

## **Special Public Notice**

Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435 www.mvk.usace.army.mil

## PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCING UPDATED MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL CONDITIONS FOR THE 2017 NATIONWIDE PERMITS IN VICKSBURG DISTRICT

On January 6, 2017, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing the reissuance of all 50 existing nationwide permits (NWPs), general conditions, and definitions with some modifications. The Corps also issued two new NWPs, one new general condition, and five new definitions. The 2017 NWPs went into effect on March 19, 2017, and will expire on March 18, 2022.

With the publication of the January 6, 2017, Federal Register notice, the Corps began finalizing their regional conditions for the new and reissued NWPs. On March 16, 2017, the Mississippi Valley Division Engineer approved regional conditions for the NWPs in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Regional conditions provide additional protection for the aquatic environment and valuable information regarding regional resources, and help ensure that the NWPs authorize only those activities with no more than minimal adverse environmental effects

The Mississippi Regional Conditions, previously announced on March 21, 2017, have been updated to reflect the April 6, 2017 Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determinations from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The Vicksburg District has posted the final three sets of state-based regional conditions, Section 401 Water Quality Certifications, and Coastal Zone Management Act decisions on our webpage at:

http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Permits/Nationwide-Permits/

Activities authorized by the 2012 NWPs that have commenced or were under contract to commence by March 18, 2017, have one year (March 18, 2018) to complete those activities under the terms and conditions of the 2012 NWPs (see 33 CFR section 330.6(b)). Activities previously authorized by the 2012 NWPs that have not commenced or were not under contract to commence by March 18, 2017, will require reauthorization under the 2017 NWPs, provided those activities qualify for authorization under the 2017 NWPs. If those activities no longer qualify for NWP authorization because they do not

meet the terms and conditions of the 2017 NWPs (including any regional conditions), the project proponent will need to obtain an individual permit, or seek authorization under a regional general permit, if such a general permit is available in the applicable Corps district and can be used to authorize the proposed activity.

Questions concerning implementation of the new and reissued NWPs and conditions or the Corps regional conditions within the Vicksburg District should be sent to the Vicksburg District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Ms. Cori Carraway, CEMVK-OD-FP, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183.