

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 21, 2018

Certified Mail No. 7017 1450 0000 4597 6213

Mr. Joe Jewel Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) 1141 Bayview Avenue Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Dear Mr. Jewel:

Re: MS Department of Marine

> Resources, Katrina Key Structure Expansion **Harrison County**

COE No. SAM201701109RCV WQC No. WQC20180008

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 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR), an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Katrina Key Structure Expansion: The purpose of the project is to expand the existing reef site to the previously permitted 32.6 acres. The proposed expanded key will be approximately 5.5 miles long, with a base of 24 feet, height of 12 feet and 4 feet across the top. Clean, non-toxic concrete rubble will be used to construct the Key. The concrete rubble will be lowered to the water bottom via cables one piece at a time. Relief of reef materials deployed on the sea floor will maintain a clearance of 12 feet. Mitigation will not be necessary for this project as the objective is to enhance existing artificial reef sites by ongoing deployments of approved reef material that does not affect the surrounding environments or organisms inhabiting those environments. [SAM201701109RCV, WQC20180008].

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. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
- 2. 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, P.E., BCEE

Chief, Environmental Permits Division

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cc: Mr. Rudolph C. Villarreal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

Mr. James Sanders, DMR, Office of Marine Fisheries

Mr. Greg Christodoulou, Department of Marine Resources

Mr. Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mrs. Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency