S. 143-215.94H(a)(2), owners or operators shall maintain evidence of financial responsibility for	
4	taking corrective	action and for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by accidental	
5	releases arising	from the operation of petroleum underground storage tanks. The minimum financial responsibility	
6	that must be mai	ntained per occurrence is determined by calculating the sum of the following:	
7	<u>(1)</u>	\$20,000 for taking corrective action to cleanup environmental damage pursuant to G.S. 143-	
8		215.94(B)(b)(3);	
9	(2)	\$100,000 for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage pursuant to G.S.	
10		143-215.94(B)(b)(5); and	
11	<u>(3)</u>	the multiple of \$600 and the number of petroleum underground storage tanks that an owner or	
12		operator owns or operates in the state of North Carolina.	
13	(b) The minimum	n financial responsibility that shall be maintained as an annual aggregate is equal to the per occurrence	
14	amount.		
15	(f)(c) Owners o	r operators shall annually review the amount of <u>aggregatefinancial</u> assurance provided. The amount	
16	of required finar	icial <del>responsibility and annual aggregate</del> -assurance shall be adjusted at the time of the <del>review to that</del>	
17	required in Para	graphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this Rule. All changes in status, including installations and closures,	
18	shall be reported	to the Department, and all fees due shall be paid in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and	
19	regulations.revie	w.	
20	(g)(d) If an own	ner or operator uses separate mechanisms or separate combinations of mechanisms to demonstrate	
21	financial respon	sibility for different petroleum underground storage tanks, the annual aggregateamount of financial	
22	assurance requir	ed shall be based on the number of tanks covered by each such separate mechanism or combination	
23	of mechanisms.		
24	(h)(e) The amou	nts of financial assurance required under this Rule excludes legal defense costs.	
25	(i)(f) The require	ed <del>per occurrence and annual aggregate coverage amounts do</del> amount of financial assurance does not	
26	in any way limit the liability of the owner or operator.		
27	(j)(g) Assurance	Evidence of financial responsibility for petroleum underground storage tanks located in North	
28	Carolina mustsh	all be provided separately from that provided for petroleum underground storage tanks not located in	
29	North Carolina.		
30			
31	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 143-215.94T;	
32		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;	
33		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.	

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0301 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3		SECTION .0300 - ASSURANCE MECHANISMS
4		
5	15A NCAC 020	O .0301 ALLOWABLE MECHANISMS AND COMBINATIONS OF MECHANISMS
6	The provisions	for "Allowable Mechanisms and Combinations of Mechanisms" contained in 40 CFR 280.94 are
7	hereby incorpor	ated by reference including any subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material
8	is available are	specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter. "Guarantee" and "Surety Bond" are acceptable mechanisms
9	in the State of N	Iorth Carolina.
10		
11	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
12		Eff. July 1, <del>1992</del> <u>1992;</u>
13		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 02C	.0302 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	0.0302 SELF INSURANCE
4	(a) Assurance of	financial responsibility may be provided by an owner or operator or guarantor as a self-insurer if the
5	owner or operat	or has complied with all of the laws, rules, and regulations relative to the Commercial Leaking
6	Petroleum Unde	ground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund and the owner or operator or guarantor either establishes a Trus
7	Fund as set out i	Paragraph (h) of this Rule or qualifies to be a self insurer An owner, operator or guarantor may mee
8	the financial res	ponsibility requirements by passing the financial test specified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule or a
9	financial test of	10 CFR 280.95. of this Rule.
10	(b) To qualify a	an insurer, anAn owner, operator, operator or guarantor, individually or collectively, mustshall meet
11	the following cri	teria based on year-end financial statements for the latest completed fiscal year.
12	(1)	The owner or operator, operator or guarantor, individually or collectively mustshall have a total
13		tangible net worth of at least:at least \$150,000 and not more than \$3,000,000:
14		(A) The sum of the amounts specified in Subparagraphs (b)(1)(A)(i) and (ii) of this Rule as
15		follows, not to exceed three million dollars (\$3,000,000) and not to be less than one
16		hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000):
17		(i) the multiple of:
18	<u>(2)</u>	A cleanup cost factor determined by multiplying the following:
19		(I) the number of tanks being covered by this mechanism,
20		(A) the number of petroleum underground storage tanks that an owner or operator owns and/or
21		operates in the state of North Carolina and that are covered by self-insurance. USTs that
22		are manifolded together are considered separate USTs. A multi-compartment UST is
23		considered one UST;
24		(II) the cleanup costs required to be paid by the owner or operator per
25		occurrence in accordance with G.S. 143 215.94B(b),
26		(B) \$20,000 for taking corrective action to cleanup environmental damage pursuant to G.S.
27		<u>143-215.94(B)(b)(3);</u>
28		(III) the proportion of the required financial assurance required pursuant to
29		Rule .0204 of this Subchapter being covered by this mechanism, and
30		(C) the proportion of financial assurance required pursuant to Rule .0204 of this Subchapter
31		being covered by self-insurance; and
32		(IV) a constant representing an average value per tank calculated from 0.05
33		for each underground storage tank covered by this mechanism which is
34		in compliance with any performance standards required on December
35		22, 1998, and 0.18 for each underground storage tank covered by this
36		mechanism which is not in compliance with any performance standards
37		required on December 22, 1998.

1		(D) a constant equal to 0.05.
2		(ii) two percent of the multiple of:
3	(3)	A third party liability cost factor determined by multiplying the following:
4		(I) the number of tanks being covered by this mechanism,
5		(A) the number of petroleum underground storage tanks that an owner or operator owns and/or
6		operates in the state of North Carolina and that are covered by self-insurance;
7		(II) the amount for third party claims required to be paid by the owner or
8		operator per occurrence in accordance with G.S. 143 215.94B(b),
9		(B) \$100,000 for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage pursuant to
10		G.S. 143-215.94(B)(b)(5); and
11		(III) the proportion of the required financial assurance required pursuant to
12		Rule .0204 of the Subchapter being covered by this mechanism,
13		(C) the proportion of financial assurance required pursuant to Rule .0204 of this Subchapter
14		being covered by self-insurance; and
15		(D) a constant equal to 0.02.
16		(B) Any amount of tangible net worth used to assure financial responsibility for petroleum
17		underground storage tanks not located in North Carolina;
18	<u>(4)</u>	The amount of tangible net worth used to assure financial responsibility for petroleum underground
19		storage tanks not located in North Carolina;
20		(C) Ten times the sum of the corrective action cost estimates, the current closure and
21		post closure care cost estimates, and amount of liability coverage for Hazardous Waste
22		Management Facilities and Hazardous Waste Storage Facilities for which a financial test
23		is used to demonstrate financial responsibility to EPA under 40 CFR Parts 264.101,
24		264.143, 264.145, 265.143, 265.145, 264.147, and 265.147 or to a state implementing
25		agency under a state program authorized by EPA under 40 CFR Part 271; and
26	<u>(5)</u>	Ten times the sum of the corrective action cost estimates (40 CFR 264.101(b)), the closure (40 CFR
27		264.143 and 265.143) and post-closure care (40 CFR 264.145 and 265.145) cost estimates, and
28		amount of liability coverage (40 CFR 264.147 and 265.147) for Hazardous Waste Management
29		Facilities and Hazardous Waste Storage Facilities for which a financial test is used to demonstrate
30		financial responsibility to EPA or to a State implementing agency under a State program authorized
31		by EPA under 40 CFR 271; and
32		(D) Ten times the sum of current plugging and abandonment cost estimates for injection wells
33		for which a financial test is used to demonstrate financial responsibility to EPA under 40
34		CFR Part 144.63 or to a state implementing agency under a state program authorized by
35		EPA under 40 CFR Part 145.
36	(6)	Ten times the sum of current plugging and abandonment cost estimates for injection wells (40 CFR
37		144.63) for which a financial test is used to demonstrate financial responsibility to the EPA under

1		40 CFR 144.63 or to a State implementing agency under a State program authorized by EPA under
2		40 CFR Part 145.
3	<del>(2)</del> (7)	In addition to any other requirements of this Section, a Guarantor must guarantor shall have a net
4		worth of at least two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)\$200,000 greater than any tangible net
5		worth used by the guarantor in Subparagraph (b)(1) of this Rule. Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph.
6	(3)	The owner or operator, or guarantor, individually or collectively, must each have a letter signed by
7		the chief financial officer, worded as specified in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, and must do one of the
8		following:
9		(A) Obtain annually a compilation report issued by an independent certified public accountant
10		or certified public accounting firm;
11		(B) File financial statements annually with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the
12		Energy Information Administration, or the Rural Electrification Administration; or
13		(C) Report annually the firm's tangible net worth to Dun and Bradstreet, and Dun and
14		Bradstreet must have assigned the firm a financial strength rating of 4A or 5A.
15	(c) The owner o	r <del>operator, <u>operator</u></del> or guarantor, individually or collectively, <del>must</del> <u>shall</u> each have a letter signed by
16	the chief financi	al officer, worded as specified in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, and mustshall do one of the following:
17	(1)	Obtain annually a compilation report issued by an independent certified public accountant or
18		certified public accounting firm;
19	(2)	File Pursuant to 40 CFR 280.95(b)(4)(i), file financial statements annually with the U.S. Securities
20		and Exchange Commission, the Energy Information Administration, or the Rural Electrification
21		Administration; or
22	(3)	ReportPursuant to 40 CFR 280.95(b)(4)(ii), report annually the firm's tangible net worth to Dun and
23		Bradstreet, and Dun and Bradstreet must have assigned the firm a financial strength rating of 4A or
24		5A.
25	(4)	The firm's year end financial statements must be independently compiled and cannot include an
26		adverse accountant's report or a "going concern" qualification.
27	(d) The firm's y	vear-end financial statements cannot include an adverse accountant's report or a "going concern"
28	qualification.	
29	(e)(e) If an own	er or operator is acting as a self insurer in accordance with Paragraph (b) of this Rule and finds that
30	he or she no lon	ger meets the requirements of the test in Paragraph (b) of this Rule based on the year end financial
31	statements, the	owner or operator must obtain alternative coverage within 150 days of the end of the year for which
32	financial stateme	ents have been prepared. 40 CFR 280.95(d), (e), (f) and (g) are incorporated by reference except that
33	"financial test" i	means the financial test specified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule.
34	(d) The Departs	ment may require reports of financial condition at any time from a guarantor and from an owner or
35	operator who is	self insuring. If the Department finds, on the basis of such reports or other information, that the owner,
36	operator, or gua	rantor no longer meets the financial test requirements of Paragraph (b) of this Rule, the owner or
37	operator must of	otain alternate coverage within 30 days after notification of such a finding.

1 (e) If the owner or operator fails to obtain alternate assurance within 150 days of finding that he or she no longer 2 meets the requirements of the financial test based on the year end financial statements, or within 30 days of notification 3 by the Department that he or she no longer meets the requirements of the financial test, the owner or operator must 4 notify the Department of such failure within 10 days. 5 (f) To demonstrate that it meets the financial test under Paragraph (b) of this Rule, the chief financial officer of each 6 owner orowner, operator or guarantor mustshall sign, within 120 days of the close of each financial reporting year, as 7 defined by the 12-month period for which financial statements used to support the financial test are prepared, a letter 8 worded exactly as in Paragraph (g) of this Rule, except that the instructions in brackets are to be replaced by the 9 relevant information and the brackets deleted. 10 (g) LETTER FROM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER 11 I, [insert: name of chief financial officer], the chief financial officer of [insert: name and address of the owner or 12 operator, owner, operator or guarantor] have prepared this letter in support of the use of [insert: "the financial test of 13 self-insurance," and/or "guarantee"] to demonstrate financial responsibility for [insert: "taking corrective action" or 14 "compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage"] caused by [insert: "sudden accidental releases" 15 and/or "nonsudden accidental releases"] in the amount of at least [insert: dollar amount] per occurrence and [insert: 16 dollar amount] annual aggregate arising from operating (an) underground storage tank(s). 17 Underground storage tanks at the following facilities are assured by this financial test by this [insert: "owner or 18 operator," or "guarantor"]: 19 [List or attach the following information for each facility: the name and address of the facility where tanks assured 20 by this financial test are located, located and facility number(s) assigned by the Department, and date(s) of last 21 payment of annual tank operating fee(s). Department. If separate mechanisms or combinations of mechanisms, other 22 than the Commercial Leaking Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fundmechanisms are being used to 23 assure any of the tanks at this facility, list each tank assured by this financial test.] 24 [When appropriate, include the following for Hazardous Waste Management Facilities, Hazardous Waste Storage 25 Facilities, and Injection Wells: 26 A {insert: "financial test," or "guarantee"} [insert: "financial test" or "guarantee"] is also used by this {insert: 27 "owner or operator," or "guarantor"} [insert: "owner, operator" or "guarantor"] to demonstrate evidence of financial 28 responsibility in the following amounts under EPA regulations or state programs authorized by EPA under 40 CFR 29 Parts 271 and 145: 30 **EPA Regulations** Amount 31 Closure (including  $\Box 264.143$  and  $\Box 265.143$ ) 40 CFR 264.143 and 265-143) 32 Post-Closure Care (including <u>□264.145 and □265.145)4</u>0 CFR 264.145 and 265.145) 33 Liability Coverage (including  $\pm 264.147$  and  $\pm 265.147$ )40 CFR 264.147 and 265.147) \$\_\_\_\_ 34 Corrective Action (including =264.101(b))40 CFR 264.101(b))

Plugging and Abandonment (including <del>□ 144.63)</del>40 CFR 144.63)

35

36

Total

1	This [insert: "owner or operator," owner, operator" or "guarantor"] has not received an adverse r	eport or	a "going	
2	concern" qualification from an independent accountant on his financial statements for the latest completed fiscal			
3	year.			
4				
5	1. a. Number of USTs being covered			
6	b. Average maximum amount of cleanup costs			
7	(Rule .0204(d)(1))			
8	c. Average maximum amount of third party costs			
9	(Rule .0204(d)(2))			
10	d. Proportion covered			
11	e. Constant (Rule .0302(b)(1)(A)(i))			
12	f. Cleanup Total (a x b x d x e)	<u> </u>		
13	g. Third Party Total (0.02 x a x c x d)	<u> </u>		
14	h. If Guarantor, list \$200,000	<u> </u>		
15	2. Tangible assets applied to USTs not in North Carolina	\$		
16	3. Ten times the costs for Hazardous Waste Facilities and Injections Wells	-\$		
17	4. Sum of lines 1f, 1g, 1h, and 2	-\$		
18	5. Total tangible assets	-\$		
19	6. Total liabilities [if any of the amount reported on line 4 is included in total liabilities,			
20	you may deduct that amount from this line and add that amount to line 7]	-\$		
21	7. Tangible net worth [subtract line 6 from line 5]	-\$		
22	1. a. Number of USTs in North Carolina being covered			
23	b. Proportion covered			
24	c. Cleanup cost factor (multiply 0.05 x \$20,000 x #1a and #1b)	\$		
25	d. Third party liability cost factor (multiply 0.02 x \$100,000 x #1a and #1b)	\$		
26	2. Cleanup and third-party liability cost factor total (sum of #1c and #1d)	\$		
27	3. Guarantor factor (enter \$200,000, if guarantor)	\$		
28	4. Net worth used to assure environmental liabilities for Hazardous Waste Management Facilitie	:S,		
29	Hazardous Waste Storage Facilities, and Injection Wells multiplied by 10	\$		
30	5. Net worth used to assure environmental liabilities for USTs outside of North Carolina	\$		
31	6. Total net worth required to self-insure or to be a guarantor (sum of #2, #3, #4 and #5)	\$		
32	7. Total tangible assets	\$		
33	8. Total liabilities (if any of the amount reported for #6 is included in total liabilities, you may			
34	deduct that amount from this line and add that amount to #9)	\$		
35	9. Tangible net worth (subtract #8 from #7)	\$		
36		Yes_	No	
37	$\frac{8.10.}{10.}$ Is line $\frac{79}{20}$ at least [for an owner or operator: \$150,000; for a guarantor: \$350,000]?			

1	9.11. Is line 79 equal to or greater than line 426?		
2	10.12. Has a compilation report been issued by an independent certified public accountant or certified		
3	public accounting firm?		
4	11.13. Have fin	ancial statements for the latest fiscal year been filed with the Securities	
5	and Exchan	ge Commission?	
6	<del>12.</del> 14. Have fin	ancial statements for the latest fiscal year been filed with the Energy Information	
7	Administrat	ion?	
8	13.15. Have fin	ancial statements for the latest fiscal year been filed with the Rural Electrification	
9	Administrat	ion?	
10	14.16. Has fina	ncial information been provided to Dun and Bradstreet, and has Dun and	
11	Bradstreet p	provided a financial strength rating of 4A or 5A? [Answer "Yes" only	
12	if both crite	ria have been met]	
13			
14	I hereby certify that the wording of this letter is identical to the wording specified in 15A NCAC 2O .0302, as such		
15	regulations were constituted on the date shown immediately below, and that the information contained herein is		
16	complete and accurate.		
17			
18	[Signature of cl	nief financial officer]	
19	[Name]		
20	[Title]		
21	[Date]		
22			
23	(h) The provisi	ons for "Trust Fund" contained in 40 CFR 280.102 are hereby incorporated by reference including any	
24	subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of the		
25	Subchapter.		
26			
27	History Note:	Authority G.S. 58-2-205; 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;	
28		Eff. August 3, <del>1992.</del> 1992;	
29		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.	

1	15A NCAC 02O .0	303 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 02O .0	0303 GUARANTEE
4	The provisions for	"Guarantee" contained in 40 CFR 280.96 are hereby incorporated by reference including any
5	subsequent amendr	ments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of this
6	Subchapter.	
7		
8	History Note: A	outhority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9	E	ff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
10	<u>R</u>	<u> Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.</u>

1 15A NCAC 02O .0304 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows: 2 3 15A NCAC 02O .0304 INSURANCE AND RISK RETENTION GROUP COVERAGE The provisions for "Insurance and Risk Retention Group Coverage" contained in 40 CFR 280.97 entitled "Insurance 4 5 and Risk Retention Group Coverage" are herebyis incorporated by reference including reference, excluding any 6 subsequent amendments and editions,-except that "licensed to transact the business of insurance or eligible to provide 7 insurance as an excess or surplus lines insurer in one or more states" in = 280.97(b)(1),40 CFR 280.97(b)(1), (b)(2), 8 and (c) is replaced by "licensed, registered, or otherwise authorized to provide insurance in North Carolina". Locations 9 where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter. This document may be accessed at 10 www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse at no charge. The requirements in 40 CFR 280.97 shall be met to 11 demonstrate financial responsibility by insurance pursuant to G.S. 143-215.94H. 12 13 History Note: Authority G.S. <del>58 2 125; 58 22; 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;</del> 14 Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del>1992; 15 Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0305 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0305 SURETY BOND
4	The provisions	for "Surety Bond" contained in 40 CFR 280.98 are hereby incorporated by reference including any
5	subsequent amo	endments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of this
6	Subchapter.	
7		
8	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
10		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	3.0306 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 02	O .0306 LETTER OF CREDIT
4	The provisions	for "Letter of Credit" contained in 40 CFR 280.99 are hereby incorporated by reference including any
5	subsequent amo	endments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of this
6	Subchapter.	
7		
8	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
10		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	O .0307 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 02	O .0307 STANDBY TRUST FUND
4	The provisions	for "Standby Trust Fund" contained in 40 CFR 280.103 are hereby incorporated by reference including
5	any subsequent	amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of
6	this Subchapter	<del>-</del>
7		
8	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.<u>1992</u>;</del>
10		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	O .0308 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 02	O .0308 INSURANCE POOLS
4	(a) Insurance P	ools established by owners and operators may be used alone or in combination to demonstrate financial
5	assurance in ac	cordance with Rules .0204 and .0301Rule .0204 of this Subchapter.
6	(b) To be an eli	gible <del>mechanism, mechanism for demonstrating financial assurance,</del> Insurance Pools <del>must</del> shall comply
7	with the require	ements of G.S. 143 215.94I and any other requirements imposed by the Commissioner of Insurance of
8	the State of Nor	th Carolina and any relevant law, rule, or regulation. G.S. 143-215.94I.
9	(c) Each owner	r and operator provided providing financial assurance through an Insurance Pool mustshall maintain a
10	certificate of in	surance issued by the Insurance Pool listing, at least: that lists at a minimum the following information:
11	(1)	the name and address of the member;
12	(2)	the location of the facilities owned by that member where underground storage tanks are being
13		insured by the pool;
14	(3)	the number of insured underground storage tanks at each facility;
15	(4)	the capacity of each insured underground storage tank;
16	(5)	the amount of insurance provided for each underground storage tank; and
17	(6)	the name, address, and signature of the Administrator of the Insurance Pool.
18		
19	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 143-215.94I;
20		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
21		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0311 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0311 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOND RATING TEST
4	The regulations	governing "Local Government Bond Rating Test" set forth in 40 CFR 280.104 (Subpart H) are hereby
5	incorporated by	reference.
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017;
9		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0312 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0312 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL TEST
4	The regulations	governing "Local Government Financial Test" set forth in 40 CFR 280.105 (Subpart H) are hereby
5	incorporated by	reference.
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017;
9		Repealed Fff XXXX 1 2020

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0313 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0313 LOCAL GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE
4	The regulations	governing "Local Government Guarantee" set forth in 40 CFR 280.106 (Subpart H) are hereby
5	incorporated by	reference.
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017:
9		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0314 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0314 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND
4	The regulations	governing "Local Government Fund" set forth in 40 CFR 280.107 (Subpart H) are hereby incorporated
5	by reference.	
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017;
9		Repealed Eff XXXX 1 2020

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0315 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	0.0315 SUBSTITUTION OF FINANCIAL ASSURANCE MECHANISMS
4	The regulations	governing "Substitution of Financial Assurance Mechanisms by Owners or Operators" set forth in 40
5	CFR 280.108 (S	Subpart H) are hereby incorporated by reference.
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-21 5.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017;
9		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0316 is proposed for repeal as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0316 CANCELLATION OR RENEWAL BY A PROVIDER OF ASSURANCE
4	The regulations	governing "Cancellation or Non-renewal by a Provider of Financial Assurance " set forth in 40 CFR
5	280.109 (Subpa	rt H) are hereby incorporated by reference.
6		
7	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-21 5.94H; 150B-21.6;
8		Eff. June 1, <del>2017.</del> 2017;
9		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0401 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3		SECTION .0400 - RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS AND OPERATORS
4		
5	15A NCAC 02	O .0401 REPORTING BY OWNER OR OPERATOR
6	The provisions	for "Reporting by Owner or Operator" contained in 40 CFR 280.106 are hereby incorporated by
7	reference includ	ing any subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified
8	in Rule .0102 o	Ethis Subchapter.
9		
10	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
11		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
12		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0402 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0402 RECORD KEEPING
4	(a) The	provisions for "Record Keeping" contained in 40 CFR 280.107280.111
5	entitled "Recor	rd Keeping" are herebyis incorporated by reference including anyreference, excluding subsequen
6	amendments ar	nd editions. Locations where this material is available are specified in Rule .0102 of this
7	Subchapter. This	document may be accessed at www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse at no charge.
8	(b) In addition	to the requirements incorporated in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, the following are required as evidence
9	of financial res	ponsibility: an owner or operator using an Insurance Pool as a financial assurance mechanism in
10	accordance with	Rule .0308 of this Subchapter, shall maintain a copy of the signed insurance certificate as specified
11	in Rule .0308(c)	of this Subchapter.
12	(1)	An owner or operator using an "Insurance Pool" must maintain a copy of the signed insurance
13		certificate as specified in Rule .0308(c) of this Subchapter.
14	(2)	Each owner or operator must maintain copies of cancelled checks for payment of annual tank
15		operating fees for the preceding three years or any alternate evidence of payment of the annual
16		operating fees supplied by the Department.
17		
18	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
19		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
20		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	.5A NCAC 02O .0501 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2	
3	15A NCAC 02O .0501 DRAWING ON FINANCIAL ASSURANCE MECHANISMS
4	The provisions for "Drawing on Financial Assurance Mechanisms" contained in 40 CFR 280.108 are hereby
5	ncorporated by reference including any subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is
6	wailable are specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter.
7	
8	History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9	Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
10	Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 020	0.0502 is proposed for repeal through readoption as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 020	O .0502 RELEASE FROM THE REQUIREMENTS
4	The provisions	for "Release From the Requirements" contained in 40 CFR 280.109 are hereby incorporated by
5	reference includ	ling any subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specified
6	in Rule .0102 of	f this Subchapter.
7		
8	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 150B-21.6;
9		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;
10		Repealed Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.

1	15A NCAC 02O .0503 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:	
2		
3	15A NCAC 02O .0503 INCAPACITY OF OWNER OR OPERATOR OR PROVIDER OF ASSURANCE	
4	(a) The provisions for "Bankruptcy or Other Incapacity of Owner or Operator or Provider of Financial Assurance"	
5	contained in 40 CFR 280.110,280.114 entitled "Bankruptcy or Other Incapacity of Owner or Operator or Provide	
6	of Financial Assurance, except for Subsection 280.110(d), are herebyis incorporated by reference includi-	
7	anyreference, excluding subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where this material is available are specific	
8	in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter. This document may be accessed at www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse at r	
9	charge.	
10	(b) Within 30 days after receipt of notification that the Commercial Leaking Petroleum Underground Storage Tank	
11	Cleanup Fund has become incapable of paying for assured corrective action or third-party compensation costs, the	
12	owner or operator mustshall obtain financial assurance for the full amounts specified in Rule .0204, Paragraphs (	
13	and (c), of this Subchapter.40 CFR 280.93.	
14	(c) Within 30 days after receipt of notification that the Noncommercial Leaking Petroleum Underground Storage	
15	Tank Cleanup Fund has become incapable of paying for additional cleanup actions to be undertaken by the	
16	Department, any owner or operator or guarantor who self insures or guarantees based on Rule .0302, Paragraph (b)	
17	of this Subchapter must obtain financial assurance for at least twice the amount specified in Rule .0204, Paragrap	
18	(d), of this Subchapter assured in accordance with Rule .0302, Paragraph (b), of this Subchapter.	
19		
20	History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 143-215.94T; 150B-21.6;	
21	Eff. July 1, <del>1992.</del> 1992;	
22	Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.	

1	15A NCAC 020	O .0504 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:
2		
3	15A NCAC 02	O .0504 REPLENISHMENT
4	(a) The provis	ions for "Replenishment of Guarantees, Letters of Credit, or Surety Bonds" contained in 40 CFR
5	280.111 are he	ereby 280.115 entitled "Replenishment of Guarantees, Letters of Credit, or Surety Bonds" is
6	incorporated by reference including anyreference, excluding subsequent amendments and editions. Locations where	
7	this material is	s available are specified in Rule .0102 of this Subchapter. This document may be accessed at
8	www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse at no charge.	
9	(b) If at any tin	ne after a standby trust (40 CFR 280.103) is funded upon the instruction of the Department with funds
10	drawn from a guarantee, guarantee (40 CFR 280.96), letter of eredit, credit (40 CFR 280.99), or surety bond, bond (4	
11	CFR 280.98), and the amount in the standby trust is reduced to less than the amount for which the owner or operator	
12	is responsible per occurrence for third party claims, the owner or operator shall within 60 days from which the fund	
13	were drawn:	
14	(1)	Replenish replenish the value of financial assurance to equal the full amount of coverage required,
15		orrequired pursuant to Rule .0204 of this Subchapter; or
16	(2)	Acquire acquire another financial assurance mechanism for the full amount of coverage provided by
17		the Standby Trust.the amount by which funds in the standby trust fund have been reduced.
18		
19	History Note:	Authority G.S. 143-215.94H; 143-215.94T; 150B-21.6;
20		Eff. July 1, <del>1992.<u>1992;</u></del>
21		Readopted Eff. XXXX 1, 2020.