

**15A NCAC 02H .1304 DECISION ON APPLICATION FOR PERMITS OR CERTIFICATES OF COVERAGE**

(a) The Director shall issue the permit or Certificate of Coverage, deny the application, provide notice of hearing pursuant to Rule .1303 of this Section, or request additional information within 60 calendar days after receipt of the application. When the Director requests additional information, the 60-day review period restarts upon receipt of all of the additional information requested by the Director. Failure to issue the permit or Certificate of Coverage, deny the application, provide notice of hearing, or request additional information within 60 calendar days shall result in the waiver of the permit requirement by the Director, unless:

- (1) The applicant agrees, in writing, to a longer period;
- (2) The final decision is to be made pursuant to a public hearing;
- (3) The applicant refuses the staff access to its records or premises for the purpose of gathering information necessary to the Director's decision; or
- (4) Information necessary to the Director's decision is unavailable.

(b) The Director shall issue the permit or Certificate of Coverage, deny the application, or request additional information within 60 calendar days following the close of the record for the public hearing. Failure to take action within 60 calendar days shall result in the waiver of the permit requirement by the Director, unless Subparagraphs (a)(1), (3), or (4) of this Rule apply.

(c) Any permit or Certificate of Coverage issued pursuant to this Section may contain such conditions as the Director shall deem necessary to ensure compliance with this Section, including written post-discharge notification to the Division.

(d) Modification or Revocation of permit or Certificate of Coverage:

- (1) Any permit or Certificate of Coverage issued pursuant to this Section may be subject to revocation or modification by the Director for violation of conditions of the permit or Certificate of Coverage; and
- (2) Any permit or Certificate of Coverage issued pursuant to this Section may be subject to revocation or modification by the Director upon a determination that information contained in the application or presented in support thereof is incorrect or if the Director finds that the discharge has violated or may violate a downstream water quality standard.

(e) The Division shall notify the applicant of the final action to issue or deny the application. In the event that the Director denies the application, the Director shall specify the reasons for the denial.

(f) Individual permits and Certificates of Coverage for general permits shall be issued for a period of five years, after which time the Permit shall be void, unless the discharge is complete or an extension is granted pursuant to Paragraph (g) of this Rule. The permit shall become enforceable when issued.

(g) Permit or Certificate of Coverage renewals shall require a new complete application. The applicant may request in writing that the Division grant an extension before the permit expires. An extension may be granted by the Division based on the new complete application for a time period of one additional year, provided that the construction has commenced or is under contract to commence before the permit expires.

(h) The issuance or denial is a final agency decision that is subject to administrative review pursuant to G.S. 150B-23.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.1(a)(6); 143-215.1(b); 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.3(c);  
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