



# State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES  
Governor

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 9, 2026

Mr. Jeremy Harrison  
City of Gulfport  
4050 Hewes Avenue  
Gulfport, MS 39507  
228-868-5740  
jharrison@gulfport-ms.gov

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Re: City of Gulfport  
Courthouse Road East Jetty Expansion  
Harrison County  
COE No. SAM-2025-01004-MJF  
WQC No. WQC2026005

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 the City of Gulfport, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

City of Gulfport – Courthouse Road East Jetty Extension: Proposed project to extend the east jetty in the Mississippi Sound in Gulfport, Mississippi. The project will include extending and reconfiguring the existing jetty to reduce or prevent sediment accumulation in the area of the boat launch and pier and therefore provide safer navigation for boaters. The existing jetty will be extended approximately 430 feet with a hook to the west; 175 feet of the existing jetty will have an overlay of riprap to tie into the extension with 100 feet of the riprap overlay resulting in fill impacts. This will result in a total of 530 feet of impacts and approximately 8,900 cubic yards of fill. The project also includes three channel markers and one navigational beacon to be placed around the extension for boaters [SAM-2025-01004-MJF; WQC2026005].

OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL  
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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. Best management practices should be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredge and spoil disposal site. The disposal sites shall be constructed and maintained in a manner that minimizes the discharge of turbid waters into waters of the State. Best management practices should include, but not limited to, the use of staged construction and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. (Statement F) (11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 6, R. 1.1.1.B.)
2. 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))
3. 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 MEQ 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: Maryellen Farmer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District  
Katie Nelson, Department of Marine Resources  
Jamie Becker, Environmental Protection Agency  
Danielle Upshaw, Michael Baker International