

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Applicant: Chevron Pascagoula Refinery

Published: March 31, 2025 Expires: April 14, 2025

#### Mobile District Permit Application No. SAM-2021-00863-PAH

### JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL (MDEQ)

### MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES DMR21-000516

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Mobile District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344) **and/or** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

- APPLICANT: Chevron Products Company Attn: Mr. DeJamian Wells 250 Industrial Road Pascagoula Mississippi 39581
- AGENT: TRC Environmental Corporation Attn: Mr. Keith Suderman 4155 Shackleford Road, Suite 225 Norcross, Georgia 30093

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** The project would affect waters of the United States and navigable waters of the United States associated with Bayou Casotte and the Mississippi Sound. The project/review area is located within the existing dredged area of the Chevron Refinery in Section 20, Township 8S, Range 5W; at Latitude 30.33569 and Longitude -88.5093; in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi. The project disposal area is located with the Mississippi Sound in Section 19, Township 8S, Range 5W; at Latitude 30.33384 and Longitude -88.5211; in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The project dredge site is part of an existing maintained industrial berthing area in Bayou Casotte, a tidal water body. Substrates are mucky

sand. The Chevron refinery facilities lie to the east of the berthing area. Other port tenants include ship builders and an LNG refinery. The existing dredging permit is for maintenance dredging an area approximately 5,380 feet long which varies from 35 to 270 feet wide and restoration of depths to -21' Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) in barge berths and -46' MLLW in tanker berths. The project disposal site is the Greenwood Island Expansion BU site. The containment structure has been completed and the site is currently receiving suitable dredged material.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** The applicant proposes adding the existing Greenwood Island Expansion Beneficial Use site (SAM-2019-00620-KMN) as an alternative for dredged material disposal.

**Basic:** The Corps has determined the basic purpose of the proposed project is the disposal of dredged material.

**Overall:** The Corps has determined the overall purpose of the proposed project is the disposal of dredged material into the previously authorized Greenwood Island Expansion Project Beneficial Use Site (SAM-2019-00620-KMN).

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant requests authorization to utilize the previously authorized Greenwood Island Expansion Project Beneficial Use Site (SAM-2019-00620-KMN) which expires on October 12, 2031.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: Placement of dredged material into a Corps approved beneficial use site within open waters would allow for the construction of habitat predominantly comprising of marsh. Placement of the dredged material into the BU site would also keep the existing sediment of the Mississippi Sound and its tributaries within the system instead of removing it from the system and placing it within an upland disposal site. During use of the BU site, Chevron would adhere to the water quality standards, regulations, and restrictions set forth by the MDEQ. To ensure that water quality criteria are upheld, turbidity monitoring would be conducted during active use of the Greenwood Island Expansion BU site.

**COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:** The applicant has provided the following explanation why compensatory mitigation should not be required: No mitigation plan was proposed by the applicant for the disposal of dredged material into a beneficial use site for the construction of marsh habitat.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** 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 affect historic properties. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the Corps has determined the permit area consists of the disposal location at the Greenwood Island Expansion BU site. The National Register of Historic Places was consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National

Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. Section 106 coordination and concurrence was conducted and completed during the permitting process for the dredging permit as well as for the BU site.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the federally-listed species may occur within the project areas. Section 7 Consultation has been completed under the review and permitting process for the Greenwood Island Expansion Site (SAM-2019-00620-KMN) and under this permit number (SAM-2021-00863-PAH) for the authorized dredging.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information. EFH consultation was initiated and completed under the review and permitting process for the Greenwood Island Expansion Site (SAM-2019-00620-KMN) and under this permit number (SAM-2021-00863-PAH) for the authorized dredging. Therefore, no consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service on EFH is required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996 is required.

**NAVIGATION:** The previously authorized BU site is not located in the vicinity of a federal navigation channel.

**SECTION 408:** The applicant will not require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would not alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** Water Quality Certification may be required from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority).

**COASTAL ZONE:** The applicant received coastal zone (CZ) consistency from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program under DMR21-000516 on November 17, 2021.

**NOTE:** This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has been verified by Corps personnel.

**EVALUATION:** 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 cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

**COMMENTS:** The Corps 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 Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

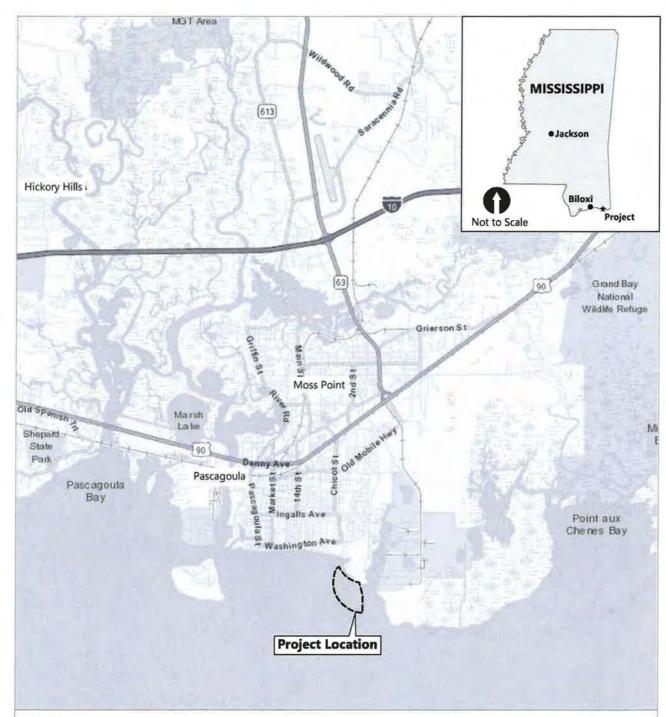
The Mobile District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until April 14, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <a href="https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs">https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs</a> or to Ms. Maryellen Farmer at maryellen.j.farmer@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Attention: Ms. Maryellen Farmer , 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 2300, Biloxi, Mississippi, 39530. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a

public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachments



SOURCE: Esri et al. HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East, NAD83, U.S. Feet. VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

