

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TATE REEVES GOVERNOR MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

December 16, 2024

Ms. Tina Nations Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality 515 E Amite Street Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Ms. Nations:

Re: MDEQ - West Hancock County Nearshore Habitat Restoration Hancock County COE No. SAM-2024-00657 WQC No. WQC2024064

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality's Office of Pollution Control (OPC) has reviewed the request for Section 401 Water Quality Certification received on October 22, 2024, for the MDEQ West Hancock County Nearshore Habitat Restoration project to be located in Hancock County, Mississippi.

In accordance with 40 CFR §121.7(f), the OPC, as the certifying authority, expressly waives its authority to act on the Section 401 Water Quality Certification request for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Barefoot.

Sincerely,

Becky Simonson

Becky Simonson Chief, Environmental Permits Division

cc: Amiee Smith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District Willa Brandley, Department of Marine Resources Jamie Becker, Environmental Protection Agency Dain Gillen, P.E., Neel Schaffer