



Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands

This is to give notice that the Town of Jonesville under Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action is located in the wetland. The project would be funded in part by a grant from the Community Development Block Grant program through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Town of Jonesville will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the wetland and the potential impacts on the wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C *Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands*.

The proposed multi-phase project concerns the clearance, cleanup, and improvement of a former textile mill located at 300 Office Street in the Town of Jonesville in Union County, SC. This environmental review seeks to clear all phases of the project. Activities would include site clearance including the removal and appropriate disposal of surface-level debris, hazards such as Asbestos Containing Materials, and remaining structures; site cleanup including activities to limit exposure to contaminated soil and groundwater; and site improvements including the removal of an abandoned stand-water tank, drainage upgrades, relocation of power substation, removal of overgrowth and improvements to the pond and streams, and replacement of crosswalks and roads. It is anticipated that all work will take place on previously-disturbed land. No acquisition is anticipated. The 15-acre site is comprised of two adjacent parcels of 9.22 acres and 5.71 acres owned by the Town and includes a former pond and two streams which create a small non-tidal marsh wetlands area of approximately .80 acres in total. The former pond is a Palustrine Emergent (PEM) wetland of approximately .66 acres. Stream 1 is a perennial stream which measures 1,221 linear feet/.14 acres. Stream 2 is a seasonal/ intermittent stream which measures 10 linear feet/.001 acres. The project has the potential to disturb up to .80 acres of the wetlands area. Non-tidal marsh wetlands provide plant and wildlife habitat, mitigate flood damage, and filter excess nutrients from surface runoff. These natural and beneficial values could potentially be adversely affected by the project.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the Town of Jonesville at the following address on or before December 1, 2020: Town of Jonesville, 131 North Main Street, Jonesville, SC 29353 and 864-674-5746, Attention: Michael Tyler, Town Administrator. A full description of the project may also be reviewed during the hours of 9 AM – 5 PM, Monday – Friday at the same address. Comments may also be submitted via email at cschwartz@catawbacog.org

Date issued: November 16, 2020