

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Gary C. Rikard, Executive Director April 3, 2017

Certified Mail No. 7011 0110 0001 3219 0854

Mr. David Palmer Synergetics Post Office Box 80264 Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Dear Mr. Palmer:

Re: Synergetics, Turkey Creek Solar Farm

Oktibbeha County

COE No. SAM201600429JMT WQC No. WQC2017059

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 Synergetics, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Synergetics, Turkey Creek Solar Farm: Construction of a solar panel farm for electric power generation would impact 1.02 acres of forested wetlands. Mitigation has been proposed through the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. This site is located in the Catalpa-Tibbee Creek watershed in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. [SAM201600429JMT, WQC2017059].

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. Appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be properly installed and maintained to prevent the movement of sediment off-site and into adjacent drainage areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately.

- 2. For construction projects from one to less than five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating or other, construction activities shall follow the conditions and limitations of the Stormwater Small Construction General Permit available at:

 http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/pdf/epd_SmallConstructionPermit/\$File/Small constructionPermit/\$File/Small constructionPermit/\$File/Small
- 3. Mitigation for the loss of 1.02 acres of forested wetlands shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The purchasing credits must be in accordance with the banking prospectus and should be based upon that required for impacting 1.02 acre of forested wetlands. A copy of the credit purchase agreement shall be forwarded to this office within 60 days of this certification.
- 4. 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

Harry M. Wilson, P.E., DEE

Chief Environmental Permits Division

HMW: JP

cc: Joseph M. Tanko, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Calista Mills, Environmental Protection Agency Jason Wooten, Pepper-Wooten & Associates, LLC