

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P.O. BOX 60267 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

June 24, 2013

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF Operations Division Western Evaluation Section

Project Manager: John C. Price, (504) 862-2272, john.c.price@usace.army.mil

Subject: MVN-2013-01418-WNN

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 U.S.C. 403); and/or [] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 U.S.C. 1344).

PIPELINE IN THE SABINE PASS SAFETY FAIRWAY IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

<u>Name of Applicant</u>: Tarpon Operating & Development, LLC, c/o J. Connor Consulting, Inc., 16225 Park Ten Place, Suite 700, Houston, Texas 77084

<u>Location of Work</u>: Gulf of Mexico, Outer Continental Shelf, Sabine Pass Safety Fairway, West Cameron Blocks 480 and 487, POB: Lat 28.500152°, Lon -93.150148°, POE: Lat 28.516917°, Lon -93.166811°, approximately 77 nautical miles south of Cameron, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

<u>Character of Work</u>: Install, maintain, and operate approximately 9,933 linear feet of 4.5-inch diameter gas/condensate pipeline from an existing West Cameron 487 "B" production platform to a subsea tie-in on an existing Texas Eastern Transmission, LP 16-inch diameter pipeline, all for the transportation of hydrocarbon resources. A portion of the pipeline will lie within the Sabine Pass Safety Fairway in West Cameron Block 480. The water depth along the proposed pipeline ranges from 138-feet to 144-feet; therefore the pipeline will be laid on the seafloor.

Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons therefore, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit request. The comment period will close 15 days from the date of this public notice advertisement. Letters must reference the applicant's name and the subject number, and be mailed to the letterhead address so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the 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.

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. As the proposed structure would be installed on lands which are under mineral lease from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, that agency, in cooperation with other federal agencies, fully evaluates the potential effect of the leasing program on the total environment. Accordingly, the decision whether to issue a permit on lands which are under mineral lease from the Department of the Interior will be limited to an evaluation of the impact of the proposed work on navigation and national security. See 33 CFR 322.5(f).

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.

No properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical sites or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

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.

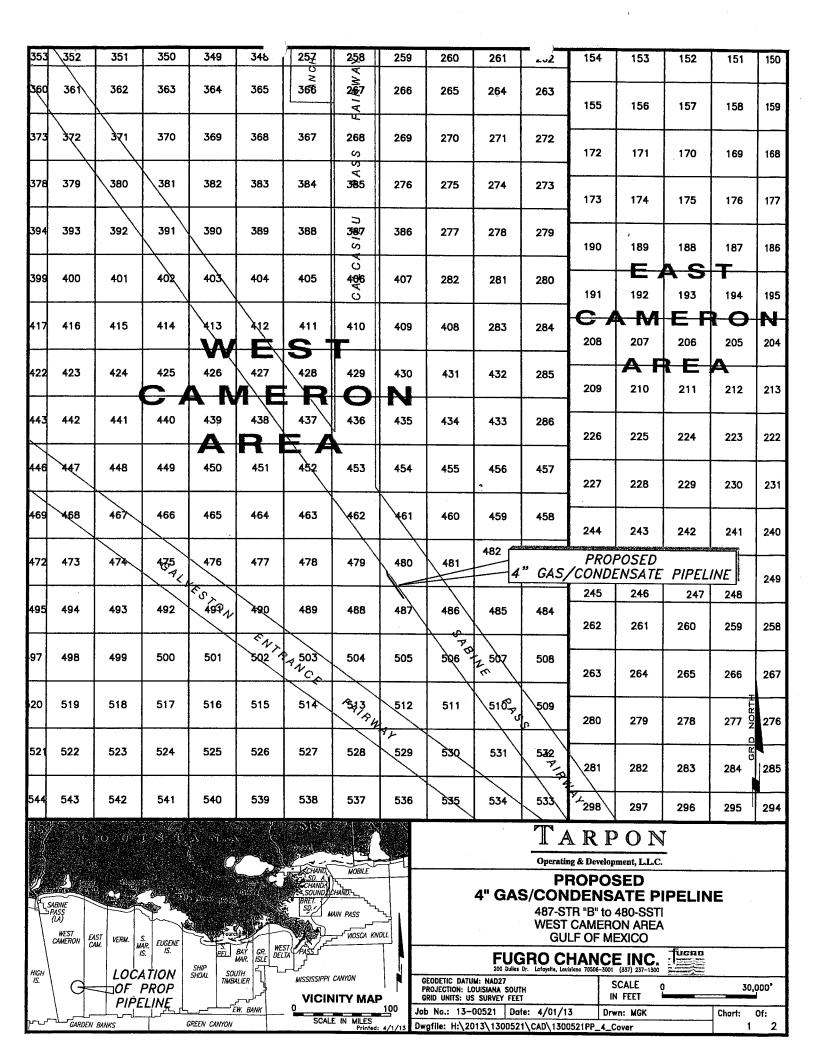
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of <u>0.0</u> acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. 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.

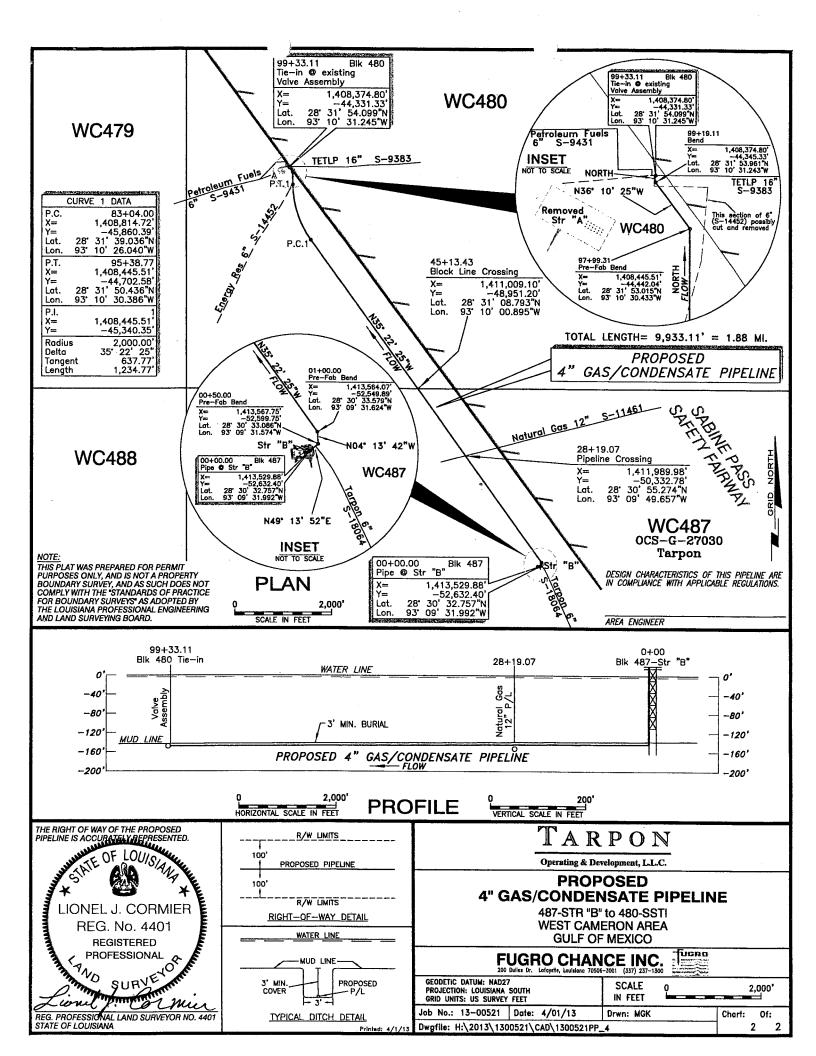
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will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

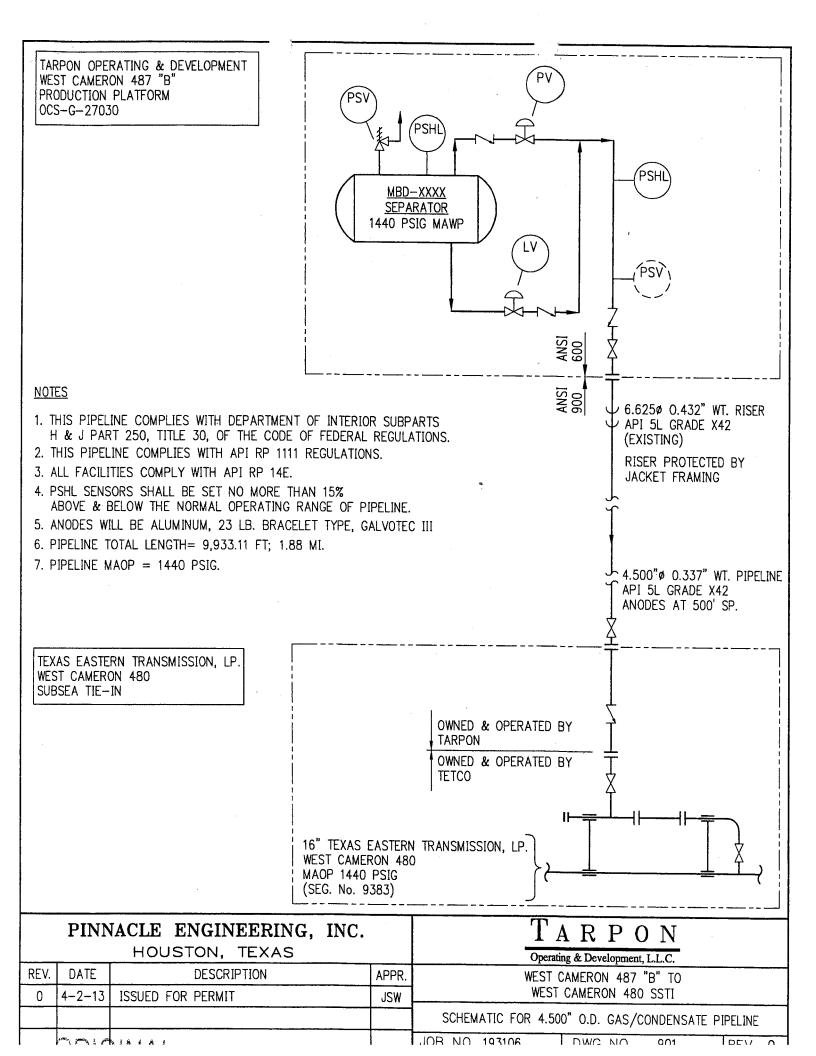
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

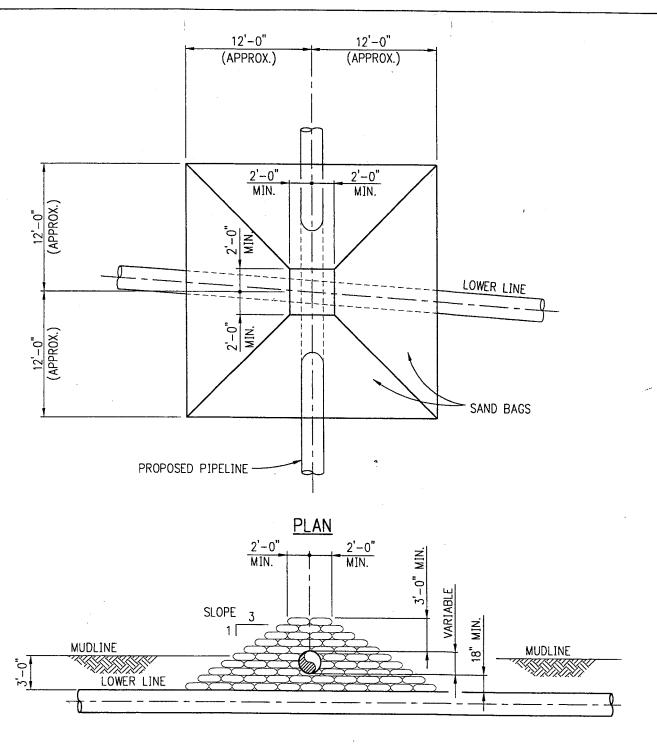
You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Darrell S. Barbara Chief, Western Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch









ELEVATION

NOTES

- 1. BAGS SHALL BE MADE OF CLOSELY WOVEN MATERIAL WITH WICKING ACTION.
- 2. AFTER FILLING BAG, IT SHALL BE CLOSED SEWING OR THE EQUIVALENT BUT NOT BY BUNCHING AND TYING THE END.
- 3. SUPPORT SANDBAGS SHALL BE CEMENT STABALIZED. COVER SANDBAGS SHALL BE SAND/CEMENT.