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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Extends Comment Period for Titan Permit

Wilmington, N.C. - The N.C. Division of Air Quality has agreed to extend the comment period for Titan America's draft air permit until Nov. 20. The period for public comments had been scheduled to end Oct. 30.

The N.C. Coastal Federation and the Southern Environmental Law Center had made separate requests to Keith Overcash, the division's director, to extend the original 45-day period for public comments on Titan's controversial proposal to build a cement kiln and strip mine near Wilmington. The federation had urged the state to extend the permit until Nov. 30 to allow more time for citizens to prepare comments after the public hearings on the draft permit.

"The 10 days that the division had originally provided were woefully inadequate for citizens to attend the hearing and then make comments on this very complex permit and issue," said Mike Giles, our Cape Fear Coastkeeper®.

The state issued a draft air permit on Sept. 11 for the project and has scheduled two public hearings on Tuesday, Oct. 20, in the BB&T Auditorium on the Northeast Campus of Cape Fear Community College, 4500 Blue Clay Rd., in Castle Hayne. The hearings will be 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. See http://cfcc.edu/campusmap/northcampus.html for a map of the campus.

You can review the draft air permit on the division <u>website</u>; at its regional office, 127 Cardinal Drive Extension, in Wilmington; or at the division's Central Office in the Parker Lincoln Building, 2728 Capital Blvd., in Raleigh.

About the North Carolina Coastal Federation: "Citizens Working Together for a Healthy Coast"

The North Carolina Coastal Federation (NCCF) is the state's largest nonprofit organization working to restore and protect the coast. NCCF headquarters are located at 3609 Highway 24 in Ocean between Morehead City and Swansboro and are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm. The headquarters include NCCF's main offices, the Cape Lookout Coastkeeper office, a gift shop, Nature Library, Weber Seashell Exhibit, ShoreKeeper Learning Center, and adjoining nature trail.

The NCCF also operates field offices in Wilmington and Manteo. For more information call 252-393-8185 or check out NCCF's website at www.nccoast.org