

US Army Corps of Engineers. Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435 www.mvk.usace.army.mil



APPLICATION NO.:	SHC-MVK-2014-1162
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Samantha Claypool
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DATE:	January 29, 2015
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 17, 2015

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering an application for a Department of the Army permit for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435.

Application also has been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services for a Water Quality Certification in accordance with La. R.S. 30.2074(A)(93), and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217). Additional information is on file with the above office, and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained upon payment of cost of copying. Comments concerning the application can be filed with the Office of Environmental Services within 20 days of this notice to the following address: Office of Environmental Services, P. O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313.

<u>Law Requiring a Permit</u>: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States, and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United

Name of Applicant: Mr. Patrick Dupuy Cleco Power, LLC 963 Power Plant Road Mansfield, Louisiana 71052 Name of Agent: Mr. Chad Turner Providence 1201 Main Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 Location of Work: Section 23, T12N-R12W, latitude 32.015350, longitude -93.56568, within the Bayou Pierre River drainage basin, DeSoto Parish, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant. The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters, including wetlands of the United States in DeSoto Parish, Louisiana. Cleco Power, LLC proposes to expand its existing power plant landfill east of the existing landfill.

Cleco Dolet Hills Power Station Fly Ash/Scrubber Sludge Landfill is used for the disposal of noncombustible by-products of lignite from the Dolet Hills Power Station. The types of waste disposed in the landfill are neutralized nonhazardous, on-site-generated wastes only. The existing landfill is approximately 109 acres and the expansion would be approximately 54 acres.

Dominant vegetation within the forested wetlands consists of loblolly pine, the longleaf pine, the slash pine, oak, hickory, elm, greenbrier, and poison ivy. The soil within the project site consists of fine sandy loam.

Approximately 0.83 acres of forested wetlands and 3,600 linear feet of intermittent stream would be impacted by the proposed project. To compensate for the loss of functions and values, the applicant is proposing to purchase wetland credits from an approved mitigation bank within the service area.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in waters, including wetlands of the United States requires a Department of the Army permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment, and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

<u>State Water Quality Permit</u>: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, state lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information.

The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the proposed undertaking upon these properties: No known historic properties exist in the proposed permit area. Copies of the public notice have been sent to Federally recognized Tribes and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect the following endangered species or their critical habitats: Red-cockaded woodpecker, Earth Fruit, and Sprague's Pipit. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

<u>Flood Plain</u>: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

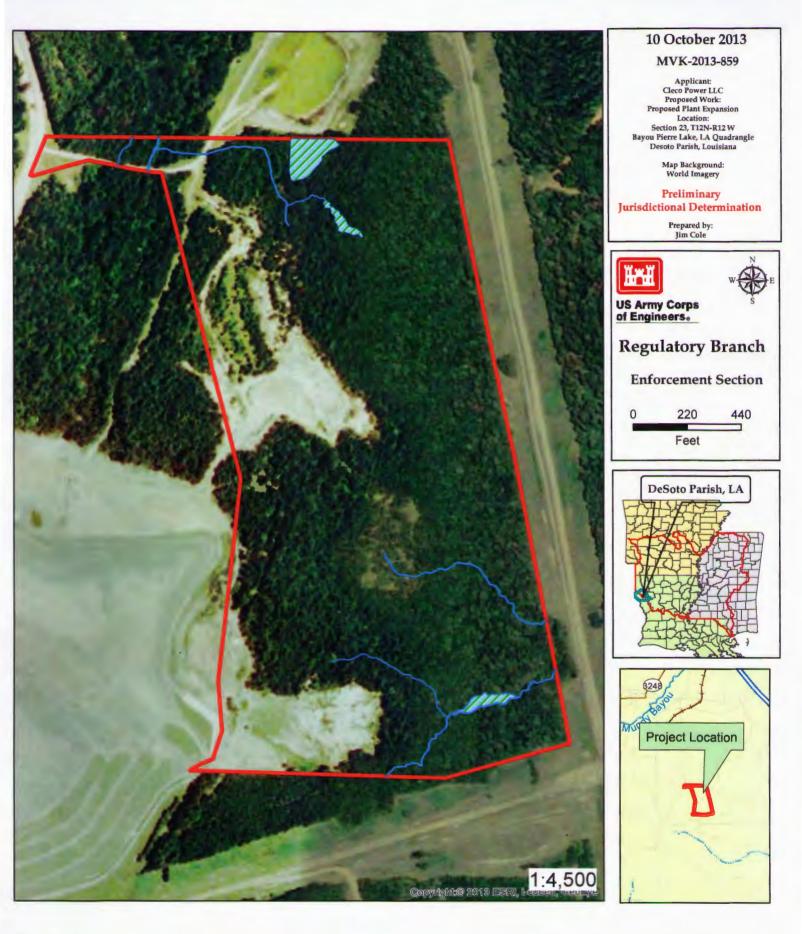
<u>Evaluation Factors</u>: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

<u>Public Involvement</u>: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

<u>Opportunity for a Public Hearing</u>: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

<u>Notification of Final Permit Actions</u>: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <u>http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx</u>, and click on ORM Permit Decisions under Program Links.

Anthony R. Lobred Acting Chief, Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch



Legend

Project Boundary 74.94 Acres



Jurisdictional Wetlands (0.83 Acre)

Enclosure 1

Jurisdictional Other Waters (3600 Linear Feet)

