



Sea-Level Rise Policy Perspectives: HB819 Requirements

Tancred Miller
NC Division of Coastal Management

APNEP STAC Meeting
November 30, 2012



CRC's Draft Sea-Level Rise Policy

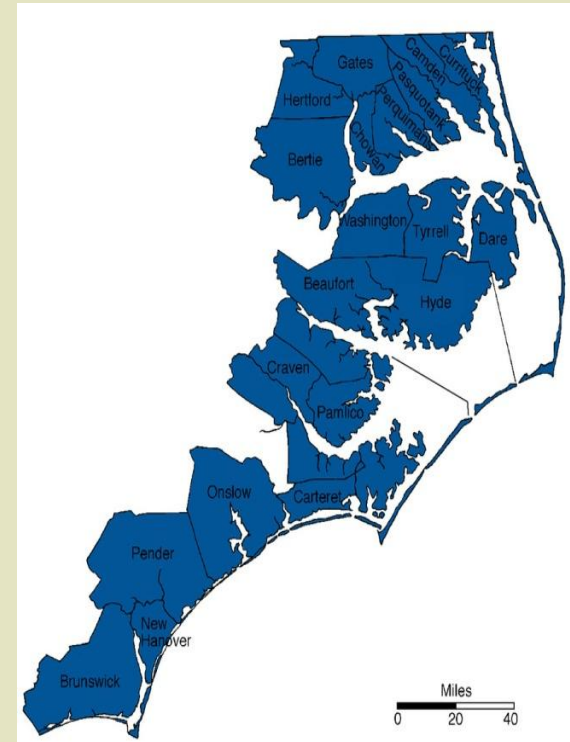
Non-regulatory Approaches

- “framework for improved understanding of the potential impacts...” and “planned adaptation and resilience...”
- Promote public education; provide Commission, local gov'ts, and residents information/updated assessments
- Consider regional trends and tailored approaches
- Consider conservation and regulatory measures to enhance resilience of natural systems and habitats
- Assist local planning efforts
- Invest in long-term monitoring and research
- Encourage new development with resilient design



H819 Sections

- Sec. 1 – Defines “Coastal Area”
 - Codifies 20 coastal counties
 - Previously through Executive Order
- **Sec. 2 – Sea-Level Policy**
- Sec. 3 – Ocean Setback Provision
- Sec. 4 – Cape Fear River Study
- Sec. 5 – Inlet Hazard Areas Study





Section 2 – Sea-Level Rise Policy

- CRC/DCM shall be only State agency authorized to define rates of sea level change for regulatory purposes
 - *Except that the CRC may not define rates of SLR for regulatory purposes prior to July 1, 2016*
- Coastal counties, municipalities, or other local government entities may define rates of sea-level change for regulatory purposes



Section 2 – Sea-Level Rise Policy

- Science Panel to deliver 5-yr updated assessment no later than March 31, 2015
 - *Must include comprehensive literature review of the full range of global, regional, and North Carolina-specific sea-level change data and hypotheses*
 - *Must define assumptions and limitations of modeling*
 - *Must be made available for public comment*
- CRC must compare the determination of sea level based on historical calculations versus predictive models
- CRC must define the assumptions and limitations of predictive models and regional rates of change



Section 2 – Sea-Level Rise Policy

- CRC must evaluate different sea-level rates for different parts of the coast
- CRC shall study economic and environmental costs & benefits of developing, or not developing, sea-level regulations and policies
- CRC must present its reports, including public comments and any policies the Commission has adopted or may be considering that address sea-level policies, to the General Assembly's Environmental Review Commission no later than March 1, 2016



Sec. 2 – Proposed Implementation

- Science Panel Assessment Report: March 31, 2015
 - Ask Science Panel for draft by late summer/early fall, 2014
 - 3 month technical review + any Science Panel amendments
 - CRC to seek written public comment upon receipt (90 days)
 - CRC to hold Public Hearing during May/June Meeting
- To be included w/in a CRC report, due Dec. 31, 2015
 - Focus on cost/benefit of SLR regulations
 - Examine economic & env. vulnerabilities
 - Case studies of SLR “adaptation”
 - Out for public comments by Dec. 31, 2015
- Submit all reports, policies, comments to General Assembly ERC by March, 2016





Science Panel Members

- Dr. Margery Overton, Chair *Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, N.C. State University*
- Mr. Steven Benton *N.C. Division of Coastal Management (retired), Raleigh*
- Mr. William Birkemeier *Field Research Facility, ERDC/CHL, US Army Corps of Engineers*
- Dr. William Cleary *Center for Marine Science, University of North Carolina at Wilmington*
- Mr. Tom Jarrett, P.E. *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Retired), Wilmington*
- Dr. David John Mallinson *Department of Geological Sciences, East Carolina University*
- Dr. Charles "Pete" Peterson *Institute of Marine Sciences, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
- Dr. Stanley R. Riggs *Department of Geological Sciences, East Carolina University*
- Dr. Antonio B. Rodriguez *Institute of Marine Sciences, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
- Mr. Spencer Rogers *North Carolina Sea Grant, Wilmington*
- Dr. Elizabeth Judge Sciaudone, P.E. *N.C. State University, Raleigh*
- Dr. Gregory Williams, P.E. *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington*
- Dr. Robert S. Young *Department of Geosciences, Western Carolina University*



SLRAR 2010 Contributors

- Dr. Mark Brinson
Department of Biology, East Carolina University
- Dr. Reide Corbett
Department of Geological Sciences, East Carolina University
- Dr. Carolyn Currin
NOAA National Ocean Service
- Ms. Anne Deaton
N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- Dr. Martin Posey
Department of Biology and Marine Biology, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
- Ms. Tracy Skrabal
North Carolina Coastal Federation