



Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

EPD Director's Office
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1456, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-4713

Mr. Eric Duff
Georgia Department of Transportation
Office of Environmental Services
600 W. Peachtree Street, NW, 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Attention: Alicia Davila

Nov 28, 2023

Re: GDOT Project PI # 262027
State Route 31/U.S. Highway 441
from south of State Route 117 to Interstate 16
Laurens County
BV-087-19-01 Extension

Dear Mr. Duff:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has received your letter dated November 17, 2023 requesting a buffer variance time extension for the above referenced project. The authorization of BV-087-19-01 is set to expire on August 12, 2024. As per DNR Rule 391-3-7-.05(8), a buffer variance time extension may be granted for a period of up to five years.

This extension to a previously approved buffer variance will not affect the project's original concept, does not change the amount of buffer encroachments and is only an extension of the proposed expiration date. ***Buffer impacts authorized by the original variance must be completed within five years of the date of this letter. A buffer variance time extension may be issued only once.*** Conditions 1-4 specified in the attached August 12, 2019 approval remain in effect.

You remain obligated and responsible for complying with the provisions of any other law or regulations of any federal, local or additional State authority; however, the aforementioned are not obligated to permit this project if they do not concur with its concept of development/control.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Jacob Kelley, Environmental Compliance Specialist, Erosion and Sedimentation Control Unit, Nonpoint Source Program, at (470) 531-2938.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Cown
Director

JWC;jk

Mr. Eric Duff

PI#262027

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Attachment

cc: Frank Childs, GDOT Project Manager
Taylor Jordan, GDOT Environmental Analyst
GDOT Environmental Inbox
EPD-GDOT Inbox
Daryl Williams, GDOT ECB
Lisa Westberry, GDOT Mitigation
GDOT IOEQ Inbox
Bobby Dollar, GDOT Environmental Program Manager
Matthew Molini, Ecologist, VHB
Robert Amos, GSWCC
Jeffery Willaims, EPD East Central District (Augusta)
Bert Deener, Fisheries Region 4
Jefferson Davis, Laurens County Commission Chairman