

(I) LIMITING REQUIRED FOREST SAMPLING TO AREAS NOT PROPOSED FOR PROTECTION UNDER LONG-TERM PROTECTIVE AGREEMENTS AS LONG AS ALL PRIORITY AREAS ON THE SITE ARE IDENTIFIED AND PROTECTED; AND

(II) MINIMIZING OVERLAPPING MAPPING AND SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS FOR SITES WHERE NO DISTURBANCE OF PRIORITY FOREST RETENTION AREAS IS CONTEMPLATED.

(c) Within 30 days from receipt of the forest stand delineation, the Department or local authority shall notify the applicant whether the forest stand delineation is complete and correct. If the Department or local authority fails to notify the applicant about the delineation within 30 days, the delineation shall be treated as complete and correct. The Department or local authority may require further information or provide for an extension of this deadline for an additional 15 days for extenuating circumstances.

5-1606.

(a) (5) LINEAR PROJECTS THAT INVOLVE NO CHANGE IN LAND USE MAY NOT BE SUBJECT TO AFFORESTATION REQUIREMENTS.

5-1607.

[(a) The preferred sequence for afforestation and reforestation as determined by the State or local authority, after techniques for retaining existing forest on the site have been exhausted, is as follows:

- (1) Selective clearing and supplemental planting on-site;
- (2) On-site afforestation or reforestation, if economically feasible, using transplanted or nursery stock that is greater than 1.5 inches diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground;
- (3) On-site afforestation or reforestation using whip and seedling stock;
- (4) Landscaping of areas under an approved landscaping plan that establishes a forest at least 35 feet wide and covering 2,500 square feet of area;
- (5) Off-site afforestation or reforestation using transplanted or nursery stock that is greater than 1.5 inches diameter measured at 4.5 feet above the ground;
- (6) Off-site afforestation or reforestation using whip and seedling stock;
- (7) Natural regeneration on-site; and
- (8) Natural regeneration off-site.

(b) (1) A sequence other than the one described in subsection (a) of this section may be used for a specific project if necessary to achieve the objectives of a local jurisdiction's land use plans or policies or to take advantage of opportunities to consolidate forest conservation efforts.

(2) In a municipal corporation with a tree management plan, in an existing population center designated in a county master plan that has been adopted to conform with the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act of 1992, as enacted by