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North Carolina Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services

LEGAL PANEL

- **Jon Lanier, General Counsel, NCDA&CS Legal Affairs**
- **Steve Woodson, Associate General Counsel, N.C. Farm Bureau**
- **Leslie Vanden Herik, Southeast Senior Program Manager, American Farmland Trust**

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LEGAL PANEL

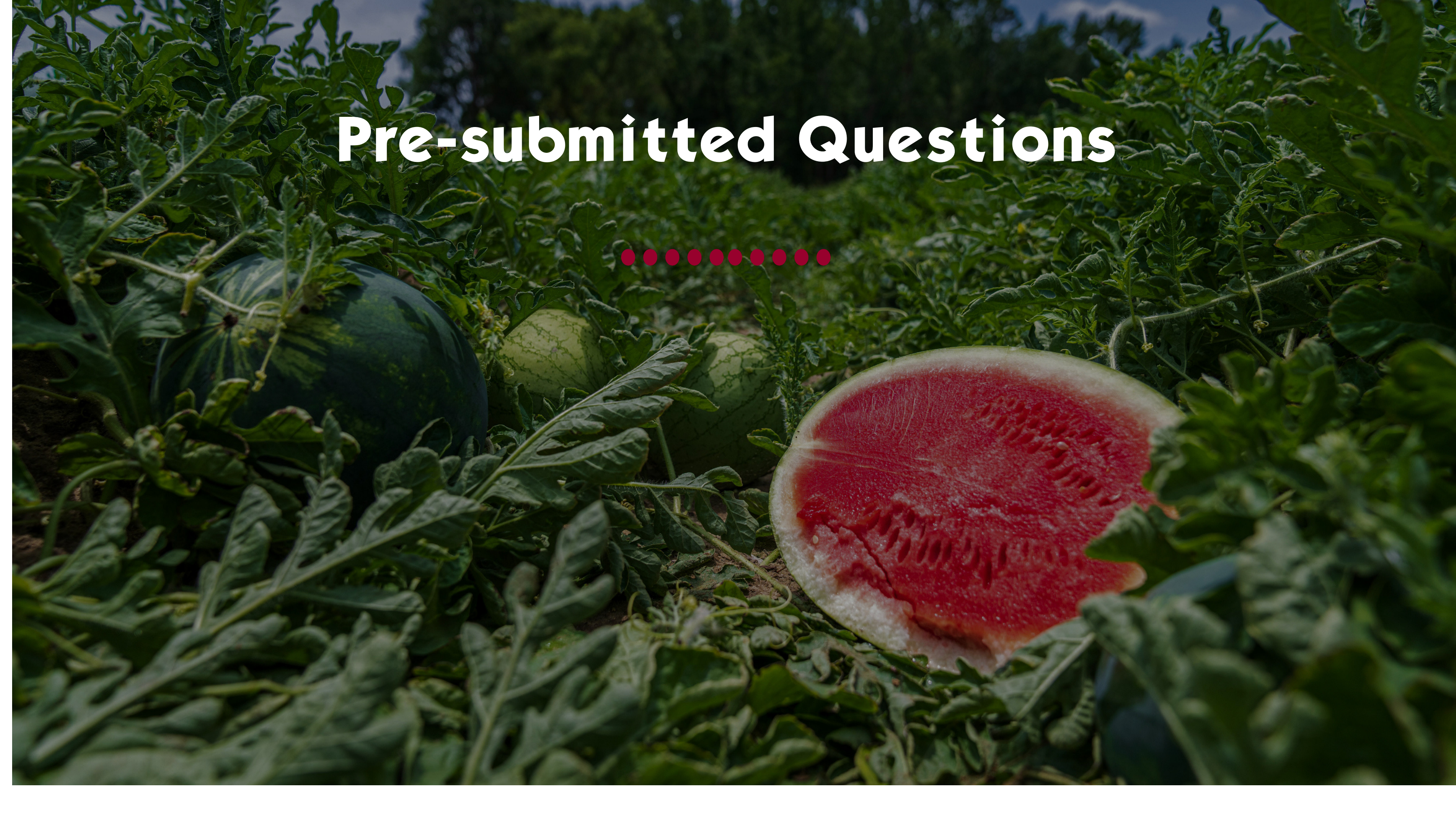


Leslie Vanden Herik – American Farmland Trust

Jon Lanier – NCDA &CS

Steve Woodson – NC Farm Bureau

Pre-submitted Questions





1.



Please elaborate on what additional legal protections are offered by VAD that are not already including in North Carolina's Right to Farm Act

2.



In western North Carolina, do rail companies generally own their rights-of-way, lease them, or operate under legacy easements—and are these corridors treated as public or private? How does that impact the ability to secure crossings or access for conservation easements?



3.

If you preserve your family farmland, how does that prevent local and state government from taking the land and deeming it necessary for a hospital or school or some other public use for the good of the public? You don't benefit because you preserved the land with the intent of keeping it in agriculture use?



Audience Questions?