

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

December 16, 2019

United States Army  
Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Attn: Regulatory Branch  
7400 Leake Ave.  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-3651

Project Manager:  
Carrie Schott  
(504) 862-1153  
[Carrie.G.Schott@usace.army.mil](mailto:Carrie.G.Schott@usace.army.mil)  
Application #: MVN-1997-03894-WS

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: ☒ Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or ☐ Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

## **DECOMMISSIONING IN-PLACE A PIPELINE WITHIN THE GULF OF MEXICO NEAR TERREBONNE PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Williams Field Services, c/o Ms. Cathy Thornton, 2800 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 900, Houston, TX 77056.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** In the Gulf of Mexico, crossing the Gulf Safety Fairway in Ewing Bank Blocks 953 and 997, approximately 87 miles southerly from Timbalier Island, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Location: Latitude: 27°46'46.73"N/ Longitude: -90°31'08.67" W, Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090302- Terrebonne Bay.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The project involves the abandonment and decommissioning of 36.22 miles of 10 inch natural gas line in place. The scope involves the pipeline being flushed and filled with seawater. Additionally, the pipeline ends will be cut and buried. The pipeline is located within water depths ranging from 464 to 2590 feet. It is anticipated that there are no temporary or permanent impacts to water bottoms.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close **15 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit must be submitted so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH**. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing, faxing, or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

### **Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species. Based on the South Louisiana Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES), as signed on October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the project would have no effect to any listed species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal may result in the destruction or alteration of N/A acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

You are invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Darrell S. Barbara  
Chief, Western Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

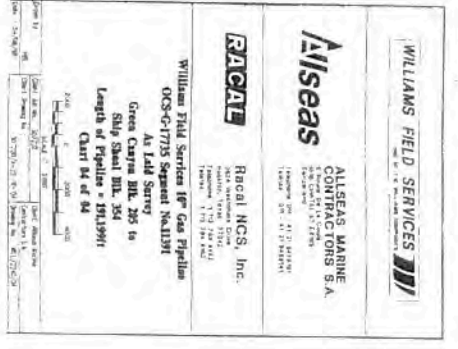
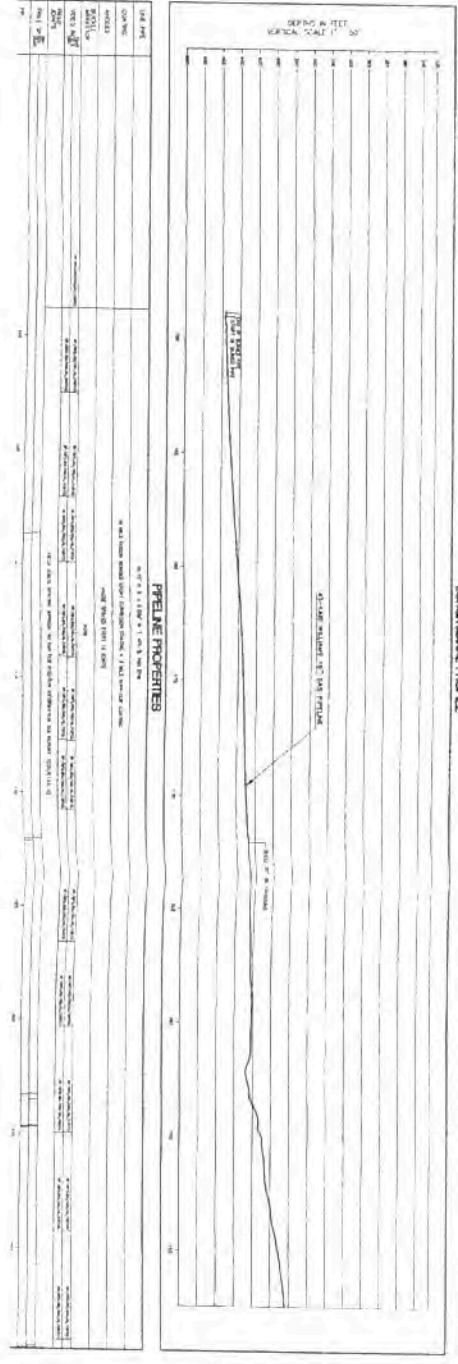
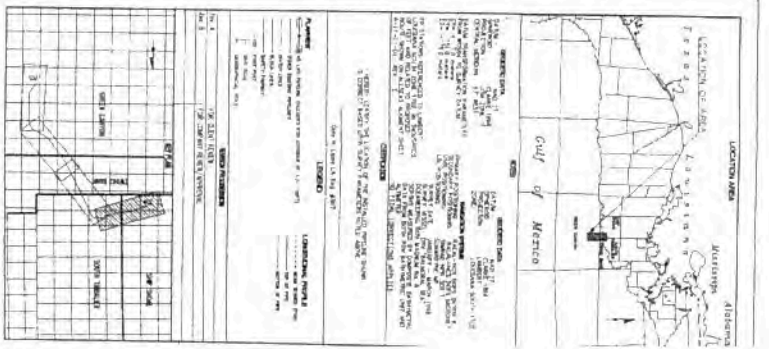
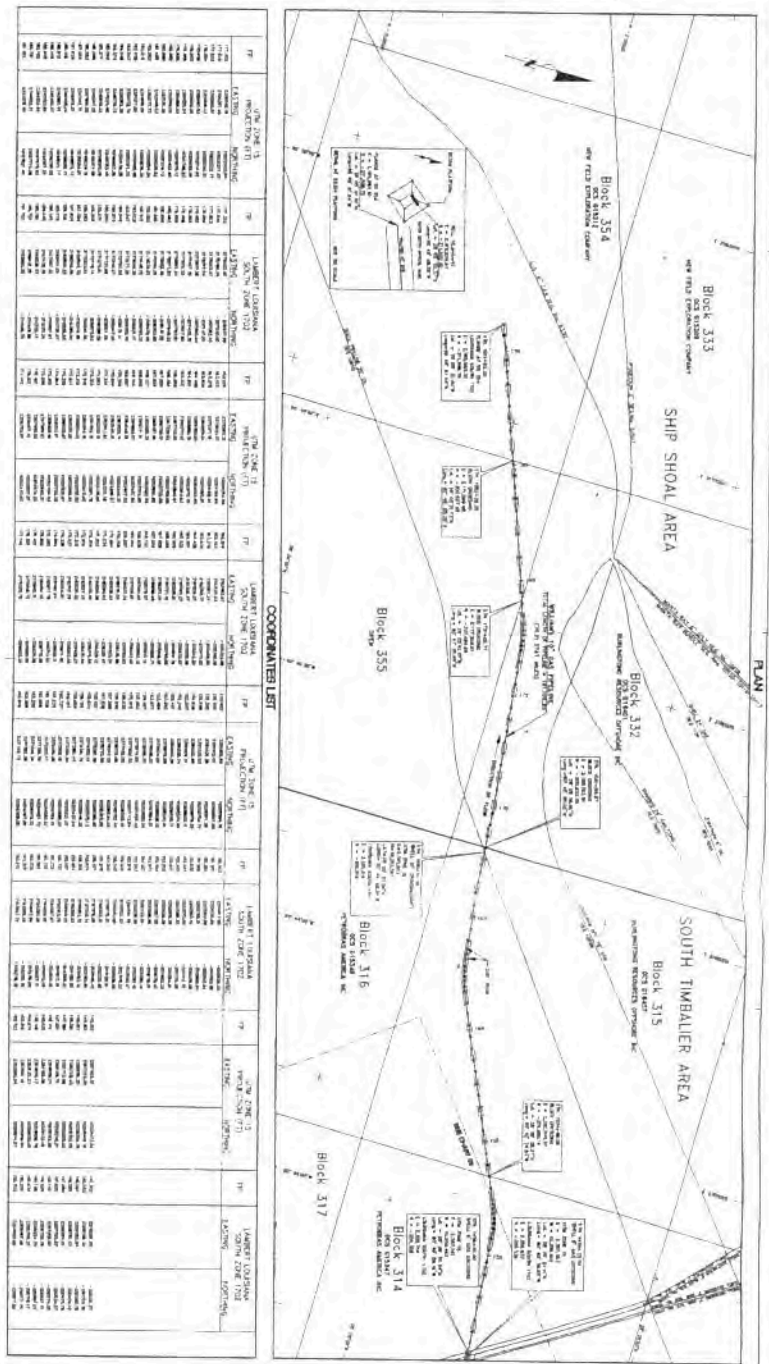
Enclosure











**WILLIAMS FIELD SERVICES**

**Alseas**

**RACAL**

William Field Services for Gas Pipelines  
 OCS-01715 Segment NALIM  
 At 144 Survey  
 Ship Shoal Bld. 34  
 Length of Pipeline = 10,190ft  
 Cdn H of M