

NC Board for Licensing of Soil Scientists PO Box 41368 Raleigh, NC 27629 Phone (919) 876-0687 elaine@execman.net www.ncblss.org

July 9, 2015

North Carolina General Assembly Joint Legislation Commission

Attn: Kathy Davis, Commission Assistant

Fiscal Research Division

Re: Request for Consultation for Additional Occupational Licensing Board Fee.

Dear Ms. Davis:

The North Carolina Board for Licensing Soil Scientists has proposed a rule amendment to add a fee for applications and renewals for Corporate Certifications. This would amend our fee schedule, 21 NCAC 69 .0104. I have enclosed a copy of the rule and the proposed amendment. The amended rule will be published in the State Register on July 15, 2015.

Per your office's published guidance on requests for consultations:

- 1) Current fee: is not listed in our regulations. Historically we have charged \$50 for applications and \$25 for renewals under the direct authority of NCGS 55B-10 and 55B-11. No licensee has ever objected to paying this fee;
- 2) Proposed fee: \$50 for new applications and \$25 for renewals;
- 3) Authorizing statutes: GS 55B-10; GS 55B-11; GS 57D-2-02;
- 4) The Board is statutorily required to check that corporations and LLC's wishing to offer consulting soil services in NC meet the standards for a Professional Corporation or Professional Limited Liability Company as defined in the North Carolina Corporations Law (NCGS 55B) and North Carolina Limited Liability Company Law (NCGS 57D). In order to cover the costs of enforcing these provisions and issuing certificates to qualifying firms, we need to charge these fees.
 - a. In the past the Board had been advised that it could charge this fee under the authority of the statute without adding it to the fee schedule in the Board's rules. Last year our rule-making coordinator consulted with the Rules Review Commission's staff and was advised to the contrary; the proposed amendment corrects this deficiency.

Please let us know if and when a formal consultation is required. If you need additional information, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Connie Adams

Constance M. Odans

Chair, North Carolina Board for Licensing of Soil Scientists

Enclosures

Copy to: Elaine Christian, Administrator, NCBLSS

Barry H. Bloch, Assistant Attorney General, NCDOJ