

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



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.: EVALUATOR: PHONE NO.: E-MAIL: DATE: EXPIRATION DATE: MVK-2020-279 Mr. Bryan Williamson (601) 631-5292 Bryan.Williamson@usace.army.mil June 5, 2020 June 20, 2020

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.

<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.

<u>Name of Applicant</u>: Ms. Andrea Taylor IBEX Midstream 12377 Merit Drive, Suite 1200 Dallas, Texas 75251 <u>Name of Agent</u>: Mr. Mathew Williams Land & Aquatic Resource Management, LLC 132 Lone Oak Street Benton, Louisiana 71006

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 17, T14N- R11W, Latitude 32.199336, Longitude -93.512730, within Watson Bayou-Bayou Pierre watershed part of the Bayou Pierre Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 11140206), Red River 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 to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of transporting the production of the associated wells to the pipeline system so that it can be transported to the appropriate facilities.

The proposed project would involve open cut trench excavation in order to install a 30-inch pipeline that would connect associated wells to transportation and storage facilities. The pipeline right-of-way would consist of a 50-foot permanent easement, 25-foot temporary workspace, drill boxes, additional temporary workspaces, and jumper pipeline. Upon the installation of the pipe, the excavated material would be backfilled into the trench and pre-construction contours would be restored. Any temporary fills would be removed immediately upon completion of construction and any exposed slopes or stream banks would be immediately stabilized.

Approximately 78 linear feet of an intermittent stream would be temporarily excavated and backfilled. Approximately 0.15 acres of wetlands would be permanently converted from palustrine forested, PFO wetlands to palustrine emergent, PEM wetlands. Approximately 0.38 acres of wetlands would be temporarily converted from PFO wetlands and the temporary placement of side cast fill material into 0.59 acres of PEM wetlands. All temporary fills would be placed in a manner that would not be eroded by expected high flows and would be removed entirely after construction is complete. All affected areas would be returned to pre-construction contours and any exposed stream banks would be immediately stabilized upon completion in order to minimize erosion.

The current conditions of the project area consists of a rural area of pastureland, agricultural, and forested lands. Adjacent oil and gas infrastructure is present in the forms of pipelines, well pads, access roads, and facilities.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by common goldenrod (*Solidago altissima*); bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), Louisiana vetch (*Vicia ludovicana*), eastern baccharis (*Baccharis halimifolia*), bristly buttercup (*Ranunculus hispidus*), curly dock (*Rumex crispus*), slender woodoats (*Chasmanthium laxum*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), common buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), peppervine (*Ampelopsis arborea*), and cat greenbier (*Smilax glauca*) loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), southern dewberry (*Rubus trivialis*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*). The soil mapping units identified in the Project area located in Red River Parish include Armistead clay, Buxin clay, Caspiana silty clay, Gallion silt loam, Gallion silty clay loam, and Moreland Clay.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from a commercial mitigation bank that services the project area.

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>, 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. An 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 or affected area.

Endangered Species: Based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on December 1, 2014 between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the proposed activity will have no effect on the Louisiana Pine snake. In regards to the Northern-long-eared Bat, it was determined that the proposed activity May Affect but take not prohibited under 4(d) rule.

<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 project is partially located within the 100 year floodplain.

<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>.

Thomas A. McCabe Chief, Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch





