



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHARLESTON DISTRICT
1519 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201

November 29, 2023

Regulatory Division



This is in response to your request for an Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) (SAC-2022-00996) received in our office on June 30, 2022, for a 176.34-acre site located approximately 0.5 miles northeast of the intersection between Porter Road and Interstate 77, Rock Hill, York County, South Carolina (Latitude: 34.8930°, Longitude: -80.9878°). An AJD is used to indicate the Corps has identified the presence or absence of wetlands and/or other aquatic resources on a site, including their accurate location(s) and boundaries, as well as their jurisdictional status pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. § 1344) and/or navigable waters of the United States pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA) (33 U.S.C. § 403).

The site is shown on the attached map entitled "Aquatic Resource Sketch Map" and dated May 24, 2022 prepared by you. Based on a review of aerial photography, topographic maps, National Wetlands Inventory maps, soil survey information, and Wetland Determination Data Form(s), we conclude the referenced map accurately reflects the location and boundaries of aquatic resources within the site. The site contains 0.054 acres of jurisdictional wetlands, and 0.99 acres or 6085 linear feet of other waters of the United States that are subject to regulatory jurisdiction under Section 404 of the CWA.

The site also contains 0.177 acres of freshwater wetlands as federally defined by the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and applicable regional supplement; however, the 0.177 acres of freshwater wetlands are not subject to Corps' jurisdiction based upon U.S. Supreme Court decisions. The location and configuration of these non-jurisdictional areas are reflected on the above referenced map. It should be clearly noted that decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court to exclude certain waters and wetlands from federal jurisdiction under the CWA have no effect on any state or local government restrictions or requirements concerning wetlands. You are strongly cautioned to ascertain whether such restrictions or requirements exist for the area in question before undertaking any activity which might impact these aquatic resources.

Attached is a Memorandum for Record describing the basis of jurisdiction for the delineated area(s). Be aware that a Department of the Army (DA) permit may be required for certain activities in the areas subject to Corps' regulatory jurisdiction, and these areas may be subject to restrictions or requirements of other state or local government agencies.

If you submit a permit application as a result of this AJD, include a copy of this letter and the map as part of the application. Not submitting the letter and depiction will cause a delay while we confirm an AJD was performed for the proposed permit project area. Note that some or all of these areas may be regulated by other state or local government entities, and you should contact the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Bureau of Water, or Department of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, to determine the limits of their jurisdiction.

This AJD is valid for five (5) years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision before the expiration date. This AJD is an appealable action under the Corps of Engineers administrative appeal procedures defined at 33 CFR Part 331. The administrative appeal options, process and appeals request form is attached for your convenience and use.

This AJD was conducted pursuant to Corps of Engineers' regulatory authority to identify the limits of Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction for the particular site identified in this request. This AJD may not be valid for the wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985. If you or your tenant are USDA program participants, or anticipate participation in USDA programs, you should request a certified wetland determination from the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, prior to starting work.

In all future correspondence, please refer to file number SAC-2022-00996. A copy of this letter is forwarded to State and/or Federal agencies for their information. If you have any questions, please contact [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kristin Andrade

[REDACTED]

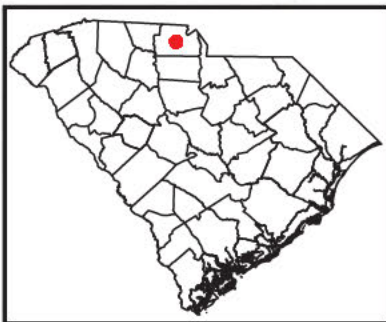
Attachments:

Notification of Appeal Options
Aquatic Resource Sketch Map
Memorandum for Record

Copies Furnished:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Aquatic Resource Sketch Map

Sketch Map provided for illustrative purposes and preliminary planning only. Not intended to be relied upon for exact location, dimension, or orientation. All findings and assessments are subject to verification from the Army Corps of Engineers, NC Division of Water Resources, and/or other appropriate local authorities. Do not reproduce map set except in its entirety.

Detail 1: Page 3

Detail 2: Page 4

Legend

- Streets
- York Co. Parcels
- Contours: 2 Ft
- Delineation
 - Perennial
 - Intermittent
 - Wetland
 - Culvert

0 250 500 750 1000 ft.

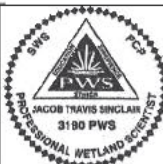


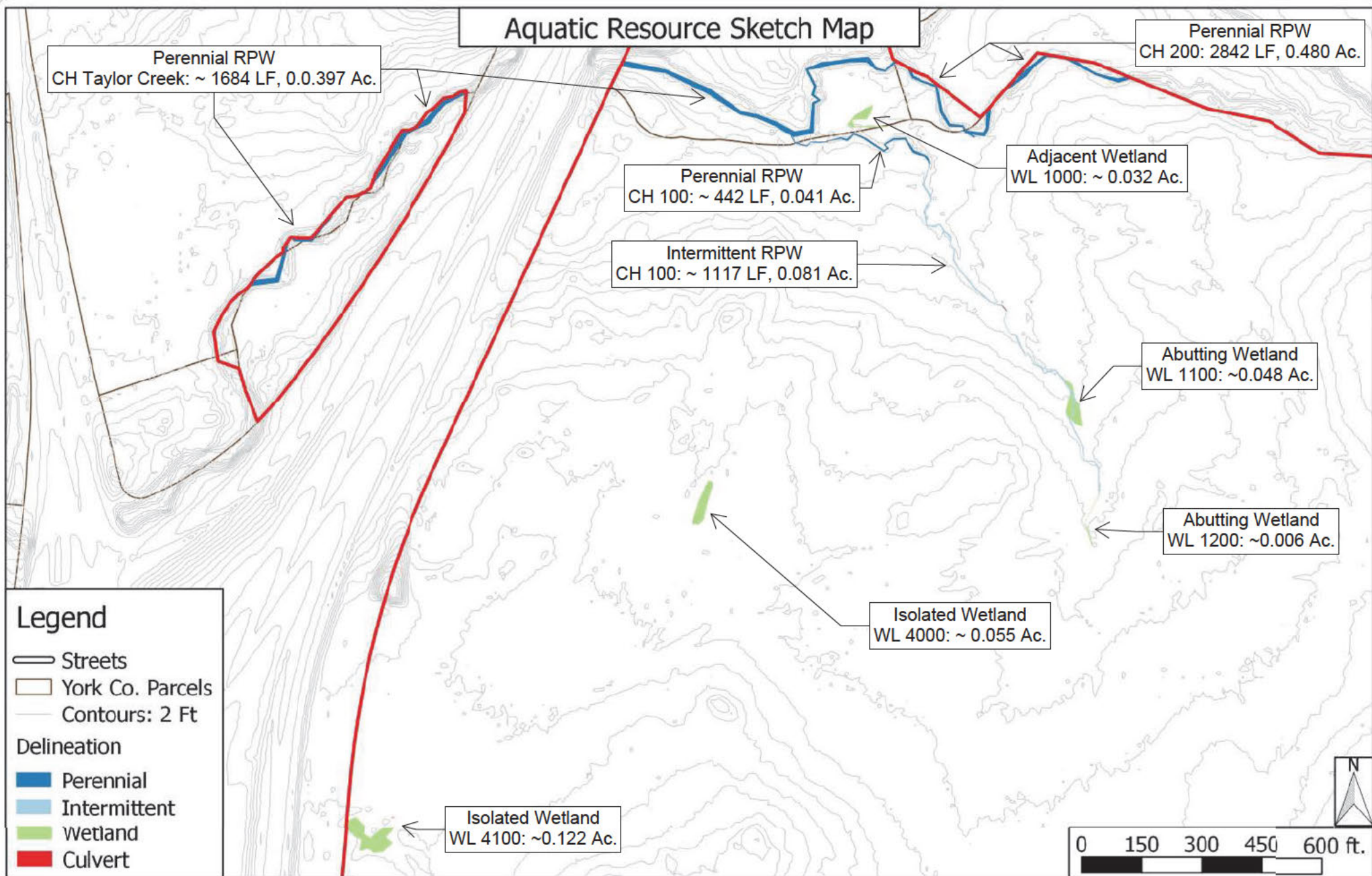
Project Name: South Creek Industrial Center

Location: Porter Road Rock Hill, SC 29730

Coordinates: 34.888526° / -80.993658°

Date: May 24, 2022





Project Name: South Creek Industrial Center

Location: Porter Road Rock Hill, SC 29730

[Redacted]

Coordinates: 34.888526° / -80.993658°

Date: May 24, 2022



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHARLESTON DISTRICT
69 HAGOOD AVENUE
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29403

CESAC-RD

02 November 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime
Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322
(2023),¹ SAC-2022-00996.

BACKGROUND. An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) is a Corps document stating the presence or absence of waters of the United States on a parcel or a written statement and map identifying the limits of waters of the United States on a parcel. AJDs are clearly designated appealable actions and will include a basis of JD with the document.² AJDs are case-specific and are typically made in response to a request. AJDs are valid for a period of five years unless new information warrants revision of the determination before the expiration date or a District Engineer has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.³ For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),⁴ the Clean Water Act (CWA) implementing regulations published by the Department of the Army in 1986 and amended in 1993 (references 2.a. and 2.b. respectively), the 2008 *Rapanos-Carabell* guidance (reference 2.c.), and other applicable guidance, relevant case law and longstanding practice, (collectively the pre-2015 regulatory regime), and the *Sackett* decision (reference 2.d.) in evaluating jurisdiction.

This Memorandum for Record (MFR) constitutes the basis of jurisdiction for a Corps AJD as defined in 33 CFR §331.2. The features addressed in this AJD were evaluated consistent with the definition of "waters of the United States" found in the pre-2015 regulatory regime and consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. This AJD did not rely on the 2023 "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States,'" as amended on 8 September 2023 (Amended 2023 Rule) because, as of the date of this decision, the Amended 2023 Rule is not applicable in this state due to litigation.

1. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

¹ While the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett* had no effect on some categories of waters covered under the CWA, and no effect on any waters covered under RHA, all categories are included in this Memorandum for Record for efficiency.

² 33 CFR 331.2.

³ Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

⁴ USACE has authority under both Section 9 and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 but for convenience, in this MFR, jurisdiction under RHA will be referred to as Section 10.

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- a. Provide a list of each individual feature within the review area and the jurisdictional status of each one (i.e., identify whether each feature is/is not a water of the United States and/or a navigable water of the United States).
 - i. CH100, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - ii. WL1000, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - iii. WL1100, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - iv. WL1200, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - v. CH 200, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - vi. CH Taylor Creek, jurisdictional, Section 404
 - vii. WL 4000, non-jurisdictional
 - viii. WL4100, non-jurisdictional

2. REFERENCES.

- a. Final Rule for Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers, 51 FR 41206 (November 13, 1986).
- b. Clean Water Act Regulatory Programs, 58 FR 45008 (August 25, 1993).
- c. U.S. EPA & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Following the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in *Rapanos v. United States & Carabell v. United States* (December 2, 2008)
- d. *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S. ___, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)
- e. 2008 Rapanos Guidance

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3. REVIEW AREA. 176.34 acres, 34.8885, -80.9937, Rock Hill, York, South Carolina. Aquatic Resource Sketch Map 1 & 2.
4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. [The jurisdictional resources onsite are connected to the Catawba River]⁵
5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS The jurisdictional resources onsite flow to Taylor Creek, which flows to Rum Branch which flows to the Catawba River
6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁶: Describe aquatic resources or other features within the review area determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Include the size of each aquatic resource or other feature within the review area and how it was determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10.⁷ [N/A]
7. SECTION 404 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS: Describe the aquatic resources within the review area that were found to meet the definition of waters of the United States in accordance with the pre-2015 regulatory regime and consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. List each aquatic resource separately, by name, consistent with the naming convention used in section 1, above. Include a rationale for each aquatic resource, supporting that the aquatic resource meets the relevant category of "waters of the United States" in the pre-2015 regulatory regime. The rationale should also include a written description of, or reference to a map in the administrative record that shows, the lateral limits of jurisdiction for each aquatic resource, including how that limit was determined, and incorporate relevant

⁵ This MFR should not be used to complete a new stand-alone TNW determination. A stand-alone TNW determination for a water that is not subject to Section 9 or 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA) is completed independently of a request for an AJD. A stand-alone TNW determination is conducted for a specific segment of river or stream or other type of waterbody, such as a lake, where upstream or downstream limits or lake borders are established.

⁶ 33 CFR 329.9(a) A waterbody which was navigable in its natural or improved state, or which was susceptible of reasonable improvement (as discussed in § 329.8(b) of this part) retains its character as "navigable in law" even though it is not presently used for commerce, or is presently incapable of such use because of changed conditions or the presence of obstructions.

⁷ This MFR is not to be used to make a report of findings to support a determination that the water is a navigable water of the United States. The district must follow the procedures outlined in 33 CFR part 329.14 to make a determination that water is a navigable water of the United States subject to Section 10 of the RHA.

references used. Include the size of each aquatic resource in acres or linear feet and attach and reference related figures as needed.

- a. TNWs (a)(1): [N/A]
- b. Interstate Waters (a)(2): [N/A]
- c. Other Waters (a)(3): [N/A]
- d. Impoundments (a)(4): [N/A]
- e. Tributaries (a)(5): The National Hydrography Data set identifies Ch100, CH200, and CH Taylor Creek as Perennial Streams
- f. The territorial seas (a)(6): [N/A]
- g. Adjacent wetlands (a)(7): WL 1100 and 1200 abut CH 100, having a direct and continuous surface connection to the same

8. NON-JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES AND FEATURES

- a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified as “generally non-jurisdictional” in the preamble to the 1986 regulations (referred to as “preamble waters”).⁸ Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA as a preamble water. [N/A]
- b. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area identified as “generally not jurisdictional” in the *Rapanos* guidance. Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA based on the criteria listed in the guidance: WL 4000 & WL 4100 are depressions created in upland, within a closed basin and with no discernable continuous surface connection to a jurisdictional water.
- c. Describe aquatic resources and features identified within the review area as waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of CWA. Include the size of the waste treatment system within the review area and describe how it was determined to be a waste treatment system. [N/A]

⁸ 51 FR 41217, November 13, 1986.

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- d. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area determined to be prior converted cropland in accordance with the 1993 regulations (reference 2.b.). Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be prior converted cropland. [N/A]
 - e. Describe aquatic resources (i.e. lakes and ponds) within the review area, which do not have a nexus to interstate or foreign commerce, and prior to the January 2001 Supreme Court decision in “*SWANCC*,” would have been jurisdictional based solely on the “Migratory Bird Rule.” Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature, and how it was determined to be an “isolated water” in accordance with *SWANCC*. [N/A]
 - f. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area that were determined to be non-jurisdictional because they do not meet one or more categories of waters of the United States under the pre-2015 regulatory regime consistent with the Supreme Court’s decision in *Sackett* (e.g., tributaries that are non-relatively permanent waters; non-tidal wetlands that do not have a continuous surface connection to a jurisdictional water). [N/A]
9. DATA SOURCES. List sources of data/information used in making determination. Include titles and dates of sources used and ensure that information referenced is available in the administrative record.
- a. Review date by USACE, November 2, 2023
 - b. NHD May 6, 2022
 - c. Web Soil Survey, May 6, 2022
 - d. York County NWI May 6, 2022
 - e. Site photographs, May 10, 2022
 - f. LiDAR, May 6, 2022, USGS 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) Bare Earth DEM Dynamic service imagery.
 - g. USGS Topographic Map, May 6, 2022
10. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION: Topography and site photographs support a determination of non-jurisdictional status based upon lack of continuous surface connection for wetlands WL 4000 and WL 4100

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11. NOTE: The structure and format of this MFR were developed in coordination with the EPA and Department of the Army. The MFR's structure and format may be subject to future modification or may be rescinded as needed to implement additional guidance from the agencies; however, the approved jurisdictional determination described herein is a final agency action.

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applicant: [REDACTED]	File Number: SAC-2022-00996	Date: 11/21/23
Attached is:		See Section below
<input type="checkbox"/>	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE	D
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E
<input type="checkbox"/>	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	F

SECTION I

The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/appeals/> or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **OBJECT:** If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.

B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **APPEAL:** If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

C. PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE: Not appealable

You received a permit denial without prejudice because a required Federal, state, and/or local authorization and/or certification has been denied for activities which also require a Department of the Army permit before final action has been taken on the Army permit application. The permit denial without prejudice is not appealable. There is no prejudice to the right of the applicant to reinstate processing of the Army permit application if subsequent approval is received from the appropriate Federal, state, and/or local agency on a previously denied authorization and/or certification.

D: PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE: You may appeal the permit denial

You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information for reconsideration

- **ACCEPT:** You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- **APPEAL:** If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- **RECONSIDERATION:** You may request that the district engineer reconsider the approved JD by submitting new information or data to the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. The district will determine whether the information submitted qualifies as new information or data that justifies reconsideration of the approved JD. A reconsideration request does not initiate the appeal process. You may submit a request for appeal to the division engineer to preserve your appeal rights while the district is determining whether the submitted information qualifies for a reconsideration.

F: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: Not appealable

You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also, you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision, you may contact the Corps project manager who signed the letter to which this notification is attached. The name and telephone number of this person is given at the end of the letter.

If you have questions regarding the appeal process, or to submit your request for appeal, you may contact:

Mr. Philip Shannin, Administrative Appeal Review Officer
CESAD-PDO
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division
60 Forsyth Street, Room 10M15
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8801
Phone: (404) 562-5137

SECTION II – REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT

REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. Use additional pages as necessary. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15-day notice of any site investigation and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.

<hr/> Signature of appellant or agent.	Date:
Email address of appellant and/or agent:	Telephone number: