

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

February 23, 2018

Mississippi Branch Regulatory Division

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE SAM-2016-01500-KMN U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES DMR-180123

PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT, CASTINE POINT NORTH LONG BEACH, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

- APPLICANT: Riecke and Associates 17940 Painters Row Covington, Louisiana 70435
- AGENT: Hydrik Consultants Attention: Mr. Michael Henry 2323 Highway 190 East, Suite 2 Hammond, Louisiana 70401

LOCATION: Latitude 30.3793° North, Longitude -89.1572° West, Section 2, Township 8 South, Range 12 West, Canal Number 2, Long Beach, Harrison County, Mississippi. The area is depicted on the Mississippi Gulfport Northwest Quadrangle, United States Geological Survey Topographic Map.

WORK: The applicant is requesting a permit to place fill material in 9.62 acres of wetlands for the construction of a mixed use development (Castine Point North). The approximately 118-acre site is bordered by 28th Street to the north and Klondyke Road to the east. The site contains approximately 47.85 acres of on-site wetlands and 2,986 linear feet of other waters of the United States. The proposed mixed use development would be comprised of approximately 39 residential lots, 4 commercial tracts, a medical/assisted living facility, and 10 multi-family apartment buildings associated roads, utilities, and 10 detention ponds.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The 118-acre site is currently forested. The site is bordered to the south by a residential development, forested areas to the west and north, and some residential, commercial, and recreational areas are located to the east. Canal Number 2 is located within the site and begins at the northeast corner at 28th Street and Klondyke Road and runs southwest through the site. An unnamed tributary to Canal Number 2 is located along the upper northeastern boundary of the proposed construction and runs the southwest where it intersects with Canal Number 2. Canal Number 2 drains southwest into Canal Number 3, which drains into Bayou Portage. A Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination was completed on a larger 140-acre tract which includes the 118-acre project site.

PROJECT PURPOSE: Construction of a mixed use development. (Castine Point North)

HISTORY: SAM-2006-01552-TMZ: On 26 September 2007 the applicant received a DA permit to discharge fill material into approximately 9.37 acres of jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing a single-family development on an adjacent parcel. The permit expired on 26 September 2012 prior to commencement of work.

SAM-2015-00675-KMN: Since the permit for the proposed project had expired the applicant completed a new application for the same project under SAM-2015-00675-KMN with minor changes. On 8 January 2016 the applicant received a DA permit to discharge fill material into 10.9 acres of jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing a single-family development on the adjacent parcel. The project was named Castine Point Subdivision and was located south of the current project site.

The applicant has stated that although the current proposal and existing development will tie together to allow access to both developments from Commission Road and Klondyke Road, the current project is not Phase 2 of the earlier permitted project.

SAM-2016-01500-KMN: AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: As part of their avoidance measures, the applicant evaluated six different properties as possible locations for the proposed development. Once the applicant determined which site was most feasible for the proposed project, they evaluated 4 on-site alternatives regarding lot layouts and roadways. During construction the applicant proposes minimization of wetland impacts through use of best management practices to ensure that additional wetlands outside the project footprint not be affected. USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization at this time.

MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to mitigate for unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands through the purchase of mitigation credits from a wetlands mitigation bank approved by the Mobile District, USACE. <u>USACE has not verified the adequacy of this mitigation proposal at this time</u>.

USACE initially determined the basic project purpose is construction of a mixed use development. The project as proposed would not be considered a water dependent activity. Additional reviews will be performed by USACE and cooperating agencies.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act and upon completion of the required advertising; a determination relative to certification will be made.

The applicant has applied for coastal zone consistency from the State of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with Section 57-15-6 of the Mississippi Code Annotated.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by USACE can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources.

The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, protected species, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

USACE is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held for consideration of this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to effect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. We are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding the existence or the potential for existence of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, USACE has determined that the project as proposed would have "no potential to cause effects". **USACE will consult with the SHPO to make a final determination based upon this review unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area.**

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate that the proposed activity would have "no effect" on listed endangered or threatened species.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2016-01500-KMN, and should be directed to the USACE, Mobile District, Attention: Ms. Kaaren M. Neumann, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, P.E., Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Attention: Ms. Holland Lamier, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received within 30 days of the date of this public notice.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager for this application, **Ms. Neumann** at **kaaren.m.neumann@usace.army.mil**, or **(228) 523-4024**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/rd/reg.

MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

















