



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 16, 2016

Certified Mail No. 7010 1870 0003 4946 8978

Jackson County Port Authority
Michael Smith
Post Office Box 70
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39568-0070

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re: Jackson County Port Authority,
Pascagoula River West Bank
Marine Terminal Facilities
Dredging
Jackson County
COE No. SAM-2015-00813-PAH
WQC No. WQC2015050

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Office of Pollution Control (OPC) issues this Certification, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing, for Mr. Michael Smith of the Jackson County Port Authority, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Jackson County Port Authority, Pascagoula River West Bank Marine Terminal Facilities Dredging: This project includes maintenance dredging at the Jackson County Port Authority's Pascagoula River West Bank Marine Terminal Facilities. It is proposed to remove 87,600 cubic yards of sediment every 30 months over a ten-year period. The materials will be placed in the International Paper Aeration Basin, the Triple Barrel site, or the Singing River Island Confined Site. [SAM-2015-00813-PAH, WQC2015050].

The Office of Pollution Control certifies that the above-described activity will be in compliance with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Section 49-17-29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, if the applicant complies with the following conditions:

1. The channel depth shall gradually increase toward open water and shall not exceed the controlling navigational depth. No “sumps” shall be created by proposed dredging.
2. Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredge and spoil disposal sites. The disposal sites shall be constructed and maintained in a manner that minimizes the discharge of turbid waters into waters of the State. Best management practices should include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.
3. The excavated material shall be disposed in a contained upland disposal site and stabilized to prevent movement of sediment into adjacent drainage areas.
4. The excavated material shall be disposed in an approved beneficial use site or contained upland disposal site and stabilized to prevent movement of sediment into adjacent drainage areas. Prior to the placement of dredged material for beneficial use, the material must be evaluated as outlined in the protocols established through the Beneficial Use of Dredge Material Program created by Mississippi Code §49-27-61.
5. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
6. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

The Office of Pollution Control also certifies that there are no limitations under Section 302 nor standards under Sections 306 and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which are applicable to the applicant's above-described activity.

This certification is valid for the project as proposed. Any deviations without proper modifications and/or approvals may result in a violation of the 401 Water Quality Certification. If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harry M. Wilson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Harry M. Wilson, P.E., DEE
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

HMW: ld

cc: Mr. Philip Hegji, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Department of Marine Resources
Mr. Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mrs. Callista Mills, Environmental Protection Agency