

Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435

**Public Notice** 

www.mvk.usace.army.mil

TVG-MVK-2015-469

**EVALUATOR:** 

Ms. Tarmiko Graham

PHONE NO.:

(601) 631-5540

FAX NO.:

(601) 631-5459

E-MAIL:

Tarmiko.V.Graham@usace.army.mil September 10, 2015

DATE: EXPIRATION DATE:

APPLICATION NO.:

September 30, 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.

An 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.

<u>Law Requiring a Permit</u>: 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:

Mr. Tom Watson Munoco Company, L.C. 200 North Jefferson, Suite 308 El Dorado, Arkansas 71730 Name of Agent:

Mr. Jimmy Nugent Nugent Land Services, LLC Post Office Box 543 Jena, Louisiana 71342 <u>Location of Work</u>: Section 3, T5N-R6E, latitude 31.4390N, longitude -91.8439W within the Black River drainage basin (HUC 08040305), Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

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

The following descriptions of the 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 wetlands associated with the mechanized land clearing and construction of the Balch PHB #1 well pad and access road in Concordia Parish, Louisiana. The applicant's stated purpose is to drill, discover, and produce oil.

The proposed project would consist of the construction of a well pad and access road. The proposed project would drill an oil well on lands subject to an oil, gas, and mineral lease owned by the Munoco Company, L.C. Drilling would occur to a depth of 7,200 feet to access oil reserves in sands. No advanced oil recovery techniques or fracking would be required. The proposed project would consist of two phases: Exploration Phase and Production Phase.

## Phase One: Exploration Phase

In preparation for the exploration of the proposed well, the road would be cleared of timber and leveled. The exploration phase would take approximately 7-10 days. A closed loop drilling mud system would be utilized. No earthen pits would be constructed and no foreign material would be introduced to the road or location. Once the well reaches total depth, a decision would be made to complete the well as a producing well or to plug and abandon. Should the well be plugged and abandoned, the location and road would be returned to its original condition. Approximately 1.22 acres of scrub-shrub wetlands would be cleared for drilling during the exploration phase. Mitigation for wetlands impacted by the exploration activities would be in the form of purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank within the same 8-digit HUC unit 08040305.

## Phase Two: Production Phase

The proposed access road would be approximately 741 feet in length and 20 feet in width. The proposed well pad area would be approximately 200 feet x 200 feet with a 10 foot X 30 foot concrete slab. Approximately 0.34 acre of jurisdictional scrub-shrub wetlands would be impacted by the construction of the proposed access road and approximately 0.9 acre of jurisdictional scrub-shrub would be impacted by the construction of the well pad. The access road and well pad would be filled with a total of approximately 1,200 cubic yards of clay and sand gravel, which would come from a borrow pit in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana. If necessary, mitigation for wetlands impacted by the production activities would be in the form of purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank within the same 8-digit HUC unit 08040305.

Vegetation within the wetland areas consists of sweetgum, persimmon, poison ivy, loosestrife, Brazilian vervain, cherrybark oak, nuttall oak, redvine, smartweed, dewberry, plumegrass, and broomsedge. Hydric soil within this project consists of Tensas-Alligator Complex, undulating.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands, 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.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>, 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. Furthermore, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer stated no known historic properties would be affected by the undertaking on March 20, 2015. 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.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not likely adversely affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This evaluation is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. In a letter dated April 2, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated that according to their records, no threatened or endangered species occur within or adjacent to the subject WRP (Wetland Reserve Program) easement. In a letter dated April 2, 2015, the LADWF stated that no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

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 unauthorized activities 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 unauthorized 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.

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, <a href="http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx">http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx</a>, and click on ORM Permit Decisions under Program Links.

Thomas A. McCabe

Thomas A. M. Cale

Acting Chief, Evaluation Section

Regulatory Branch





4 August 2015

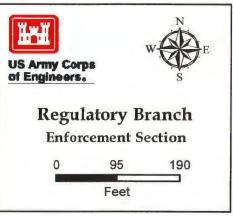
## MVK-2015-469

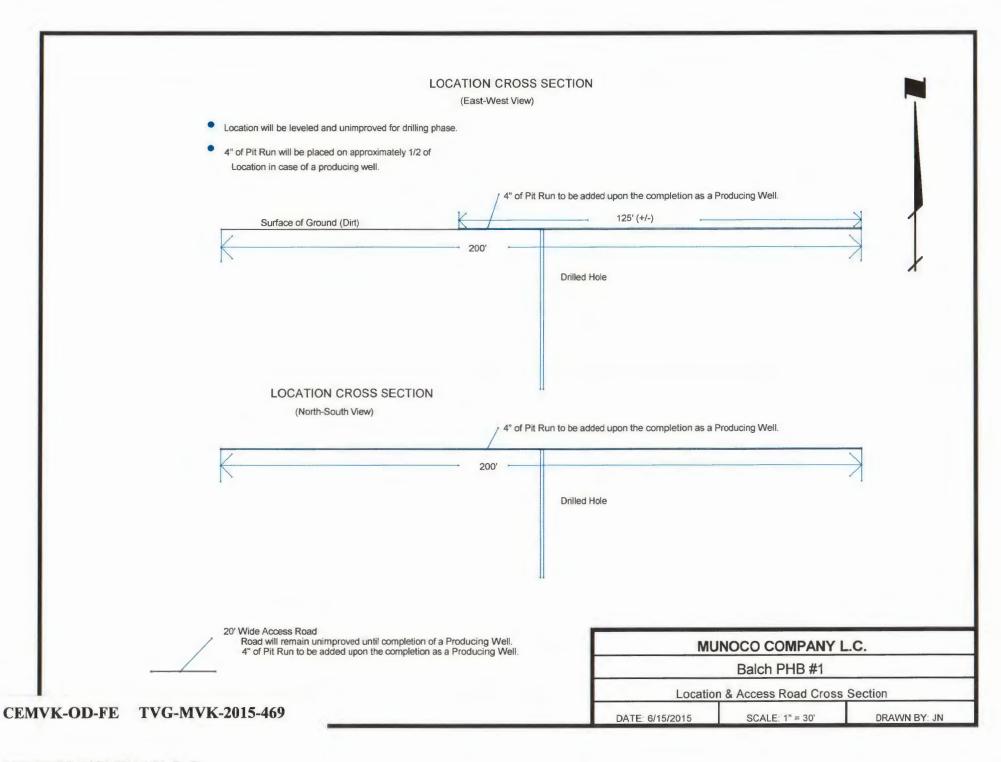
Ecosource Consulting Group Proposed Balch PHB No. 1 Site Concordia Parish, LA

Preliminary
Jurisdictional Determination

Aaron Posner



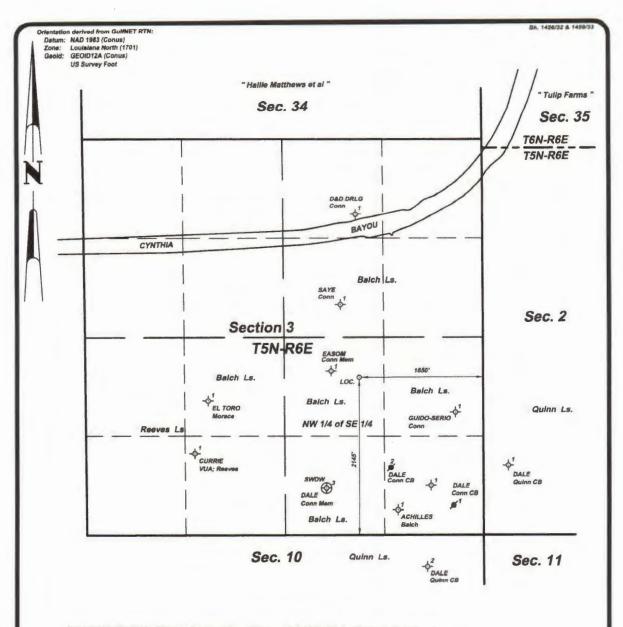




MUNOCO COMPANY, L.C.

TVG-MVK-2015-469

CEMVK-OD-FE



GROUND ELEVATION at Staked Location: 49.8 NAVD88 (Before Grading)

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION: 1650 feet from the east line and 2145 feet from the south line of Section 3, T5N-R6E, Concordia Parish, Louisiana.

(NAD '27) Geodetic Position of Location: LATITUDE = 31°26'19.56429" and LONGITUDE = 91°50'36.18602"

Malcom S. Berlow, Reg. P.L.S. #3404
March 30, 2015

Well Location For

## WEISER-BROWN OPERATING CO. Baich PHB No. 1

Situated in

Section 3, T5N-R6E Concordia Parish, Louisiana



J K S JORDAN, KAISER & SESSIONS, LLC 279 Lower Woodville Road Natches Ms, 39120 DNOMEDIS 800.573, 3303 801.442,3828 SUNYTYONS FAX 801.442.5511 works/jkslic.com

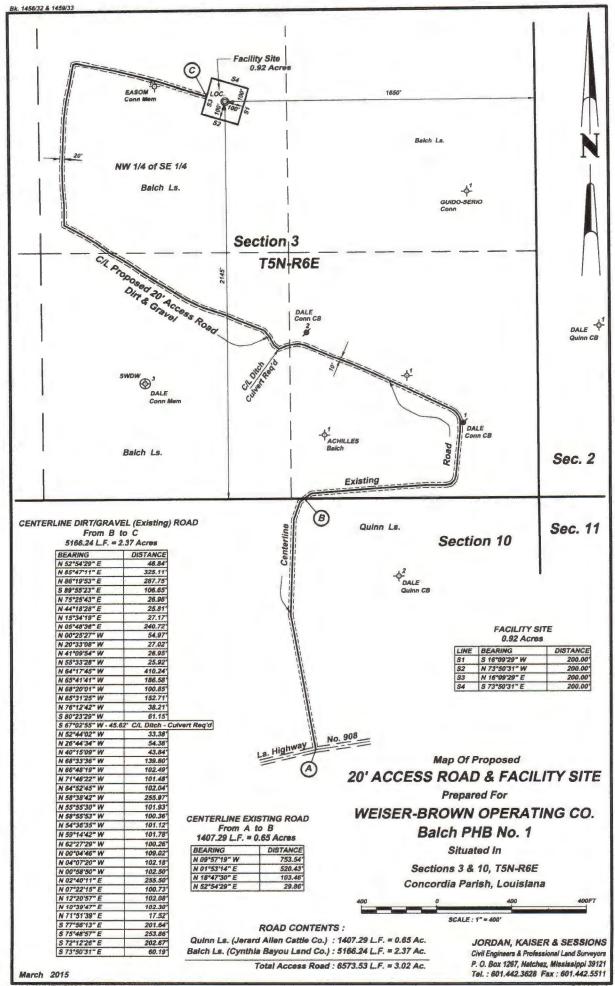
31412016



March 2015

TVG-MVK-2015-469

CEMVK-OD-FE



J:ILAI05N06EIWEISER-BROWNIBALCHIPHB NO1.dwg

\$1412016