Agenda Item: 10-16 Request for Consideration of Delegating Approval of Local Sewer Line Permitting Programs to the DWQ Director or Approval of the City of Mooresville Local Sewer Line Permitting Program

Explanation: Currently, DWQ with assistance from the Attorney General's Office reviews applications for delegation of local sewer line permitting programs. Upon satisfying the requirements of 15A NCAC 02T .0306 and G.S. 143-215.1(f), DWQ staff recommends to the EMC issuance of the requested local permit delegation authority. The DWQ has demonstrated resources and technical abilities to properly review the applications for local sewer line permitting programs. Delegating the Director to approve local sewer line permitting programs will improve customer service by streamlining the delegation process, while continuing to provide the necessary regulatory oversight to assure protection of water environment and human health.

The City of Mooresville has requested approval to become a delegated authority to establish and administer a local permit program for the issuance of sewer extensions within their utility service area in lieu of these permits being issued by this Division. This will enable them to issue permits for the construction, operation and modifications to new gravity or existing gravity sewer lines, force mains and pump stations within the corporate limits and areas of extraterritorial jurisdiction. The City of Mooresville has demonstrated that engineering and inspection staff and funding are available for the administration of this program. They have submitted all of the required relevant documents to be used in the administration of the program.

The Division of Water Quality, with the assistance of the Office of the Attorney General, reviewed the application submittal for the above items, and for requirements of the rule implementing the Statue. The results of the review indicate that items submitted by the City of Mooresville have met the requirements outlined for program delegation in NCGS 143-215.1(f) and 15A NCAC 2T .0306.

Recommendation: That the Environmental Management Commission delegate authority to the Director of the Division of Water Quality to approve local sewer line permitting programs in accordance with 15A NCAC 02T .0306 and G.S. 143-215.1(f), or approve the request from the City of Mooresville for delegation of a portion of the local sewer line permitting program, including gravity sewer line, force main and pump station permitting authority.