## JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

#### March 16, 2015

United States Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Regulatory Branch Post Office Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

(504) 862-2225

Brad.LaBorde@usace.army.mil
Project Manager
Brad LaBorde
Permit Application Number
MVN 2015-0286 EOO

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

(225) 219-3225

Project Manager Elizabeth Johnson WQC Application Number WQC 150309-05

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 Quality Certifications, 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).

#### Vegetative Debris Removal and Road Repairs in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana

<u>NAME OF APPLICANT</u>: Saint Charles Parish – Department of Public Works % Coastal Permitting, LLC, Attn: Julie Hebert, Post Office Box 1528, Luling, Louisiana, 70070.

**LOCATION OF WORK**: Extending 18,011 linear feet in Cousins Canal, along Texaco Road, near Luling, Louisiana, Saint Charles Parish, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090301 – East Central Louisiana Coastal

Work Begins (Heather/Texaco Road) Latitude: 29.902489, Longitude: -90.352642 Work Ends (Texaco Road ends) Latitude: 29.854358, Longitude: -90.355294

**CHARACTER OF WORK**: Saint Charles Parish proposes to perform surface cleaning within Cousins Canal for drainage improvements. A marsh buggy will work within Cousins canal to remove/de-snag an estimated 16,520 cubic yards annually. All vegetated material will be placed within a maintained 15-foot drainage servitude between the canal bank and Texaco Road. Any trash or non-vegetated debris will be removed and hauled off to an approved facility.

Additionally, there are several bank failures on Texaco Road leading to the Cousins Pump Station. The applicant proposes to stabilize these areas with sheet pilings and backfill. Work would include removing 1739 cubic yards (0.36 acres) of canal bank and hauling-in 1,449 cubic yards of sand/clay to use as backfill behind the sheetpilings. The debris removal and road repairs are not expected to directly impact jurisdictional wetlands. No compensatory mitigation is anticipated at this time.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit 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 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 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. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from 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. This determination was made after completing the "Species Effects Determination Key" found in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) in Louisiana, dated October 22, 2014.

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 **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.

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, Water Quality Certifications, 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.

Michael V. Farabee Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

**Enclosure** 





## Vicinity Map – Zoom Out (Entire Canal) Cousin's Canal – St. Charles Parish, Louisiana Total Canal Length: +/- 18,011'

Start of Canal (Heather/Texaco Rd): Lat: 29° 54′ 08.96"; Long: -90° 21′09.51" Pump Station Crossing: Lat: 29° 53′ 25.74"; Long: -90° 21′25.26" End of Canal (Southern End): Lat: 29° 51′ 15.69"; Long: -90° 21′19.06"





## Vicinity Map – Zoom In (START of Canal) Cousin's Canal – St. Charles Parish, Louisiana Total Canal Length: +/- 18,011'

 Start of Canal (Heather/Texaco Rd):
 Lat: 29° 54′ 08.96″; Long: -90° 21′09.51″

 Pump Station Crossing:
 Lat: 29° 53′ 25.74″; Long: -90° 21′25.26″

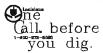
 End of Canal (Southern End):
 Lat: 29° 51′ 15.69″; Long: -90° 21′19.06″



Vicinity Map – Zoom In (END of Canal) Cousin's Canal – St. Charles Parish, Louisiana Total Canal Length: +/- 18,011'

Start of Canal (Heather/Texaco Rd): Lat: 29° 54′ 08.96″; Long: -90° 21′09.51″ Pump Station Crossing: Lat: 29° 53′ 25.74″; Long: -90° 21′25.26″ End of Canal (Southern End): Lat: 29° 51′ 15.69″; Long: -90° 21′19.06″





Note: "Prior to construction, the contractor will verify all utilities." If a conflict exist, notify the project engineer/architect.





LOCATION OF CANAL

EXISTING GRADUAL CHANGE IN CANAL WIDTH

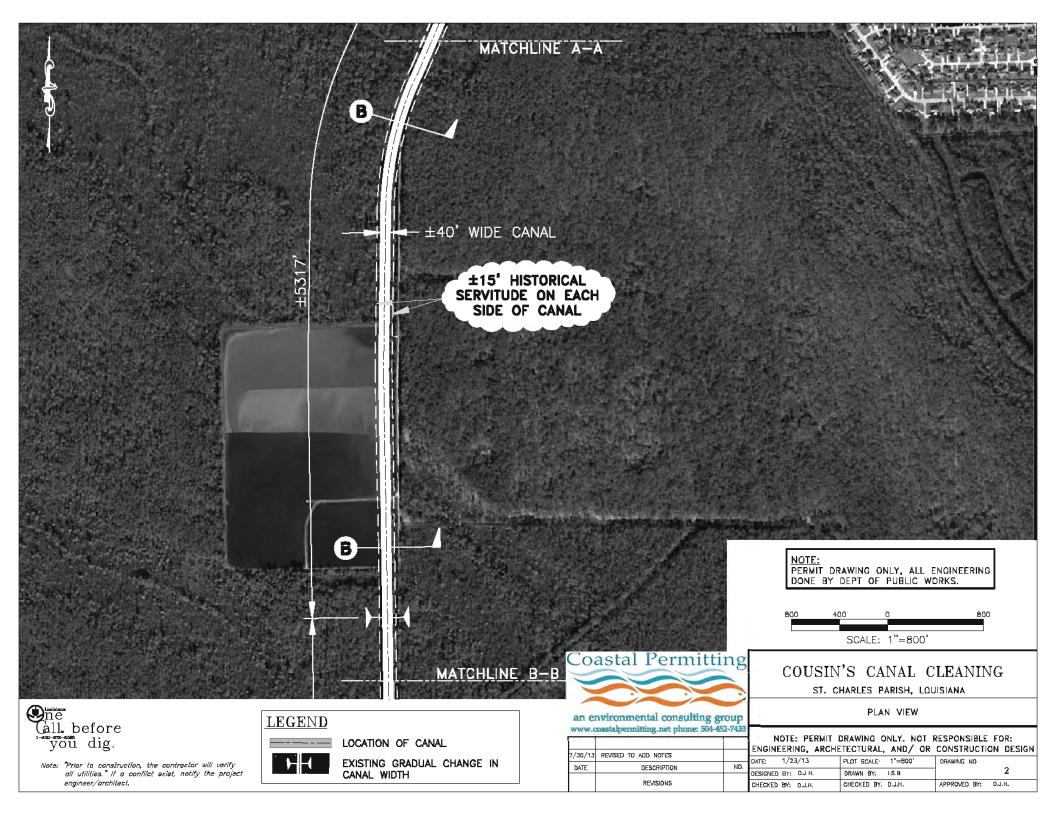
# an environmental consulting group www.coastalpermitting.net phone: 504-452-7433

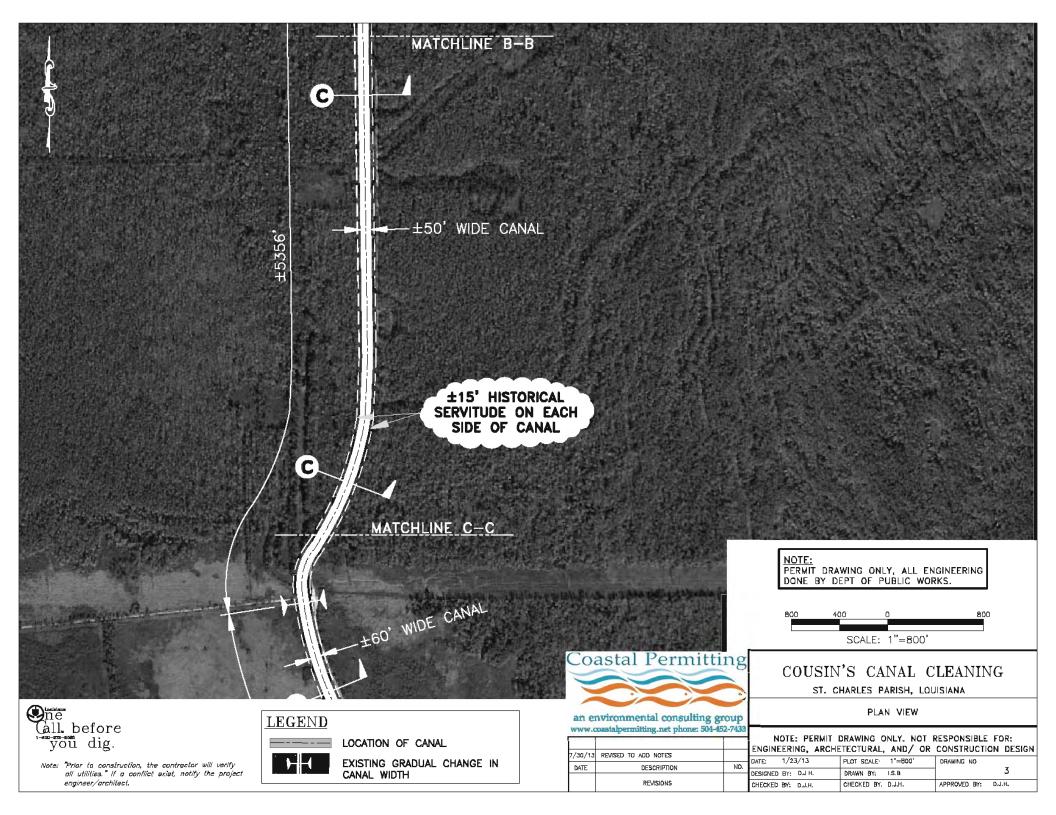
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PLAN VIEW

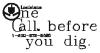
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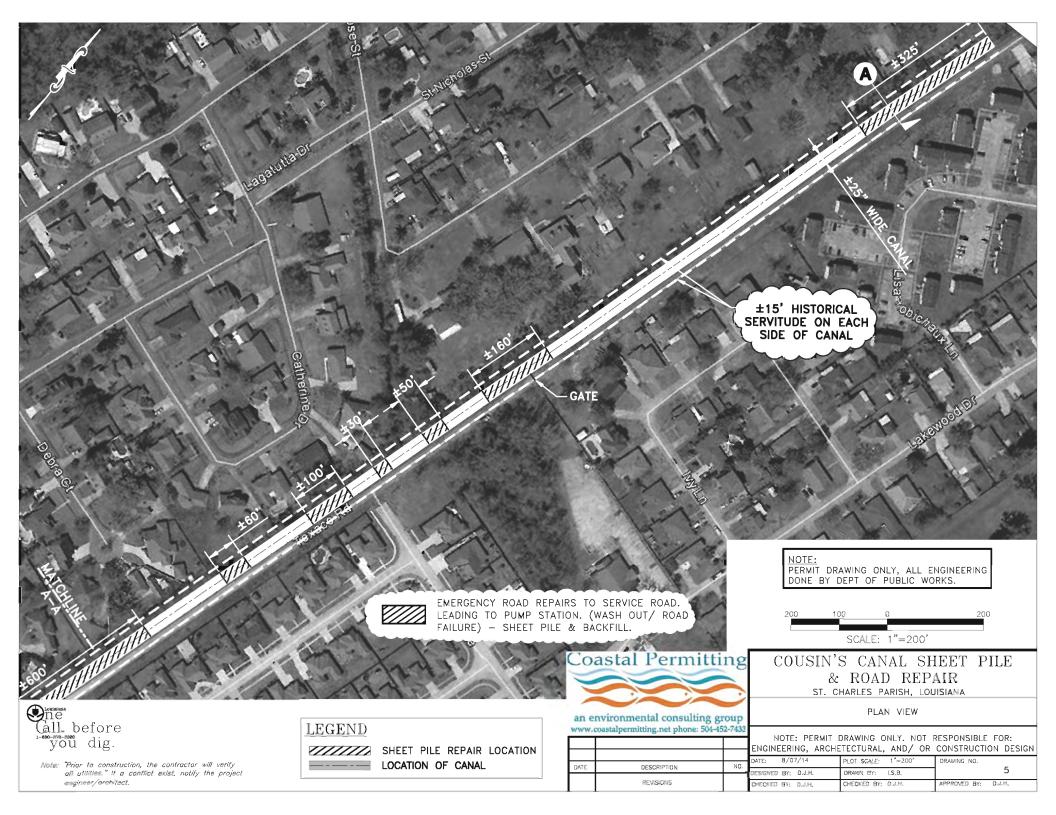
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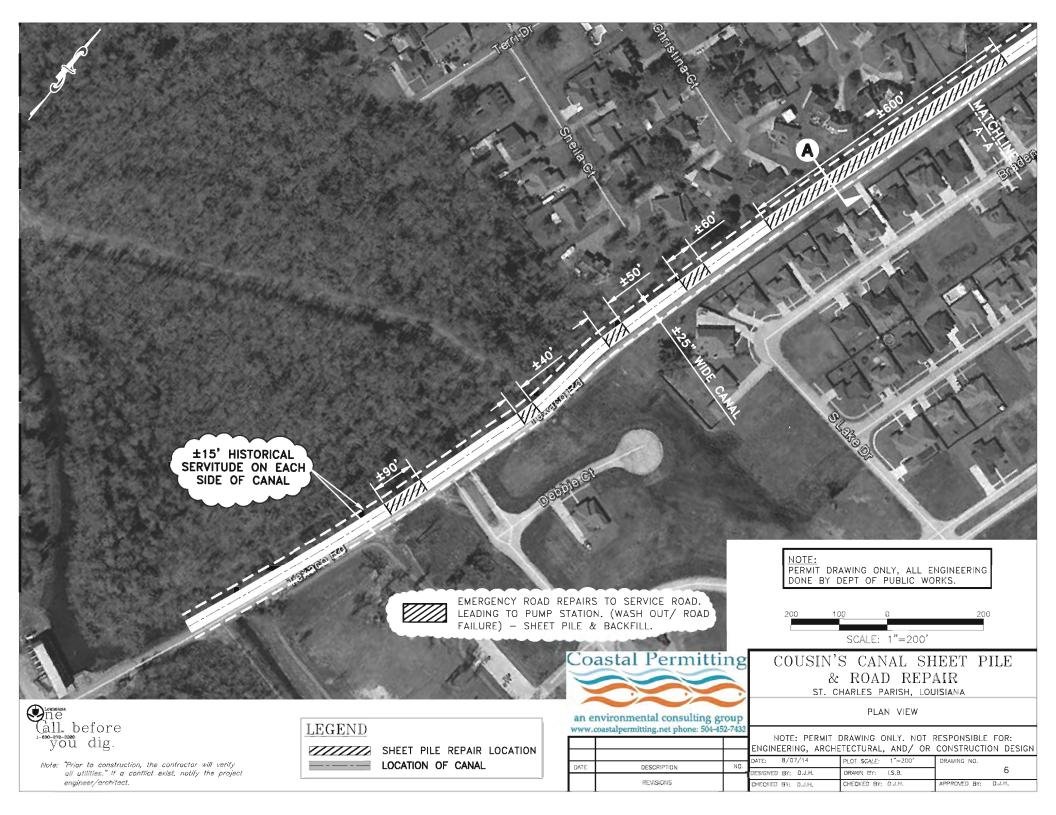
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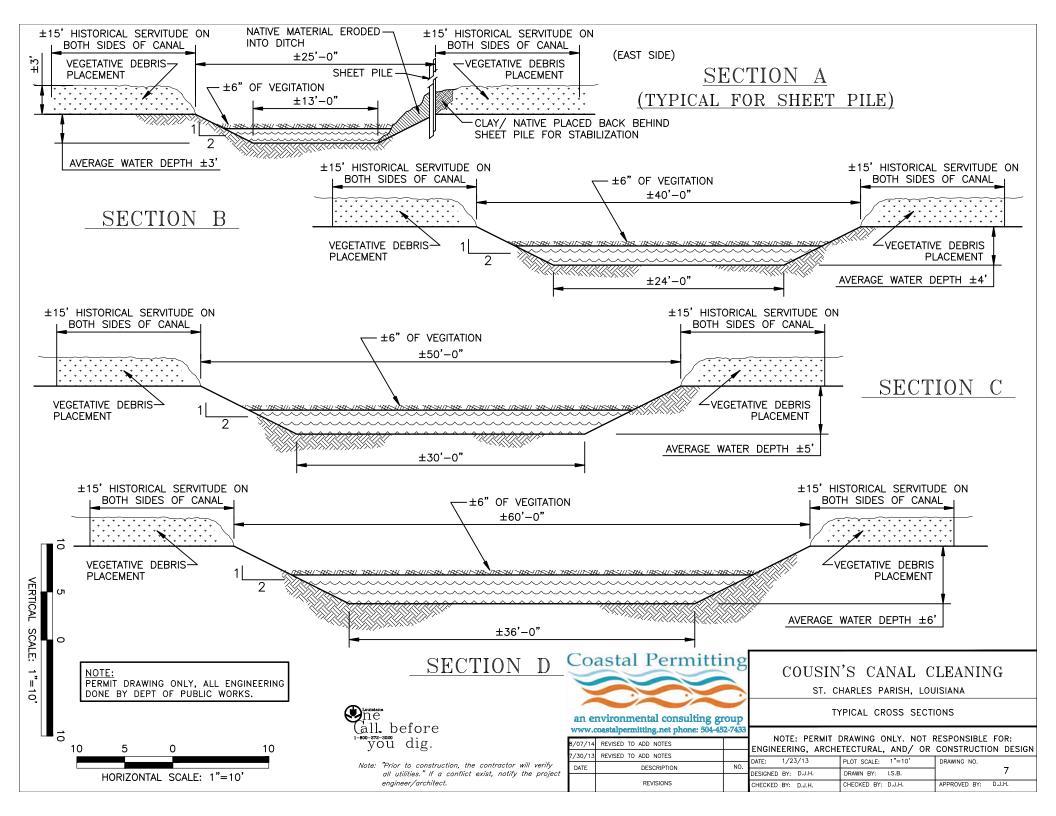
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CHECKED	BY: D.J.H.	CHECKED BY. D.J.H.	APPROVED BY: D.J.H.







#### **Vegetative Debris Removal Calculations - Cousin's Canal**

Area No.	Area (Acres)	Area (s.f.)	Excavated Material (c.y)	Excavated Material (c.y.)
	Acres	Square Feet	Native Sediment	Vegetative Debris
Year 1	204.8	8920776	0	165200
Year 2	204.8	8920776	0	16520
Year 3	204.8	8920776	0	16520
Year 4	204.8	8920776	0	16520
Year 5	204.8	8920776	0	16520
<b>Excavated Vegetation Totals</b>	204.8	8920776	0	231279

Note: Vegetative Removal & Fallen Tree Removal will be placed along the existing 15' bank servitude on both sides alternating. Please note that no soils will be removed & years 2 through 5 will be roughly 10% each year of the original cleaning as an estimate.

#### **Sheet Pile Repair Calculations**

Area No.	Area (Acres)	Area (s.f.)	Excavated Material (c.y)	Fill Material
Year 1 Only	Acres	Square Feet	Removed from canal edge	Placed behind sheet pile
Native Material	0.36	15650	1739	1739
Additional Sand/Clay	0.36	15650		1449

Total Fill		234467