



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 13, 2019

Certified Mail No. 7019 1120 0000 4787 9123

Mr. Lamar Rutland, Director of Engineering
City of Hattiesburg
200 Forrest St.
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

Dear Mr. Lamar Rutland:

Re: Hattiesburg, City of, Hall
Avenue Improvements
Forrest County
COE No. SAM201900547AMR
WQC No. WQC2019059

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Office of Pollution Control (OPC) issues this Certification; after public notice and opportunity for public hearing, City of Hattiesburg, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Hattiesburg, City of, Hall Avenue Improvements: The applicant proposes to fill 1.01 acres of wetlands and 267.56 linear feet of tributaries to improve and extend Hall Avenue in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The proposed Hall Avenue improvements would connect two existing segments of Hall Avenue. The impacts will include fill in 0.842 acres of low quality herbaceous and shrub wetlands and 0.174 acres of low quality forested wetlands. The project would include fill of 140.26 linear feet of intermittent stream. The ditch and stream impacts would include installation of pipes and a culvert to maintain flow. An additional 0.842 acres of wetlands would be affected by clearing activities. The applicant proposes to purchase wetland and stream credits from an approved mitigation banks within the 03170005 HUC to compensate for the unavoidable loss of aquatic functions. [SAM201900547AMR, WQC2019059].

The Office of Pollution Control 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. All fill material and excavation areas shall have side slopes of at least 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) and shall be immediately seeded, stabilized and maintained.
2. Appropriate best management practices (BMPs) shall be properly installed and maintained to prevent the movement of sediment off-site and into adjacent drainage areas. Special care shall be taken prior to and during construction to prevent the movement of sediment into adjacent avoided wetland areas. In the event of any BMP failure, corrective actions shall be taken immediately.
3. The excavated material shall be disposed in a contained upland disposal site and stabilized to prevent movement of sediment into adjacent drainage areas.
4. For projects greater than five acres of total ground disturbances including clearing, grading, excavating or other construction activities, the applicant shall obtain the necessary coverage under the State of Mississippi's Large Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit. No construction activities shall begin until the necessary approvals and/or permits have been obtained.
5. The final post-construction Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) submitted by Neel-Schaffer, Inc. dated October, 2019 and received by MDEQ on Nov 07, 2019 shall be implemented concurrent with project constructed and maintained as proposed.
6. Mitigation for the impact of 0.842 acres of jurisdiction wetlands and the impact of 140.26 linear feet of intermittent stream associated with the improvements shall be provided by the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. Written verification of the final purchase must be provided to the Office of Pollution Control prior to the commencement of any work in the wetland areas.
7. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
8. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

The Office of Pollution Control 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 Cevion Span.

Sincerely,



Krystal Rudolph, P.E., BCEE
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

KR: cs

cc: Angela Rangel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Mobile District
Bart Pittman, Pittman Environmental Services, LLC
Gregory Christodoulou, Department of Marine Resources
Paul Necaie, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency