



Catherine B. Templeton, Director

*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment*

June 25, 2013

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

As you know, the leadership for the four states that make up the Governor's South Atlantic Alliance (GSAA) voted last September to shift the fiduciary responsibilities from the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The transition to DHEC is well underway, and Sea Grant will not receive the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant money budgeted for the operation and oversight of the GSAA when this transition is complete.

The NOAA grant award figures for the previous grant cycles for the GSAA are as follows: Phase 1 - \$1,062,431; Phase 2 - \$276,000; and Phase 3 - \$ 190,000. With the GSAA responsibility at DHEC, approximately \$2 million in pass through funds remain in the Sea Grant budget. I understand that two colleges are considering administration of the remaining grants to continue the programs they fund, thereby eliminating the need for a separate Sea Grant infrastructure solely for ministerial and administrative purposes. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information on this issue.

Sincerely,

Catherine B. Templeton, Director