



**Department of the Army
And
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control**

December 7, 2016

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

**US Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
69 A Hagood Ave.
Charleston, SC 29412
and the
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Ocean and Coastal Resources Management, Charleston
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Section, Columbia**

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Notice of Availability of a Request for Concurrence of a Federal Consistency Determination pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, and Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, for a proposed water transmission main from Harleyville, SC southward to near Ridgeville, SC in Dorchester County, SC.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), Offices of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management and Water Quality Certification and Wetlands in conjunction with the USACE are inviting comment and this notice serves as a public notice on their behalf. **Comments will be accepted until December 22, 2016.** Project documentation is available online at:

<http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/NEPADocuments.aspx>.

Federal Project Authorization and Project Description:

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 (Public Law 102-580), as amended, specifically authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to provide assistance to non-Federal interests for carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resources protection and development projects. Congress has subsequently appropriated funds for USACE to participate in the planning, design and construction of the proposed Lake Marion Regional Water System Project. The Lake Marion Regional Water Agency (LMRWA) is serving as the non-Federal Sponsor and has partnered with Santee-Cooper (a.k.a., South Carolina Public Service Authority) to serve as the agency's technical representative for the project. The LMRWA was formed in 1995 with the goal of developing a regional water

supply system that centralizes the public drinking water supplies of numerous municipalities located in Clarendon, Dorchester, and Orangeburg Counties in South Carolina. The municipalities included: Santee, Elloree, Holly Hill, Eutawville, Bowman, Branchville, St. George, Harleyville, Ridgeville, Summerton, and Manning.

The proposed project would connect new 16 to 20-inch potable water transmission main to an existing 16-inch water main near the Town of Harleyville and extend the water main to the southeast approximately 56,000 feet (10.6 miles) to a point near the Town of Ridgeville. No permanent fill of wetlands or alteration of natural hydrology is proposed; there will be ~ 2.37 acres of jurisdictional wetlands cleared but allowed to partially revegetate and ~ 1.47 acres of jurisdictional wetlands cleared which will be allowed to fully revegetate. These impacts have been minimized from initial plans impacting ~ 5 acres of jurisdictional wetlands to the 3.84 acres. The new line would terminate at the junction of US Highway 78 and SC Highway 27. From its junction with Highway 178 the water transmission main is located within Department of Transportation right of way.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Ocean and Coastal Resources Management is soliciting public comment through December 22, 2016 on the project's consistency with the enforceable policies and programs of the State's Coastal Zone Management Program, pursuant to 15 C.F.R. § 930.42, regulations associated with the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. The proposed activity will be undertaken in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program (SCCZMP). Applicable enforceable resource policies of the SCCZMP include the Geographic Areas of Particular Concern and: (1) Wildlife and Fisheries Management (2) Public Services and Facilities, (3) Activities in Areas of Special Resource Significance, and (4) Stormwater Management. The SCCZMP enforceable policies may be reviewed in detail:

http://www.scdhec.gov/Environment/docs/OCRM_Policies_Procedures.pdf

This notice serves as a request to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for Section 401 Water Quality Certification and serves as a public notice on their behalf. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires this public notice as part of the water quality certification process to authorize the excavation and placement of dredged material, and discharge of effluents to waters of the United States. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control will review this project in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required to conduct an activity in, or adjacent to, waters of the State of South Carolina. Any person or agency who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 15 days of the date of this notice (**December 22, 2016**), in writing, and state the reasons/basis of objections, or request for a public hearing to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Division of Water Quality, Bureau of Water, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia. An overview of the South Carolina Water Quality Certification Program may be viewed at:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/WaterQuality/401Certification/Overview/>

Comments will be accepted until December 22 on the project and should be addressed to:

Mr. Jesse Helton
Biologist
US Army Corps of Engineers
Charleston District
69A Hagood Ave
Charleston, SC 29412
Jesse.S.Helton@usace.army.mil

Comments on the consistency of the project with the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program's enforceable policies are invited and will be accepted through December 22, addressed or emailed to:

Jeannie Lewis
Coastal Zone Consistency Project Manager, Regulatory Division
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
Ocean and Coastal Resources Management
1362 McMillan Ave; Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29405
lewisaj@dhec.sc.gov

Further information on Federal Consistency:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/WaterQuality/CoastalPermits/CoastalZoneConsistency/>

<https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/consistency/>

Comments pertaining to the *water quality certification* pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act are invited and will be accepted through December 22, addressed or emailed to:

Chuck Hightower
Manager, Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Section
Bureau of Water
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
hightocw@dhec.sc.gov