



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

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



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2008-1006
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Tarmiko Graham
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5540
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	Tarmiko.V.Graham@usace.army.mil
DATE:	June 3, 2015
EXPIRATION DATE:	June 23, 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, Mississippi 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, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313.

Law Requiring a Permit: 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 States.

Name of Applicant:
Honorable Hiram Copeland
Mayor, City of Vidalia
Post Office Box 2010
Vidalia, Louisiana 71373

Name of Agent:
Mr. Keith Capdepon
Bryant Hammett and Associates, LLC
6885 Highway 84 West
Ferriday, Louisiana 71334

Location of Work: Section 23, T7N-R10E, within the Mississippi River drainage basin, near Vidalia, Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

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

The following description of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for an after-the-fact Department of the Army permit for the discharge of dredged and or fill material associated with the construction of a port in the city of Vidalia, Louisiana.

The applicant proposes to construct a port in the city of Vidalia, Louisiana, to provide access to the Mississippi River in order to grow the regional economy. Phase One of the proposed project would consist of a loading and unloading facility on the right descending bank of the Mississippi River near River Mile 359. On-site excavation of approximately 350,000 cubic yards of material from a Corps of Engineers borrow pit would be used to build an embankment approximately 1,800 feet long, 160 feet wide, and 20 feet in height, which would serve as an access road elevated above the 100 year flood elevation, and a cargo ramp to serve as a loading, unloading and stockpile area. At the end of the embankment, there would be a teardrop shaped "turnaround" approximately 180 foot wide at the widest, with a dump pit connected to a conveyor. This 326 foot long conveyor would handle material from the dump pit to a 1500 ton surge tank and grain gate/valve and would have one support in between the embankment and the surge tank pile supported foundation. Beyond the surge tank, there would be another conveyor, approximately 500 feet long, which would feed a barge loading hopper with supports. This conveyor would have 4 supports approximately 100 feet apart. Mooring dolphins would provide support for barges to be loaded and unloaded.

This project was previously authorized in October 2013. Changes to the project plans occurred resulting in the need for a revised permit. Construction on the access road has begun. The previous permit authorized 5.96 acres of impact to jurisdictional wetlands and 1.51 acres of impact to other waters. At this time, only Phase One of the project is being reviewed. As currently proposed approximately 8.86 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and approximately 2.06 acres of other waters total would be impacted by the project.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for wetland impacts by purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank. 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.

State Water Quality Permit: 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.

Cultural Resources: The Regulatory Archeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, 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: A historic properties investigation has been conducted within the permit area. No sites determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places are within the permit area. Copies of this public notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

Endangered Species: The following threatened or endangered species are known to reside in Concordia Parish: Northern long-eared bat (T), Louisiana black bear (T), Fat pocketbook pearly mussel (E), Pallid sturgeon (E), and Interior least tern (E). 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.

Flood Plain: 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.

Evaluation Factors: 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.

Public Involvement: 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

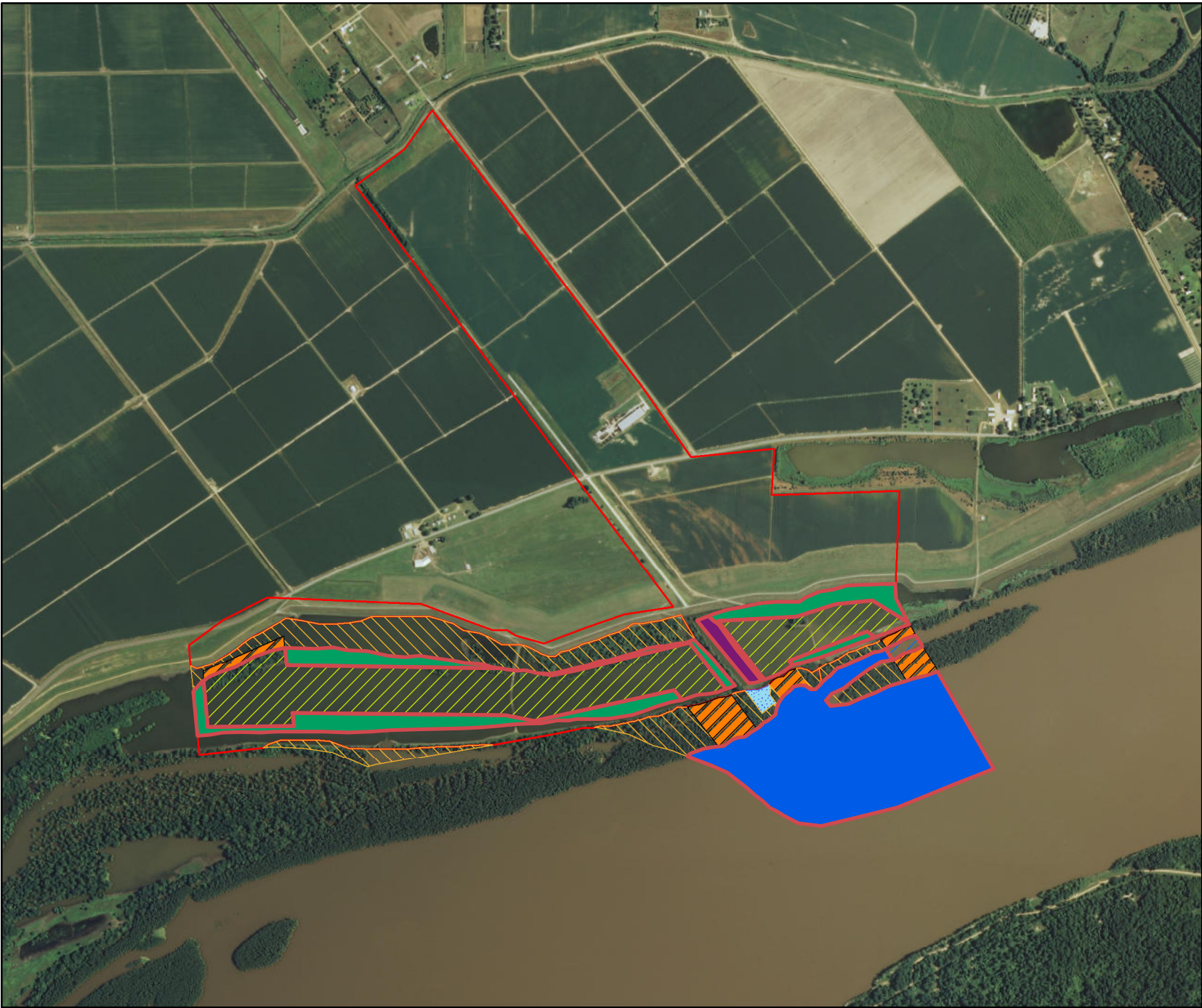
issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: 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.

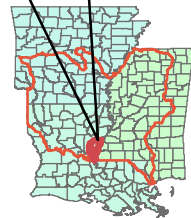
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>,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



**Randy Holder
Chief, Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch**



Concordia Parish, LA

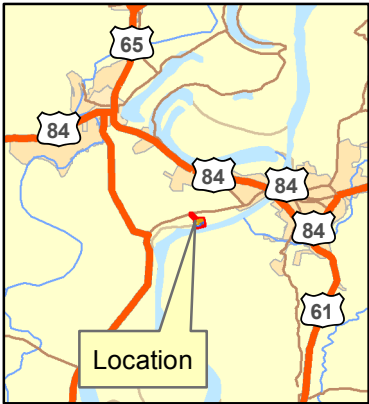


18 May 2015
MVK-2008-1006
2015 Revised Plans

Concordia Economic and Industrial Development
Proposed Port of Vidalia
Concordia Parish, LA

**Preliminary
Jurisdictional Determination**

Jeremy Stokes

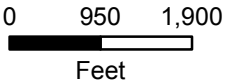


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Regulatory Branch

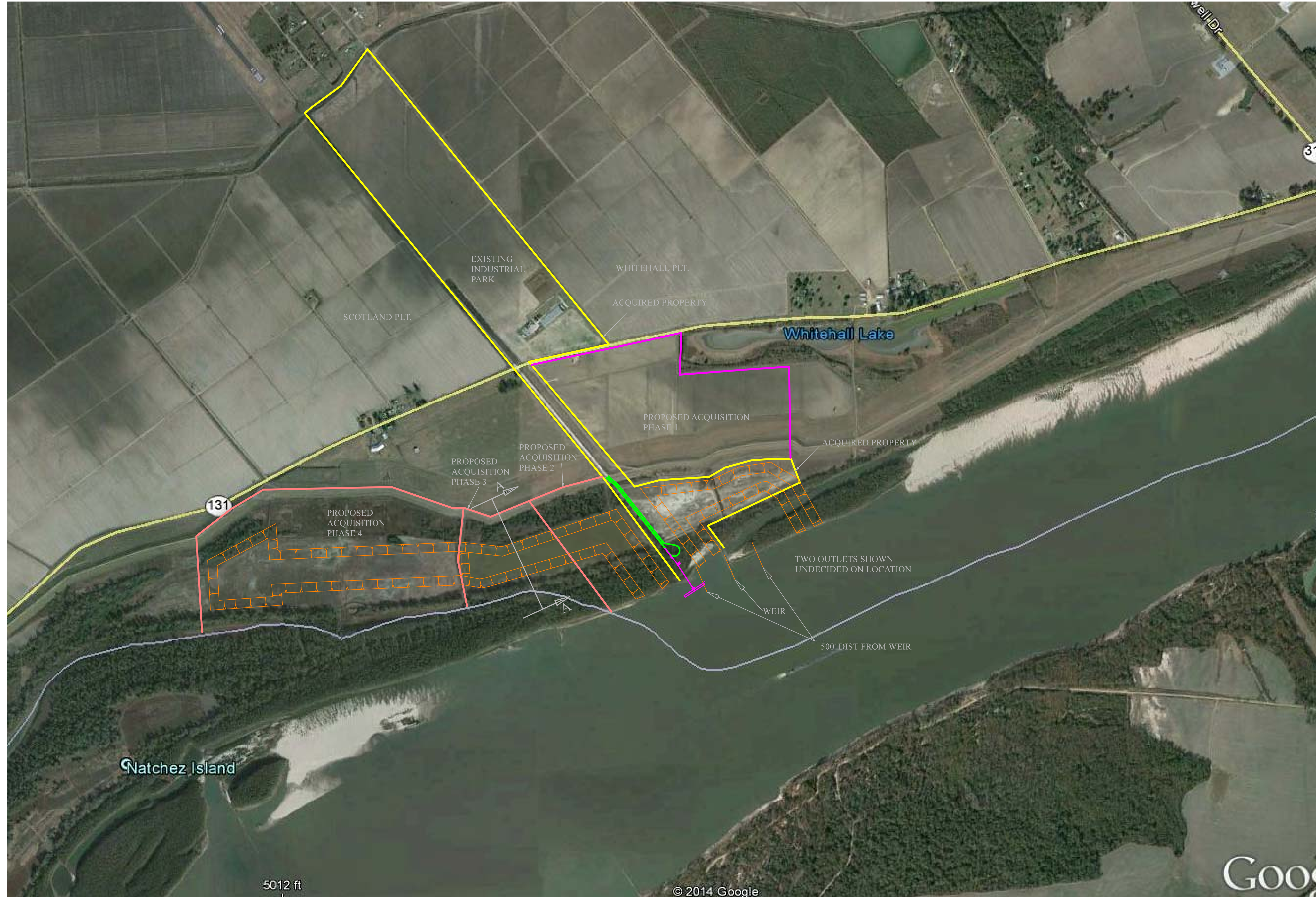
Enforcement Section



Legend

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Borrow Excavated (148.6 Acres) | Forested Wetland Excavated (21.08 Acres) | MS River Excavated (2.06 Acres) |
| Borrow Filled (4.9 Acres) | Forested Wetland Filled (2.08 Acres) | MS River |
| Borrow Not Impacted (62.5 Acres) | Forested Wetland Not Impacted (97.69 Acres) | Upland |

1:24,000



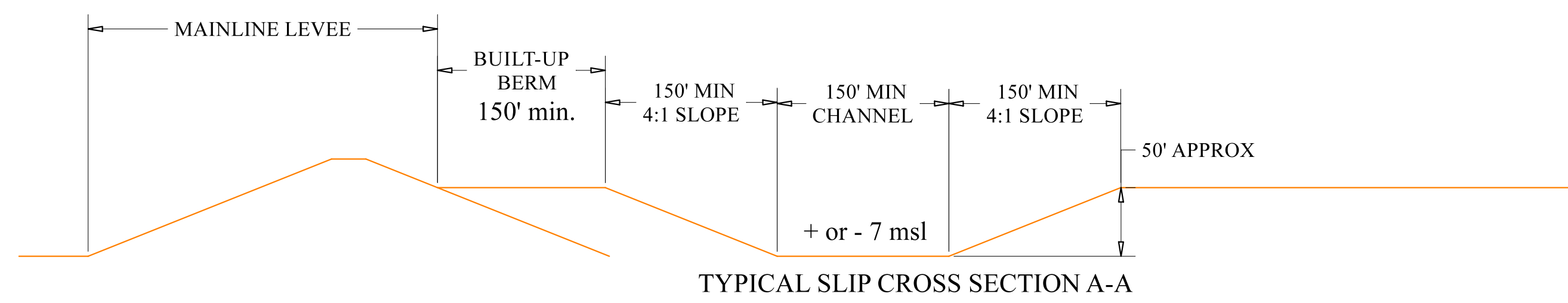
SCALE: 1" = 800'

VIDALIA PORT
PROPOSED MASTER PLAN

DATE: 3/2015
DRAWN BY: JFG/KKC
DESIGNED BY: KCL/R
CHECKED BY: KCL/R

BRYANT HAMMETT & ASSOCIATES, LLC
CIVIL ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING

NO.	DESCRIPTION	BY



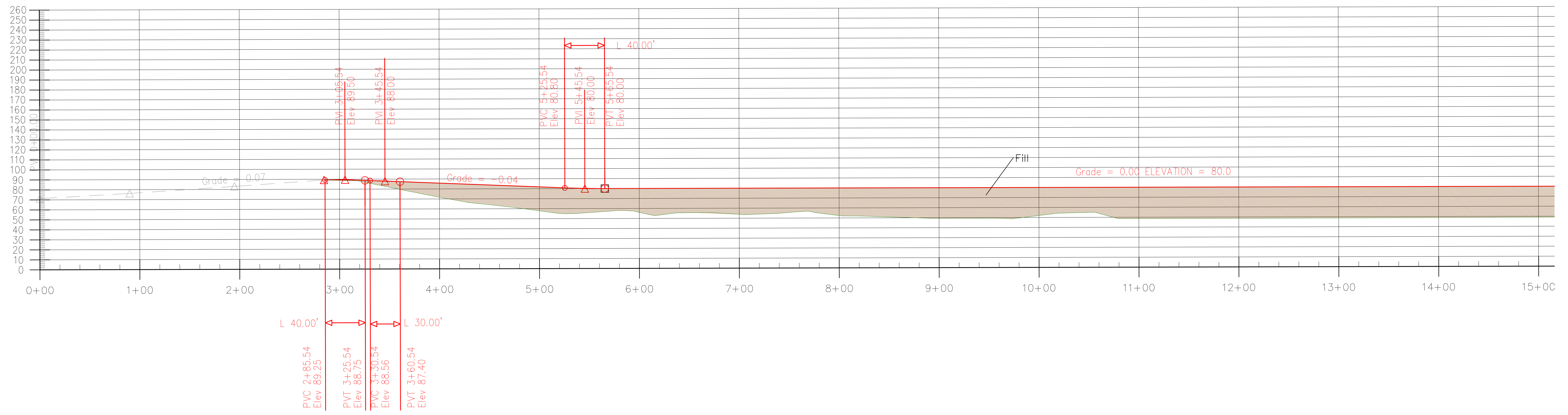
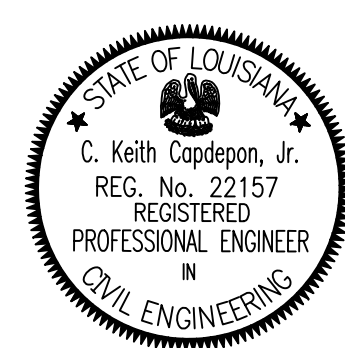
TOWN OF VIDALIA
LOADING AND
UNLOADING FACILITY
PLAN/PROFILE SHEET

DATE: 3/2015
DRAWN BY:
DESIGNED BY:
CHECKED BY:

BRYANT HAMMETT & ASSOCIATES, LLC
CIVIL ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING



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