

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



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2016-530

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Samantha Thompson

PHONE NO.:

(601) 631-5478

E-MAIL:

Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil

DATE:

October 31, 2019

EXPIRATION DATE:

November 20, 2019

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 OD F, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39226 2261, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

<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:

Name of Agent:

Kevin Hahn

Mr. Hugh M. Dowling

Flowood Drive Properties

Dowling Environmental Incorporated

550 Highway 49 South

Post Office Box 70181

Jackson, Mississippi 39288

Mobile. Alabama 36607

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 35, T5N, R1E, Latitude 32.237534, Longitude -90.159676, within Middle Pearl-Strong Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC: 03180002), Rankin County, Mississippi.

<u>Description of Work</u>: (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 waters of the United States for the expansion of Southern State Utility Trailers, Incorporated and for the relocation of its sister company H&P Leasing, Incorporated. The proposed project would allow the two companies to occupy contiguous properties.

The expansion would support a 14,000 square foot parts and service facility with a concrete apron for increased parking capacity and mobility of large commercial trucks and trailers. Also, there would be two culverted ditch crossings which are 30 feet X 40 feet wide to connect the two companies. Substantial wetland acreage along both Richland Creek and Squirrel Branch will remain undisturbed.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by blackgum, green ash, common rush, water oak, smartweed and lizard tail. Soils within the project site consist of Tippah silt loam and Leverett silt loam.

The total project area is approximately 131 acres. Approximately 12.95 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and 1,268 linear feet of jurisdictional stream would be permanently impacted by the project.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from a USACE approved mitigation bank.

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. 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 or affected area.

Endangered Species: Utilizing the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on June 6, 2017 between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, our initial finding is that the proposed project would not affect the Northern long-eared bat, Ringed-map turtle, Gulf sturgeon, and Wood stork.

<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. Portions of the project are 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.

<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.

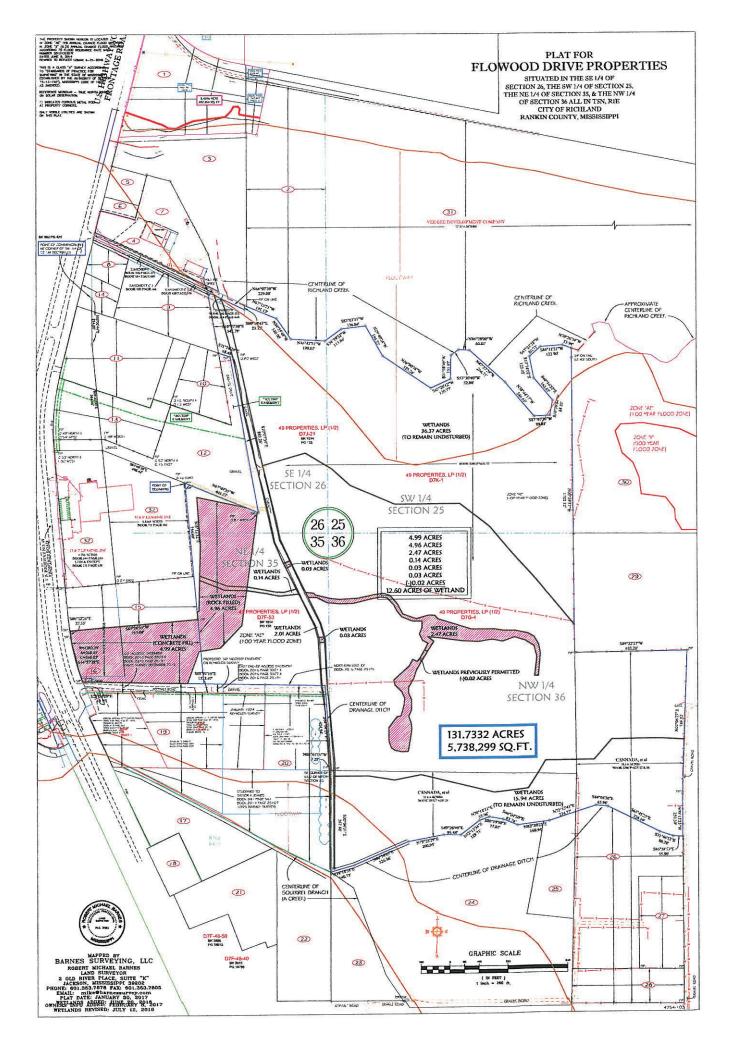
Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this 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.

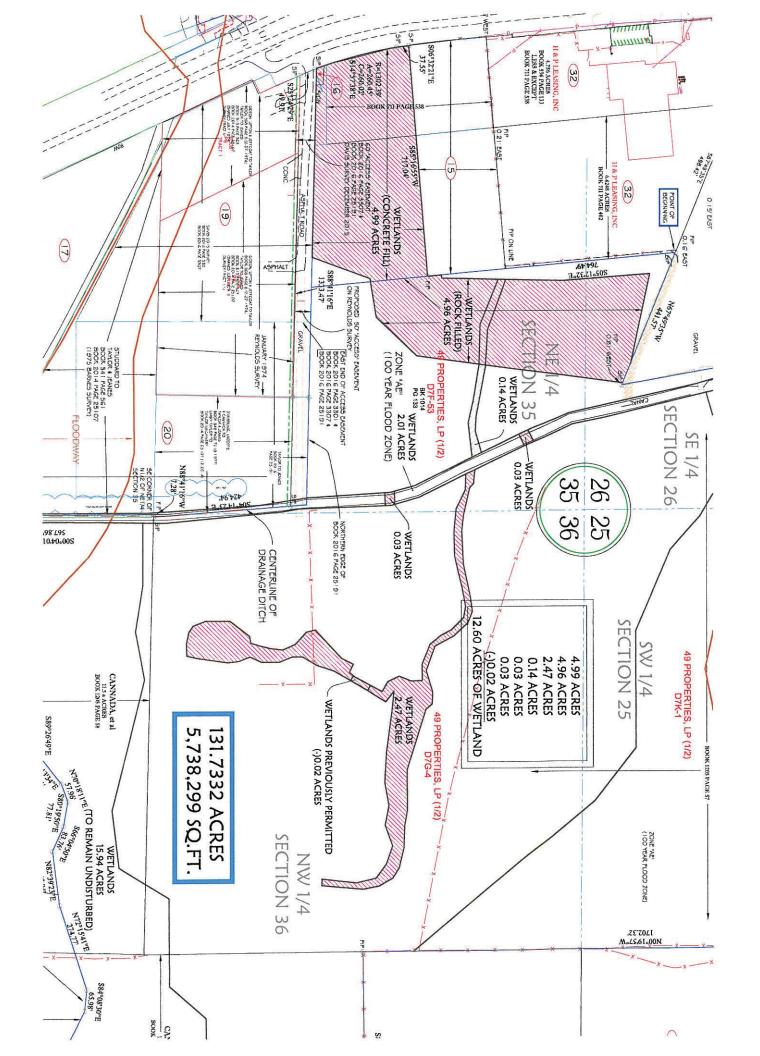
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

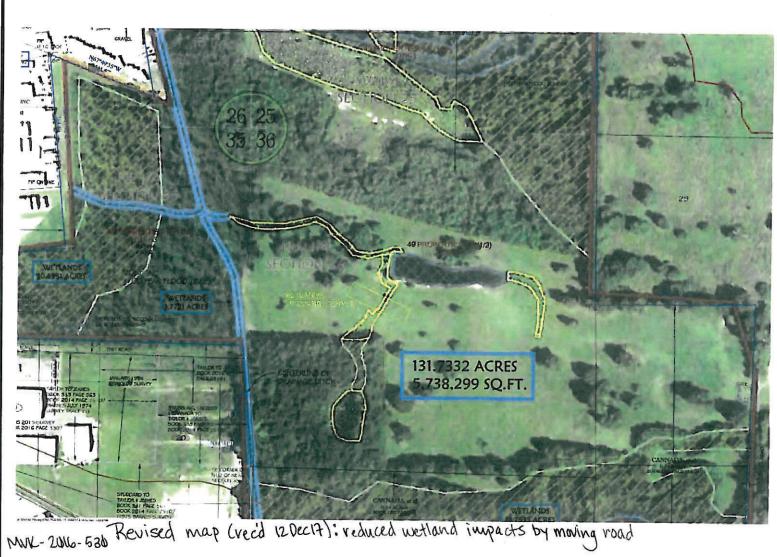
Samantha Thompson

Chief, Evaluation Section

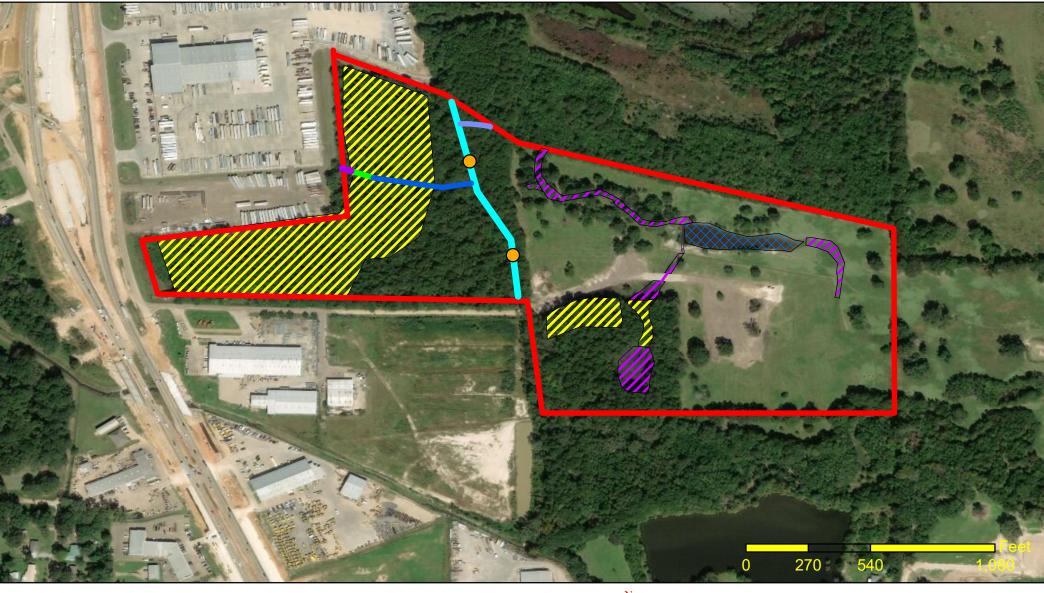
Regulatory Branch



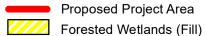




Project Site, Rankin County, MS (PJD)



Legend



Emergent Wetlands (Fill)

Open Water (Fill)

Proposed Culverted Crossing (Fill)



Jurisdictional Ditch (Fill) - Non-RPW

Wetland Drain / Time

Wetland Drain (Fill)

Ephemeral Drain (Fill) Non-RPW



Regulatory **Branch**

Enforcement Section

Enclosure 1

October 9, 2019

Permit Required

Aerial Imagery: ESRI World Imagery

MVK-2016-530

GPS coordinates: 32.238153, -90.158581

Dowling Environmental Services Richland, Mississippi Request for Wetland Determination Rankin County, MS