



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

February 27, 2024

Mr. Joe O'Neal
Jackson County Board of Supervisors
2915 Canty Street
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39557

Dear Mr. O'Neal:

Re: Greenfields Road Project
Jackson County
COE No. SAM202300464MJF
WQC No. WQC2023043

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) issues this Certification, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing to, Jackson County Board of Supervisors, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Jackson County Board of Supervisors, Greenfields Road Project: The applicant proposes to raise the elevation of a 2,138 feet long segment of Greenfields Road beginning approximately 143 feet west of Lilly Orchard Road and terminating approximately 1,995 feet east of Lilly Orchard Road. Improvements for this project will also include the relocation of the existing drainage ditches on the north and south sides of Greenfields Road and the replacement of three existing reinforced concrete drainage pipes (RCP). In addition to road improvements, the County proposes to widen and make slope corrections to the banks of an existing outfall channel on the east side of Lilly Orchard Road.

The road fill will impact 0.784 acres of wetlands. The replacement of the existing RCP drainage pipes will extend into the relocated drainage ditches no more than 5' resulting in a minor fill of 0.002 acres or a total 0.012 acres for each end of the 3 drainage pipes. With the exception of the minor fill for the RCP drainage pipes, the relocation of existing ditches will not require any filling and the ditch relocation activities.
[SAM202300464MJF, WQC2023043].

The Department 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. (Statements B) (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 wetland areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately. (Statements B) (11 Miss. Admin Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
3. For projects greater than five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating, or other construction activities, the applicant shall obtain the necessary coverage under the State of Mississippi's Large Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit. For projects greater than one, to less the five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating, or other construction activities, the applicant shall follow the conditions and limitations of the State of Mississippi's Small Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit. No construction activities shall begin until the necessary approvals and/or permits have been obtained. (Statements B & C) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
4. Mitigation for the impacts of 0.796 acres of emergent 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 should be based upon that required for impacting 0.796 acres of emergent wetlands. Written verification of credit purchase must be provided to the Department prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland or stream areas. (Statement A, D, & E) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R 1.3.4 A (2))
5. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units. (Statement A) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.)
6. No sewage, oil refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse. (Statement A) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.(3))

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

(B) Nonpoint source/storm water management practices necessary to protect water quality have not been proposed.

(C) Denial of wastewater permits and/or approvals by the State with regard to the proposed activities.

(D) The proposed activity in conjunction with other activities may result in adverse cumulative impacts.

(E) The proposed activity results in significant environmental impacts which may adversely impact water quality.

The Department 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,



Chris Sanders, P.E., BCEE
Office of Pollution Control Director

CS: fb

cc: Maryellen Farmer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
Willie Brantley, Department of Marine Resources
Larry Lewis, BMI Engineering, LLC