Mr. Timothy Beard DATE:

State Conservationist

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

4407 Bland Road, Suite 117

Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Mr. Beard:

The <<enter name of municipality or other eligible sponsor >> would like to express interest in the Federal Floodplain Easement Program (FPE) under the provisions of the *Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program (Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1950, Public Law 81-516 or Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, Public Law 95-334*), to potentially address flooding issues caused by Hurricane Florence, which made landfall on September 14, 2018.

It is my understanding that FPE allows NRCS to purchase easements on lands flooded in the past 12 months or at least twice in the previous 10 years. Under the floodplain easement option, a landowner voluntarily sells NRCS a permanent conservation easement that provides NRCS with the full authority to restore and enhance the floodplain’s functions and enhance the floodplain’s functions and values.

I understand that as a potential partner with the FPE program, << enter name of municipality or other eligible sponsor >> will need to identify blocks or groups of landowners within a respective flood plain area that are collectively willing to participate in the easement buy-out. *(If Possible)* Attached is a map indicating a potential project concept description and map of the impacted area of potential interest.

Our point of contact for the FPE program is:

<<enter Name, Title, Address, Telephone, FAX of Sponsor's Representative>>

Please contact <<enter Sponsor POC’s name>> for any additional information that you might

need in assessing our request.

Sincerely,

CC: James Kjelgaard, NC NRCS EWP Program Manager, Raleigh

Greg Walker, Assistant State Conservationist, Raleigh