

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TATE REEVES GOVERNOR MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

January 30, 2023

Chris Pickering U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District P.O. Box 2288 Mobile, Alabama 36628

Dear Mr. Pickering:

Re: US Army COE, Mobile District, MS General Permit 10 Harrison County COE No. SAM202200085CSP WQC No. WQC2022046

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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

<u>US Army COE, Mobile District, MSGP-10 – Debris Removal:</u> This permit authorizes debris to be removed from any waterway for navigation, drainage, and/or pollution control.

Debris Definition: Debris includes, but is not limited to, non-embedded stumps, tree limbs, appliances, lumber, metal objects, etc.

Disposal Area: Debris must be properly placed in an approved landfill. However, alternative sites for the disposal of natural woody debris may be authorized on a case-by-case basis (e.g. authorized living shorelines projects).

Burning of Debris: Woody debris shall not be burned unless full coordination with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality/Air Division has been completed.

Prohibited Activities:

• Dredging of gravel, sand, silt, and the removal of hazardous materials, etc., is not authorized under this permit.

• Impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation are not authorized under this permit.

• Natural woody debris may not be removed from the bank/shoreline unless the debris extends into a navigational channel. This prohibition does not apply to man-made canals.

• Snagging of dead or living trees from a bank/shoreline is not authorized under this permit. Trees extending from the bank/shoreline into a navigational channel may be cut off, provided the stumps remain embedded in the bank/shoreline.

• Re-shaping or re-distribution of material in the channel and/or side slopes is not authorized by this permit.

• This permit does not authorize the removal of debris that may be considered historic/cultural resources (e.g., shipwrecks, pre-historic shell mounds, etc).

[SAM202200085CSP, WQC2022046].

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 debris must be properly disposed of in a Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality approved/permitted facility. (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.) (Statement A)
- 2. Debris shall not be burned without prior approval from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Air Division. (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.) (Statement A)
- 3. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units. (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.) (Statement A)
- 4. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse. (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.) (Statement A)

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) 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.

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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,

Kruptal Rudolph

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

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cc: Dylan Hendrix, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Willa Brantley, Department of Marine Resources Jamie Becker, Environmental Protection Agency