



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT

GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 26, 2018

Mr. Erik Broussard
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Dear Mr. Broussard

Re: Mississippi Department of Marine
Resources, Oyster Reef Restoration
Hancock County
COE No. SAM-2015-00644-JBM
WQC No. WQC2015060

The Department of Environmental Quality understands the need for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification - Modification to the above referenced project. Please be advised the description of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification has been modified to read as follows:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Oyster Reef Restoration: This project is Phase I of the restoration of existing and historical oyster reefs in the Mississippi Sound. The fill material will consist of oyster shell, crushed concrete, and limestone material for a maximum of 23,930 acres, for the entire project. Phase 1 will incorporate 3,500 acres between 2016 and 2018. Restoration Area #72 will now include three 10-acre plots that each contain two 5-acre plots for the purpose of research. Within each plot is two 5-acre clutch treatment blocks with two different clutch materials, limestone and concrete. Deployment will include approximately 32400 cubic yards of clutch material in variable levels up to 18 inches with an average elevation of 8 inches. This project will serve to restore valuable oyster habitats within the waters of the State of Mississippi and provide valuable data concerning techniques to increase effectiveness of oyster restoration through the addition of research components. This project is located within the Mississippi Sound, Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties, Mississippi. No tidal wetlands will be affected by the project. [SAM-2015-00644-MJF, WQC2015060].

Please be advised the 3 conditions of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification are unchanged. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Jacob Reed of my staff at (601) 961-5171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krystal Rudolph".

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

cp: Mary Ellen Framer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District

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OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

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