## JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

### October 1, 2018

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

(504) 862-1577
Project Manager
Patricia Clune
Patricia.R.Clune@usace.army.mil
MVN 2018-01169-CE

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 #180925-01

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, Water Permits Division, 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).

## PROPOSED DREDGING FOR ACCESS AND WELL INSTALLATION IN TERREBONNE PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT**: Covington Exploration Company, LLC., c/o EGR Services, LLC., 1330 Park Drive, Suite 300, Mandeville, Louisiana 70471.

**LOCATION OF WORK**: In unnamed tidal waters (Latitude: 29.494722, Longitude: -90.626667) near Montegut, Louisiana, in Terrebonne Parish, within the West Central Louisiana Coastal basin in hydrological unit (HUC 08090302), as shown on the attached drawings.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK</u>: The applicant has requested a Department of the Army authorization to dredge a 3,560' access channel and 160' x 345' well slip in order to install and maintain a proposed drill barge, platform and appurtenant structures to drill the South Houma Prospect. Approximately 59,009 cubic yards of material will be displaced by dredging and stacked along the channel and slip at an elevation conducive to the establishment of marsh. The applicant has stated that the project has been designed to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit modification and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **20 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 modification 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. 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. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing 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.

The application for this 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 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 the 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 Interior. The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project is located in waters known to be utilized by the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). Utilizing Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that with the inclusion of the Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities, proposed work is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee.

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 up to 0 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 Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards has been issued from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Permits Division under permit number WQC-180925-01.

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.

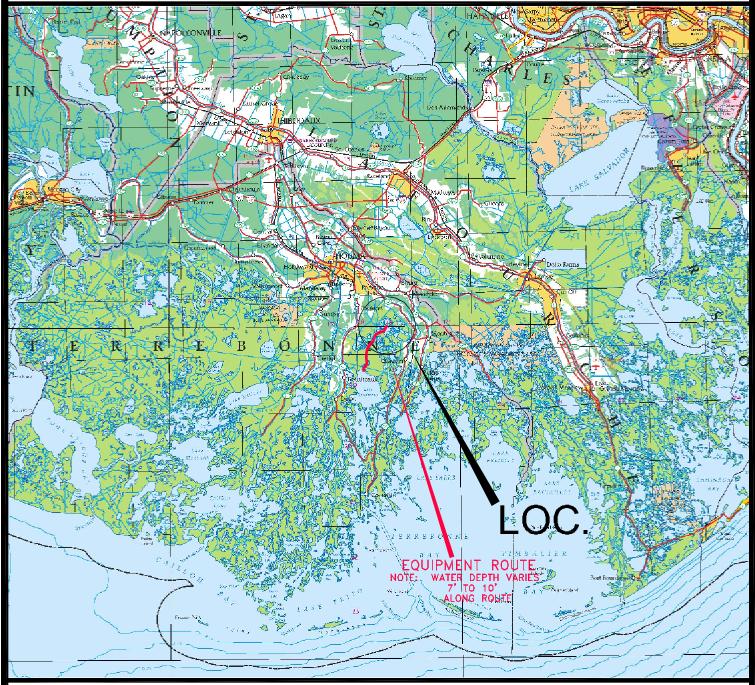
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program (Louisiana Coastal Zone Application P20180987). The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

John M Herman Chief, Central Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



APPROXIMATELY 9 MILES SOUTHEAST OF HOUMA LA.



# COVINGTON EXPLORATION COMPANY, LLC SOUTH HOUMA PROSPECT

LOCATED IN

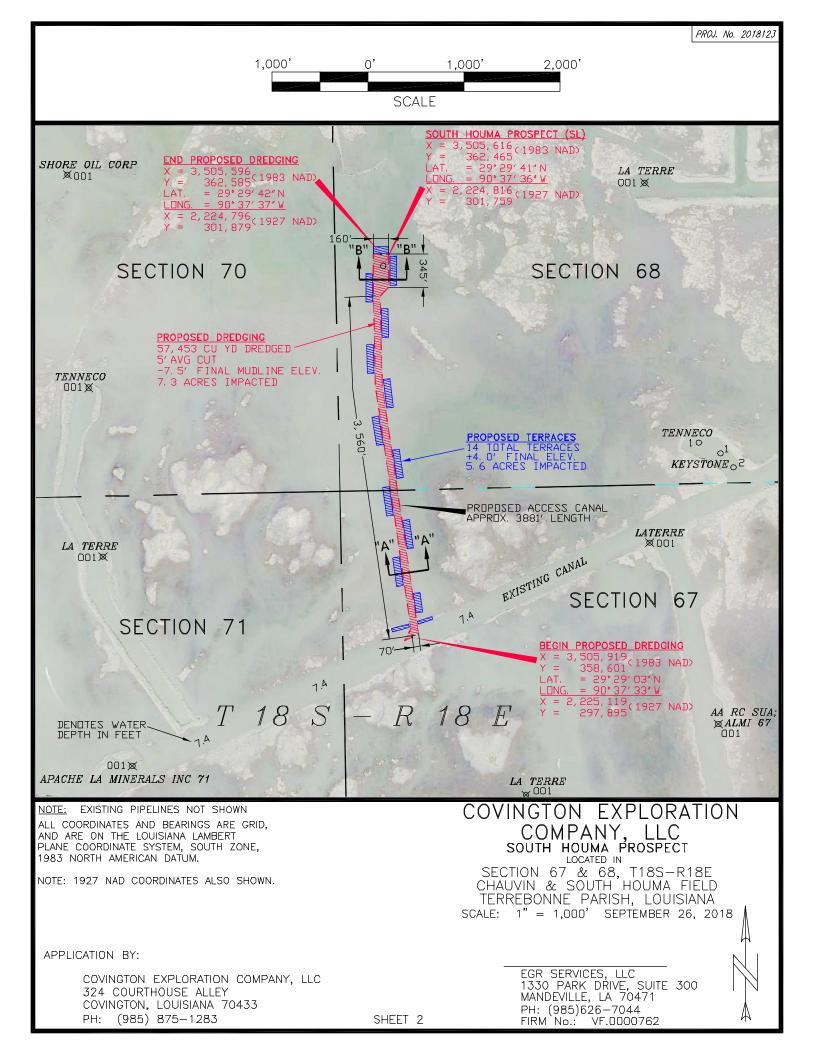
SECTION 67 & 68, T18S-R18E CHAUVIN & SOUTH HOUMA FIELDS TERREBONNE PARISH, LOUISIANA SCALE: 1" = 10 MILES SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

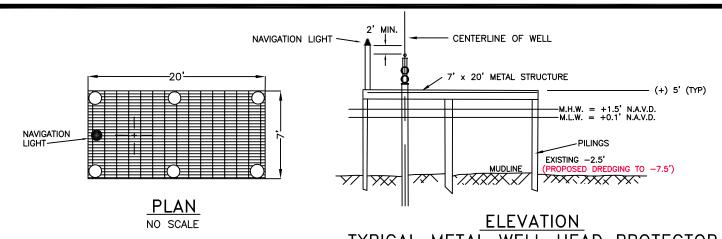
APPLICATION BY:

COVINGTON EXPLORATION COMPANY, LLC 324 COURTHOUSE ALLEY COVINGTON, LOUISIANA 70433 PH: (985) 875-1283

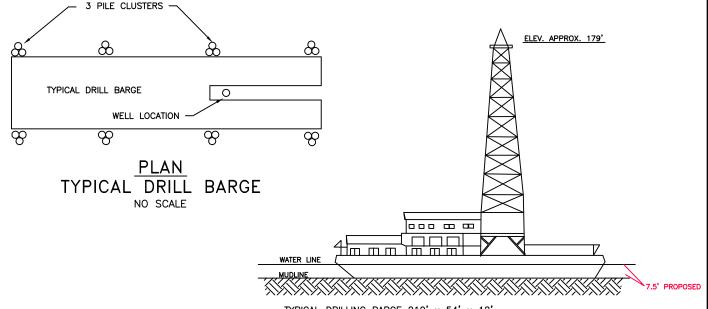
EGR SERVICES, LLC 1330 PARK DRIVE, SUITE 300 MANDEVILLE, LA 70471 PH: (985) 626-7044 STATE OF LOUISIANA FIRM No.: VF.0000762







TYPICAL METAL WELL HEAD PROTECTOR NO SCALE



TYPICAL DRILLING BARGE 210' x 54' x 12'

**ELEVATION** TYPICAL DRILL BARGE

# COVINGTON EXPLORATION COMPANY, LLC SOUTH HOUMA PROSPECT LOCATED IN

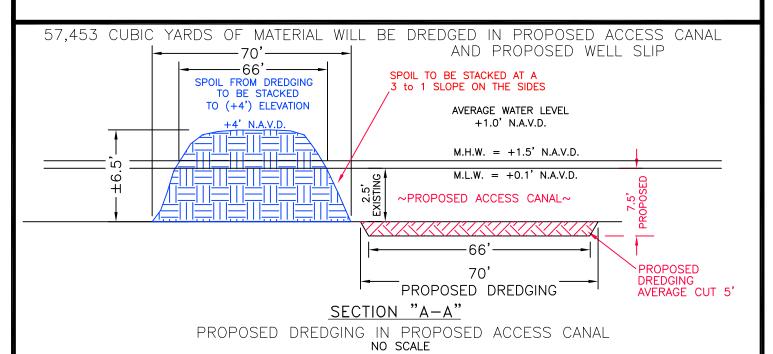
SECTION 67 & 68, T18S-R18E CHAUVIN & SOUTH HOUMA FIELD TERREBONNE PARISH, LOUISIANA SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 NO SCALE

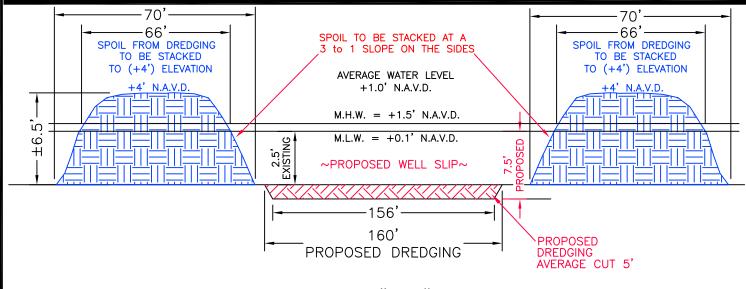
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EGR SERVICES, LLC 1330 PARK DRIVE, SUITE 300 MANDEVILLE, LA 70471 PH: (985)626-7044 FIRM No.: VF.0000762

SHEET 3





SECTION "B-B" PROPOSED DREDGING IN PROPOSED WELL SLIP NO SCALE

SHEET 4

## COVINGTON EXPLORATION COMPANY, LLC SOUTH HOUMA PROSPECT

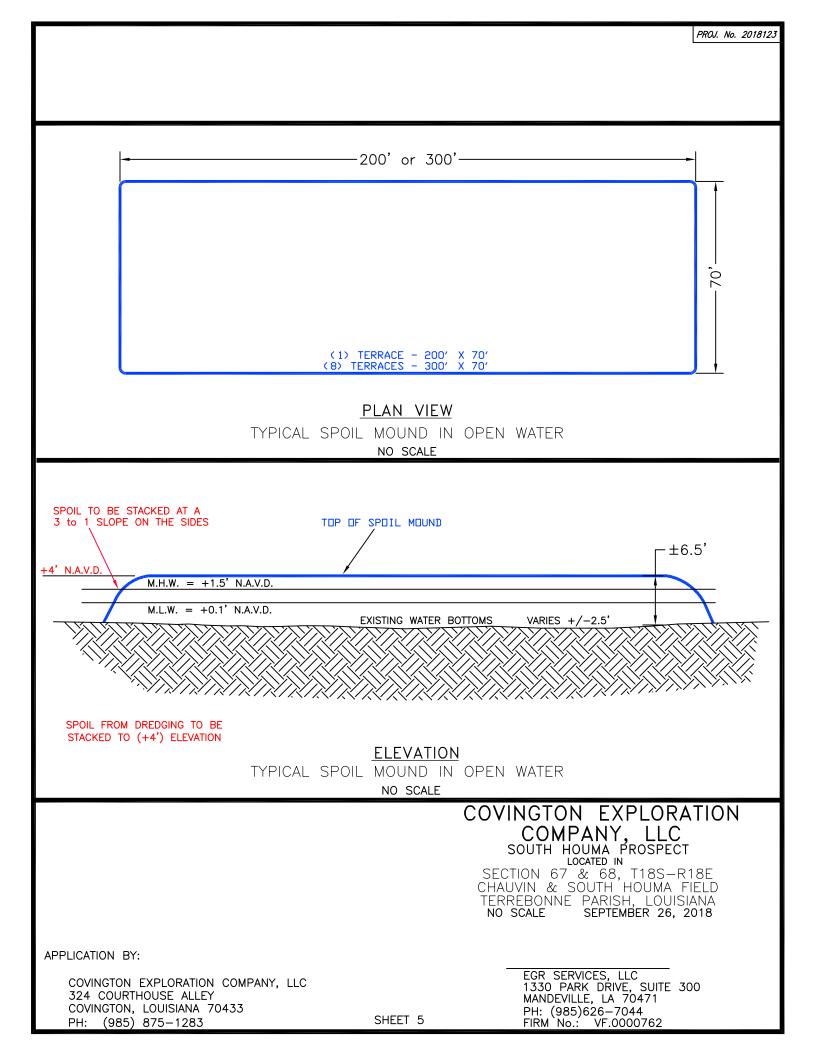
LOCATED IN

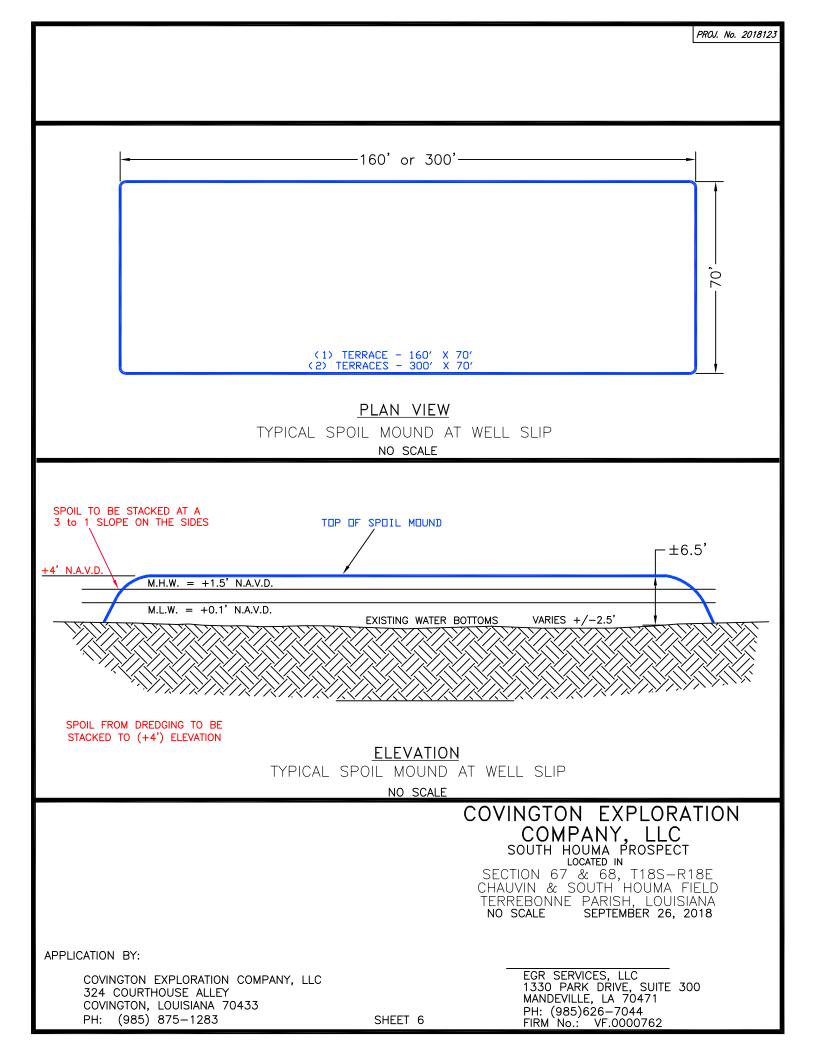
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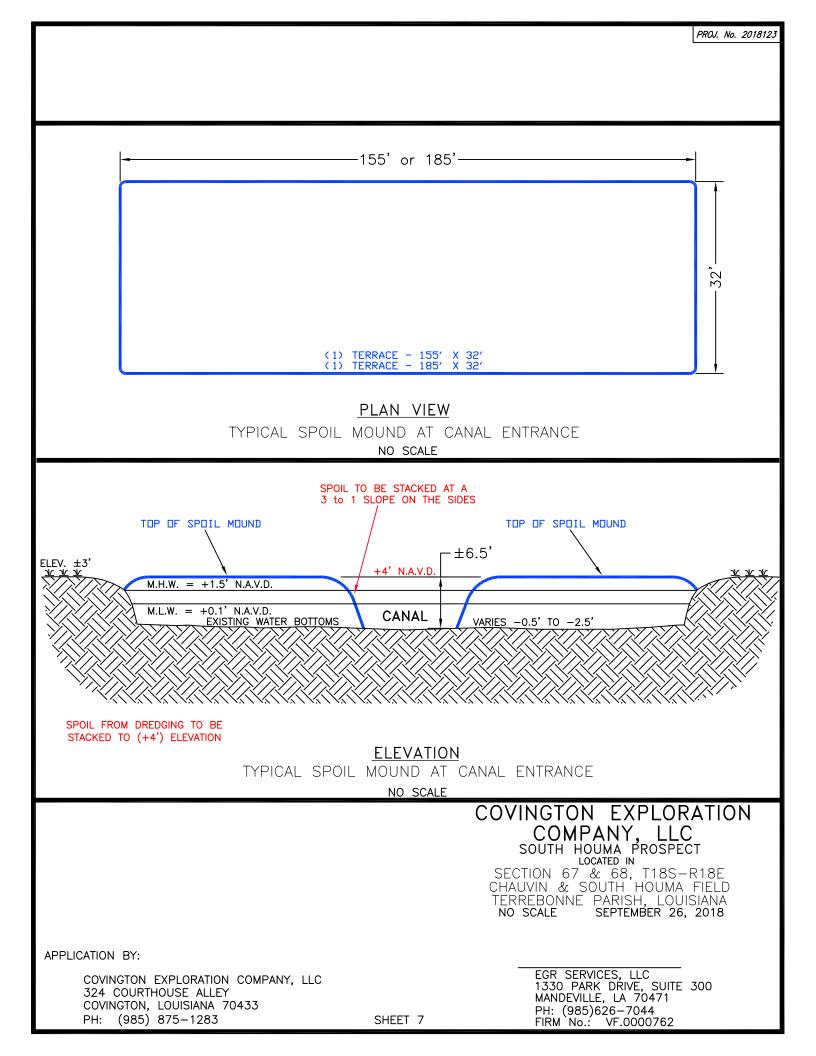
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#### **NOTES**

removal activities.

1. Approximately 57,453 cubic yards of proposed material will be displaced by dredging in open water for proposed access canal and proposed well slip.

Approximately 7.3 acres of existing water bottoms will be affected by dredging in open waters and proposed well slip.

Total length of dredging in open waters = 3,997 L.F.

- 2. Spoil from dredging in the proposed canal and well slip will be stacked to an elevation of +4' to create new marsh. Approximately 57,453 cubic yards of material will be stacked.

  Approximately 5.6 acres of existing water bottoms will be affected by spoil placement.
- 3. All structures, facilities, well and pipelines/flowlines shall be removed within 120 days of abandonment of the facilities for the permitted use, unless prior written approval to leave such structures in place is received from the Coastal Management Division.

  This condition does not preclude the necessity for revising the current permit or obtaining a separate Coastal Use Permit, should one be required for such
- 4. As—built drawings and/or plats shall have written on them the date of completion of said activities and shall be submitted to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, PO Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804—4487 within 30 days following project completion.
- 5. In order to ensure the safety of all parties, the permittee shall contact the Louisiana ONE CALL System (1-800-272-3020) a minimum of two (2) full business days prior to the commencement of any excavation (digging, dredging, jetting, etc.) or demolition activity.
- 6. All oil and gas platforms and appurtenant structures shall be marked/lighted in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard regulations.
- 7. These plans were prepared exclusively for obtaining regulatory permits. These plans are not engineering or construction drawings and should not be used as such.
- 8. This is not a Property Boundary Survey as defined in the "Standards of Practice for Boundary Surveys" per LAC Title 46:LXI §2907

COVINGTON EXPLORATION COMPANY, LLC

SOUTH HOUMA PROSPECT
LOCATED IN
SECTION 67 & 68, T18S-R18E
CHAUVIN & SOUTH HOUMA FIELD
TERREBONNE PARISH, LOUISIANA
NO SCALE SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

APPLICATION BY:

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