



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 16, 2018

Mr. Tim Clements
GT & T Farms
1 Orchard Place
Greenville, Mississippi 38702-0368

Dear Mr. Tim Clements:

Re: GT and T Farms Storm Drain Ditch
Relocation
Washington County
COE No. MVK2015735
WQC No. WQC2016012

The Department of Environmental Quality understands the need for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification - Modification to the above referenced project. The description for the activity of this modification is as follows:

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit for the mechanized land clearing and associated discharge of dredged and/or fill material into jurisdictional waters for agricultural purposes. The applicant proposes to (1) relocate a stream channel to make existing fields more conducive for mechanized agricultural activities and (2) increase height of water impoundment in the vicinity benefiting irrigation to agricultural crops produced by nearby fields.

The existing stream flows through GT & T Farms agricultural field and discharges into the roadside ditch along the north side of VFW Road, which then empties into Main Canal. GT & T Farms proposed to relocate the channel to the west property line.

The proposed channel will flow southerly along to the west property line and discharge into the roadside ditch on the north side of VFW Road. The channel then flows east into Main Canal.

Approximately 2340 linear feet of a stream channel would be permanently filled using excavated material from a new rerouted channel. The new rerouted channel would be approximately 2310 linear feet stream channel.

69656 WQC20180001

OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

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The applicant proposes to have 2310 linear feet of the stream to be newly designed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service to help functionally offset the impacts. The applicant also proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of the remaining 30 linear feet of stream by purchasing 121.8 stream credits from Upper Coldwater Mitigation Bank.

Please be advised Condition 3 of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification has been modified to read as follows:

3. Mitigation for the impact of 30 linear feet of stream channel shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. Written verification of the final purchase must be provided to the Office of Pollution Control prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland areas.

Please be advised the remaining conditions of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification are unchanged. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Florance Bass of my staff at (601) 961-5171.

Sincerely,



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

KR: cs

cc: Mrs. Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ms. Kristina Hall, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District
Mr. Daniel R. Hooker, Hooker Engineering Services Inc.