

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 18, 2019

Certified Mail No. 7010 3090 0001 4287 9298 Ms. Christy Lebarard City of Biloxi Post Office Box 429 Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Dear Ms. Lebarard:

Re: City of Biloxi

Medical Park Drive Road Connector

Harrison County

COE No. SAM201900311RCV

WQC No. WQC2019021

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 Biloxi, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

City of Biloxi - Medical Park Drive Road Connector: Project for filling of 0.84 acres of medium quality bottomland hardwood/pine savanna wetlands on a 1.39-acre tract for the purpose of constructing a connector road. The project consists of a road right-of-way, which will be 760 feet in length and 80 feet wide. The road will have east-west lanes separated by a median which will be grassed with light poles, utilities, and sidewalks. The roadway and improved shoulder will be sloped and graded to meet local requirements with culverts installed in order to maintain hydrological connection. Mitigation for unavoidable losses to 0.84 acres of medium quality wetlands will be provided by the purchase of credits from an approved wetland mitigation bank. The project is located between Medical Park Drive and Ellzey Place Drive in wetlands adjacent to the Tchoutacabouffa River in Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi [SAM201900311RCV, WQC2019021].

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. Road crossings shall be properly culverted to prevent the permanent restriction or impedance of water flow. Pre-construction hydrology shall be maintained.
- 4. 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 enclosed Storm Water Small Construction General NPDES Permit.
- 5. Mitigation for the loss of 0.84 acres of wetlands shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The purchasing credits must be in accordance with the banking prospectus and should be based upon that required for impacting 0.84 acres of medium quality bottomland hardwood/pine savanna wetlands. 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.
- 6. 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 you have any questions, please contact Carrie Barefoot.

Sincerely,

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

Krytel Geldet

KR: CHB

enclosure: Small Construction Storm Water General Permit

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

Ms. Jennifer Wilder, Department of Marine Resources (w/o enclosure)

Mr. Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (w/o enclosure)

Ms. Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency (w/o enclosure)

Mr. Dana Sanders, Jr., Sanders Environmental, LLC