

HE1-26234



September 30, 2017

Surface Transportation Board
Ms. Diana Wood
Docet NO. FD 36095
C/o ICF
9300 Lee Hey
Fairfax VA 22031

RE: Bureau of Water Environmental Review Response for **STB Finance NO 36095, Palmetto Railways Project**

Dear Ms Wood:

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control's Bureau of Water (Bureau) has received your request for a review of the above project. Our Bureau protects water quality through implementation of its regulations. This coordinated response represents all program areas within the Bureau, but does not represent a review of other potential regulatory requirements administered by other SCDHEC Bureaus. To ensure protection and maintenance of water resources, the Bureau recommends the following issues be addressed when planning and carrying out this project:

- ☐ No apparent impacts to water quality. No Bureau permits required.
- ☐ Any non-point discharges into a stream or river from construction areas of one acre or more will require a Bureau administered Stormwater Management and Sediment Control Permit. Construction areas of one acre or more will also be subject to NPDES Stormwater permit regulations.
- ☒ Any placement of fill material or dredging in waters of the State, including jurisdictional wetlands, will require a Bureau administered Section 401 Certification and an Army Corps of Engineers administered Section 404 Permit. When evaluating application for fill in wetlands, demonstration of avoidance and minimization of wetland impacts and mitigation of unavoidable wetland impacts provides assurances that impacts have been lessened to the extent possible and that water quality standards will be upheld. Documentation of these measures will be required.
- ☐ A Construction in Navigable Waters Permit will be required for all construction within navigable waters of South Carolina.
- ☐ Drinking water system construction requires a permit from the Bureau. Our review of acceptability will occur with review of application for a permit. Also, the applicant should check with the local water utility on available capacity.
- ☐ Sewer system construction requires a permit from the Bureau. Our review of acceptability will occur with review of application for a permit. Also, the applicant should check with the local water utility on available capacity.

- ☐ With new businesses and other commercial or industrial operations, wastewater pretreatment permits or other local approvals may be required.
- ☐ Other:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions, please contact Monica Taylor at (803) 898-4176 or taylormn@dhec.sc.gov.

Sincerely,



Monica Taylor
Bureau of Water



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

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SEP 13 2017

Office of the Director
SC DHEC

September 8, 2017

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Catherine Heigel
Director
2600 Bull St
Columbia, SC 29201

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 36095, Palmetto Railways—Construction and Operation Exemption—In Berkeley County, South Carolina; Preliminary Consultation

Dear Ms. Heigel:

On August 3, 2017 the Palmetto Railways (Palmetto or Applicant) filed a petition with the Surface Transportation Board (Board), pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502 for authority to construct and operate a 22.7-mile new rail line in Berkeley County, South Carolina. The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Charleston District, are beginning the environmental review of the proposed rail line construction project in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and related laws and regulations.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the proposed rail line project, request information from your agency on the resources under your jurisdiction that could be affected by the proposed project, and identify permits and approvals that could be required of the Applicant.

Project Background

The proposed rail line would be a short-line rail track that begins at a new connection to the A-Line of CSX Transportation (CSXT) (through the CSXT Cross Subdivision connection), and ends within the Camp Hall Commerce Park, an industrial park currently under development in Ridgeville and near Interstate 26. The connection to CSXT would occur on the Santee Cooper property adjacent to its Cross Generating Station, and would cross the Diversion Canal between Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie, running south-southwest. South of the Diversion Canal, the right-of-way traverses the unincorporated rural community of Cross. Beyond the Cross



2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Return Service Requested

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