

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013**

**SENATE BILL 372
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE NOTICE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT FROM COUNTY BOARDS WHEN PERMITS FOR LAND APPLICATION OF WASTE WITHIN THAT COUNTY ARE ISSUED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION; TO INCREASE THE THRESHOLD FOR DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INFORMAL BID PROCEDURES AND CLARIFY THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY CONCERNING PARTICIPATION BY DISADVANTAGED MINORITY-OWNED AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES APPLY TO CONTRACTS LET USING THOSE PROCEDURES; AND TO STUDY STATE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES OF PUBLIC LANDS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 143-215.1(d) reads as rewritten:

"§ 143-215.1. Control of sources of water pollution; permits required.

...
(d) Applications and Permits for Sewer Systems, Sewer System Extensions and Pretreatment Facilities, Land Application of Waste, and for Wastewater Treatment Facilities Not Discharging to the Surface Waters of the State. –

- (1) All applications for new permits and for renewals of existing permits for sewer systems, sewer system extensions and for disposal systems, and for land application of waste, or treatment works which do not discharge to the surface waters of the State, and all permits or renewals and decisions denying any application for permit or renewal shall be in writing. The Commission shall act on a permit application as quickly as possible. The Commission may conduct any inquiry or investigation it considers necessary before acting on an application and may require an applicant to submit plans, specifications, and other information the Commission considers necessary to evaluate the application. If the Commission fails to act on an application for a permit, including a renewal of a permit, within 90 days after the applicant submits all information required by the Commission, the application is considered to be approved. Permits and renewals issued in approving such facilities pursuant to this subsection shall be effective until the date specified therein or until rescinded unless modified or revoked by the Commission. Prior to acting on a permit application for the land application of bulk residuals resulting from the operation of a wastewater treatment facility, the Commission shall provide notice and an opportunity for comment from the governing board of the county in which the site of the land application of bulk residuals is proposed to be located. Local governmental units to whom pretreatment program authority has been delegated shall establish, maintain, and provide to the public, upon written request, a list of pretreatment applications received.
- (2) An applicant for a permit to dispose of petroleum contaminated soil by land application shall give written notice that he intends to apply for such a permit to each city and county government having jurisdiction over any part of the land on which disposal is proposed to occur. The Commission shall not accept such a permit application unless it is accompanied by a copy of the notice and evidence that the notice was sent to each such government by certified mail, return receipt requested. The Commission may consider, in



determining whether to issue the permit, the comments submitted by local governments."

SECTION 2.1. G.S. 136-28.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 136-28.1. **Letting of contracts to bidders after advertisement; exceptions.**

(a) All contracts over ~~one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000)~~two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) that the Department of Transportation may let for construction, maintenance, operations, or repair necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter shall be let to a responsible bidder after public advertising under rules and regulations to be made and published by the Department of Transportation. The right to reject any and all bids shall be reserved to the Board of Transportation. Contracts for construction or repair for federal aid projects entered into pursuant to this section shall not contain the standardized contract clauses prescribed by 23 U.S.C. § 112(e) and 23 C.F.R. § 635.109 for differing site conditions, suspensions of work ordered by the engineer or significant changes in the character of the work. For those federal aid projects, the Department of Transportation shall use only the contract provisions for differing site conditions, suspensions of work ordered by the engineer, or significant changes in the character of the work developed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and approved by the Board of Transportation.

(b) For contracts let to carry out the provisions of this Chapter in which the amount of work to be let to contract for transportation infrastructure construction or repair is ~~one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000)~~two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) or less, and for transportation infrastructure maintenance, excluding resurfacing, that is ~~one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000)~~two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) per year or less, at least three informal bids shall be solicited. The term "informal bids" is defined as bids in writing, received pursuant to a written request, without public advertising. All such contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The Secretary of Transportation shall keep a record of all bids submitted, which record shall be subject to public inspection at any time after the bids are opened.

...."

SECTION 2.2. G.S. 136-28.4(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) The following definitions apply in this section:

(1) "Contract" includes, but is not limited to, contracts let under the procedures set forth in G.S. 136-28.1(a) and (b).

~~(1a)~~(1a) "Disadvantaged Business" has the same meaning as "disadvantaged business enterprise" in 49 C.F.R. § 26.5 Subpart A or any subsequently promulgated replacement regulation.

...."

SECTION 3.1. There is established the State Payment in Lieu of Taxes Study Commission. The Commission shall consist of 13 members appointed as follows:

- (1) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (2) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (3) The Secretary of Revenue or the Secretary's designee.
- (4) Three members of the public appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two based on the recommendation of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and one based on the recommendation of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.
- (5) Three members of the public appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, two based on the recommendation of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and one based on the recommendation of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

SECTION 3.2. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a cochair. The Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call of the cochairs. A quorum of the Commission shall be a majority of its members. No action may be taken except by a majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

SECTION 3.3. Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled by the same appointing authority that made the initial appointment.

SECTION 3.4. Subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.

SECTION 3.5. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Commission in its work. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Director of Legislative Assistants shall assign clerical support staff to the Commission, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by the Commission.

SECTION 3.6. The Commission, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.

SECTION 3.7. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

SECTION 3.8. The Commission shall study issues relating to the development of a State payment in lieu of taxes for State properties, including wildlife and game lands. The Commission may consider any other issues deemed relevant.

SECTION 3.9. The Commission may submit an interim report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives at any time by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Library. The Commission shall submit a final report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, prior to the convening of the 2015 General Assembly, by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Library. The Committee shall terminate upon the convening of the 2015 General Assembly or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

SECTION 4. Section 1 of this act becomes effective August 1, 2013, and applies to land application permit applications received on or after that date. Section 2.1 of this act becomes effective August 1, 2013, and applies to transportation project bids solicited on or after that date. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 16th day of July, 2013.

s/ Daniel J. Forest
President of the Senate

s/ Thom Tillis
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Pat McCrory
Governor

Approved _____ .m. this _____ day of _____, 2013