# **JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**

June 25, 2018

United States Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Regulatory Branch 7400 Leake Avenue New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

(504) 862-2675
Project Manager
Jamie Crowe
Jamie.M.Crowe@usace.army.mil
Permit Application Number
MVN 1997-00832 CO

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Water Permits Division
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(225) 219-3225 Project Manager Elizabeth Hill

WQC Application Number WQC 180618-01

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:
[X] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

## MAINTENANCE DREDGING IN MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN ASCENSION PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT**: CF Industries Nitrogen, LLC, c/o Matrix New World Engineering, 4451 Bluebonnet Boulevard, suite E, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

**LOCATION OF WORK**: Within the Mississippi River Basin, in the Lower Mississippi River – Baton Rouge hydrologic unit (HUC 08070100), in the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 173.5, near Donaldsonville, Louisiana, in Ascension Parish.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant proposes to modify the dredge area currently authorized by permit dated September 3, 1965, and subsequent modifications dated August 25, 2006, and May 1, 2012. The dredge channel will be increased by approximately 0.275 acre. Currently, restrictions have been placed on some ships leaving the applicant's facility. It is anticipated that maintaining the additional area to a depth of -45 feet NGVD will allow these restrictions to be lifted. A total of 300,000 cubic yards of accumulated river silt will be removed during the routine maintenance dredging event and deposited in the Mississippi River below the -55' contour. All work will take place from the waterway from a hydraulic dredge. No vegetated wetlands will be impacted by the proposed work.

According to the applicant, they have designed the proposed additional dredge area to minimize environmental impacts to the maximum extent practicable. The maximum width of the proposed dredge area is 52 feet; the maximum length of the proposed dredge area is 469 feet. This area represents the smallest addition of the previous authorized channel required to lift restrictions on vessel traffic from the docks. Additionally, all dredged material will be placed below the -55' contour and will not shoal the navigation channel of the Mississippi River.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close 30 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 and/or this WQC request and must be mailed 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 mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH Letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

## **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 notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any species, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project is located in waters known to be utilized by the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) and determined that the proposed activity is not likely to adversely affect the species, provided the following recommendations are included in the authorization: 1) the cutterhead shall remain completely buried in the bottom material during dredging operations. If pumping water through the cutterhead is necessary to dislodge material or to clean the pumps or cutterhead, etc., the pumping rate should be reduced to the lowest rate possible until the cutterhead is at mid-depth, where the pumping rate can then be increased; 2) during dredging, the pumping rates shall be reduced to the slowest speed feasible while the cutterhead is descending to the channel Bottom. No other known species will be impacted by this project. These determinations are based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species of Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of <u>n/a acres</u> 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.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, before a permit is issued.

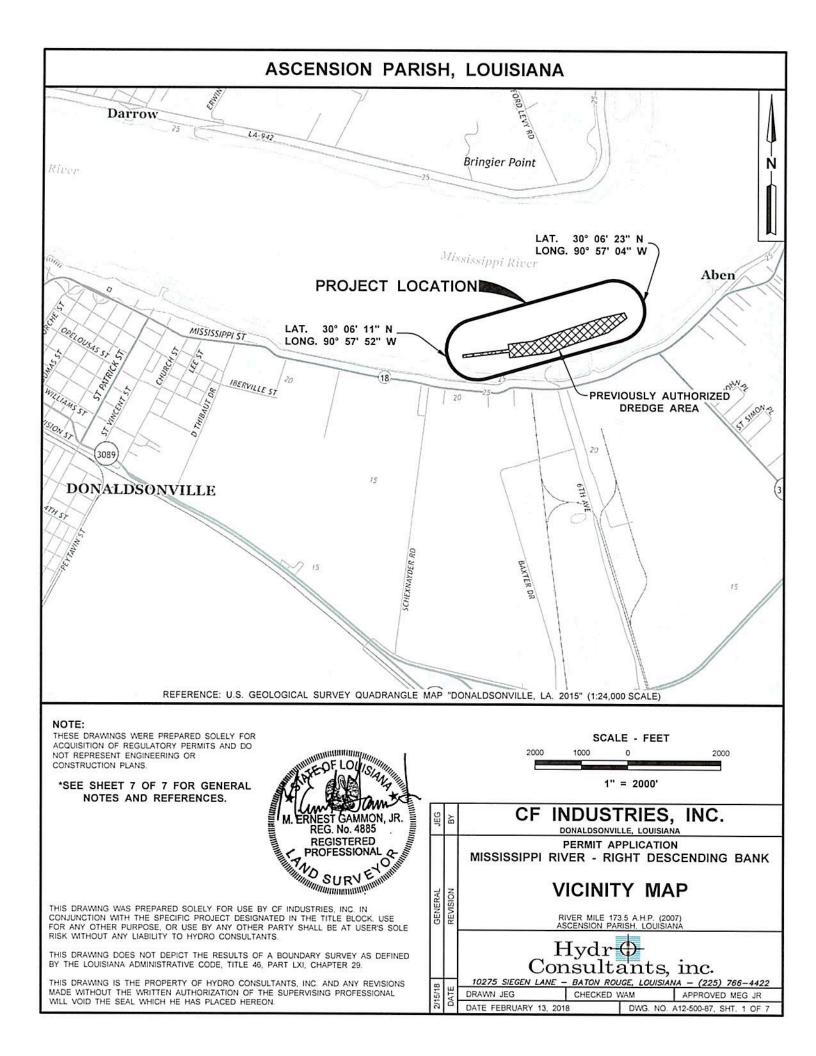
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public

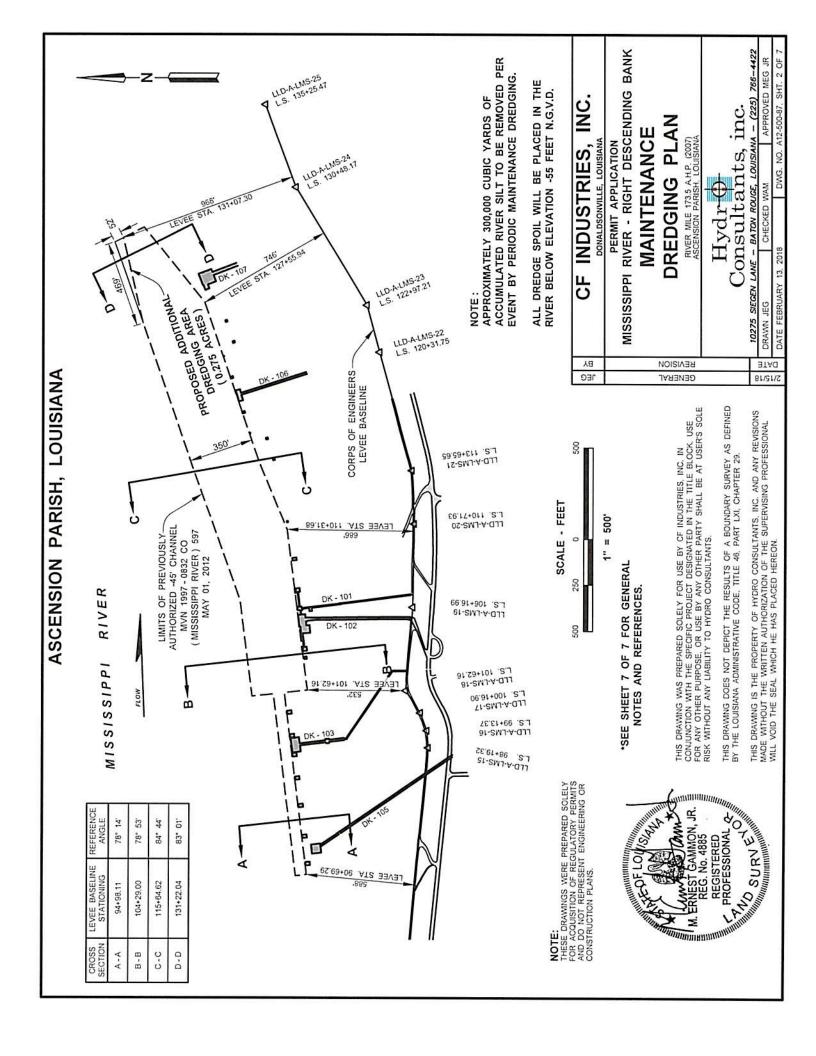
hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

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John M. Herman Chief, Central Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch

Enclosure





## MISSISSIPPI RIVER - RIGHT DESCENDING BANK 10275 SIEGEN LANE — BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA — (225) 766-4422 ELEVATION - FEET, N.G.V.D. APPROVED MEG JR DWG. NO. A12-500-87, SHT. 3 OF 50 40 20 SEE SHEET 7 OF 7 FOR GENERAL NC. inc RIVERWARD NOTES AND REFERENCES. SECTION A - A RIVER MILE 173.5 A.H.P. (2007) ASCENSION PARISH, LOUISIANA DONALDSONVILLE, LOUISIANA PERMIT APPLICATION INDUSTRIES, Consultants, 1200 -LOW WATER REFERENCE PLANE ( +1' N.G.V.D.) CHECKED WAM $\operatorname{Hydr}$ DATE FEBRUARY 13, 2018 1100 냥 DISTANCE IN FEET BY HORIZONTAL MEASUREMENT FROM U.S.A.C.E. LEVEE BASELINE DRAWN JEG **DATE** REVISION ВA 81/91/2 GENERAL 1EC ASCENSION PARISH, LOUISIANA EXISTING -20' DREDGING LIMIT AUTHORIZED UNDER PERMIT NO. MVN 1997 - 0832 CO (MISSISPIP RIVER) 597 DATED MAY 01, 2012 THIS DRAWING DOES NOT DEPICT THE RESULTS OF A BOUNDARY SURVEY AS DEFINED BY THE LOUISIANA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TITLE 46, PART LXI, CHAPTER 29. THIS DRAWING WAS PREPARED SOLELY FOR USE BY CF INDUSTRIES, INC. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SPECIAL PESIGNATED IN THE TITLE BLOCK. USE FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE. OR USE BY ANY OTHER PARTY SHALL BE AT USER'S SOLE RISK WITHOUT ANY LABILITY TO HYDRO CONSULTANTS. THIS DRAWING IS THE PROPERTY OF HYDRO CONSULTANTS, INC. AND ANY REVISIONS MADE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF THE SUPERVISING PROFESSIONAL WILL VOID THE SEAL WHICH HE HAS PLACED HEREON. SECTION A - A 1" = 100' HORIZONTAL 1" = 20' VERTICAL -GROUND PROFILE AUGUST 22 - 23, 2017 SCALES: RIVERWARD FACE OF DOCK LANDWARD FACE OF DOCK AN, JR. 1885 FISS. ANOFESSIONAL QUINTINGUININGUI NOTE: THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED SOLELY TOR ACQUISITION OF REGULATORY PERMITS AND DO NOT REPRESENT ENGINEERING OR CONSTRUCTION PLANS. 200 LANDWARD ATTIMETER THE PARTY OF THE PART 000 A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE 9 20 0 -20 ELEVATION - FEET, N.G.V.D.

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10275 SIEGEN LANE – BATON ROUGE, LOUISIÁNA – (225) 766-4422 DWG. NO. A12-500-87, SHT. 6 OF 7 APPROVED MEG JR DATE FEBRUARY 13, 2018 2/15/18

# ASCENSION PARISH, LOUISIANA

VERTICAL DATUM IS NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM (N.G.V.D.) BASED ON CF NDUSTRIES, INC. DOCK GAGE COORDINATES AND NORTH ARROW REFER TO THE LOUISIANA STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, SOUTH ZONE (NAD 83) BASED ON DIFFERENTIAL GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (DGPS) TIES

DISTANCES ARE IN FEET BY HORIZONTAL MEASUREMENT

PARISH INFORMATION TAKEN FROM REFERENCED OF INDUSTRIES, INC. DRAWING.

LIMITS OF DREDGING BASED ON GRADE LINES FURNISHED BY CF INDUSTRIES, INC.

RIVER MILE SCALED FROM REFERENCED CORPS OF ENGINEERS NAVIGATION BOOK

LEVEE BASELINE INFORMATION IS BASED ON REFERENCED CORPS OF ENGINEERS TRAVERSE COMPUTATIONS

SURVEY PARTY CHIEF: TIM WILLIS

DATES OF SURVEY: AUGUST 22 - 23, 2017.

N.G.V.D. ON 8/22/17. WATER SURFACE ELEVATION = 9.7"

N.G.V.D. ON 8/23/17. 9.3

NOTE:
THESE DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED SOLELY
TOR ACQUISITION OF REGULATORY PERMITS
AND DO NOT REPRESENT ENGINEERING OR
CONSTRUCTION PLANS.



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# REFERENCES:

HYDRO FIELD BOOK NO. 601 & 783

HYDRO SOUNDING CHARTS DATED AUGUST 22 - 23, 2017.

HYDRO CONSULTANTS DRAWINGS: A12-500-18 DATED MARCH 7, 2006 E12-500-82 DATED SEPT. 8, 2017

E12-500-83 DATED SEPT. 8, 2017

CF INDUSTRIES, INC. DRAWING ENTITLED "PROPERTY BOUNDARY SURVEY OF THE CF INDUSTRIES, INC. PROPERTY" DATED JANUARY 11, 1996.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 2007 MISSISSIPPI RIVER NAVIGATION BOOK, MAP NO. 77. CORPS OF ENGINEERS NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT TRAVERSE COMPUTATIONS JOB NO. LLD001 DATED OCTOBER 20, 2004.

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PERMIT APPLICATION MISSISSIPPI RIVER - RIGHT DESCENDING BANK DONALDSONVILLE, LOUISIANA

# NOTES AND REFERENCES

REVISION

CENERAL

RIVER MILE 173.5 A.H.P. (2007) ASCENSION PARISH, LOUISIANA



	2/15/18		
Consultants, inc.	10275 SIEGEN LANE -	DRAWN JEG	DATE FEBRUARY 13, 2018
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	10275 SIEGEN LANE — BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA — (225) 766—4422	APPROVED MEG JR	DWG. NO. A12-500-87, SHT. 7 OF 7