JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1835 Assembly Street, Room 865 B1 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 and

THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
Office of Environmental Quality Control
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Programs Section
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: SAC-2012-00631-6H

November 30, 2012

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the S.C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program (R. 19-450, et. seq., 1976 S.C. Code of Laws, as amended), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

Mr. John Johnson 806 Pretty Run Drive North Augusta, SC 29841

To obtain After-the-Fact authorization for a dock constructed on the

Savannah River

at a location adjacent to the terminus of East Shoreline Drive, North Augusta, Aiken County, South Carolina (Lat. 33.4784, Long. -81.9588)

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the work will be received by the Corps until

15 Days from the Date of this Notice,

and SCDHEC will receive written statements regarding the work until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may have been affected by the work.

The work has already been completed. The work consisted of construction of a 36' X 4' walkway and a 60' X 10' floating dock and the placement of 17 linear feet of rip-rap for bank stabilization. The applicant has stated that the purpose of the work was to build a recreational dock for private use and that construction of the dock was to replace a previously existing dock. However, the Corps has no record of previously issued permits for structures at this location. The applicant has stated that avoidance and minimization was implemented in that no fill was placed and that excavation was not performed. No mitigation measures have been proposed. The dock has been built near a site potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

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NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: Jessica Hooten
1835 Assembly Street
Room 865 B-1
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certification is received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review. Persons wishing to comment or object to Water Quality Certification must submit all comments in writing to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

The work shown on this application must be determined consistent with applicable provisions of the South Carolina Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review. Persons wishing to comment or object to State navigable waters permit must submit all comments in writing to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

Preliminary review of the scope of work sought by this application indicates that State and Federal permits should be processed <u>concurrently</u>. If the Federal permit is issued in advance of the State's a special provision will be included in the Federal permit expressing the endorsement of the District Engineer to any revisions or conditions subsequently imposed by the State permit.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The project has impacted 0.01 acres freshwater habitat well inland of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the action has not had a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to

Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the undertaking.

In accordance with the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein. This project has been located near a potentially eligible site for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

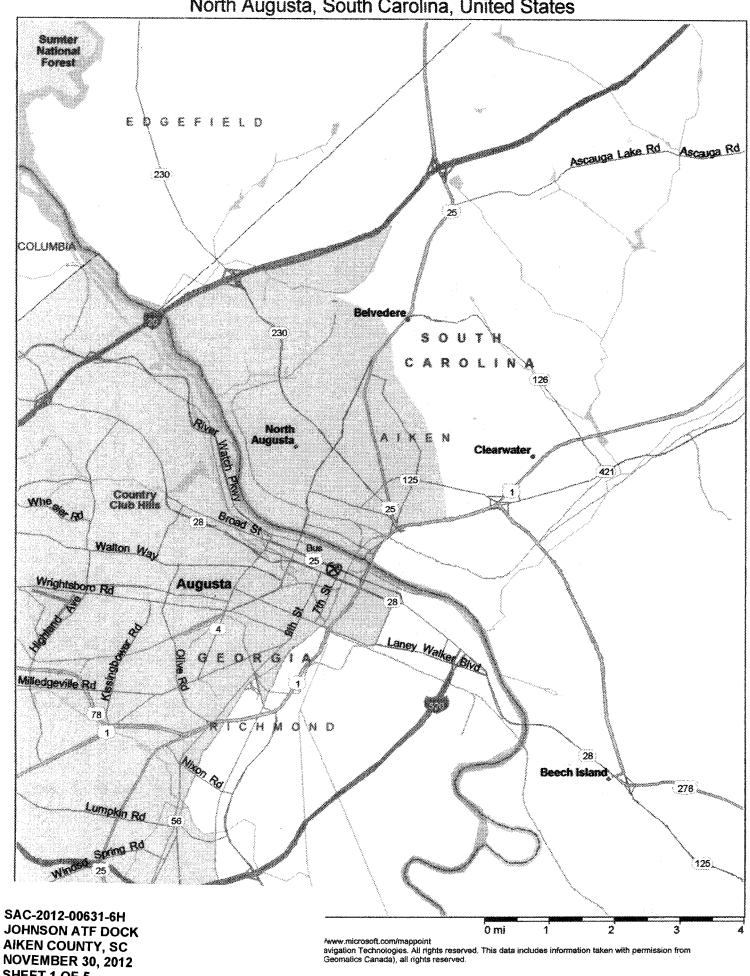
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the 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 project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project 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, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The 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 activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the 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 activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Jessica Hooten at 803-253-3916.

North Augusta, South Carolina, United States



SHEET 1 OF 5

Hamburg, South Carolina, United States E Rawood Ave Sweet Bri de Hamburg Row North De DOCKTON Bus 25 SAC-2012-00631-6H **JOHNSON ATF DOCK** 0 yds 200 400 AIKEN COUNTY, SC microsoft.com/mappoint ion Technologies. All rights reserved. This data includes information taken with permission from alics Canada), all rights reserved. **NOVEMBER 30, 2012**

SHEET 2 OF 5

