



State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 5, 2026

Mr. Ryan B. Crane
Chief, Planning and Environmental Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District
100 Canal Street
Mobile, AL 36603

Dear Mr. Crane:

Re: USACE, Mobile District,
Maintenance Dredging,
Pascagoula Harbor Navigation Project
Jackson County
COE No. FP26-PA01-08
WQC No. WQC2017063

The Department of Environmental Quality understands the need for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification - Modification to the above referenced project. This modification would include revising the project description as follows:

USACE, Mobile District, Maintenance Dredging, Pascagoula Harbor Navigation Project: The permittee proposes to perform maintenance dredging and in-channel placement activities associated with the federally authorized Pascagoula Harbor (Horn Island Pass portion) navigation project. The proposed action includes modifying the existing project to place material dredged from the tip of Horn Island Pass (Station 258+00 to Station 266+00) into the deep scour hole within the channel north of the cut. It consists of an approximately 18-acre polygon inside a large scour hole that has formed under existing currents and wave energy in the area. The average width is approximately 500 feet, and the average depth is approximately 60 feet. It is estimated that between 200,000 and 300,000 cubic yards of material will be excavated and placed in the scoured area within the channel. Other maintenance-dredged material from Pascagoula Harbor would continue to be placed in previously approved ocean dredged material disposal sites (ODMDS), open-water, and upland disposal sites. The scour hole is located entirely within the existing authorized navigation channel and within the previously analyzed and

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previously disturbed project footprint; no new impact areas or new types of activities are proposed. The dredged material would be placed into the site via pipeline from a hydraulic cutterhead dredge.

Please be advised the conditions of the Section 401 Water Quality Certification are unchanged. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Carrie Barefoot at (601) 961-5249.

Sincerely,



Becky Simonson
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

cc: Brian McPherson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District