N.C. DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Multi-Agency Scoping Meeting – What to Expect and How to Prepare

What is a multi-agency scoping meeting?

A multi-agency scoping meeting is an opportunity to meet with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff as well as other local, state and federal officials who will ultimately review your application(s). You can explain your project and get agency feedback before you apply for permits. This meeting is designed for complex projects that may need local, state, and federal review.

When should a multi-agency scoping meeting occur?

A multi-agency scoping meeting needs to occur early in the planning phase when your project is defined enough to provide conceptual plans, but still flexible to incorporate recommendations from the meeting.

How will you benefit? By:

- Hearing feedback from multiple agencies at one meeting.
- Learning how different agencies and permits interact.
- Determining your best permit pathway.
- Identifying next steps.
- Avoiding costly missteps and surprises.

What will an Environmental Assistance Coordinator do for you?

- Schedule the meeting and invite the appropriate agency staff.
- Coordinate and facilitate the meeting. Advise you on how to prepare for the meeting.
- Help schedule and attend a site visit, if needed.
- Provide a tailored permit list for your project and send to you after the meeting is over.

What will the agencies do at the multi-agency scoping meeting?

- Review your project according to their regulations and share their expertise.
- Offer suggestions on how to avoid or minimize environmental impacts.
- Answer questions about applications, permits and timeframes.
- Clarify the differences between requirements and recommendations.
- Identify any foreseeable obstacles & how they may be addressed.

Want to schedule a multi-agency scoping meeting?

- Contact your local Environmental Assistance Coordinator.

DEQ also has other free permit assistance services. If interested, please complete our online form and a regional environmental coordinator will contact you.

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