



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
April 11, 2017

Certified Mail No. 7011 0110 0001 3219 1233

Honorable Mayor Connie Moran
City of Ocean Springs
1018 Porter Avenue
Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564

Dear Mayor Moran:

Re: City of Ocean Springs
Sports Complex Access Road
Jackson County
COE No. SAM201600512MJF
WQC No. WQC2017063

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 City of Ocean Springs, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

City of Ocean Springs, Highway 57 Sports Complex – Access Road: The project includes the placement of fill material into 0.256 acres of jurisdictional wetlands/conservation easement areas for the construction of an access road and additional parking with a turn-around area at the Ocean Springs Sports Complex on an approximately 1.38-acre portion of the property. Clean fill material consisting of filter cloth and a 6-inch layer of crushed limestone will be utilized for construction of these features. The features of the proposed project are described below.

Access Road: The proposed access road will be 27-foot wide by 670-foot long and will begin at the west end of the existing north driving lane in the turf parking lot at the south side of the softball fields. The proposed road will curve northwesterly across an existing drainage area (three culverts will be placed here) and then will parallel a southwest boundary of the sports complex. This portion of the proposed project will impact approximately 0.256 acres of wetlands that were previously designated as a conservation easement area during the permitting of the Sports Complex (SAM-2004-00055, WQC2005019).

Additional Parking with Turn-Around Area: The proposed parking area will consist of 65-parking spaces arranged in a single row on both sides of a 24-foot two-way traffic center lane. The proposed parking area will be approximately 270 feet long. Concrete or composite parking bumpers will be utilized in each parking space. A 55-foot diameter turn-around area will also be constructed and will be located at the north end of the proposed parking area. This portion of the proposed project will be constructed on land that was previously impacted for construction of the baseball fields and will not impact additional conservation easement areas.

The proposed project is located north of U.S. Highway 90 and west of Highway 57 in Ocean Springs, Jackson County, Mississippi [SAM201600512MJF, WQC2017063].

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. All fill material and excavation areas shall have side slopes of at least 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) and shall be immediately seeded, stabilized and maintained.
2. Appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be properly installed and maintained to prevent the movement of sediment off-site and into adjacent drainage areas and/or waters. Special care shall be taken to prevent the movement of sediment into adjacent wetland areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately.
3. 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 attached Storm Water Small Construction General NPDES Permit.
4. Mitigation shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank as deemed appropriate by the Corps of Engineers. **Written verification of credit purchase must be provided to the Office of Pollution Control prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland areas.**
5. 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. **It should be noted that any change to the final surface of the parking area (i.e. crushed stone to asphalt) would require necessary modification to this certification.** 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 'H. Wilson', is written over a large, loopy blue scribble that extends across the page.

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

HMW: chb

enclosure: Small Construction Storm Water General Permit

cc: Maryellen Farmer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Chris Pickering, Department of Marine Resources (w/o enclosure)
Paul Necaie, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (w/o enclosure)
Bill Ainslie, Environmental Protection Agency (w/o enclosure)
Joe Gill, Jr., Joe Gill Consulting, LLC