



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVENUE
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70118

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

March 5, 2018

United States Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118-3651

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Water Quality Certifications
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

Project Manager
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Permit Application Number
MVN-2016-01501-WII

Project Manager
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WQC Application Number
WQC 180221-01

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 LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-17).

CONSTRUCT A NEW LNG FACILITY IN CALCASIEU PARISH AND A PROPOSED PIPELINE IN CALCASIEU, JEFFERSON DAVIS, ACADIA, AND EVANGELINE PARISHES

NAME OF APPLICANT: Driftwood LNG LLC and Driftwood Pipeline LLC c/o Perennial Environmental Services, LLC, Attn: Marshall Olson, 13100 Northwest Freeway, Suite 150, Houston, Texas 77040.

LOCATION OF WORK: The proposed LNG facility is located on a 790-acre site located in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The site is situated along the west bank of the Calcasieu River, between mile markers 22 and 23. The proposed 96-mile pipeline is located in Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, and Evangeline parishes, Louisiana. The three proposed compressor stations are located in Jefferson Davis, Acadia, and Evangeline parishes. The proposed project is located in the following four watersheds: Lower Calcasieu (HUC 08080206), Upper Calcasieu (HUC 08080203), West Fork Calcasieu (HUC 08080205), and Mermentau Headwaters (HUC 08080201) as shown in the attached drawings.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested a Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, fill and/or excavate, and develop approximately 718 acres of the 790-acre site to construct the proposed LNG facility. The marine facilities at the LNG facility consist of three berths (one northern and two southern), a materials offloading facility (MOF), and three temporary pioneer docks. Up to 8.25 million cubic yards (yd³) will be removed from the dredge footprint. Approximately 77.6 acres of the site will be dredged to a depth of 46 feet below North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) utilizing a cutterhead suction dredge. Approximately 4.9 acres of the site will be dredged to a depth of 30 feet below NAVD 88. Approximately 2.5 acres of the site will be dredged using a cutter head suction dredge to a depth of 10 feet below NAVD 88.

The applicant has also requested a Department of the Army authorization to install and operate a 96-mile pipeline, which consists of approximately 74 miles of a single 48-inch diameter pipeline, approximately 11 miles of a single 42-inch diameter pipeline, and approximately 11 miles of a single 36-inch pipeline. Additionally, there will be approximately 3.4 miles of 30-inch diameter pipeline lateral, three new compressor stations, up to 15 meters stations, and 14 pipeline interconnects. The project activities include clearing the right-of-way, conducting trenching operations, installing a below ground pipeline, installing aboveground facilities, temporarily stockpiling materials, and performing horizontal directional drill (HDD) operations. Following construction, areas temporarily impacted by the project will be restored to pre-construction grade and allowed to revegetate.

The proposed LNG facility will result in the permanent loss of 319.3 acres of jurisdictional wetlands. The proposed pipeline and associated facilities will temporarily impact approximately 367.2 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and 10.1 acres of other waters of the U.S. In addition, approximately 76.6 acres of forested wetlands and 1.0 acres of scrub-shrub wetland will be permanently converted to emergent wetlands within the pipeline right-of-way. Construction of the proposed pipeline and associated facilities will also result in the permanent loss of 3.4 acres of wetlands and 0.3 acre of other waters of the U.S. The attached tables provide a summary of the impacts to waters of the U.S. associated with both the proposed LNG facility and the pipeline.

The applicant has designed the project to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable by co-locating the proposed route with existing rights-of-way, utilizing HDDs, reducing the construction footprint in wetlands, and maximizing the use of existing access roads. The applicant proposes to offset unavoidable wetland impacts associated with the proposed pipeline by purchasing in-kind / in-basin mitigation credits from Corps-approved mitigation banks within the New Orleans District. Similarly, the applicant proposes to offset 134.3 acres of forested and forested mosaic wetland impacts associated with the proposed LNG facility through the purchase of in-kind / in-basin mitigation credits from a Corps-approved mitigation bank. The remaining 185.0 acres of emergent mosaic and estuarine wetland impacts associated with the proposed LNG facility is proposed by the applicant to be offset through the beneficial use of dredged material. As outlined in the Beneficial Use of Dredge Material (BUDM) Plan, up to 8.25 million yd³ of dredged material, which includes material excavated during maintenance operations, will be placed approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the proposed LNG facility to restore coastal marsh habitat.

Overall, the initial 8.25 million cubic yards of dredged material that will be placed within the BUDM areas will result in the creation of 1,425 acres of new marsh habitat and will nourish an additional 617.8 acres of existing marsh habitat, in BUDM Units 1, 5, 7 & 8. In total, the BUDM areas have the potential to create approximately 3,009 acres of marsh habitat, following future maintenance dredging cycles.

The comment period for the Department of Army and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close in **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modification or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit 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**. **Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing, faxing, or emailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any requests 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 requester 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.**

Similar 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 the proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during 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 applicant has conducted Phase I cultural resource investigations in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and guidelines set forth by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology (LDOA) to identify cultural resource sites within the project footprint and to assess any potential impacts by the project to historic properties or other sensitive cultural resources. The Draft Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the Proposed Driftwood Liquefied Natural Gas Export Facility Report and the Draft Pipeline Phase I Cultural Resources Report, which provide a detailed analysis of the results of the investigation, were submitted to the LDOA on June 9, 2016 and October 31, 2016, respectively. The LDOA issued letters concurring with the applicant's determinations that the project will have no impact on any historic properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places on June 29, 2016 and November 22, 2016.

The applicant submitted concurrence request letters to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on August 2, 2016. On August 31, 2016, the applicant received a letter from the USFWS indicating that the agency concurred with the not likely to adversely affect and no effect determinations for federally listed species based on the information included in the initial submittal. The applicant submitted additional concurrence request letters to the USFWS on March 15, 2017 and August 18, 2017, as a result of workspace modifications. On March 31, 2017 and September 19, 2017 (respectively), the applicant received letters from the USFWS indicating that the agency concurred with the not likely to adversely affect determinations for federally listed species based on the information included in the submittals. Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not adversely affect any species listed as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species. Utilizing the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES) species determination key, dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District and USFWS, Louisiana Ecological Services Office, on February 21, 2018, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity is "Not likely to adversely affect" the West Indian Manatee and would have no effect on all other listed species.

The applicant initiated the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act on August 25, 2017. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to 322.5 acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum, gray snapper, lane snapper, and penaeid shrimp. On October 3, 2017 the National Marine Fisheries Service concurred with the determination that the project would not result in significant impacts on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico.

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 water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certification Section 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.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

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

Enclosures

Table 1 Summary of Wetland Impacts Within the Facility			
Facility Area	Feature Type	Temporary Impacts (acres)	Permanent Fill/Loss (acres) ^a
Facility Boundary ^b			
Liquefaction Facility	E2	0.0	68.7
	PEM	0.0	4.8
	Mosaic- PFO	0.0	61.0
	PEM/ PSS	0.0	10.3
	PSS/ PFO	0.0	3.3
Subtotal		0.0	148.1
Other Facilities (all areas outside of the berm)	E2	0.0	53.0
	PEM	0.0	10.2
	Mosaic -PFO	0.0	26.2
	PEM/ PSS	0.0	3.9
	PFO	0.0	0.2
	PSS	0.0	0.9
	PSS/ PFO	0.0	3.9
Subtotal		0.0	98.3
Marine Berths	PSS	0.0	1.9
MOF	PEM	0.0	1.2
Subtotal		0.0	3.1
Construction Laydown Area(s)	E2	0.0	3.4
	PEM	0.0	20.5
	Mosaic- PFO	0.0	26.1
	PFO	0.0	1.6
	PSS	0.0	3.9
Subtotal		0.0	55.5
Roads	E2	0.0	1.1
	PEM	0.0	1.1
	Mosaic- PFO	0.0	11.7
	PEM/ PSS	0.0	0.1
	PFO	0.0	0.3
Subtotal		0.0	14.3
Facility Total		0.0	319.3
PEM = palustrine emergent PSS = palustrine scrub-shrub PFO = palustrine forested E2 = estuarine			
^a Acreages have been rounded for presentation purposes. As a result, the totals may not reflect the sum of the addends.			
^b No wetlands will be impacted by the Temporary Offsite Construction Areas.			

Table 2 Summary of Wetlands and Waterbodies Impacted by the Pipeline							
Feature Type	Temporary Impacts		Permanent Conversion from PFO/PSS to PEM			Permanent Impacts (to be filled)	
	Number of Features Impacted	Acreeage Impacts	Number of Features Converted	Acreeage	Number of Features Filled	Acreeage	
PFO Wetland	183	244.03	121	76.59	2	0.21	
PSS Wetland	28	11.84	18	1.03	5	0.10	
PEM Wetland	111	111.17	N/A	N/A	4	3.09	
L2UBHh Wetland	2	0.23	N/A	N/A	0	0.00	
Rice Fields	184	543.34	N/A	N/A	29	21.59	
Streams	365	5.93	N/A	N/A	32	0.33	
Open Waters	14	4.18	N/A	N/A	0	0.00	
Project Total	887	920.72	139	77.62	72	25.32	

PEM = palustrine emergent
 PSS = palustrine scrub-shrub
 PFO = palustrine forested
 L2UBHh = lacustrine unconsolidated bottom
 N/A = not applicable