

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

## **Public Notice**

APPLICATION NO.:

EVALUATOR:

PHONE NO.:

E-MAIL:

MVK-2023-281

Mr. William Pigott

(601) 631-7239

William.l.pigott@usace.army.mil

May 8, 2024

EXPIRATION DATE: May 20, 2024

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality are considering an application for a Department of the Army Permit and State Water Quality Certification for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-RD, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2261, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification Improvement Rule (Certification Improvement Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective November 27, 2023, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that has the potential to result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority). In accordance with Certification Rule part 121.6, once the applicant submits a certification request the Corps of Engineers, in conjunction with the certifying agency, will determine a reasonable period of time for them to act upon the certification.

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

Name of Applicant:

Mr. Shane Gorman Nissan North America 300 Nissan Drive Canton, Mississippi 39046 Name of Agent:

Ms. Claire LaBarbera T. Baker Smith 17927 Old Jefferson Hwy Prairieville, Louisiana 70769 <u>Location of Work</u>: The proposed project site is located in Section 2, T8N-R2E, Latitude 32.569266, Longitude -90.063188 within the Lower Big Black River Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 08060202), Madison County, Mississippi.

<u>Description of Work</u>: (See enclosed maps 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 to conduct regulated activities in aquatic resource sites for the purpose of expanding the existing Nissan Manufacturing facility, within the city of Canton, Madison County, Mississippi.

Nissan Manufacturing is proposing to clear, grub, grade, and fill aquatic resources in order to expand their existing facility's footprint, within the city limits of Canton, Madison County, Mississippi. The proposed project is intended to provide additional employee parking, roadway access, drainage ditches, two buildings, two culverts, and a sediment basin for the existing manufacturing facility. In recent years, the area has seen an increase in population growth and therefore the manufacturing facility expansion is needed to accommodate the industry growth and production demands for the area. The project site to be developed consists of approximately 50 acres and has existing road frontage through the frontage road and existing manufacturing facility.

The following is a breakdown of the identified aquatic resources found within the project site:

- Forested (PFO) wetlands 21 acres
- Scrub/Shrub (PSS) wetlands 1.2 acres
- Emergent wetlands (PEM) 4.2 acres
- Intermittent stream 3,132 linear feet

Approximately 2,500 linear feet of intermittent stream will be impacted by fill. Approximately 1.7 acre of PEM wetlands, 4.0 acre of PFO wetlands, and 1.0 acre of PSS wetlands will be impacted by fill.

The project seeks to avoid and minimize impacts to aquatic resources through on-site designs. Best management practices such as silt-fences will be installed to prevent impacts to aquatic resources that are being avoided by site design. For unavoidable impacts, the applicant proposes to purchase the required compensatory mitigation credits from a USACE Vicksburg District approved mitigation bank.

The majority of the proposed development site is currently forested. Primary hydrology indicators observed on site include surface water, high water table,

saturation, drainage patterns, FAC-Neutral Test, and oxidized rhizospheres along living roots. The dominant wetland vegetation within the project area consists of Water oak (Quercus Nigra), American sycamore (Plantanus occidentalis), Chinese tallow (Triadica sebifera), Sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), Boxelder (Acer Negundo), Soft Rush (Juncus effusus), Devil's Daring Needles (Clematis virginiana), Fox Sedge (Carex vulpinoidea), and Pricklefruit buttercup (Ranunculus muricatus). Soil within the project area consists of Loring silt loam and Oaklimeter silt loam.

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 <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>, 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: The permit area has been so extensively modified that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon a historic property, even if present within the affected 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: Threatened and Endangered Species for this area include the Wood stork (T), Northern long-eared bat (E) and the Alligator Snapping Turtle (PT). Utilizing the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on June 28, 2017, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Service's IPAC system, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would not jeopardized the continued existence of the Alligator Snapping Turtle, would have no effect on the Wood stork, and a may affect but not likely to adversely affect the Northern long-eared bat.

<u>Floodplain:</u> In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Floodplain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a floodplain development permit is required. Floodplain

administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements. The entire project site is located above the 100-year floodplain.

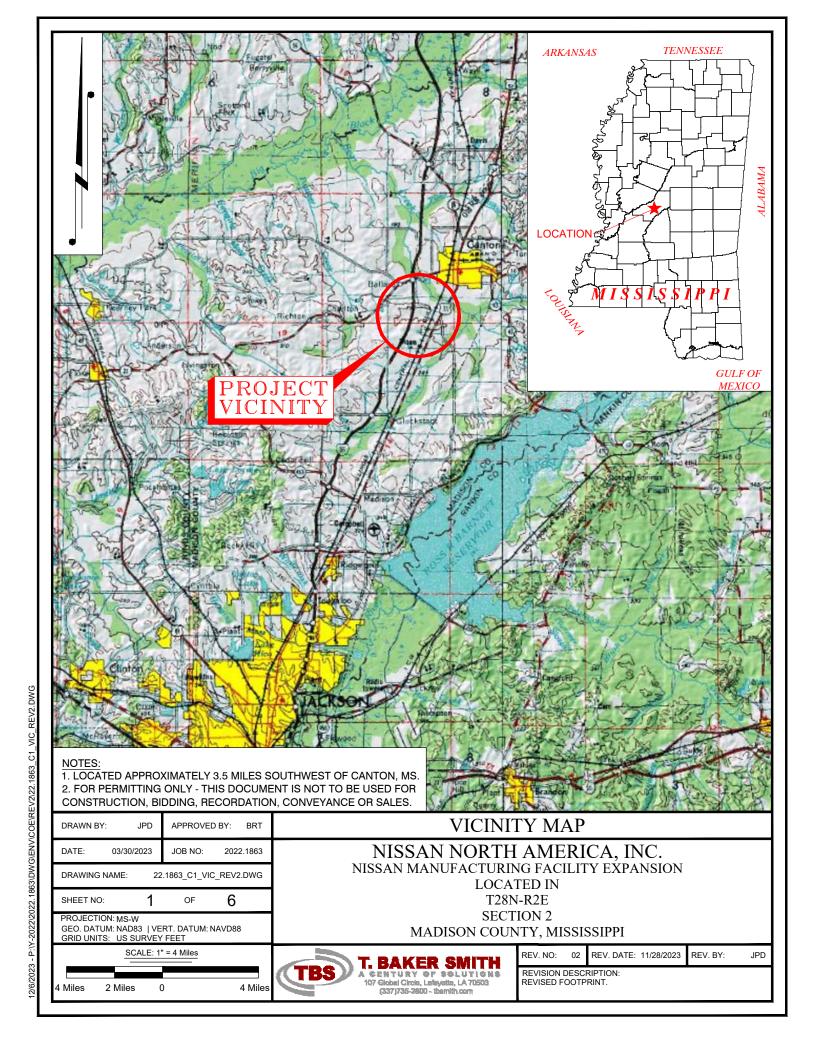
Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may 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.

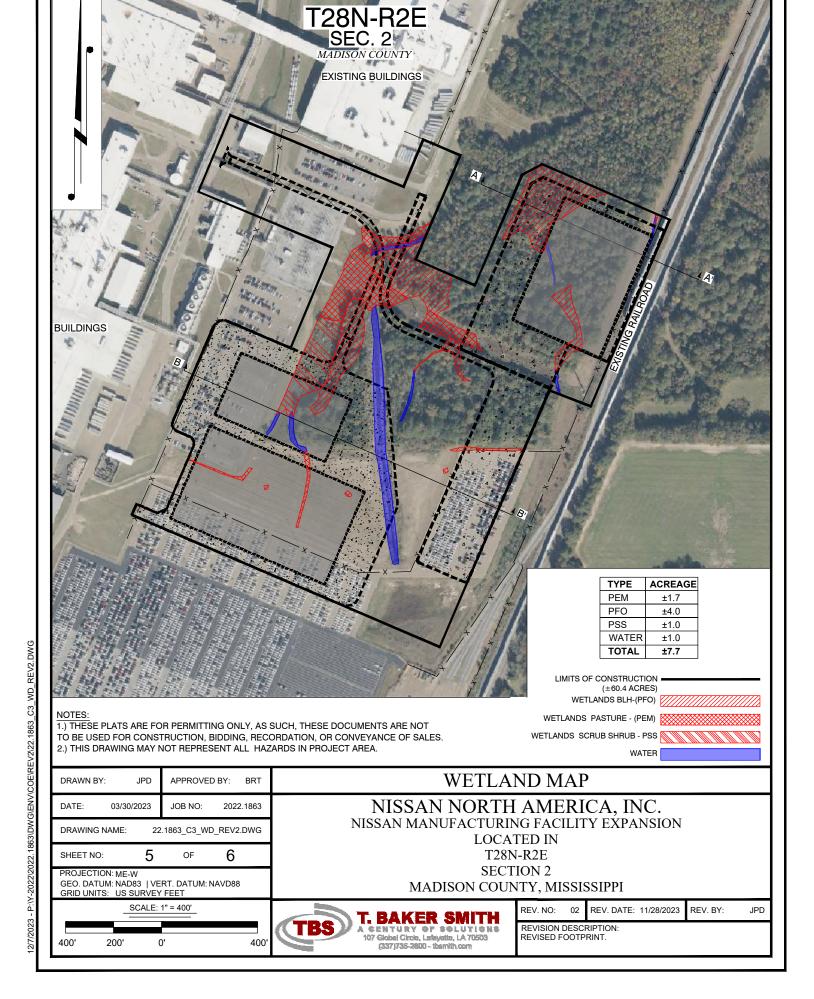
<u>Public Involvement:</u> The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to 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.

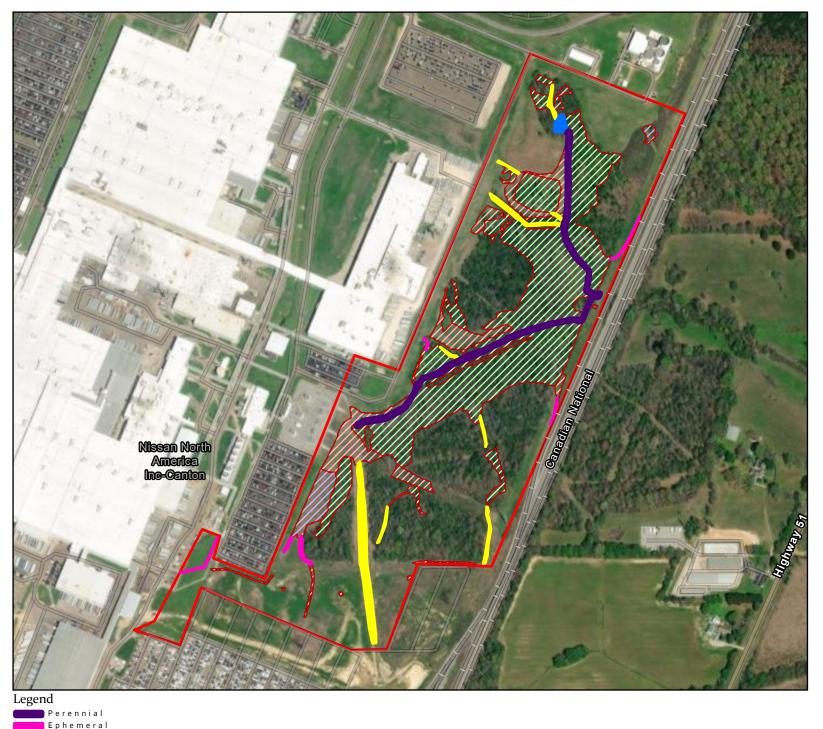
Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this 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, http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

Bryan Williamson Chief, Mississippi Branch Regulatory Division







Pond/OpenWater

Boundary

EmergentWetlands(4.2Acres)
ForestedWetlands(21Acres)
Scrub-ShrubWetlands(1.2Acres)



## 12 SEPTEMBER 2023 MVK-2023-281

T. Baker Smith, LLC Nissan Facility Expansion

Nissan North America Madison County, Mississippi

> Delineation Concurrence

Jeremy Stokes





