STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT

GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 30, 2017

Certified Mail No. 7011 0110 0001 3219 1646

Mr. Chuck Loftis
Harrison County Sand Beach Authority
842 Commerce Street
Gulfport, Mississippi 39507

Dear Mr. Loftis:

Re: Harrison County Sand Beach Authority,
Beach Renourishment
Harrison County
COE No. SAM201700453DEM
WQC No. WQC2017082

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 Harrison County Sand Beach Authority, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

> Harrison County Sand Beach Authority, Beach Renourishment: Renourishment of nine (9) sections of the beach from Biloxi to Henderson Point. Sand will be obtained from designated from borrow areas by hydraulic dredge and placed on the beach segments to restore the beach profile. The sand will be deposited in eroded areas and then graded to restore the beach to its originally permitted design width. Surveys indicate that the quantity of material need to replenish the beach segments varies from 9,000 cubic yards (20th Avenue, Gulfport) to 52,700 cubic yards (Hewes Avenue/Coffee Creek, Gulfport). An estimated 295,520 cubic yards of sand would be dredged from pre-designated borrow areas and deposited within the beach template. Compensatory mitigation for impacts to water bottoms is not proposed as the purpose of the project would be to provide restoration and protection of coastal shorelines. The project is located in Harrison County, Mississippi. [SAM201700453DEM, WQC2017082].

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:

OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL
POST OFFICE BOX 2261 • JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39225-2261 • TEL: (601) 961-5171 • FAX: (601) 354-6612 • www.deq.state.ms.us
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

1. The excavated material not suitable for beach restoration shall be disposed in the proposed contained upland disposal site and stabilized to prevent movement of sediment into adjacent drainage areas.

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 so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.

3. The sand beach areas shall be closed to public use during and shortly after renourishment activities.

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

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. 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,

Krystal Rudolph

Krystal Rudolph, P.E., BCEE
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

HMW: JP

cc: Donald Mroczko, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Willa Brantley, Department of Marine Resources
Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency
Larry Lewis, BMI Environmental Services, LLS

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