

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TATE REEVES GOVERNOR MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

January 20, 2023

Mr. John Ferrucci Silver Slipper Casino Venture, LLC 5000 South Beach Boulevard Bay St. Louis, Mississippi 39530

Dear Mr. Ferrucci:

Re: Silver Slipper Resort and Casino Hancock County COE No. SAM201900206APS WQC No. WQC2019050

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 Silver Slipper Casino Venture, LLC, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Silver Slipper Resort and Casino: Construction of a hotel, venue space and additional parking to expand existing casino. The project will also include an road relocation of 1260 feet in length for larger commercial trucks to use when accessing the adjacent commercial fisheries business. Approximately 50,000 cubic yards of fill material into 6 acres of emergent, intertidal wetland habitat and to shade .52 acre of open waters. Included within the 6 acres of emergent wetland impact would be .2 acre of other waters of the U.S.

During the regulatory process, the impacts were reduced to .47 acres of scrub shrub wetland for construction of a parking lot. The proposed hotel will be constructed over previously impacted area for the barge moorings for the casino. The total project area was reduced to 0.86 acre.

Mitigation has been proposed through the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The project site is located in Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi. [SAM201900206APS, WQC2019050]. 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. The development shall connect to an Office of Pollution Control approved wastewater collection and treatment system. (Statement A) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B)
- 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. Special care shall be taken prior to and during construction to prevent the movement of sediment into adjacent avoided wetland areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately. (Statement B) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
- 3. Implementation of green infrastructure, pervious surfaces, or postconstruction stormwater measures shall be incorporated into the project design to the maximum extent practicable through the project coordination and approval process with the appropriate MS4 entity. (Statement B) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
- 4. All fill material and excavation areas shall have side slopes of 3:1 (horizontal:vertical) or flatter and shall be immediately seeded, stabilized and maintained. (Statement B) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
- 5. Mitigation for the impacts of 0.47 acres of scrub shrub wetlands shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The number of credits must be in accordance with banking prospectus and be based upon that required for impacting the waters on the site. Written verification of credit purchase must be provided to the Office of Pollution Control prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland or stream areas. (Statement C) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R 1.3.4 A (2))
- 6. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units. (Statement D) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.)
- 7. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse. (Statement D) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.(3))

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As part of the Scope of Review for Application Decisions, 11 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 6, Rule 1.3.4(B), the above conditions are necessary for the Department to ensure that appropriate measures will be taken to eliminate unreasonable degradation and irreparable harm to waters of the State, such that the activity will not meet the criteria for denial:

- (A)Denial of wastewater permits and/or approvals by the State with regard to the proposed activities.
- (B) Nonpoint source/storm water management practices necessary to protect water quality have not been proposed.
- (C) The proposed activity in conjunction with other activities may result in adverse cumulative impacts.
- (D) The proposed activity permanently alters the aquatic ecosystem such that water quality criteria are violated and/or it no longer supports its existing or classified uses. An example is the channelization of streams.

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

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

KR: FB

cc: Kaaren Neumann, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Willa Brantley, Department of Marine Resources Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Jamie Becker, Environmental Protection Agency Renee Robertson, Anchor QEA, LLC