



State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 7, 2025

Mr. Chris Racca
Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc.
35 Shieldsboro Road
Sibley, Mississippi 39165

Dear Mr. Racca:

Re: Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc.
Plantation Oaks Landfill
Adams County
COE No. MVK-2022-431
WQC No. WQC2022037

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) issues this Certification, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing, to Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc., an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc.: Project to expand the sedimentation capacity and increase settling efficiency with a new two-pond design. The existing sedimentation pond will be expanded and improved to allow for future maintenance, while a new second pond is proposed to allow for additional sediment capture capacity and stormwater control. Improvements to the existing sedimentation pond will include expanded levee footprints to allow for access around the perimeter of the pond, implementation of a new center levee with culverts to allow for future maintenance and cleanouts, installation of a new flocculant station for water treatment, and installation of a new improved overflow structure with filter capability. The new overflow structure will convey runoff into the new sedimentation pond that is proposed to be constructed downgradient of the existing pond location. The project site

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would encompass approximately 20.24 acres. To complete the planned sedimentation pond expansion, it is proposed that approximately 1.19 acres of emergent wetlands and 0.09 acres of forested wetlands would be filled. The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of wetland functions through the purchase of credits from a USACE approved mitigation bank that services the project's 8-digit HUC (08060205) service area [MVK-2022-431; WQC No. WQC2022037].

MDEQ certifies that the above-described activity will be in compliance with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Section 49-17-29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, if the applicant complies with the following conditions:

1. Appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be properly installed and maintained to prevent the movement of sediment off-site and into adjacent drainage areas and/or waters. Special care shall be taken prior to and during construction to prevent the movement of sediment into adjacent wetland areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately. (Statement F) (11 Miss. Admin Code Pt. 6m R. 1.1.1.B.)
2. Compliance with the NPDES permit, the Pretreatment Permit, the Solid Waste Permit, and the Title V Operating Permit shall be maintained. (Statement G) (11 Miss. Admin Code Pt. 6, R. 1.3.4.B.)
3. Mitigation for the impacts of 0.81 acres of emergent wetlands, 0.38 acres of emergent wetlands, and 0.09 acres of forested wetlands shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The number of credits must be in accordance with banking prospectus and be based upon that required for impacting the waters of the site. Written verification of credit purchase must be provided to MDEQ prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland or stream areas. (Statement E) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.3.4.A.(2))
4. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units. (Statement A) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R.2.2.A.(3))
5. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse. (Statement A) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 2.2.A.(3))

As part of the Scope of Review for Application Decisions, 11 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 6, Rule 1.3.4(B), the above conditions are necessary for MDEQ to ensure that appropriate measures will be taken to eliminate unreasonable degradation and irreparable harm to waters of the State, such that the activity will not meet the criteria for denial:

- (A) The proposed activity permanently alters the aquatic ecosystem such that water quality criteria are violated and/or it no longer supports its existing or classified uses. An example is the channelization of streams.
- (B) There is a feasible alternative to the activity which reduces adverse consequences on water quality and classified or existing uses of waters of the State.
- (C) The proposed activity adversely impacts waters containing State or federally recognized threatened or endangered species.
- (D) The proposed activity adversely impacts a special or unique aquatic habitat, such as National or State Wild and Scenic Rivers and/or State Outstanding Resource Waters.
- (E) The proposed activity in conjunction with other activities may result in adverse cumulative impacts.
- (F) Nonpoint source/storm water management practices necessary to protect water quality have not been proposed.
- (G) Denial of wastewater permits and/or approvals by the State with regard to the proposed activities.
- (H) The proposed activity results in significant environmental impacts which may adversely impact water quality.

MDEQ also certifies that there are no limitations under Section 302 nor standards under Sections 306 and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which are applicable to the applicant's above-described activity.

This certification is valid for the project as proposed. Any deviations without proper modifications and/or approvals may result in a violation of the 401 Water Quality Certification. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Barefoot.

Sincerely,



Becky Simonson
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

cc: Samantha Thompson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District
Jamie Becker, Environmental Protection Agency
Elliot Smith, Headwaters Inc.
Charity Rockingham, MDEQ – Waste Division