JOSH STEIN
Governor
D. REID WILSON
Secretary
JAMIE RAGAN
Director

NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

April 6, 2026

Rechelle Vilevac
Town of Black Mountain
304 Black Mountain Avenue
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Dear Rechelle,

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is pleased to announce our decision to preliminarily award your Helene Recovery Recycling Infrastructure Grant proposal for a total of $525,000 in grant funding. This financial support is offered as pass-through funding from DEQ's Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency through the American Relief Act of 2025. DEQ has initiated the final compliance and approval process required prior to issuance of the official grant award.

As soon as that process is complete, we will proceed with establishing a grant contract between DEQ and Town of Black Mountain with a target contract start-date of July 1, 2026. As a subrecipient of federal grant funding, this project is subject to applicable federal requirements, which will be included in the grant contract. ***Please note that we cannot reimburse any grant expenditure incurred before the grant contract start date.***

Please respond by April 17 to accept the grant award as offered. If additional time is needed prior to accepting award (e.g., approval from Town Council or County Commissioners), please let us know as soon as possible and provide an estimated timeframe. Applicants who fail to respond by April 17 risk forfeiting grant funds.

Congratulations on your successful grant proposal. If you have any questions about the grant award, contact Julia Warren at 919-707-8145 or julia.warren@deq.nc.gov. We look forward to working with you on this important project to rebuild and improve waste reduction infrastructure in western North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Sandy Skolochenko

Sandy Skolochenko
Recycling Program Development Coordinator
Recycling and Materials Management Section
Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service