

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Ronnie Smith

Acting Deputy Chief

US Army Corps of Engineers

Wilmington Regulatory Division Office

69 Darlington Avenue

Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1393

**Re: Request for EBCI 401 Water Quality Certification for proposed USACE 2020 NWP**s

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) has reviewed the proposed Nationwide Permits published in the Federal Register on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

We have determined that we can grant EBCI 401 Water Quality Certification for this action subject to one condition: namely that certification will require all NWP applicants to follow the proposed regional conditions as submitted by the USACE Wilmington, NC District Office to the National Office for final review.

We appreciate your commitment to work with EBCI to protect water quality in this unique part of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

*Michael Bolt*

Michael Bolt, EBCI 401 Water Quality Certification,

PO Box 1925,

Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

Cc Michael LaVoie, EBCI Natural Resources Program Manager

Joseph Owle, Secretary EBCI Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources