



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District  
4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435  
[www.mvk.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil)



# Public Notice

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| APPLICATION NO.: | MVK-2020-55  |
| EVALUATOR:       | Ms. Samantha Thompson  |
| PHONE NO.:       | (601) 631-5478   |
| E-MAIL:          | <a href="mailto:Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil">Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil</a> |
| DATE:            | February 27, 2020  |
| EXPIRATION DATE: | March 18, 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.

**Law Requiring a Permit:** 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:**  
Ms. Catrina Shafer  
Aethon Energy Operating  
12377 Merit, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 72251

**Name of Agent:**  
Mr. Matthew Williams  
Land & Aquatic Resource  
Management, LLC  
132 Lone Oak Street  
Benton, Louisiana 71006

**Location of Work:** Section 11, T15N-R12W, Latitude 32.29708, Longitude -93.563308, within Lower Red-Ouachita Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 11140206), Caddo 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 constructing a well pad.

Aethon proposes to construct Cupples 11 & 12-1 HC, an irregular shaped 6.15 acre well pad, for the purpose of drilling and producing three natural gas wells. No access road will be required for the proposed project.

The vegetation within the project area is currently dominated by bermudagrass, marsh elder, buttercup, curly dock, white clover, and spike rush. Soils within the project site consists of Armistead clay and Moreland clay.

Approximately 0.234 acre of emergent wetlands would be permanently impacted by the proposed project. Since the proposed project would include a reserve pit instead of a closed-loop drilling mud system, an evaluation under a Standard Permit is required.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through purchasing mitigation credits from a USACE approved mitigation bank within the project's 8-digit HUC service 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.

**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 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. The permit area is likely to yield resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of historic places. An investigation for the presence of potentially eligible historic properties is justified.

**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 would have no effect on the Northern long-eared bat, red-cockaded woodpecker, and Earth fruit, and not likely to adversely affect the pallid sturgeon and interior least-tern.

**Floodplain:** 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 located within the 100 year floodplain.

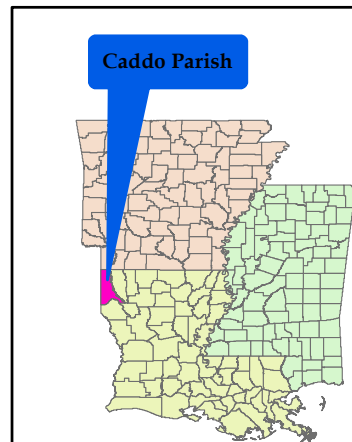
**Evaluation Factors:** The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which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

**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>.

**Thomas A. McCabe  
Chief, Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch**



February 19, 2020  
**MVK-2020-55**  
Applicant:  
Aethon Entergy Operating, LLC  
Proposed Work:  
Drill Site Development  
Location:  
Sections 17, T14N-R11W  
Caspiana, Quadrangle  
Caddo Parish, LA  
Map Background:  
NAIP Aerial (2015)  
**Preliminary  
Jurisdictional Determination**  
Prepared by:  
Robert G. Ulmer, Jr.

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**Regulatory Branch**  
**Enforcement Section**

0 110 220  
Feet

This block contains the US Army Corps of Engineers logo, a compass rose, and a scale bar. The scale bar is marked with 0, 110, and 220 feet.



