

ACCESSDEQ USER GUIDE BROWNFIELDS PROPERTY APPLICATION

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Division of Waste Management (DWM) Brownfields Redevelopment Section (BRS) Permitting Transformation Program (PTP)

Sonia Khanijo, Business Analyst Elizabeth Orlando, Power Platform Developer



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Document Overview

This document walks through the Access DEQ Application created for the Brownfields Redevelopment Section.

A revision history and approvals for this document are recorded in Appendix A.

Links to FAQs and other helpful information is found in Appendix B.

Brief instructional videos can be found on DEQ's YouTube channel in the <u>AccessDEQ Portal Instructional Video</u> playlist.



General Instructions

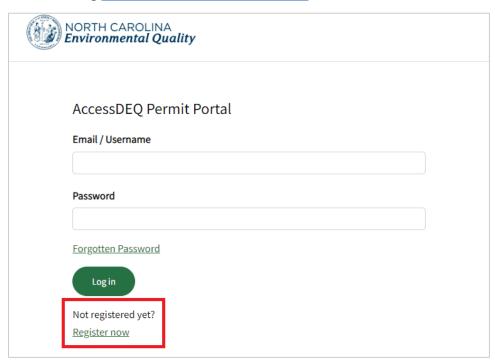
- The left-hand navigation panel is accessible throughout AccessDEQ and can be toggled open or closed by clicking the hamburger icon = in the top left of the screen.
- Clicking the Action button on the Applications grid displays available options, such as sharing, viewing, or editing.
- Fields or grid rows with a pencil icon allow editing upon clicking the icon.
- Fields displaying a down caret indicate a drop-down list is available. In some cases, an **Add New** option displays indicating an option to create a new choice.
- Fields on the application marked with an *asterisk* * are mandatory fields and cannot be left blank. Users will not be able to proceed if a mandatory field is left blank.
- The Add Existing option on grids will display a list of existing records that can be selected from a drop-down list and added to the grid.
- The **Ocreate New** option on grids can be used to create a new record which will then show up under the drop-down list when a user selects "Add Existing".
- Location and contact information records are stored with the portal user account allowing the user to select from their own list for certain fields. Upon using the portal for the first time, a user may have none of these associated records.
- Columns in most tables can be sorted by clicking the column heading. Where vertical ellipses (dots)
 appear in the column heading, clicking on the ellipses displays a menu of available options, such as
 column sorting and filtering.
- Text boxes appearing with diagonal lines at the bottom right can be expanded or reduced by clicking in the area then dragging the box's bottom line down or up.



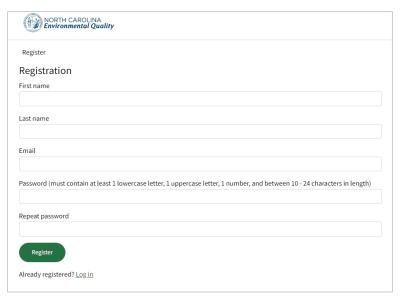


AccessDEQ Home & Registration

The home page for AccessDEQ is https://accessdeq.nc.gov. The user portal Home page is https://portal.deq.nc.gov/my-accessdeq. Users who are not signed in will be presented with the login screen where new users can use the **Register now** link to register for a new account. This screen can also be reached using https://portal.deq.nc.gov/login.



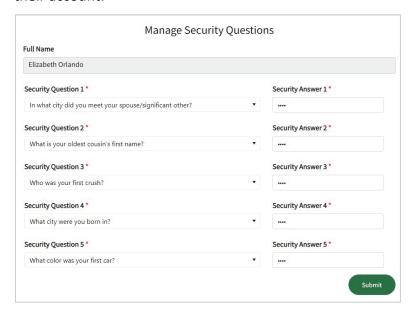
Applicants can fill out required information and click Register.



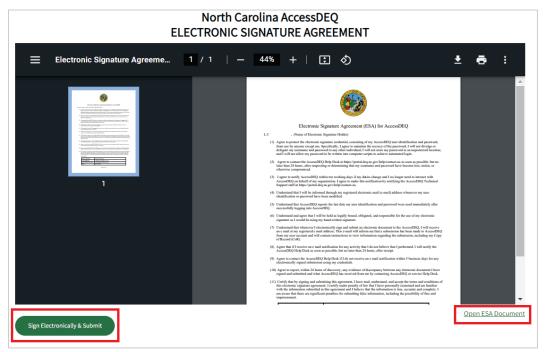
A confirmation email from the address **DEQTPCAdmin@deq.nc.gov** containing a link to activate the account will be sent to the email address on the registration.



Upon logging in for the first time the user will be prompted to set up security questions and answers for their account.



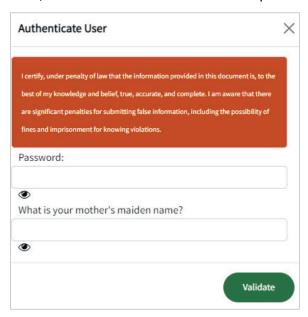
At the first log in, the user must also sign the Electronic Signature Agreement (ESA). This will only be required once. To sign the document click **Sign Electronically & Submit**.





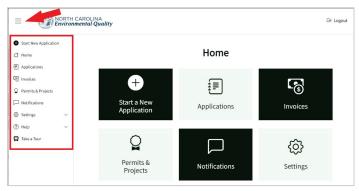
Some browsers may not display the preview of the agreement document. The agreement can be opened by clicking the **Open ESA Document** link.

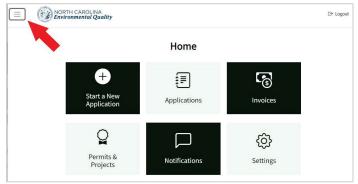
Next, the user will enter their account password and answer a security question to complete signing.





The left-hand navigation menu is accessible anywhere within AccessDEQ. Users may toggle it open or closed by clicking the hamburger icon \equiv in the top left of the screen. Each tile on the **Home** page is also an entry in the navigation menu.



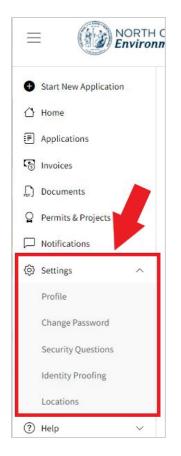


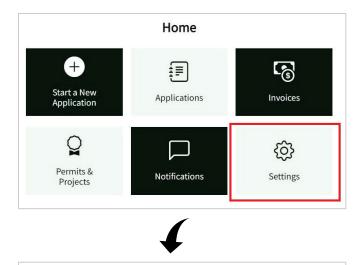
Left-hand Navigation Menu Expanded

OR

Left-hand Navigation Menu Collapsed

From the Settings menu users may perform operations such as updating their security questions. Settings can be reached anywhere within AccessDEQ from the Settings section in the left and navigation panel. Clicking the heading will toggle the collapse/expand of the section. Settings may also be reached by clicking the Settings tile on the Home page.



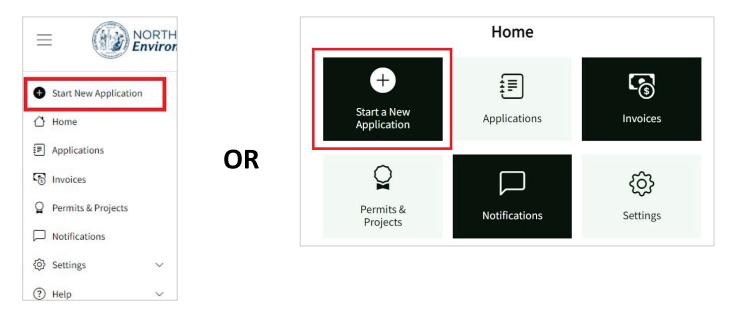






Start a New Application

A user may create a new application from the application Directory by clicking • Start New Application from the left-hand navigation or by clicking the Start a New Application tile on the Home screen.

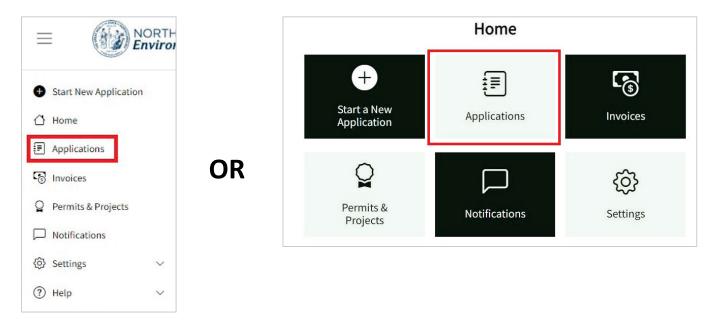


The application Directory will display. A Brownfields Property Application may be started by clicking **Start Application**.

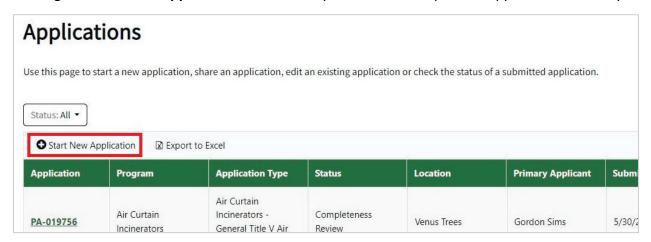




The Directory may also be accessed from the **Applications** page of My AccessDEQ. It can be reached by selecting it from the left-hand navigation menu or the tile on the Home screen.



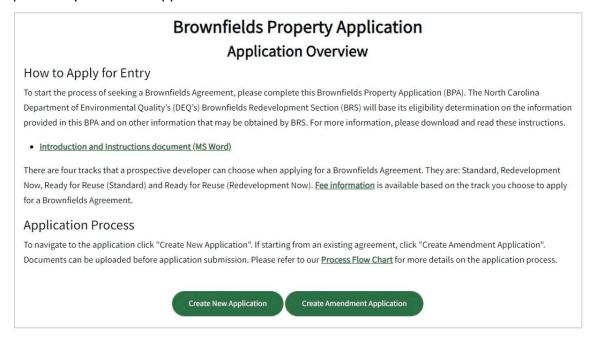
Clicking the **Start New Application** link at the top of the list will open the application directory.



Upon starting a new application, the application overview screen is shown including information about the Brownfields Property Application. To begin a new application click **Create New Application** at the bottom of

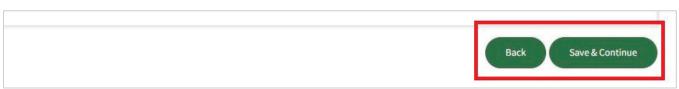


the overview screen. Clicking **Create Amendment Application** will allow the user to enter amendments to a previously submitted application.

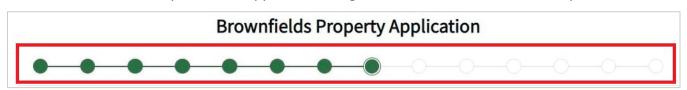


Throughout the application required fields are indicated by an asterisk *. Users will not be able to advance without completing required fields.

While entering the application, a user can step back or forward using the **Back** and **Save & Continue** buttons at the bottom of the screen. A user may leave the application and return to it later. Once **Save & Continue** is clicked, information entered up to that point is saved. Until an application has been submitted, previously entered information can be changed.



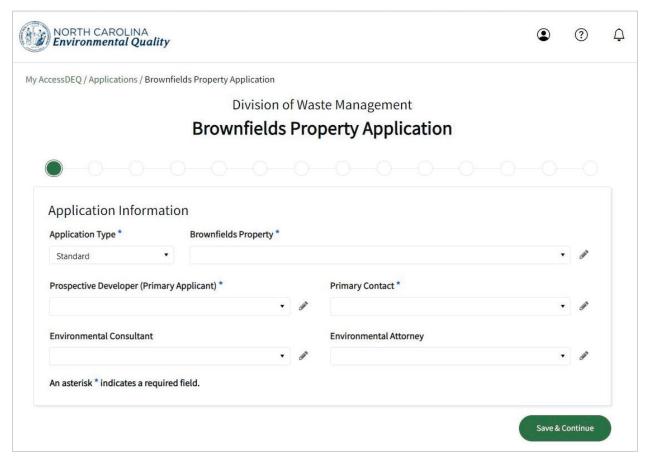
A user can see where they are in the application using the tracker circles toward the top of the screen.





Application Part 1: Information, Brownfields Property

The first part of the application is the **Application Information**. The user can select the type of Brownfields application sought and enter other important information about the project. Details about the Brownfields application types can be found on the <u>Brownfields Redevelopment Section</u> website.



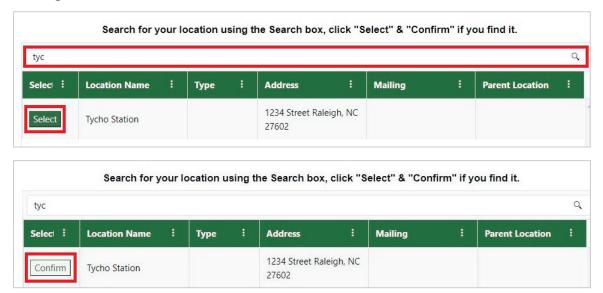
The **Brownfields Property** is the site with which DEQ will associate the agreement. It may be the same as the Brownfields project name.

A list of properties or other locations the user is already associated with in the AccessDEQ system will appear in the dropdown list. If the application is for a property the user's account is not already associated with, they can add an association to an existing one, or add a brand-new one.

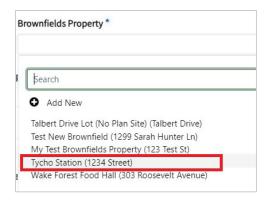




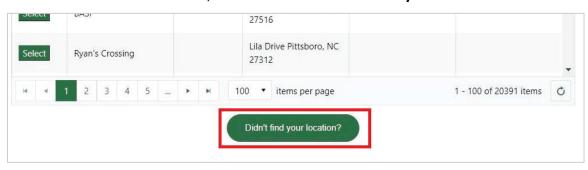
Clicking • Add New brings up the Location grid. From here users can search for a location already in the system or indicate they need to create a new location. Clicking Select then Confirm will add access to an existing location.



It will then be added to the user's dropdown list in the application.

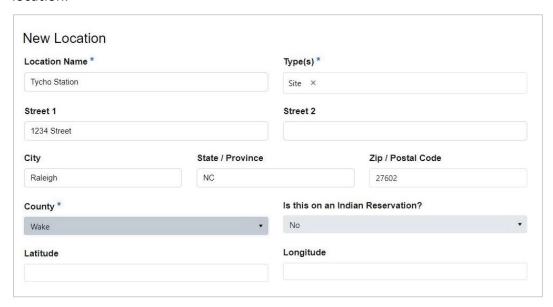


If the location cannot be found, the user can click **Didn't find your location?** to create a new one.

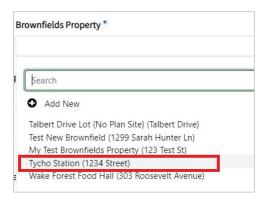




The New Location modal window displays. The user can fill out and submit the form to create the new location.



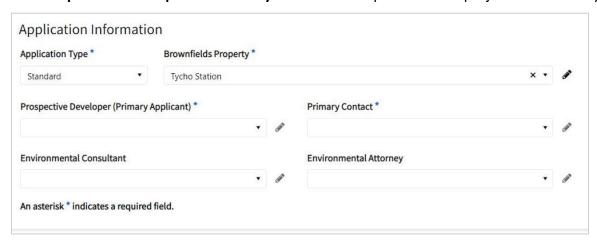
Closing the window allows the user to return to the application, where the newly created location is added to the user's drop-down list of properties.



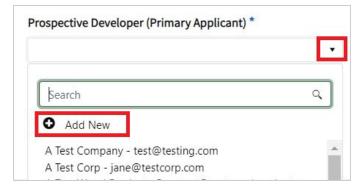


Application Part 1: Prospective Developer & Other Contacts

The Prospective Developer and Primary Contact are required. Other project contacts may also be entered.



Contact information is associated with the user's AccessDEQ account. They appear in a dropdown list on contact fields. Users can add new contacts by clicking • Add New.



A modal window displays. Users can scroll down to complete the information for the new contact and submit the form. The new contact will then appear in the user's drop-down for contact fields.

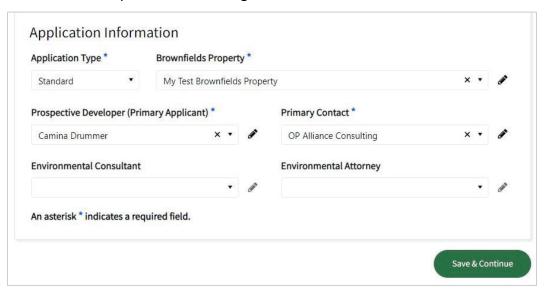




To edit a contact's information, select the contact then click the **pencil** icon. The modal window will display allowing the user to edit the contact's information and submit the changes.



The user can complete the remaining contact fields if desired and click **Save & Continue**.





Application Part 2-4: Co-PDs & Affiliates, Property Info, Parcel Info

The second page of the application is where the user may enter contact information for any co-prospective developers, and for parent companies, subsidiaries, or other affiliates of the prospective developer(s). If none are applicable, the user can click **Save & Continue** to proceed to the next page of the application.

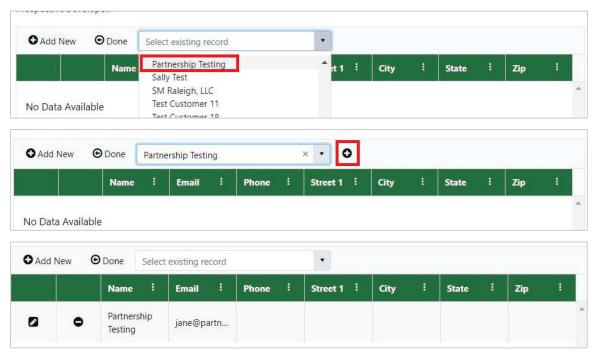
The application utilizes grids to allow users to enter multiple rows of information. This page has two grids for information on contacts. The first is for **Co-Prospective Developers**.

Users can click **⊕Add New** to add a new contact. The contact will then be added to the user's dropdown list of contacts.

To select a contact to add to the grid, users click **OAdd Existing** to reveal the dropdown list.



After selecting the desired contact, clicking the plus o icon adds the contact to the grid.

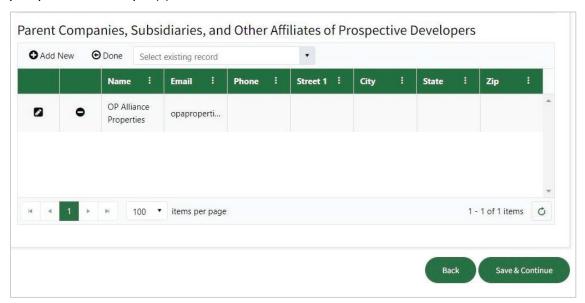




The user may repeat selecting and adding for as many co-prospective developers as appropriate. Once the contacts are added to the grid, they can be deleted using the **minus sign ○** icon or edited using the **pencil ②** icon.



The second grid on the screen is for entry of parent companies, subsidiaries, or other affiliates of the prospective developer(s).



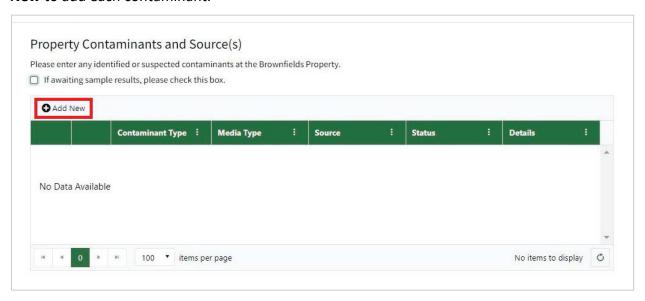
Once the user has completed their entries, they can click **Save & Continue** at the bottom of the screen to proceed to the next page of the application.

Parts 3 and 4 of the application are for entering property information and parcel information. Part 4 includes a grid to allow the user to enter multiple parcels on the application.

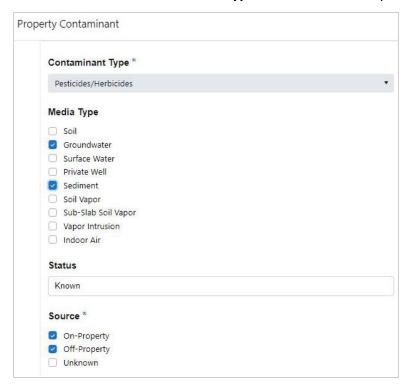


Application Part 5: Contaminants

Part 5 of the application allows the user to enter information about contaminants. Users can click **O** Add **New** to add each contaminant.

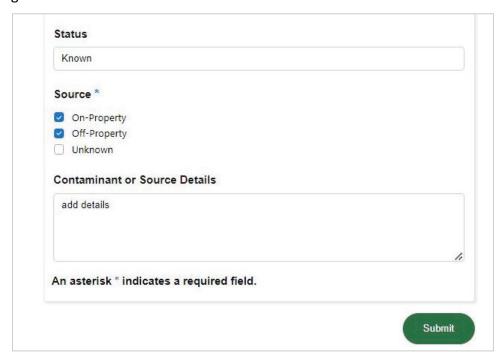


A modal window displays allowing the user to select the contaminant type, media type(s), status, source(s), and other details. **Contaminant Type** and **Source** are required.

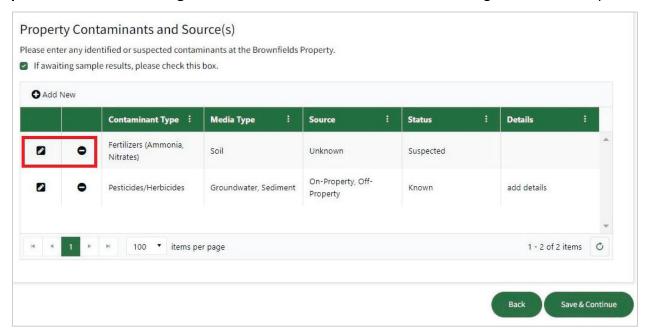




The user can also add details. Clicking **Submit** closes the modal window and adds the contaminant to the grid.



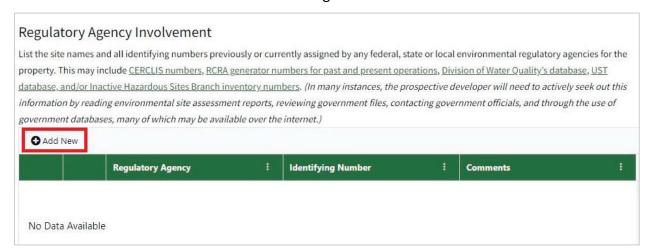
The user can continue adding rows to the grid. Each row of the grid can be edited or removed using the **pencil** icon or **minus sign**. The user can click **Save and Continue** to go to the next step.



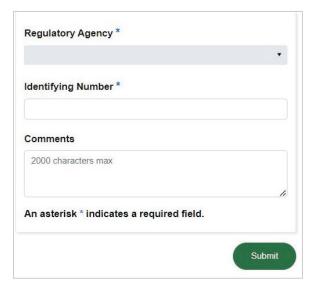


Application Part 6-10: Regulatory, Statutory, Fees

Part 6 allows the user to enter information about regulatory agency involvement for the property. The user can click **3** Add New to add information to the grid.

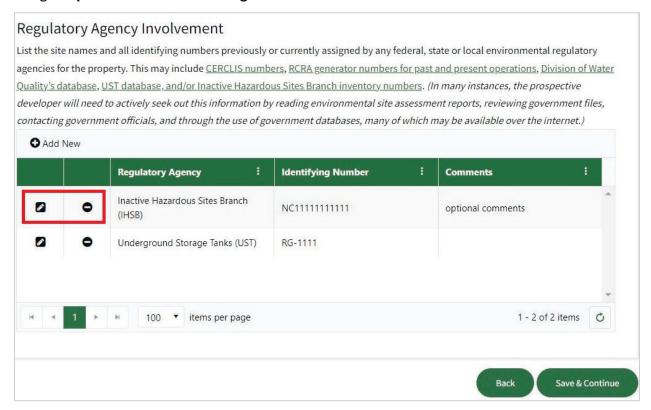


A modal window displays allowing the user to select the regulatory agency and enter the identifying number and optional comments. Clicking **Submit** closes the modal window and adds the information to the grid.

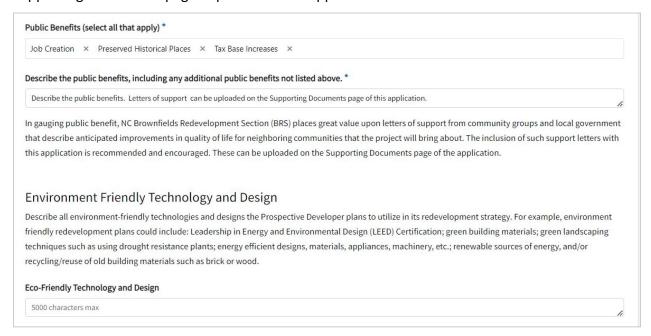




The user can click **○** Add New to as many entries as appropriate. Rows on the grid can be edited or deleted using the **pencil ②** icon or **minus sign ○** icon.



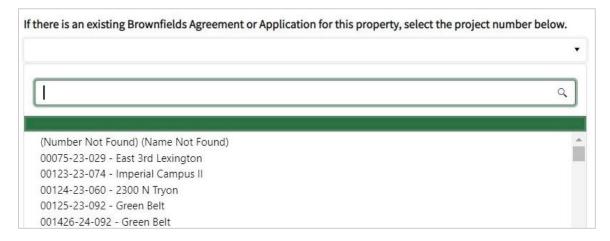
Part 7 is for information about the project's public benefits. Letters of support can be uploaded on the Supporting Documents page in part 12 of the application.



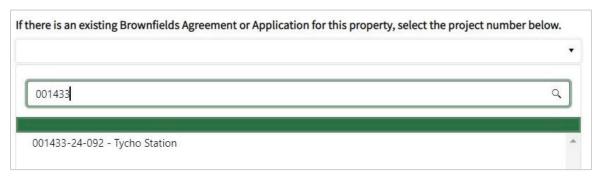
Part 8 includes the statutory definitions and allows the user to provide information about how the prospective developer and project meet statutory requirements.



On this screen the user can select an existing Brownfields agreement or application for the property if one exists.



The user may enter a number or partial number to search.



Part 9 of the application allows the user to enter information about how the prospective developer can demonstrate they meet the statutory requirements. Supporting documentation of financial means can be uploaded on the Supporting Documents page in part 12 of the application.

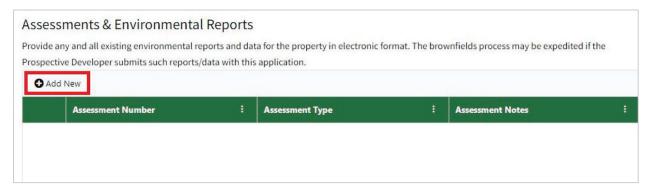
Part 10 is the acknowledgement of application fees.



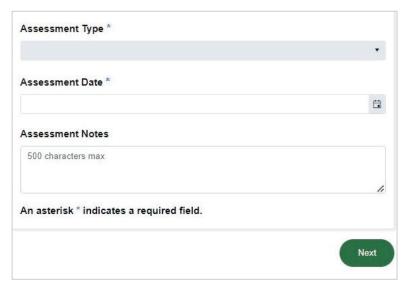
Application Part 11: Assessments and Environmental Reports

Part 11 of the application allows the user to upload existing environmental reports and data regarding the property. Submission of this can expedite the Brownfields process.

The assessments and reports are added using a grid. Users can click **4 Add New** to add an assessment or report.



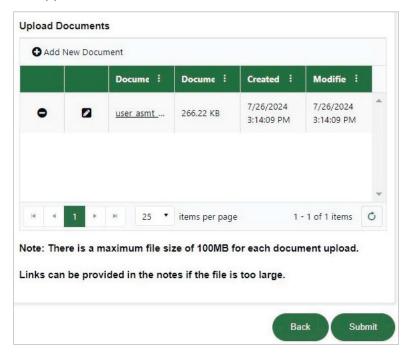
A modal window appears allowing the user to enter information about the assessment or report. The user can select the type of assessment, enter the date and any notes, then click **Next** to upload the relevant file(s).



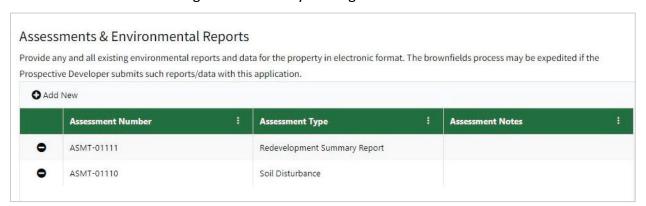
A grid allowing the user to upload files is displayed. The user can click **Add New Document** for each file they wish to upload. Once a file is uploaded, it can be removed or changed by clicking the **minus sign** or



pencil 2 icon. When the user has finished uploading documents, clicking **Submit** enters the assessment into the application.



The user can continue adding assessments by clicking • Add New.

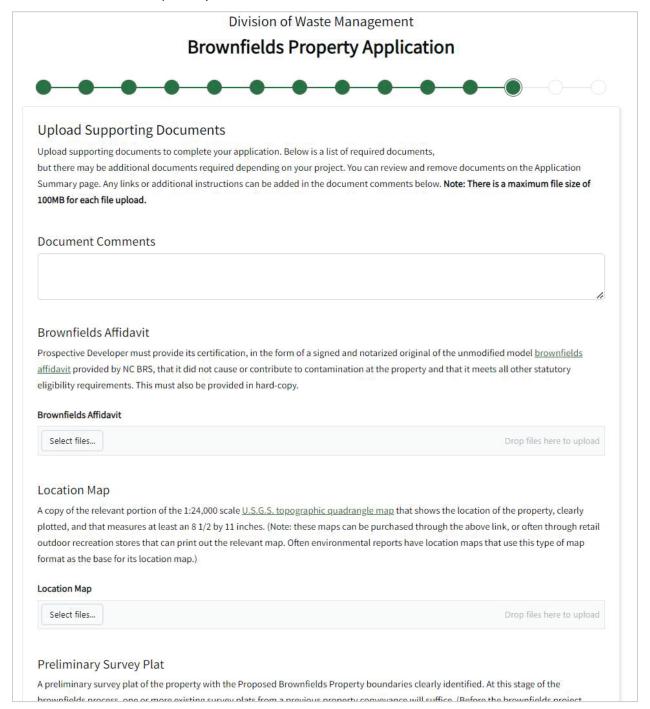




Application Part 12: Upload Supporting Documents

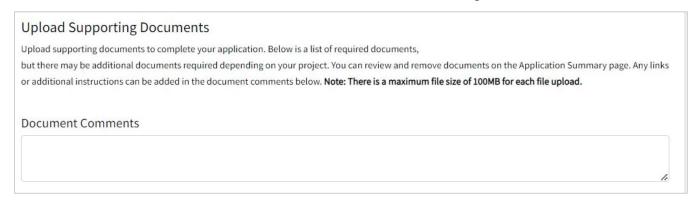
In part 12 of the application supporting documents can be uploaded. The user can upload as many files as necessary but there is a maximum file size of 100MB per file.

Note: If documents are not going to be uploaded the user can indicate on the Application Summary page that documents will be sent separately.

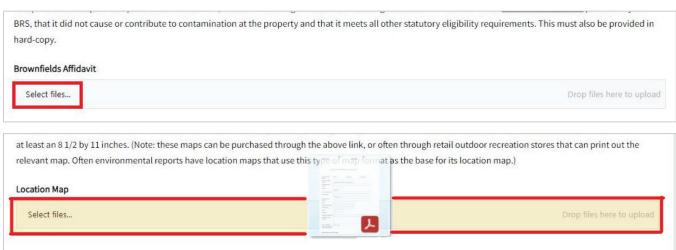




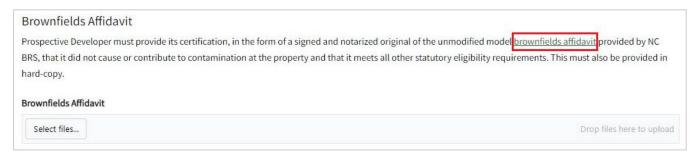
The **Document Comments** section can be used to add links to file storage or other additional information.



Users can click "Select files..." to select files for uploading, or files can be dragged and dropped.



The **Brownfields Affidavit** form can be downloaded from the link. The signed and notarized affidavit should be uploaded here.



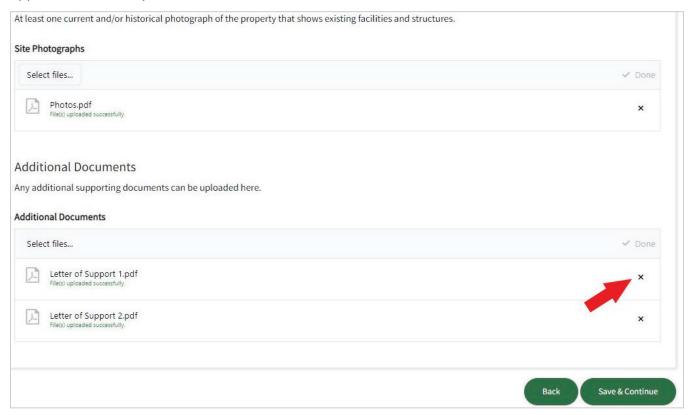
For Redevelopment Now projects, the signed **Fee Consent** must be attached. The form can be downloaded from the link. The signed Fee Consent should be uploaded here.





The user can upload the **Location Map**, **Preliminary Survey Plat**, **Legal Description**, and **Site Photographs**. All other relevant documents can be uploaded to **Additional Documents**.

Uploaded files can be removed by clicking the x. There will also be an opportunity to review files on the Application Summary.

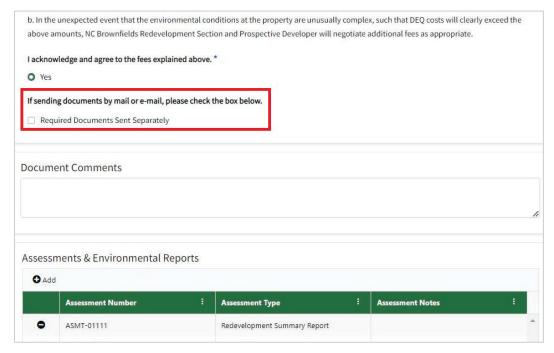




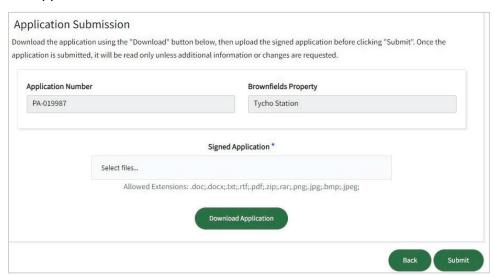
Application Part 13-14: Summary and Submission

The Application Summary shows all the information entered for the application. Here the user can review and edit the application, including file and document uploads for assessments and supporting documents.

On this page the user can indicate they are sending supporting documents separately.



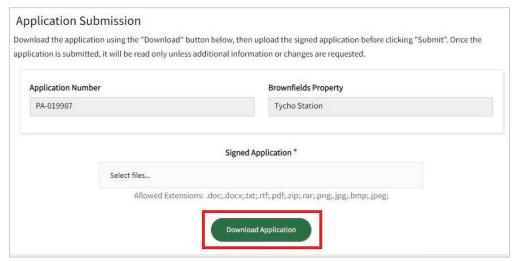
Once the user has reviewed the application and made any changes, clicking Save & Continue will bring up the Application Submission screen.



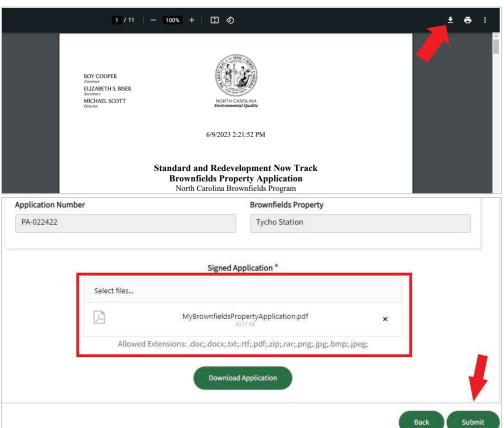


On the Application Submission screen, the user can click **Download Application** to save a PDF version of the application and print it for signature. Then a digital image of the signed application can be attached to the application and the application can be submitted.

 Click Download Application button to open document preview.



Download the PDF to print and obtain signature.



Upload signed application and click **Submit**.

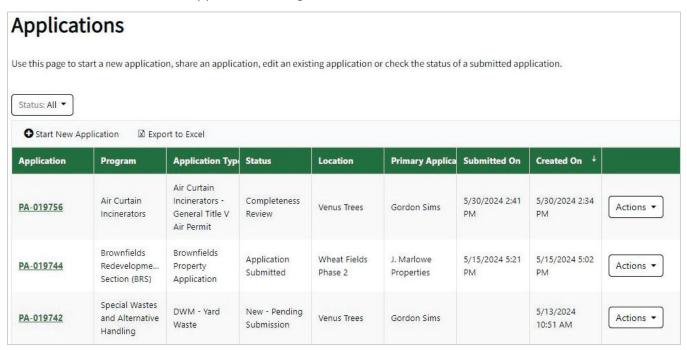
Once the application has been submitted, it cannot be changed unless it is sent back to the user for additional information. However, users can submit assessment documents and Land Use Restriction Updates (LURU) through the AccessDEQ portal. The <u>Land Use Restrictions Updates</u> and <u>Assessments & Requests</u> sections of this document contain more information.



Applications Grid

The Applications grid displays the applications associated with the user's AccessDEQ account. Applications that have been worked on but not yet submitted will also appear in the Applications grid.

Applications which have been submitted cannot be edited unless DEQ returns the application for changes or additional information or documents. The user will receive a notification email if that occurs, and the application's status will be set to "Awaiting Applicant". The user will also receive a notification email any other time the status of the application changes.



Clicking the permit application link (**PA-######**) on submitted Brownfields applications takes the user to the Application Overview where they can choose to view their submitted application or view the Application Details screen, which shows summary information such as the status of the application, associated invoices and projects, and other information. The Application Details screen is also available by selecting **View Details** from the **Action** menu.





If the application has not been submitted, or has been returned to the applicant for revision, clicking the permit application link (**PA-######**) will open the application for editing.

Application	Program †	Application Type	Status	Location	Primary Ap
PA-021805	Air Curtain Incinerators	Air Curtain Incinerators - General Title V Air Permit	Issued	FCR Eastern Extention	J. Marlowe (
PA-022109	Air Curtain Incinerators	Air Curtain Incinerators - General Title V Air Permit	Issued	Medina Station	Camina Dru
PA-022267	Air Curtain Incinerators	Air Curtain Incinerators - General Title V Air Permit	New - Pending Submission	Tycho Station	Camina Dru

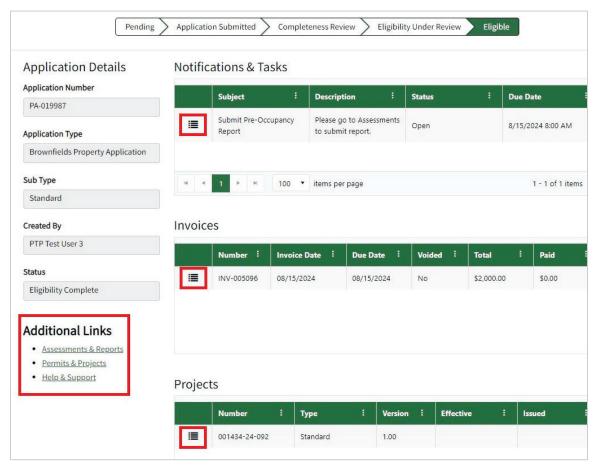
Also, the option to edit will be available on the **Actions** menu.

New - Pending Submission	Tycho Station	Camina Drummer	7/19/2024 1:24 PM		
New - Pending Submission	Anson County Facility	Gordon Sims	3/12/2024 4:03 PM	View Details Edit Application Share Application	



Application Details

The Application Details screen displays information about the application, its current status, associated invoices and other information. Clicking on the **details** is icon next to a line item will display it. There are also additional links including to Assessments & Requests.



Once eligibility is complete, the application will have a Brownfields project number. This number appears on the application details screen, and will also be listed in the Permits & Projects section.



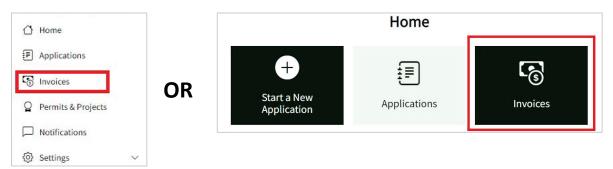


Invoices & Payments

Invoices are automatically created when a Redevelopment Now application is submitted.

Invoices are created for Standard or Ready for Reuse applications when the application reaches the Eligibility Complete/Technical Review status.

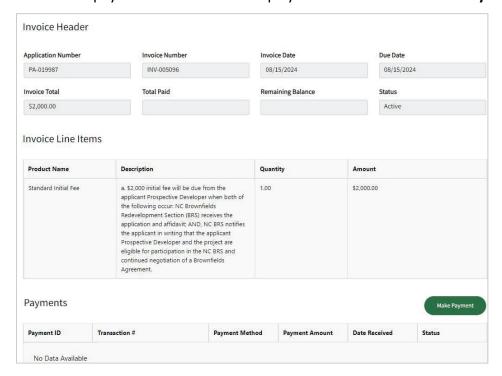
Users can access their invoices by selecting **Invoices** from the left-hand navigation or the **Invoices** tile on the Home screen.



The grid displays the user's invoices. Clicking the invoice link (INV-######) opens the invoice.

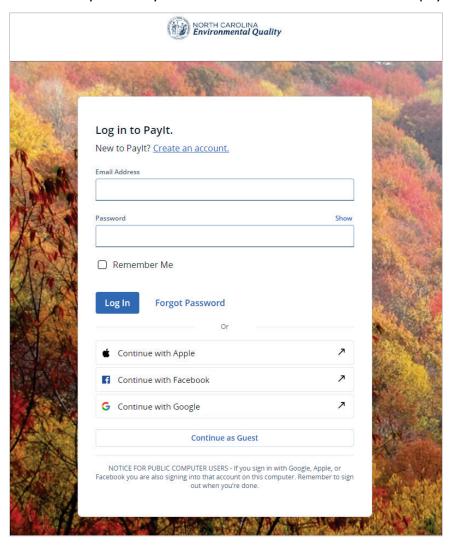


Invoice and payment information is displayed. Users can click Make Payment to pay online.





The user may use a Paylt account or click **Continue as Guest** to pay without signing in.

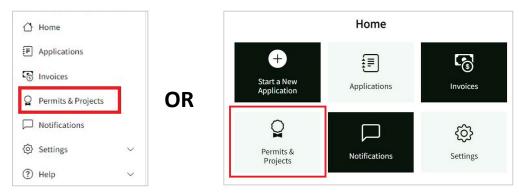


A \$3 convenience fee is applied to all electronic payments. There is an additional fee of 1.85% if paying by credit or debit card. For ACH, there is an additional flat fee of \$1.25 per ACH payment.

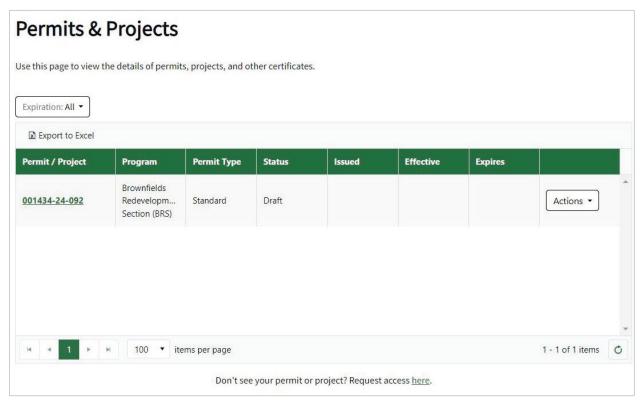


Permits & Projects

The user can select **Permits & Projects** from the left-hand navigation menu or click the tile on the Home screen to see their Brownfields projects.



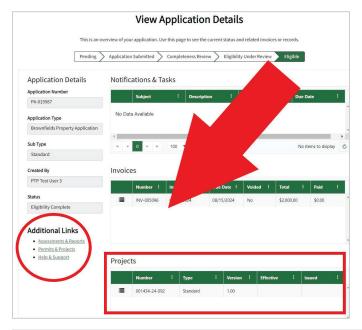
The Permits & Projects grid displays the permits and projects to which the user has access. To view a project's information the user can click the project number link in the **Permit/Project** column.

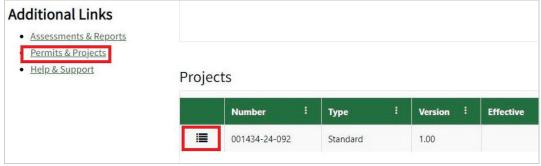


Note: The user can request access to a permit or project not appearing in this list using the link beneath the grid. The <u>Request Access to a Project</u> section of this guide contains more information.



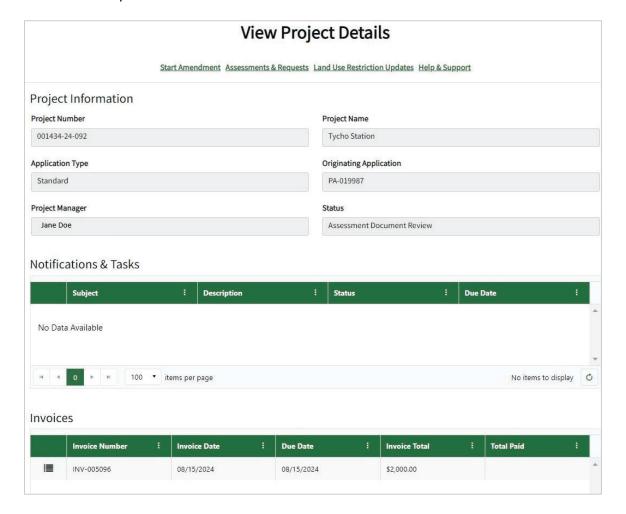
The Project Details screen for a particular project can be accessed from the originating application's Application Details screen. Towards the bottom, there is a direct link to the relevant project(s). Under Additional Links there is also a link to the Permits & Projects grid.







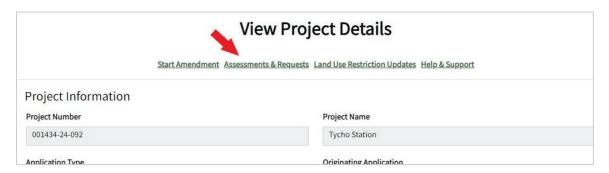
The View Project Details screen contains information about the project and related information such as invoices. Links to Start Amendment, Assessments & Requests, and Land Use Restriction Updates appear towards the top of the screen.



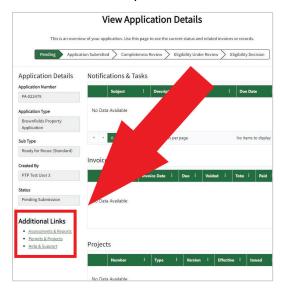


Assessments & Requests

Users can add assessments for a project or application on the **Assessments & Requests** screen. For projects, Assessments can be reached by clicking the link at the top of the View Project Details page or the Land Use Restriction Update page.



Assessments & Requests can also be reached from View Application Details.



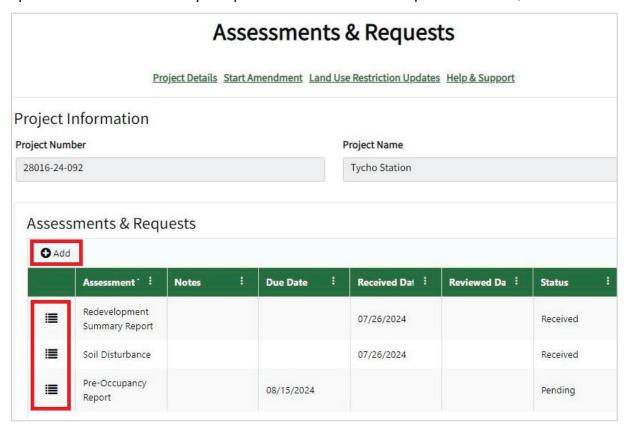




Assessments and reports which are entered on the Assessments & Requests screen are included in the application. For unsubmitted applications, assessments can be added from either the application or the Assessments & Requests screen. For applications which have been submitted, users may go to the Assessments & Requests screen to add additional assessments.

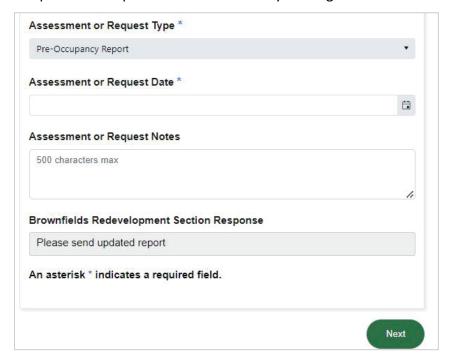
Application Status	Location	Add/Remove/List/View
Pending Submission, Awaiting Applicant	Application (Part 11 & Summary)	Add, Remove, List, View
All other statuses	Application (Summary)	List
Any	Assessments & Requests	Add, List, View

Users may click **③** Add to add a new assessment. Clicking the details icon **■** on a row will display information about the assessment and any comment from DEQ. Entries in a Pending status are assessment uploads the user has not fully completed or are unsatisfied requests from DEQ for assessments.

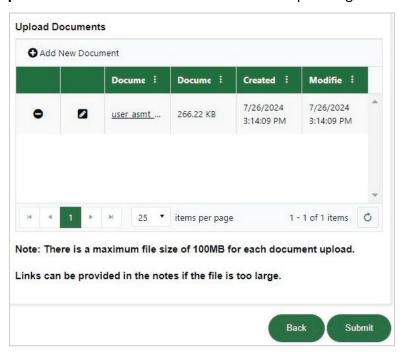




Clicking the details is icon for items in "Pending" status opens the assessment/request information. Users can proceed to upload the assessment by clicking **Next**.



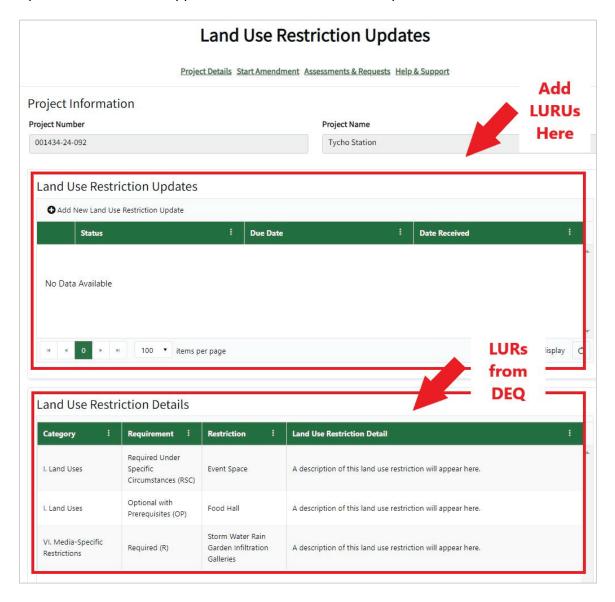
A grid allowing the user to upload files is displayed. The user can click • Add New Document for each file they wish to upload. Once a file is uploaded, it can be removed or changed by clicking the minus sign • or pencil • icon. When the user has finished uploading documents, clicking Submit enters the assessment.





Land Use Restriction Updates

Users can view a project's Land Use Restrictions and submit their Land Use Restriction Updates (LURUs) in the AccessDEQ portal. From the **View Project Details** screen users can click the link for Land Use Restriction Updates. The link also appears on the Assessments & Requests screen.





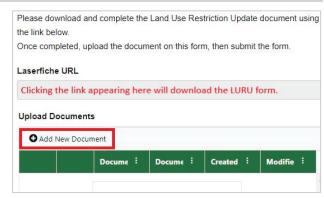
To add a LURU users can click • Add New Land Use Restriction Update, click the link to download the project's LURU form, complete the LURU, and upload the file.

Step 1: Click the • Add New Land Use Restriction Update link.



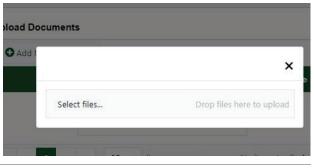
Step 2: Click the Laserfiche URL link to download the project's LURU Form.

Step 3: Complete the LURU and click the **Add New Document** link to upload it.

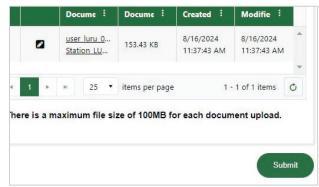


Step 4: Select the file to upload.

* After clicking the link to download the LURU form, users may close the window and leave the LURU to come back later to upload the completed document.

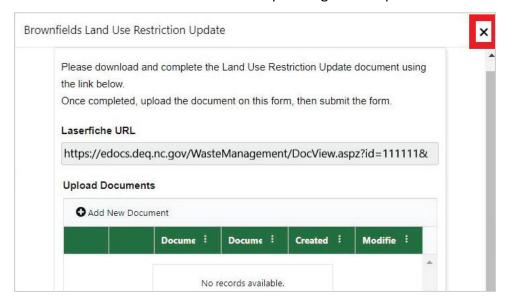


Step 5: Click **Submit** to add the LURU.

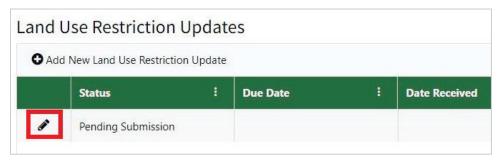




Steps 2 and 3 need not be completed at the same time. Users may click the link to download the LURU form then close the modal window without uploading the completed LURU.



The LURU will be in **Pending Submission** status. When the user returns to upload the completed LURU, clicking the **pencil** icon allows the user to upload the file and submit the LURU.

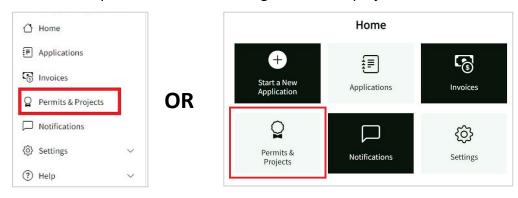


Users may view the status of the submitted LURU on the Land Use Restriction Updates screen. If the LURU is in status **Not Accepted**, clicking the **pencil** icon will allow the user to upload a new LURU document. LURUs in statuses **Submitted**, **Under Review**, and **Approved** cannot be changed.

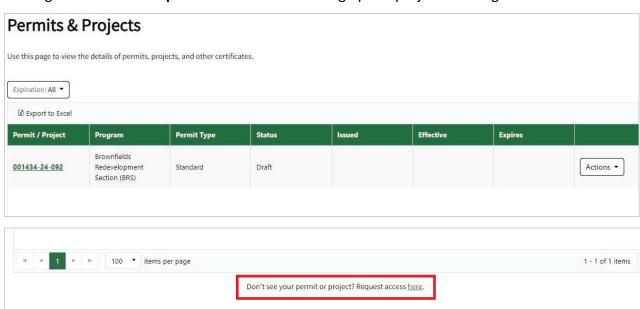


Request Access to a Project

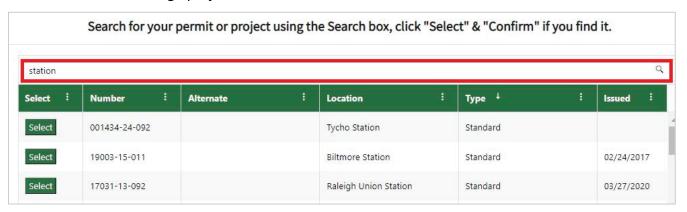
A user can request access to an existing Brownfields project from the Permits & Projects screen.



Clicking on the link in Request access here. will bring up the project search grid.



The user can scroll through projects or enter a search term to narrow down the list.

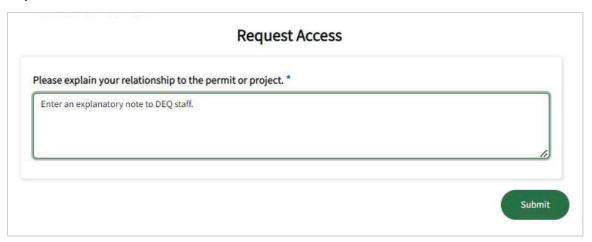




The user can click **Select** then **Confirm** to select the project to which they are requesting access.



The user can then enter explanatory comments about the request for access. Clicking **Submit** sends the request to DEQ.



The user will be notified via email about the decision for the request. If the request is granted, the project will appear in the Permits & Projects for the user's AccessDEQ account.

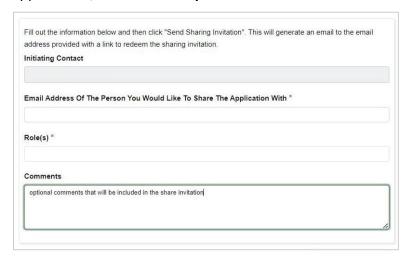


Application Sharing

Applications can be shared digitally with another user by selecting the Share option from the Actions menu on the application grid. If the application is not in a read-only state, the share recipient will be able to edit the application.



After selecting Share Application, a modal window appears allowing the user to enter the email address of the share recipient, select their role(s), and click **Send Sharing Invitation**. The email address that is/will be associated with the share recipient's AccessDEQ portal account should be entered. For Brownfields applications, the Role of **Preparer** can be selected if the user is unsure which role to select.



When an application is shared, the recipient will receive a message from the email address **DoNotReply-DEQPermits@deq.nc.gov** which will include a link to redeem the share invitation. The subject line of the email will include [name of sharer] Has Requested For You To Register With Access DEQ.

If the recipient does not already have a portal account in AccessDEQ, they will first need to sign up. The sharing invitation email message will contain a link to AccessDEQ registration.

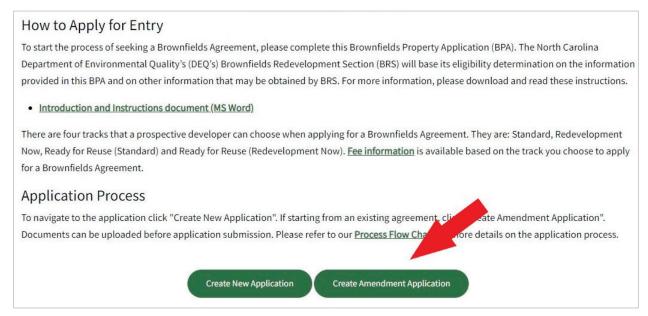
It is important that the email address used for the sharing invitation matches the email address that is/will be associated with the recipient's AccessDEQ account. In the event the sharing request is sent to an email address the recipient does not, or will not, associate with an AccessDEQ portal account, the sharer should re-send the invitation using the correct email address for the recipient.



Amendment Application

After the Brownfields application reaches eligibility and the Brownfields project number has been issued, a user may open an Amendment to change elements of the application.

A user can begin by starting a new Brownfields application then clicking **Create Amendment Application**.

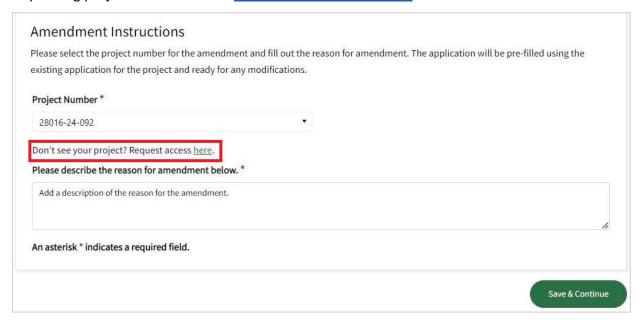


Also, the user can go straight to the amendment application from the **Start Amendment** link at the top of the *Project Details*, *Land Use Restriction Update*, and *Assessments and Requests* screens.





The user can select the project to amend from the drop-down. If the project does not appear in the list the user can request access to the project by clicking the link in **Request access here.** More information about requesting project access is in the Request Access to a Project section of this document.



The information from the application associated with the project will be pre-filled. The user can step through the application making the appropriate changes and submit the Amendment Application.



Appendix A – Document Management

Document History

The change history of the document is recorded in the Revision History Table.

Version	Version Description	Details
1.0	The initial document instance for this initiative was created leveraging the standard Specifications Team template.	
1.1	Reorganization for User Manual	Author: Elizabeth Orlando Date: 05/16/2023
2.0	Completion of the user guide	Author: Christi Haynes Date: 08/20/2024
2.1	 Updates for AccessDEQ user experience improvements: adding left-hand navigation menu, improved document upload styling. Add reference to AccessDEQ YouTube playlist Minor revisions to wording and formatting 	Author: Christi Haynes Date: 10/17/2024



Appendix B - Helpful Information

Description	Web Address
North Carolina AccessDEQ homepage	https://deq.nc.gov/accessdeq
Sign into or sign up for an AccessDEQ portal account	https://portal.deq.nc.gov/login
My AccessDEQ user portal homepage	https://portal.deq.nc.gov/my-accessdeq
General guide to the My AccessDEQ portal	https://portal.deq.nc.gov/help/getting-started-guide
Answers to FAQs and commonly used acronyms	https://portal.deq.nc.gov/help/faqs-and-acronyms
Links to all AccessDEQ portal application user guides	https://portal.deq.nc.gov/help/user-guides
North Carolina DEQ YouTube Playlists	https://youtube.com/@NCDEQ/playlists

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Permitting Transformation Program (PTP) is the initiative behind AccessDEQ. Information about it can be found at https://www.deq.nc.gov/accessdeg/permitting-transformation-program.

Information about all DEQ permitting and a link to a list of all permits, including those not currently part of AccessDEQ, can be found at this web address: https://www.deq.nc.gov/accessdeq/permit-directory.