

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT GOVERNOR

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Gary C. Rikard, Executive Director March 6, 2017

Certified Mail No. 7016 2070 0000 7232 9989

Ms. Jennifer Mallard Regulatory Branch Chief U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435

Dear Ms. Mallard:

Re:

US Army Corps of Engineers

Nationwide Permit No. 32

Warren County

COE No. MVK-2017-114 WQC No. WQC2017032

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, to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

US Army COE, Nationwide Permits No. 32:

Nationwide Permits are general permits issued on a nationwide basis to streamline the authorization of activities that have no more than minimal and cumulative adverse effects on the aquatic environment. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issues NWPs to authorize certain activities that require Department of the Army permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

- 32. Completed Enforcement Actions. Any structure, work, or discharge of dredged or fill material remaining in place or undertaken for mitigation, restoration, or environmental benefit in compliance with either:
- (i) The terms of a final written Corps non-judicial settlement agreement resolving a violation of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; or the terms of an EPA 309(a) order on consent resolving a violation of section 404 of the Clean Water Act, provided that:

- (a) The activities authorized by this NWP cannot adversely affect more than 5 acres of non-tidal waters or 1 acre of tidal waters;
- (b) The settlement agreement provides for environmental benefits, to an equal or greater degree, than the environmental detriments caused by the unauthorized activity that is authorized by this NWP; and
- (c) The district engineer issues a verification letter authorizing the activity subject to the terms and conditions of this NWP and the settlement agreement, including a specified completion date; or
- (ii) The terms of a final Federal court decision, consent decree, or settlement agreement resulting from an enforcement action brought by the United States under section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; or
- (iii) The terms of a final court decision, consent decree, settlement agreement, or non-judicial settlement agreement resulting from a natural resource damage claim brought by a trustee or trustees for natural resources (as defined by the National Contingency Plan at 40 CFR subpart G) under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act, Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Section 312 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, section 1002 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, or the Park System Resource Protection Act at 16 U.S.C. 19jj, to the extent that a Corps permit is required.

Compliance is a condition of the NWP itself; non-compliance of the terms and conditions of an NWP 32 authorization may result in an additional enforcement action (e.g., a Class I civil administrative penalty). Any authorization under this NWP is automatically revoked if the permittee does not comply with the terms of this WP or the terms of the court decision, consent decree, or judicial/non-judicial settlement agreement. This NWP does not apply to any activities occurring after the date of the decision, decree, or agreement that are not for the purpose of mitigation, restoration, or environmental benefit. Before reaching any settlement agreement, the Corps will ensure compliance with the provisions of 33 CFR part 326 and 33 CFR 330.6(d)(2) and (e). [MVK-2017-114, WQC2017032].

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 permittee shall obtain appropriate wastewater permits and/or approvals for the proposed activity prior to the commencement of construction activities.
- 2. For projects greater than five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating, or other construction activities, the applicant shall obtain the necessary coverage under the State of Mississippi's Large Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit. For projects greater than one, to less the five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating, or other construction activities, the applicant shall follow the conditions and limitations of the State of Mississippi's Small Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit. No construction activities shall begin until the necessary approvals and/or permits have been obtained.
- 3. In cases where a PCN is required, a PCN shall be provided to the Department of Environmental Quality (Department) for projects that include channel work within waterways found on the latest version of the State of Mississippi's Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies for sediment or biological impairment or waterways with a completed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for sediment or biological impairment. This notification shall include the following:
  - a. Justification of why the impacts cannot be avoided;
  - b. Proposed best management practices that would minimize the impacts to receiving sensitive waters; and
  - c. Compensatory mitigation primarily along the same reach of stream or on another impaired stream within the same drainage basin.
- 4. The Department shall be furnished copies of authorizations of coverages under this NWP.
- 5. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

6. The turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50-Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

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

Harry M. Wilson, P.E., DEE

Chief, Environmental Permits Division

HMW: ld

cc: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

Attn: Mr. Craig Litteken

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District

Attn: Mr. Tim Fudge

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District

Attn: Mr. Timothy Wilder

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District

Attn: Mr. Michael Farabee

Ms. Willa Brantley, Department of Marine Resources

Mr. David Felder, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mr. William Ainsley, Environmental Protection Agency