ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Scott E. Bennett Director Telephone (501) 569-2000 Voice/TTY 711



P.O. Box 2261 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261 Telefax (501) 569-2400 www.arkansashighways.com

December 15, 2016

Mr. Angel Correa Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 700 West Capitol, Room 3130 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3298

Re: Job Number CA0201

FAP Number ACNHPP-0002(32) Bridge Numbers M0775 and M0776 LA. State Line-Hwy. 82 (Widening)(S)

Ashley County

Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Correa:

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the AHTD/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions. The following information is included for your review and, if acceptable, approval as the environmental documentation for this project.

The purpose of this project is to widen Highway 425 to four lanes along with a painted median. The project length is 9.34 miles. It extends from the Louisiana State Line to Highway 82 in Ashley County. A project location map is enclosed.

Existing Highway 425 consists of two 11-foot paved travel lanes and 4-foot paved shoulders. The existing right of way width is approximately 120 feet.

AHTD Job Number CA0201 Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion Page 2 of 3

Proposed improvements include four 12-foot wide paved travel lanes with 8-foot wide shoulders and an 11-foot painted median. The average additional right of way will be 160 feet.

Two existing bridges (Bridge #'s M0775 & M0776) will be replaced with box culverts as shown in the following table. Approximately 57 acres of additional right of way will be required.

Bridge Number	Stream	Sufficiency Rating	Existing Structure	Proposed Structure
M0775	Hanks Creek	72.7	26' x 88' Composite integral W-beam w/concrete deck	Sextuple 12'x 10'x 124' R.C. Box Culvert
M0776	West Creek	72.7	26' x 88' Composite integral W-beam w/concrete deck	Sextuple 12'x 9'x 130' R.C. Box Culvert

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2017	1,500	33	60 mph
2037	1,800	33	60 mph

The traffic noise estimates for the project resulted in a noise abatement distance of 77 feet from the centerline of Highway 425 in the project area. No sensitive receptors will be affected by future noise levels greater than 66 dB(A). A noise analysis is enclosed.

There are no relocations, endangered species, or Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice issues associated with the project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. No impacts to cultural resources will occur; SHPO concurrence is enclosed. Approximately 46.5 acres of Prime Farmland will be converted to highway right of way. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is enclosed.

A public meeting was held for the proposed project on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. A public involvement synopsis is enclosed.

AHTD Job Number CA0201 Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion Page 3 of 3

Construction of the proposed project will result in impacts to less than 0.5 acre of wetlands, nine ephemeral streams and seven intermittent streams. Construction activities include the replacement of bridges crossing West Creek and Hanks Creek with reinforced concrete box culverts. Impacts to the stream channels at each crossing are estimated to be less than 0.2 acre. Construction of this project should be allowed under terms of a Nationwide Permit Number 14 for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in the Federal Register 77(34):10183-10290.

Ashley County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. All of the floodplain encroachments within this highway construction project will be designed to comply with the county's local flood damage prevention ordinance. The project lies within the Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at 569-2281.

APPROVED

Environmental Specialist Federal Highway Administration

Date: 12/16/2016

Sincerely,

John Fleming Division Head

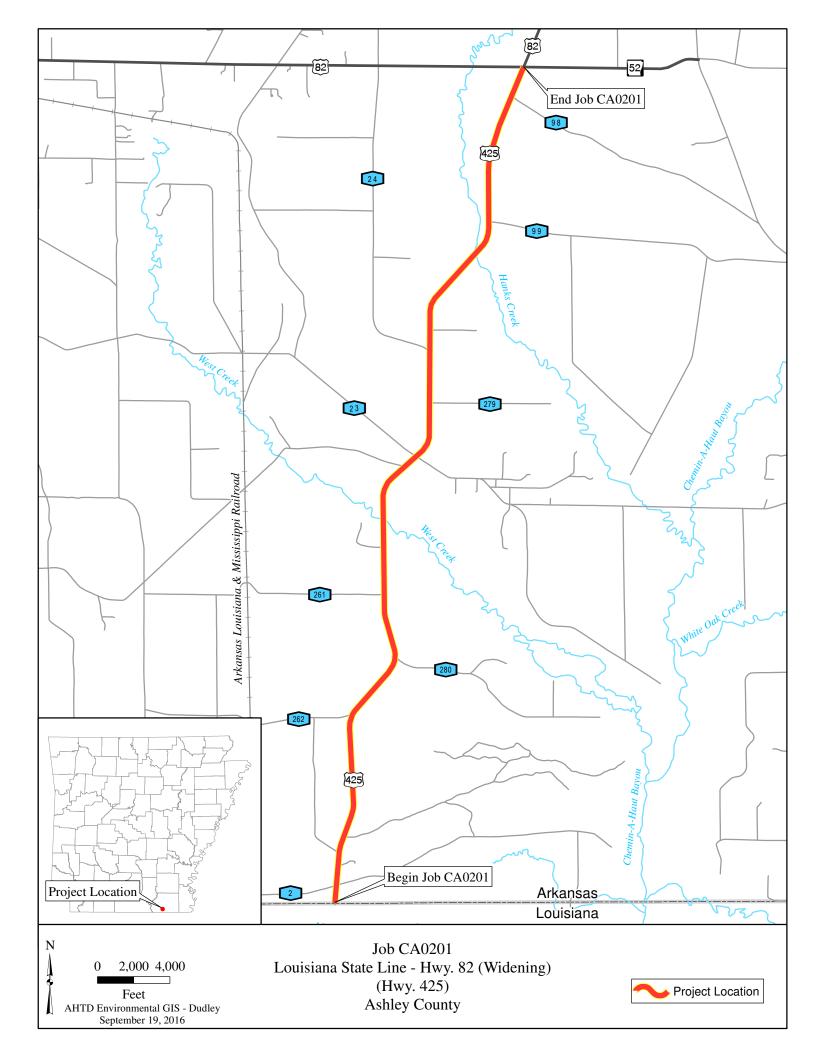
Environmental Division

John Flening

Enclosures

JF:SL:fc

c: Program Management Right of Way Roadway Design CAP Administrator District 2 Master File





Asa Hutchinson Governor

> Stacy Hurst Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum







1100 North Street Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880 fax: (501) 324-9184 tdd: 711

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

December 2, 2016

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

RE:

Ashley County – General Section 106 Review – FHWA

Report Titled: A Cultural Resources Survey of AHTD Job Number CA0201, LA. State Line – Hwy. 82 (Widening)(S), Ashley County,

DEC 0 7 2016

ENVIRONMENTAL

DIVISION

Arkansas

AHTD Job Number CA0201 AHPP Tracking Number 93845.01

Dear Mr. Fleming:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry regarding properties of architectural or historical significance in the area of the proposed referenced project. The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has reviewed the documents included with your letter of November 18, 2016.

Based on the survey work conducted on portions of the two historic sites (3AS461 and 3AS462) that cross into the right of way (ROW), we concur that these portions are non-contributing. However, the portion outside the ROW will be considered unevaluated until further research can be conducted. We recommend a barrier be constructed to prevent work on this undertaking encroaching on the unevaluated area.

With that condition, we concur that this undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include: the Caddo Nation (Ms. Tamara Francis-Fourkiller), the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma (Mr. Everett Bandy) and the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (Ms. Kim Jumper). We recommend that they be consulted in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2 (c)(2).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, please call Tim Dodson of my staff at 501-324-9784.

Sincerely,

Frances McSwain

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

cc:

Mr. Randall Looney, FHWA Dr. Andrea Hunter, Osage Nation Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey

AHTD JOB NUMBER CA0201 NOISE ANALYSIS

Fundamentals of Sound and Noise

"Noise" is defined as an unwanted sound. Sounds are described as noise if they interfere with an activity or disturb the person hearing them. Sound is measured in a logarithmic unit called a decibel (dB). The human ear is more sensitive to middle and high frequency sounds than it is to low frequency sounds, so sound levels are weighted to more closely reflect human perceptions. These "A-weighted" sounds are measured using the decibel unit dB(A). Because the dB(A) is based on a logarithmic scale, a 10 dB(A) increase in sound level is generally perceived as twice as loud while a 3 dB(A) increase is just barely perceptible to the human ear.

Sound levels fluctuate with time depending on the sources of the sound audible at a specific location. In addition, the degree of annoyance associated with certain sounds varies by time of day, depending on other ambient sounds affecting the listener and the activities of the listener. The time-varying fluctuations in sound levels at a fixed location can be quite complex, so they are typically reported using statistical or mathematical descriptors that are a function of sound intensity and time. A commonly used descriptor of the equivalent sound level is Leq, which represents the equivalent of a steady, unvarying level over a defined period of time containing the same level of sound energy as the time varying noise environment. Leq(h) is a sound level averaged over one hour. For highway projects, the Leq(h) is commonly used to describe traffic-generated sound levels at locations of outdoor human use and activity (such as residences).

Noise Impact Criteria

Traffic noise impacts take place when the predicted traffic noise levels approach or exceed the noise abatement standard, or when the predicted traffic noise levels exceed the existing noise level by ten dB(A) (decibels on the A-scale). The noise abatement standard of 67 dB(A) is used for sensitive noise receptors such as residences, schools, churches, cemeteries and parks. The term "approach" is considered to be one dB(A) less than the noise abatement standard.

The number of noise receptors was estimated for this project utilizing the Federal Highway Administration's Traffic Noise Model 2.5, existing and proposed roadway information, existing traffic information, and projected traffic levels for 2038.

Traffic noise analyses

Traffic noise analyses were performed for the project utilizing a roadway cross-section for Highway 425 consisting of four 12-foot paved travel lanes, one 11-foot turn lane, and paved shoulder widths of 8 feet.

AHTD Job CA0201 Noise Analysis Page 2 of 2

Effects of Project

The traffic noise estimates for the project resulted in a noise abatement distance of 77 feet from the centerline of Highway 425 in the project area. No sensitive receptors will be affected by future noise levels greater than 66 dB(A).

Traffic Noise Abatement

Since noise impacts are predicted within 500 feet of the proposed project, the feasibility and reasonableness of potential noise abatement measures must be evaluated. Based upon AHTD's "Policy on Highway Traffic Noise Abatement", any noise abatement effort using barrier walls or berms is not warranted for this project. In order to provide direct access to the highway from adjacent properties, breaks in the barrier walls or berms would be required. These necessary breaks for highway access would render any noise barrier ineffective.

To avoid noise levels in excess of design levels, any future receptors should be located a minimum of 10 feet beyond the distance that the noise abatement standard is projected to occur. This distance should be used as a general guide and not a specific rule since the noise will vary depending upon the roadway grades and other noise contributions.

Any excessive project noise, due to construction operations, should be of short duration and have a minimum adverse effect on land uses or activities associated with this project area.

In compliance with Federal guidelines, a copy of this analysis will be transmitted to the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District for possible use in present and future land use planning.

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency) Job CA0201				3. Date of Land Evaluation Request 9/13/16 4. Sheet 1 of						
1. Name of Project LA.	State Line - Hwy. 82 (W	/idening) (S)	5. Federal Agency Involved FHWA							
2. Type of Project Highw	vay Widening		6. Cour	nty and State Ash	ley AR.					
PART II (To be completed by NR	(CS)		1. Date	Request Received by	y NRCS	2. Person	Completing Form			
Does the corridor contain prime, uni- (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do		•		YES NO		4. Acres Ir	rrigated Average	Farm Size		
5. Major Crop(s)	•			nment Jurisdiction		7. Amount	of Farmland As D	efined in FPPA		
		Acres:		%		Acres:	:	%		
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System L	Jsed	9. Name of Local	Site Asse	ssment System		10. Date L	and Evaluation Re	turned by NRCS		
PART III (To be completed by Fe	deral Agency)					dor For Se				
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Dire	ectly			Corridor A	Corri	dor B	Corridor C	Corridor D		
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indi	 	Services			 					
C. Total Acres In Corridor					 			†		
PART IV (To be completed by N	RCS) Land Evaluati	on Information				1				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Fa	armland			46.5						
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local	Important Farmland						***************************************			
C. Percentage Of Farmland in Cour	nty Or Local Govt. Unit	To Be Converted	d					1		
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt.	Jurisdiction With Same	Or Higher Relativ	e Value							
PART V (To be completed by NRCS			Relative							
value of Farmland to Be Serviced of	· ·				ļ					
PART VI (To be completed by Fed Assessment Criteria (These criteri	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		/laximum Points							
Area in Nonurban Use			15	15						
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use			10	10						
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Far	med		20	15						
4. Protection Provided By State	And Local Government		20	0						
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Cor	npared To Average		10	0						
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farm			25	0			-			
7. Availablility Of Farm Support S	Services		5	5						
8. On-Farm Investments			20	0						
9. Effects Of Conversion On Fari			25	0						
10. Compatibility With Existing Ag	ricultural Use		10	0						
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSME	ENT POINTS		160	45						
PART VII (To be completed by Fed	deral Agency)									
Relative Value Of Farmland (From	Part V)		100	100						
Total Corridor Assessment (From F assessment)	Part VI above or a local	site	160	45						
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above	2 lines)		260	145						
Corridor Selected: New Location Adjacent to existing	Total Acres of Farmi Converted by Projet 46.5 acres of Prime	ct:	Date Of S	Selection:	4. Was	A Local Site	Assessment Used	i?		
5. Reason For Selection:								·		
	2-4									
Signature of Person Completing this F						DATE	12/15/1	16		
NOTE: Complete a form for an	sch coamont with m	are then end	Altornote	Corridor						

NO(TE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SYNOPSIS

Job Number CA0201 Louisiana State Line – Highway 82 (Widening)(Hwy. 425) Ashley County Tuesday, August 2, 2016

An open forum public meeting for the proposed widening of Highway 425 was held at the Church of the Redeemer (Fellowship Hall) from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. Efforts to involve minorities and the public in the meeting included the following:

- Display advertisement placed in the *Ashley County Ledger* Wednesday, July 20, 2016 and Wednesday, July 27, 2016.
- Public Service Announcement to *Q-Lite KHMB 99.5* which aired on Thursday, July 28, 2016 through Tuesday, August 2, 2016.
- Outreach to Public Officials Letters.
- Distribution of flyers in the project area.

The following information was available for inspection and comment. Small-scale copies of the displays are attached.

- Aerial photograph illustrating the proposed project at a scale of 1 inch = 1,500 feet.
- Preliminary design of the proposed project at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet.

Handouts for the public included a comment sheet and a small-scale map of the project location. Copies of these are attached.

Table 1 describes the results of the public participation at the meeting.

TABLE 1						
Public Participation	Totals					
Attendance at meeting (including AHTD staff)	32					
Comment forms received	12					

AHTD staff reviewed all comments received and evaluated their contents. The summary of comments listed below reflects the personal perception or opinion of the person or organization making the statement. The sequencing of the comments is random and is not intended to reflect importance or numerical values. Some of the comments were combined and/or paraphrased to simplify the synopsis process.

An analysis of the responses received as a result of the public survey is shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2					
Alternative Preferred	Totals				
Supports widening Highway 425	8				
Does not support widening Highway 425	4				
Knowledge of historical, archeological or cemetery sites	1				
Knowledge of area environmental constraints	1				

A listing of general comments concerning the proposed project follows:

- Most comments received were individual concerns such as loss of property and the depreciation of property value.
- Several property owners commented that it would be beneficial to widen to the side of the road where there are no houses rather than widen equally to both sides.
- Some respondents questioned the need for a four-lane highway and suggested that Highway 425 be repaired and more passing lanes be added.
- Several comments raised concerns about the use of culverts instead of bridges on this project due to the severe amount of flooding during heavy rain events.
- One individual reported a cemetery near the project.
- One individual reported the presence of an alligator in the pond south of the West Creek Bridge.

Attachments:

Public handouts, including blank comment form Small-scale display copies

SL:fc:cb

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD)

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

AHTD JOB NUMBER CA0201
La. State Line-Highway 82 Widening (Hwy. 425)
ASHLEY COUNTY

LOCATION:

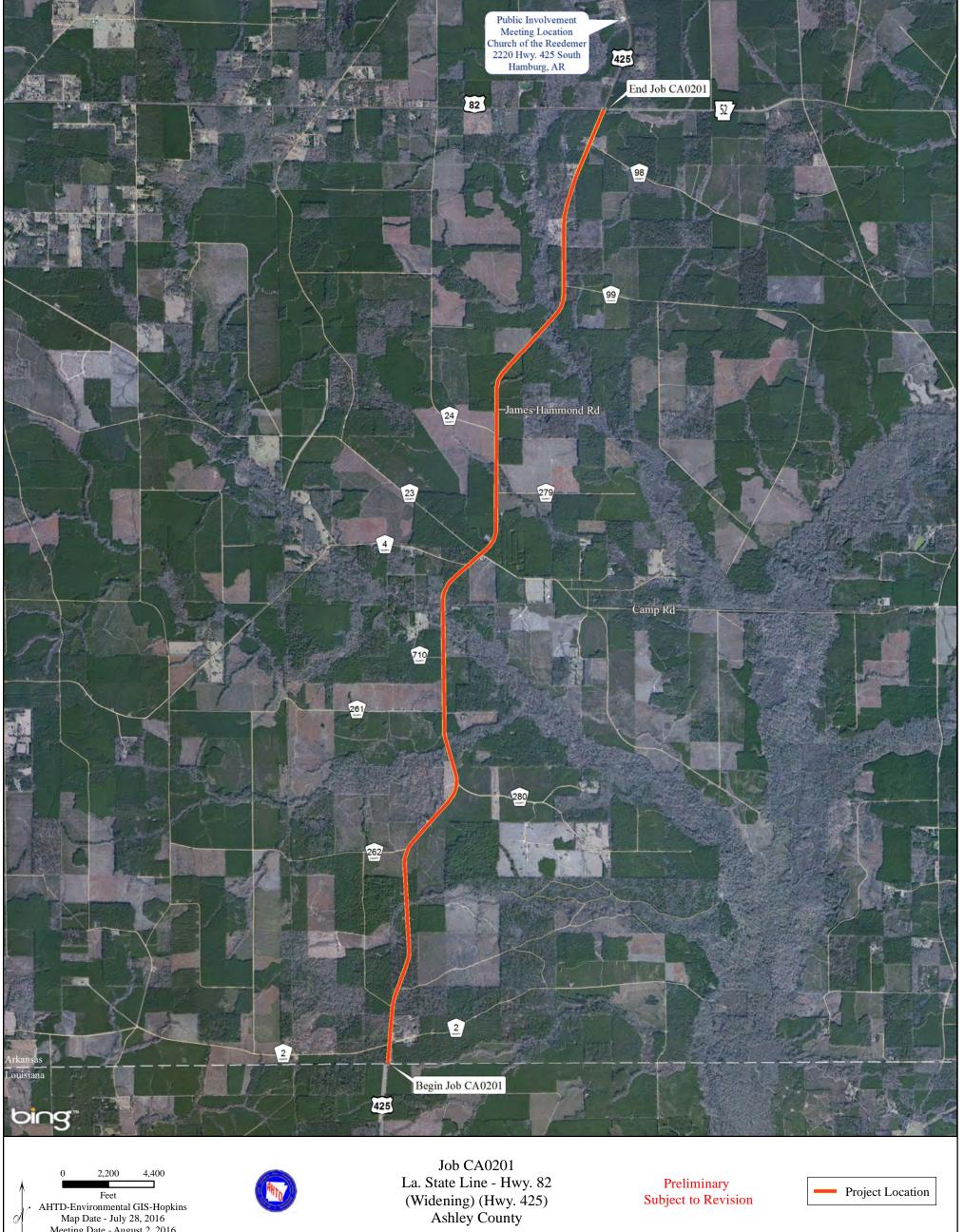
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER 2220 HIGHWAY 425 S. TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2016 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

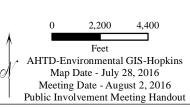
Make your comments on this form and leave it with AHTD personnel at the meeting or mail it within 15 days to: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, Environmental Division, Post Office Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. Email: environmentalpimeetings@ahtd.ar.gov.

Yes	No	Do you feel there is a need to widen Highway 425 between the Louisiana State Line and Highway 82? Comment (optional)
		Do you know of any historical sites, family cemeteries, or archaeological sites in the project area? Please note and discuss with staff.
		Do you know of any environmental constraints, such as endangered species, hazardous waste sites, existing or former landfills, or parks and public lands in the vicinity of the project? Please note and discuss with AHTD staff.
		Does your home or property offer any limitations to the project, such as septic systems, that the Department needs to consider in its design?

(Continue on Back)

Yes	INO	Do you have a suggestion that would make this proposed project better serve the needs of the community?
		Do you feel that the proposed widening will have any impacts
		(Beneficial or Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, social, or environmental etc.)? Please explain.
you are	a pı	cessary for the AHTD to contact property owners along potential routes. If roperty owner along or adjacent to the route under consideration, please mation below. Thank you.
Name :		(Please Print)
Addres	s:	Phone: ()
E-mail:		
Please	make	e additional comments here.
-		





Notes:	 	 	

AHTD ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	Х			
Construction Impacts		Х		
Cultural Resources	Х			Restraining Condition SP
Economic	Х			
Endangered Species	Х			
Energy Resources	Х			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	Х			
Fish and Wildlife	Х			
Floodplains		X		
Forest Service Property	Х			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts	X			
Migratory Birds		X		Bird SP
Navigation/Coast Guard	Х			
Noise Levels	X			
Prime Farmland				
Protected Waters				
Public Recreation Lands	X			
Public Water Supply/WHPA		X		SP required.
Relocatees	X			
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			
Social	X			
Underground Storage Tanks	X			
Visual Impacts	X			
Stream Impacts		X		Replacing 2 bridges w/box culverts
Water Quality		X		Minor turbidity during construction
Wetlands		X		< 0.1 acres
Wildlife Refuges	X			

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number <u>CA0201</u> FAP	Number <u>9991</u> (County <u>Ashley</u>
Job Name <u>LA State Line – HWY. 8</u>	32 (WIDENING) (S)	
Design Engineer <u>Crafton Tull and A</u>	<u>Associates</u> Environmental Staff	
Brief Project Description: Widen to	four lanes with center turn lane	on Hwy. 425
A. Existing Conditions: 1. Roadway Width:	22'	
2. Shoulder Width:	4'	
3. Number of Lanes and Width:	2 lanes @ 11'	
4. Existing Right-of-Way:	Approx. 120'	
2. Shoulder Width:3. Number of Lanes and Width:	59' 8' paved 4 lanes @ 12', 1 center turn land Approx. 160'	e @ 11'
C. Construction Information: If detour: Where:		
D. Design Data: 2017 ADT: <u>1,500</u> 2037 A	DT: <u>1,800</u> Trucks <u>33%</u>	
Design Speed: 60 m.p.h.		
E. Approximate total length of projec	t: <u>9.34</u> mile(s)	
F. Justification for proposed improve	ments: Increase Capacity	
G. Total Relocatees: 0 Reside	ences: 0 Businesses:	0
H. Have you coordinated with any of	the following: (Provide name ar	nd date)
City and or County Officials: State Agency:		
Federal Agency:		



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS POST OFFICE BOX 867 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-0867

www.swl.usace.army.mil/

February 1, 2018

Regulatory Division

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. MVK 2018-00092

Mr. John Fleming Division Head, Environmental Division Arkansas Department of Transportation PO Box 2261 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Please refer to your recent request concerning Department of the Army permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States associated with widening 9.3 miles of U.S. Highway 425 from two lanes to four lanes. Proposed improvements include four 12-footwide travel lanes, 8-foot-wide shoulders and 11-foot-wide painted median. The project will be constructed on existing alignment and will cross sixteen streams. Named streams include Hanks Creek and West Creek, the other fourteen streams are unnamed. The project will replace the bridges over Hanks Creek, West Creek and one unnamed stream with concrete box culverts. The culverts at all other stream crossings will be retained and extended to accommodate embankment widening. Impacts at all stream crossings will be less than 0.1 acres. A total of 0.2 acres of wetlands will be adversely impacted by the project. Approximately 57 acres of additional right-of-way will be required for the project. There are no endangered species or cultural resources impacts.

The project was approved by the ArDOT and Federal Highway Administration as a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion on December 16, 2016. Approximately 0.5 miles of the project will be constructed in Louisiana and 8.8 miles will be constructed in Arkansas. Through a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation, ArDOT will oversee all construction. The project is located approximately five miles southeast of Crossett in section 9, T. 23 N., R. 6 E., Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, in sections 5, 8, 17, 20, 29, 31, and 32, T. 19 S., R. 7 W., and in sections 21, 28, 32 and 33, T. 18 S., R. 7 W., Ashley County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location maps and wetland impacts worksheet are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) **No. 23** (copy enclosed), provided that the following **Special Condition** and General Conditions therein are met. For your convenience, we have highlighted the General Conditions of the NWP that are the most pertinent to your project. You should become familiar with the conditions and

maintain a copy of the permit at the worksite for ready reference. If changes are proposed in the design or location of the project, you should submit revised plans to this office for approval before construction of the change begins.

Special Condition:

1. The ArDOT agrees to mitigate for the adverse impacts to 0.2 acres of wetlands with 2.0 wetland credits at an approved mitigation bank before construction of the project begins. The ArDOT will provide documentation of the mitigation bank transaction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District Transportation Program Manager.

Please pay particular attention to General Condition No. 12 which stipulates that appropriate erosion and siltation controls be used during construction and all exposed soil be permanently stabilized. Erosion control measures must be implemented before, during and after construction.

Also, in order to fully comply with the conditions of the NWP, you must submit the enclosed compliance certification within 30 days of completion of the project. This is required pursuant to General Condition No. 30 of the permit.

For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification conditions, which are conditions of your permit. If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the 401 certification, you should contact Ms. Lazendra Hairston at the ADEQ, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118, telephone (501) 682-0645. We have also enclosed a copy of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Section 401 certification. If you have any questions regarding this certification, you should contact Ms. Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225, or by email at Elizabeth.Hill@La.gov.

The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP No. 23 is modified, suspended, or revoked during this period, your project may not be authorized unless you have begun or are under contract to begin the project. If work has started or the work is under contract, you would then have twelve (12) months to complete the work.

Your cooperation in the Regulatory Program is appreciated. If you have any additional questions about this permit or any of its provisions, please contact Mr. Johnny McLean at (501) 324-5295 and refer to Permit No. MVK 2018-00092, U.S. Highway 425 widening southeast of Crossett (ArDOT Project No. CA0201).

Sincerely,

Sarah Chitwood

Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

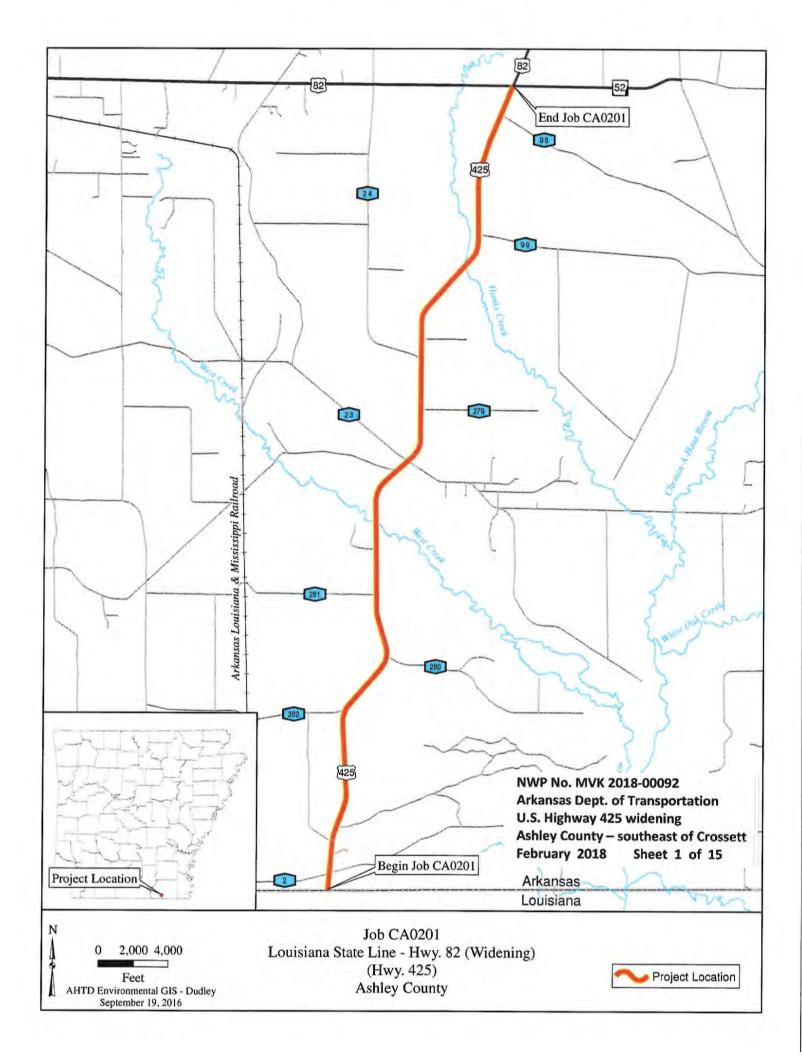
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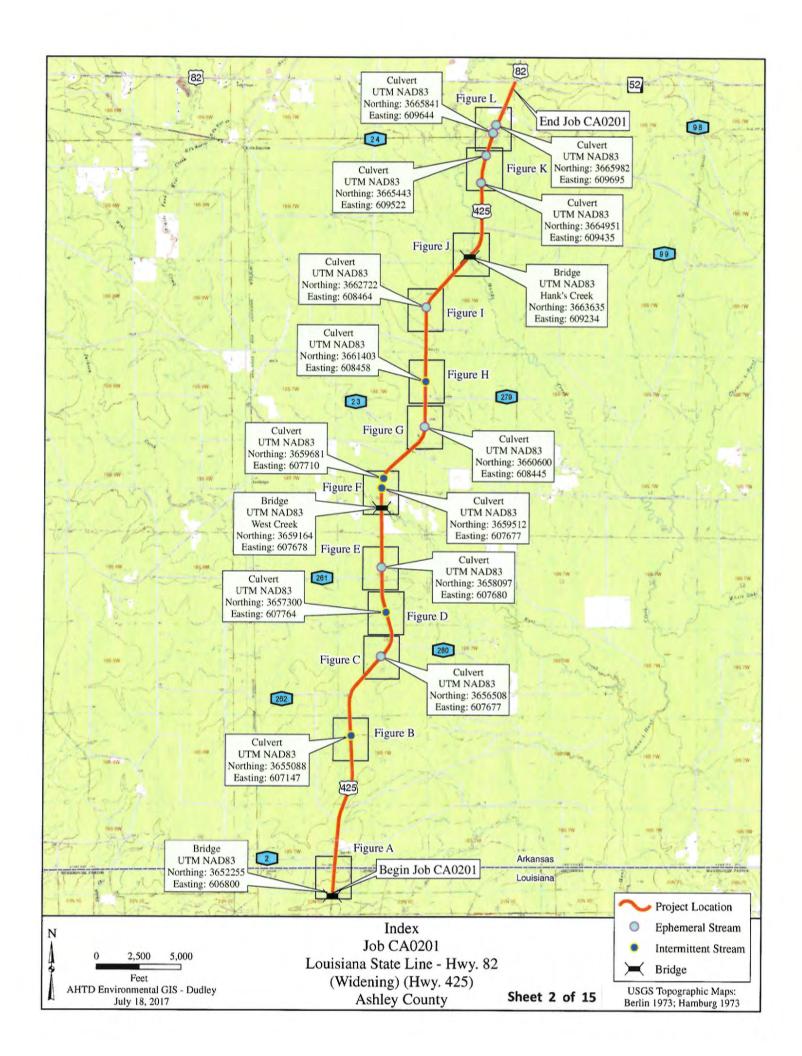
Vicksburg District Regulatory, w/cy dwgs

Ms. Lazendra Hairston, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs

Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy dwgs

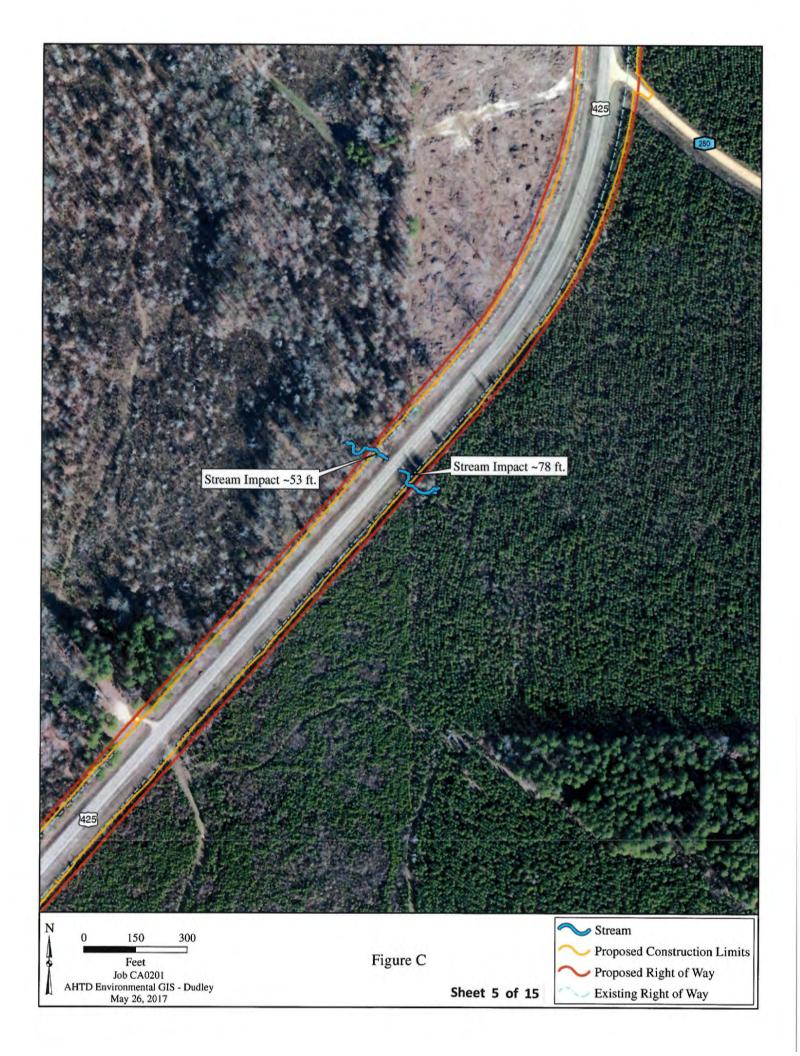
Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs

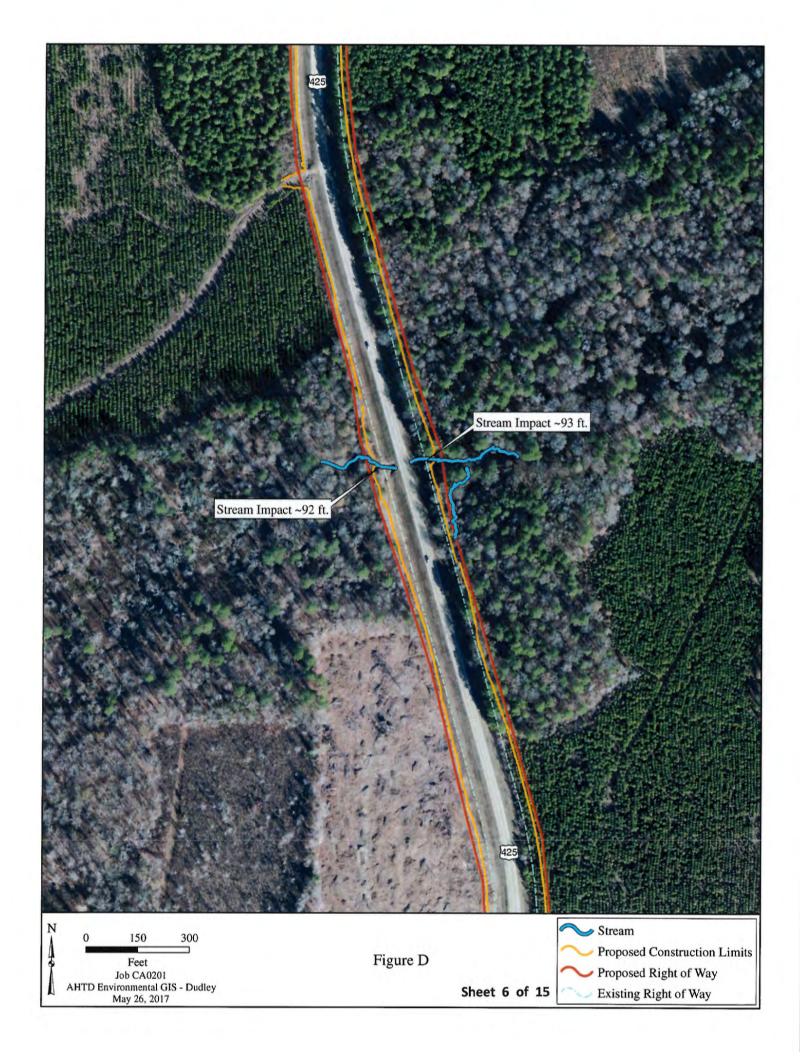




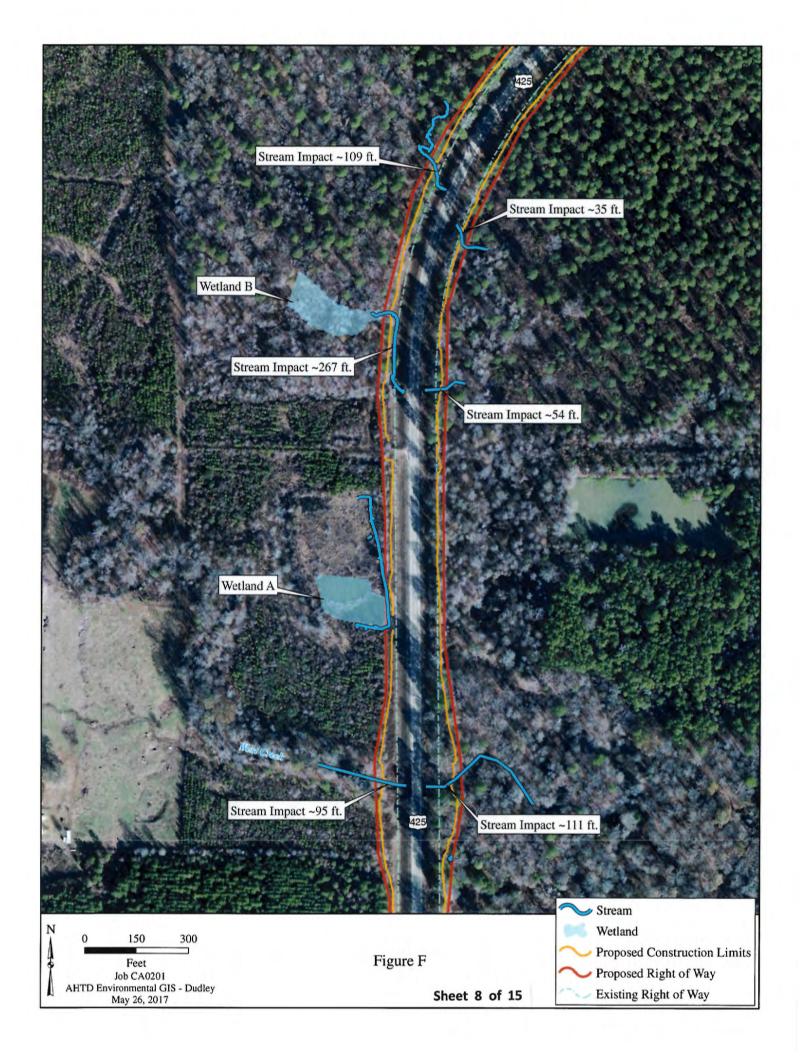






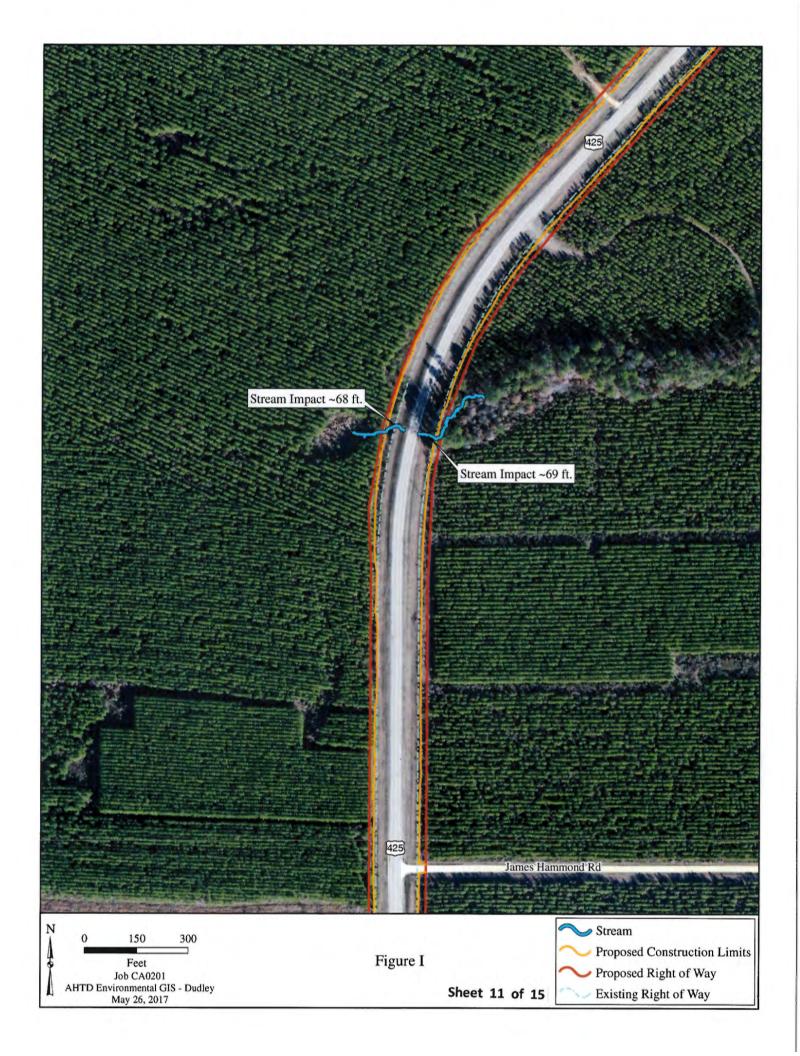


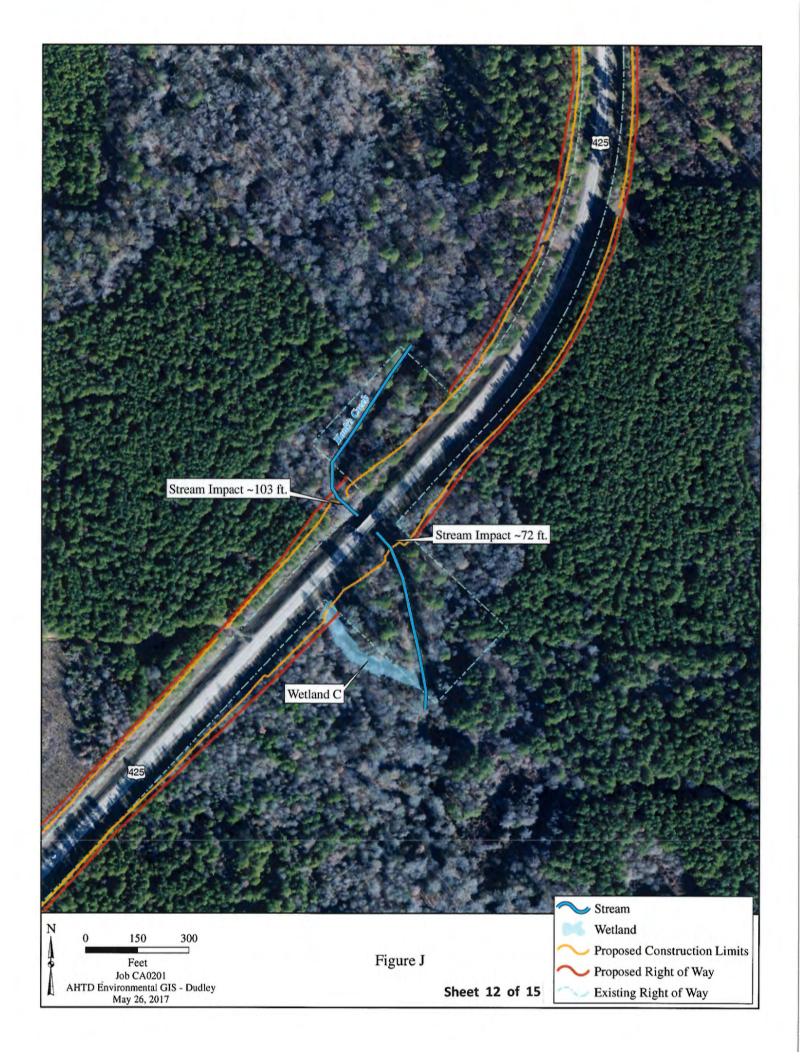


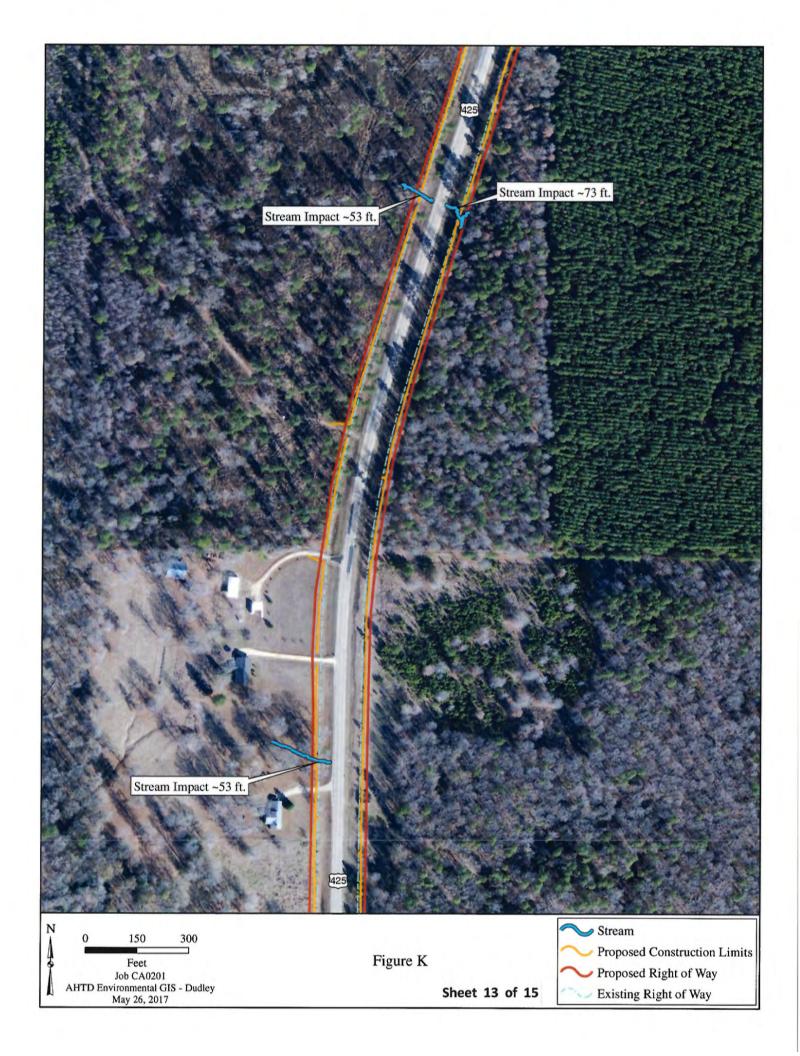


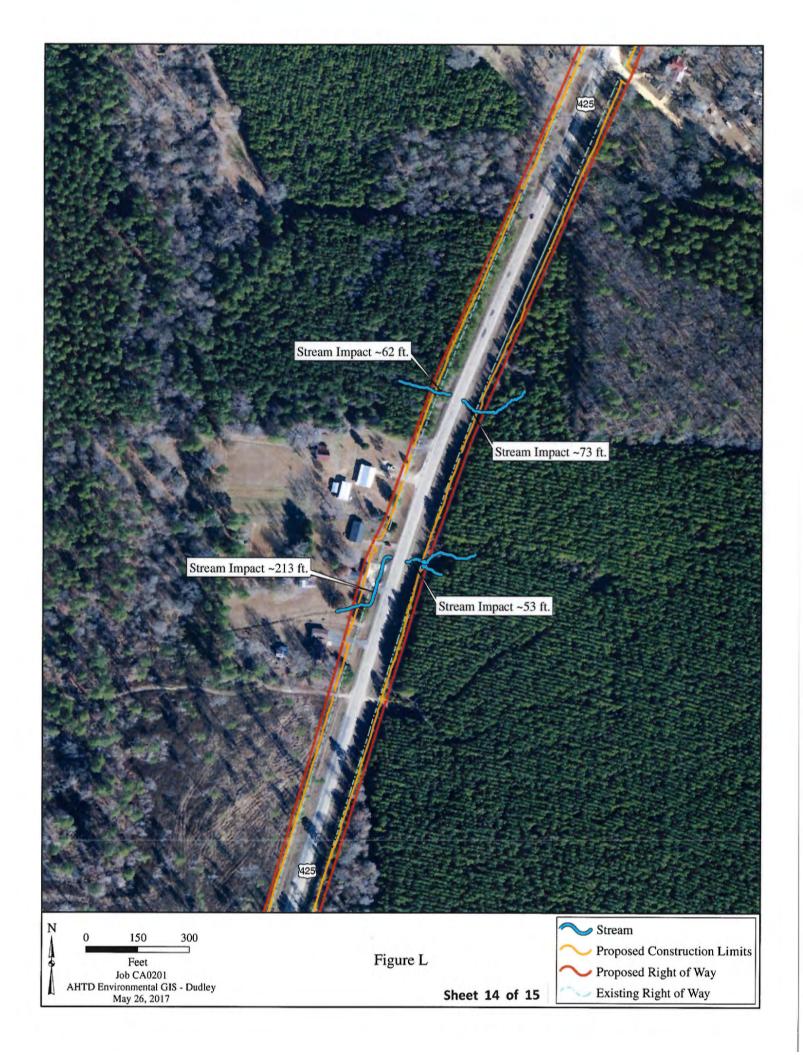












Determination of Wetland Credits Working Draft, Subject to Change Last Revised, October 7, 2010

4.0 TABLES AND WORKSHEETS

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT TABLE

REGUIRED WETEAND WITIGATION CREDIT TABLE											
FACTORS					OPT	IONS					
Lost Type	Type C				Type B			-	Туре А		
	0.2				2.	0				3.0	
Priority	Tertiary				Secor	•		Primary			
Category	0.5			<u> </u>	1.	5			·	2.0	
Existing Condition	Very Impaire 0.1	d li		lmpair 1.0		i	irtially paired	- ,		Fully Functional 2.5	
								2.0			
Duration	0 to 1 year	1 to	o 3 ye	ars	ars 3 to 5 years 5		5 to	5 to 10 years		Over 10 years	
:	0.2	0.5		1.0) 1		1.5		2.0	
Dominant	Shade	Cle	ar	D	rain	Dredge		Imp	ound/	Fill	
Impact	0.2	1.0	ם ס	:	2.0	2.5		F	ood	3.0	
		·			<u> </u>				2.5		
Cumulative	< 0.25 Acre	0	.25-0.		1	2.99	3	3.0-9.99		≥10.0 Acres	
Impact	0.1		Acres	S	Ac	res		Acres	3	2.0	
			0.2		0	.5		1.0			

Note: The cumulative impact factor for the <u>overall</u> project should be included in the sum of factors for each impacted area on the Required Wetland Mitigation Credit Worksheet.

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT WORKSHEET

Factor	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6
Lost Type	3.0	0.2	3.0	3.0		
Priority Category	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		
Existing Condition	2.5	0.1	2.5	2.5		
Duration	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0		·
Dominant Impact	3.0	1.0	1.0	3.0		
Cumulative Impact	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1		
Sum of Factors	$R_1 = 11.1$	$R_2 = 2.9$	$R_3 = 9.1$	$R_4 = 11.1$	R ₅ =	R ₆ =
Impacted Area	A ₁ =0.11	$A_2 = 0.03$	$A_3 = 0.01$	A ₄ = 0.05	A ₅ =	A ₆ =
R x AA=	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.6		

Required Wetland Mitigation Credits = $\sum (R \times A) = 2.0$



MAR 16 2017

Colonel Robert G. Dixon District Commander U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 867 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867

RE: Public Notice: Re-issuance of Nationwide Permits

Dear Colonel Dixon:

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has completed its review of the above referenced public notice for re-issuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits (NWPs) for the State of Arkansas.

ADEQ has determined that there is a reasonable assurance that the activities covered under most these NWPs will be conducted in a manner which, according to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission's Regulation No.2, will not physically alter a significant segment of the waterbody and will not violate the water quality criteria.

Therefore, pursuant to §40l(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, the ADEQ hereby **issues** water quality certification for all NWPs with the exception of NWPs 14, 29, and 43, contingent upon the following conditions:

- 1) An individual water quality certification request must be submitted to ADEQ for Activities which may impact Extraordinary Resource Waters, Ecologically Sensitive Waterbodies, and Natural Scenic Waterways and their tributaries (within 1 mile) as defined in Regulation No. 2, Water Quality Standards.
- 2) The applicant shall contact ADEQ to determine if a Short Term Activity Authorization (STAA) is needed when performing work in the wetted area of any waterbody. More information can be obtained by contacting the Water Division Planning Section of ADEQ at 501-682-0946.
- 3) The applicant shall implement all practicable best management practices (BMPs) to avoid excessive impacts of sedimentation and turbidity to the surface waters.
- 4) The applicant will take all reasonable measures to prevent the spillage or leakage of any chemicals, oil, grease, gasoline, diesel, or other fuels. In the unlikely event such spillage or leakage occurs, the applicant must contact ADEQ immediately.
- 5) The applicant shall limit construction to low flow periods as much as possible to minimize adverse effects on water quality and aquatic life.



CHUCK CARR BROWN, Ph.D. SECRETARY

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

APR 1 7 2017

Mr. Martin S. Mayer Chief, Regulatory Branch Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District P. O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Attention: Brenda A. Archer AJ No.: 149056 WQC 160629-02

Activity No.: CER20160001

RE:

Water Quality Certification WOC 160629-02 *CORRECTED*

2017 Nationwide Permit Reissuance

State of Louisiana

Dear Mr. Mayer:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services (LDEQ), provides with this correspondence clarification of the water quality certification approval and reissuance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Nationwide Permits (NWPs), general conditions, and definitions with some modification in the *Federal Register* (Vol. 82 No. 4) as published January 6, 2017. The 2017 NWPs are in effect as of March 19, 2017. The publication of the final NWPs in the *Federal Register* serves as the Corps application for water quality certification (WQC) under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act for those NWPs that will result in a discharge in the State of Louisiana.

LDEQ has reviewed the Corps' Reissuance of Nationwide Permits, as published in the referenced *Federal Register* and issues WQC 160629-02 with the attached Nationwide Permit (NWP) Regional Conditions, February 2017 for the following NWPs:

NWP	3	NWP	18	NWP	33	NWP	46
NWP	4	NWP	19	NWP	34	NWP	48
NWP	5	NWP	20	NWP	36	NWP	49
NWP	6	NWP	21	NWP	37	NWP	50
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NWP	14	NWP	27	NWP	42	NWP	54
NWP	15	NWP	30	NWP	43		
NWP	16	NWP	31	NWP	44		
NWP	17	NWP	32	NWP	45		

WQC 160629-02 *CORRECTED* AI 149056 2017 Nationwide Permit Reissuance State of Louisiana Page 2

LDEQ denies 401 Water Quality Certification to the reissuance of NWP 29 except those associated with construction or expansion of a single residence pursuant to the attached State of Louisiana Nationwide Permit Regional Conditions.

LDEQ has denied 401 Water Quality Certification to the reissuance of NWP 39.

Based on the information provided in the application, it is the opinion of LDEQ that the Nationwide Permit NWP 39 could have potential adverse effects on water quality or fail to comply with State water quality standards as provided for un LAC 33:IX. Chapter 11, and should be considered for certification on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, certification for this NWP is denied.

Should you have any questions concerning any part of this certification, please contact Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225 or by email at elizabeth.hill@la.gov Please reference Agency Interest (AI) number 149056 and Water Quality Certification 160629-02 on all future correspondence to this Department to ensure all correspondence regarding this subject is properly filed into the Department's Electronic Document Management System.

Sincerely,

Assistant Secretary

Elliott B. Vega

Attachment

c: IO-W

NWP 16. Return Water from Upland Contained Disposal Areas: No additional regional conditions are proposed.

NWP 17. Hydropower Projects: No additional regional conditions are in proposed.

NWP 18. Minor Discharges:

This NWP, via disavowal of Coastal Zone certification by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, is considered **denied** without prejudice within the Louisiana Coastal Zone. Individual requests for approval under this NWP will be conditioned to require the applicant to obtain a Louisiana Department of Natural Resources determination/certification before the NWP is valid.

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NWP 21. Surface Coal Mining Activities: No additional regional conditions are proposed.

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NWP 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs:



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT. CORPS OF ENGINEERS **POST OFFICE BOX 867** LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-0867

www.swl.usace.army.mil/

February 1, 2018

Regulatory Division

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. MVK 2018-00092

Mr. John Fleming Division Head, Environmental Division Arkansas Department of Transportation PO Box 2261 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Please refer to your recent request concerning Department of the Army permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States associated with widening 9.3 miles of U.S. Highway 425 from two lanes to four lanes. Proposed improvements include four 12-footwide travel lanes, 8-foot-wide shoulders and 11-foot-wide painted median. The project will be constructed on existing alignment and will cross sixteen streams. Named streams include Hanks Creek and West Creek, the other fourteen streams are unnamed. The project will replace the bridges over Hanks Creek, West Creek and one unnamed stream with concrete box culverts. The culverts at all other stream crossings will be retained and extended to accommodate embankment widening. Impacts at all stream crossings will be less than 0.1 acres. A total of 0.2 acres of wetlands will be adversely impacted by the project. Approximately 57 acres of additional rightof-way will be required for the project. There are no endangered species or cultural resources impacts.

The project was approved by the ArDOT and Federal Highway Administration as a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion on December 16, 2016. Approximately 0.5 miles of the project will be constructed in Louisiana and 8.8 miles will be constructed in Arkansas. Through a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation, ArDOT will oversee all construction. The project is located approximately five miles southeast of Crossett in section 9, T. 23 N., R. 6 E., Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, in sections 5, 8, 17, 20, 29, 31, and 32, T. 19 S., R. 7 W., and in sections 21, 28, 32 and 33, T. 18 S., R. 7 W., Ashley County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location maps and wetland impacts worksheet are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 23 (copy enclosed), provided that the following Special Condition and General Conditions therein are met. For your convenience, we have highlighted the General Conditions of the NWP that are the most pertinent to your project. You should become familiar with the conditions and

maintain a copy of the permit at the worksite for ready reference. If changes are proposed in the design or location of the project, you should submit revised plans to this office for approval before construction of the change begins.

Special Condition:

1. The ArDOT agrees to mitigate for the adverse impacts to 0.2 acres of wetlands with 2.0 wetland credits at an approved mitigation bank before construction of the project begins. The ArDOT will provide documentation of the mitigation bank transaction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District Transportation Program Manager.

Please pay particular attention to General Condition No. 12 which stipulates that appropriate erosion and siltation controls be used during construction and all exposed soil be permanently stabilized. Erosion control measures must be implemented before, during and after construction.

Also, in order to fully comply with the conditions of the NWP, you must submit the enclosed compliance certification within 30 days of completion of the project. This is required pursuant to General Condition No. 30 of the permit.

For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification conditions, which are conditions of your permit. If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the 401 certification, you should contact Ms. Lazendra Hairston at the ADEQ, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118, telephone (501) 682-0645. We have also enclosed a copy of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Section 401 certification. If you have any questions regarding this certification, you should contact Ms. Elizabeth Hill at (225) 219-3225, or by email at Elizabeth.Hill@La.gov.

The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP No. 23 is modified, suspended, or revoked during this period, your project may not be authorized unless you have begun or are under contract to begin the project. If work has started or the work is under contract, you would then have twelve (12) months to complete the work.

Your cooperation in the Regulatory Program is appreciated. If you have any additional questions about this permit or any of its provisions, please contact Mr. Johnny McLean at (501) 324-5295 and refer to Permit No. MVK 2018-00092, U.S. Highway 425 widening southeast of Crossett (ArDOT Project No. CA0201).

Sincerely,

Sarah Chitwood

Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

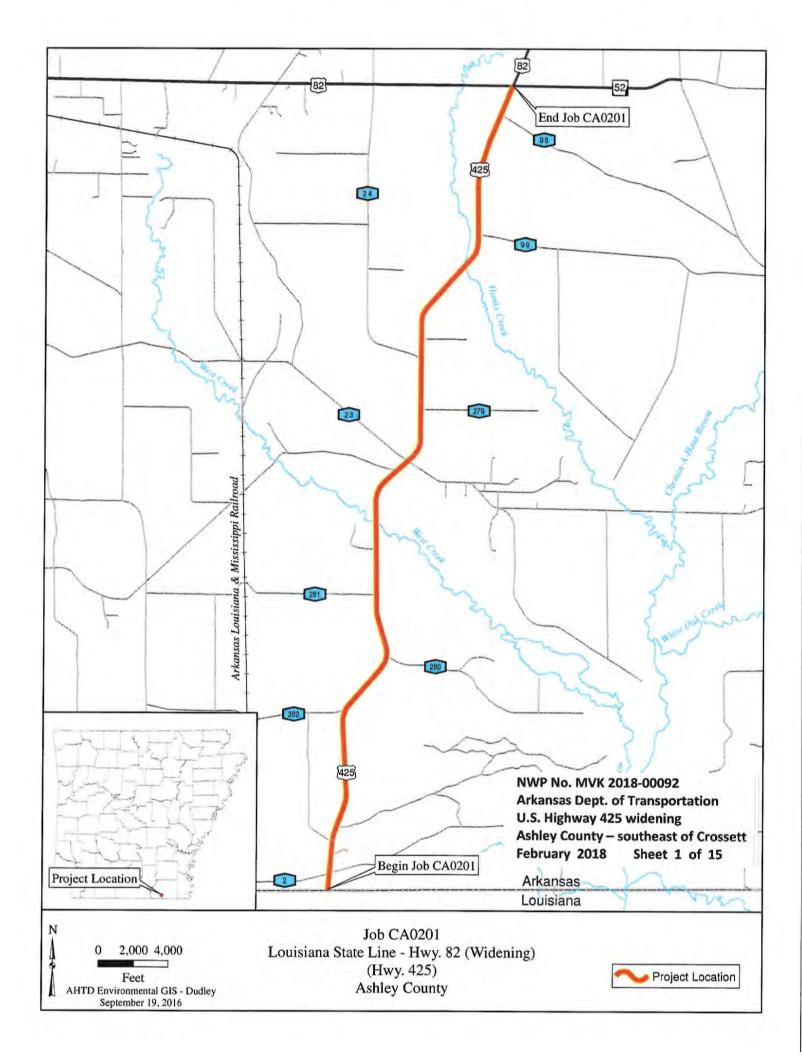
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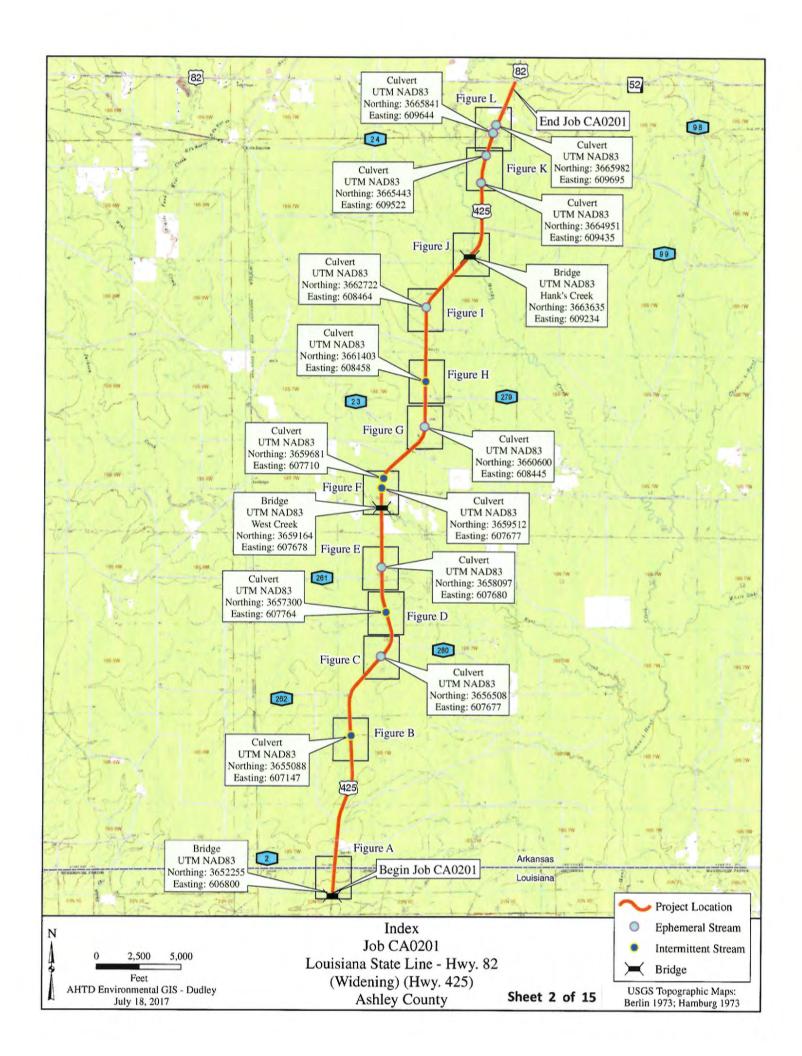
Vicksburg District Regulatory, w/cy dwgs

Ms. Lazendra Hairston, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs

Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy dwgs

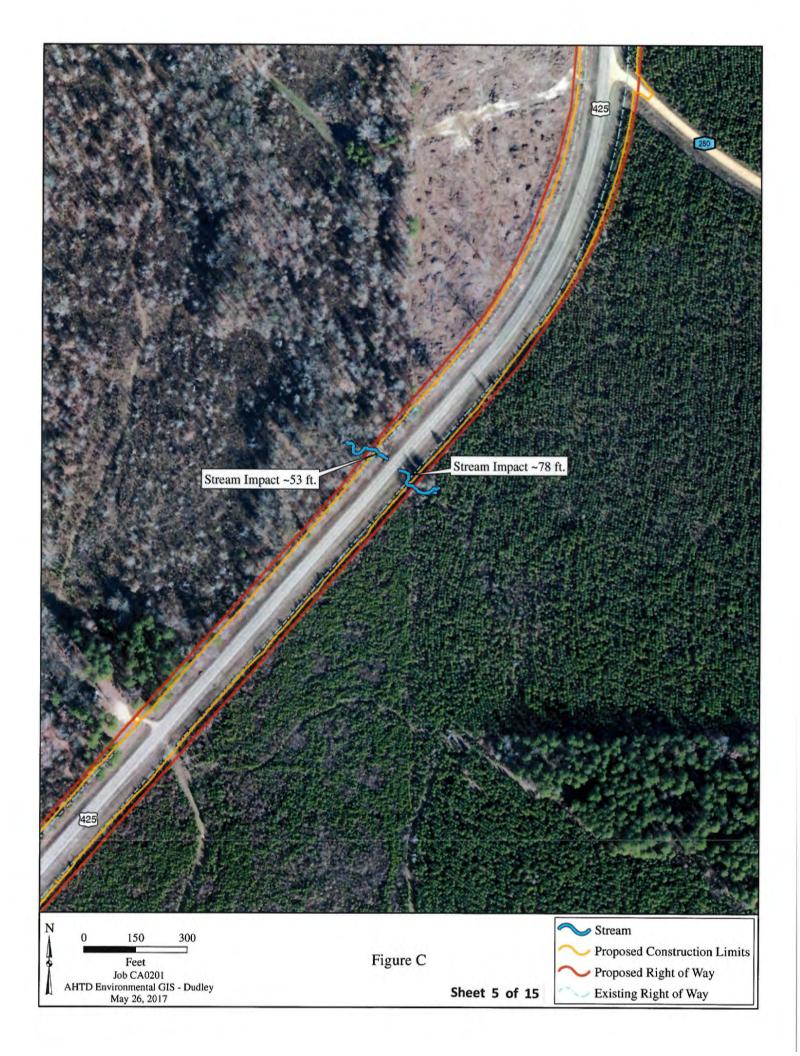
Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs

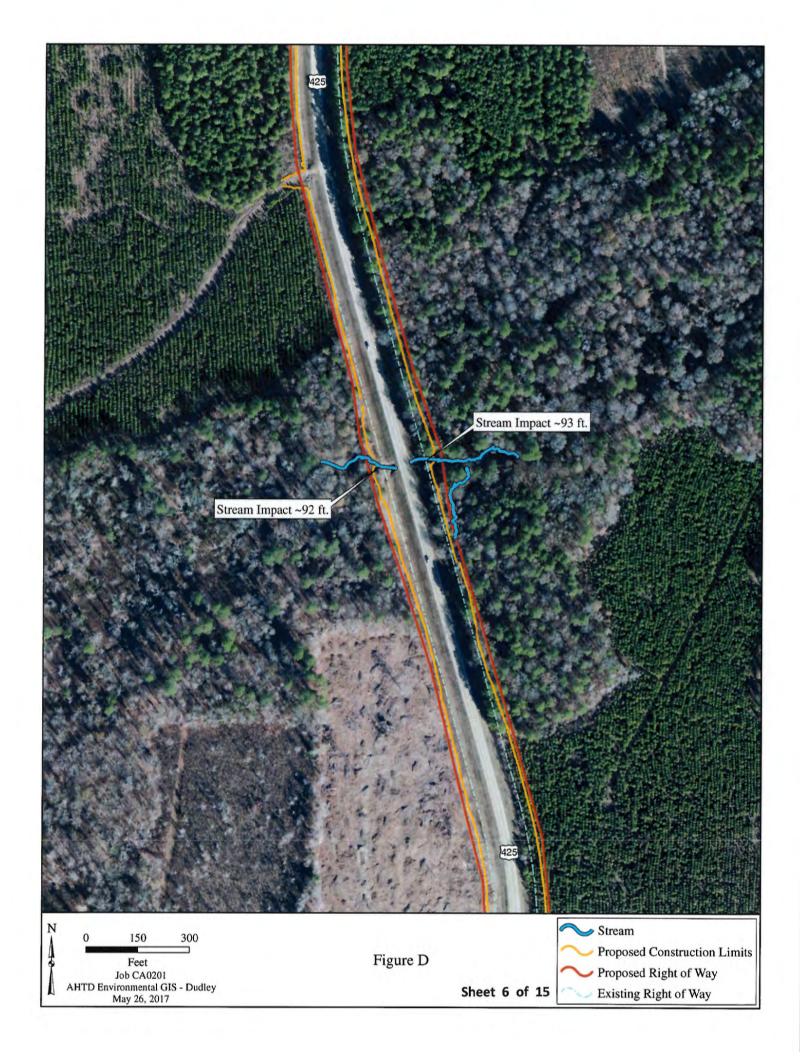




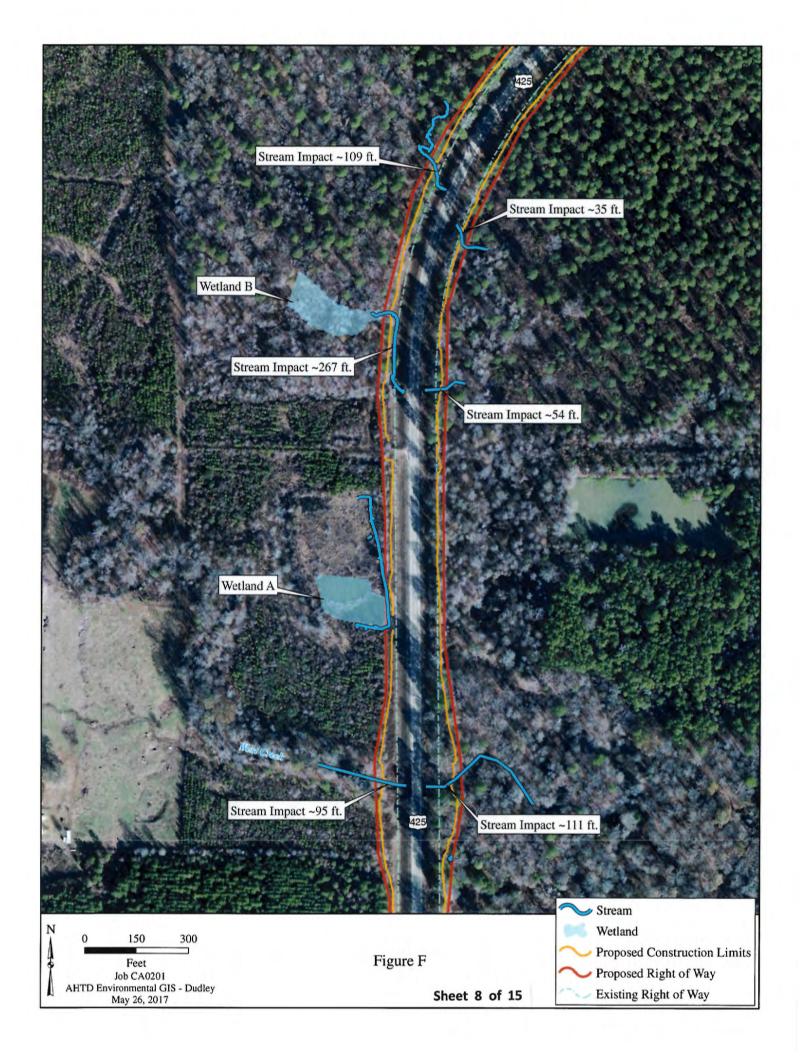






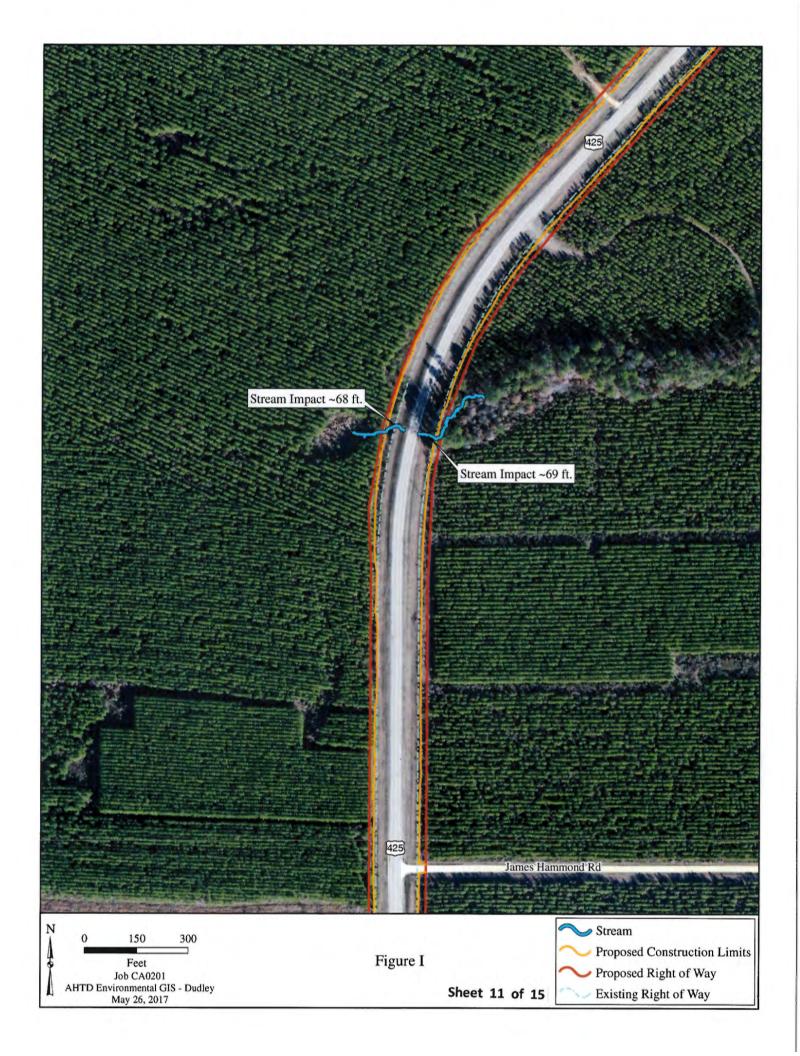


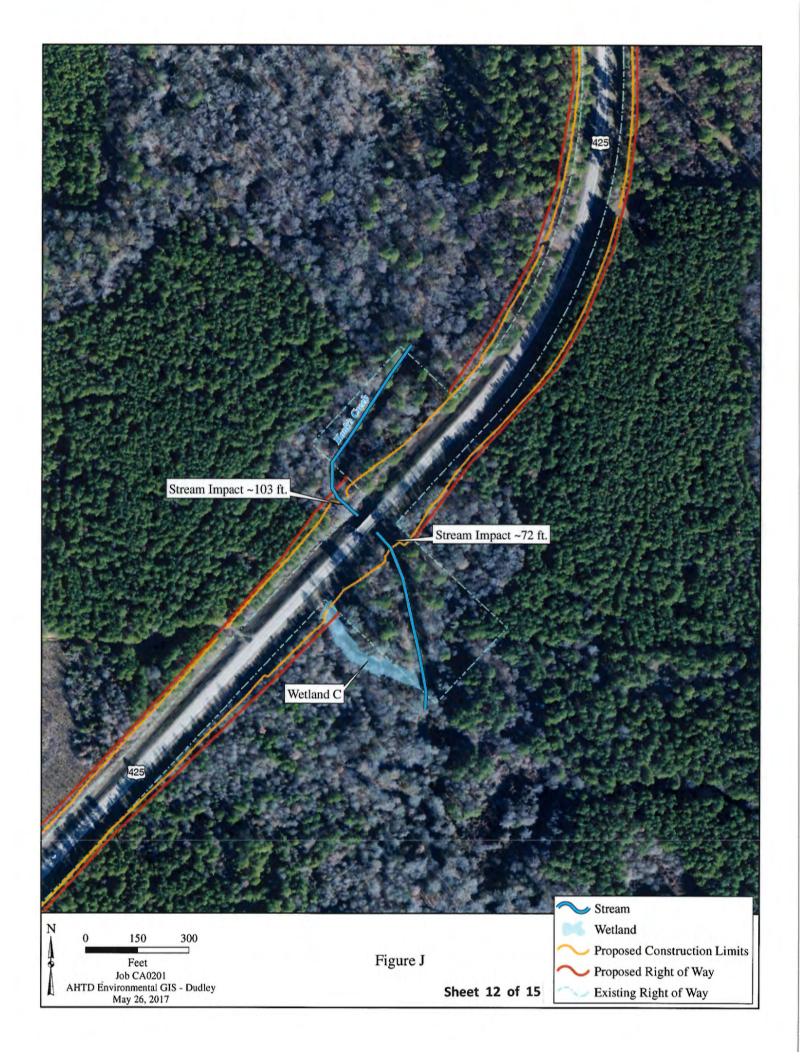


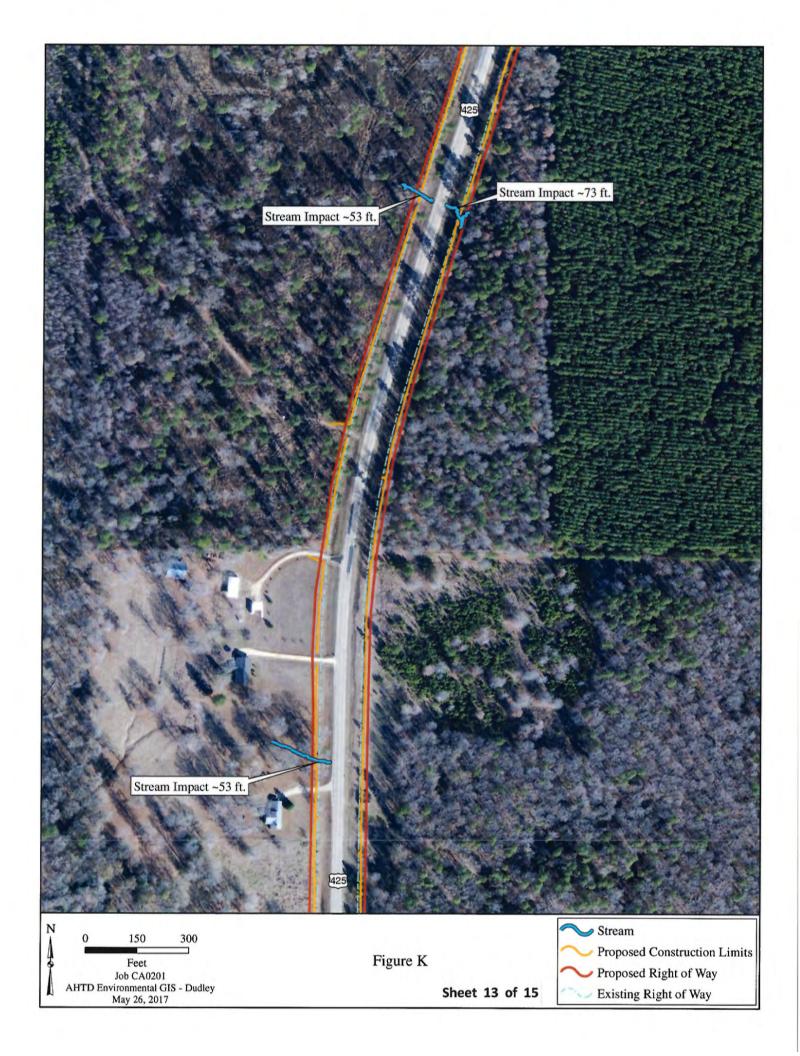


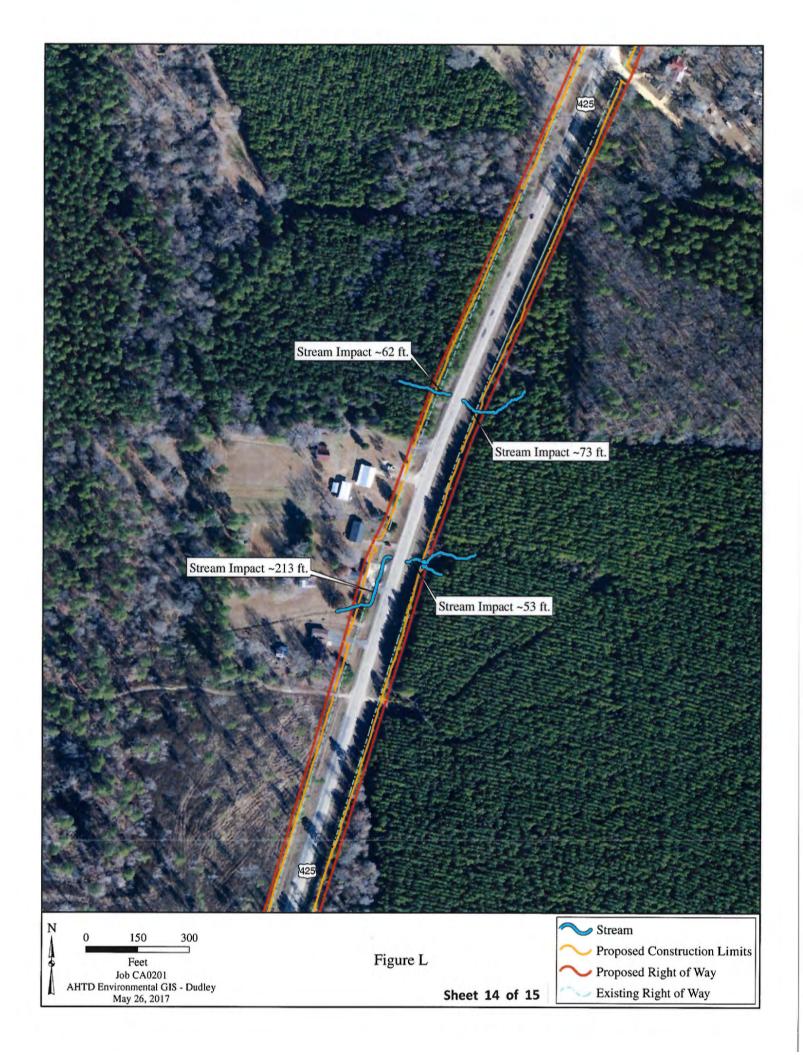












Determination of Wetland Credits Working Draft, Subject to Change Last Revised, October 7, 2010

4.0 TABLES AND WORKSHEETS

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT TABLE

FACTORS	OPTIONS									
Lost Type	Type C			Туре В			Type A			
	0.2		2.0				3.0			
Priority	Tertiar	Tertiary			Secondary			Primary		
Category	0.5			1.5			2.0			
Existing Condition	Very Impaire 0.1	d	•	paired Partially 1.0 Impaired 2.0			Fully Functional 2.5			
Duration	0 to 1 year 0.2	1 to 3 ye 0.5	0.5 3 years 3 to 5 y		. 1	5 to 10 years		ars	Over 10 years 2.0	
Dominant	Shade	Clear		rain	Dredge		lmp	ound/		
Impact	0.2	1.0	2.0		2.5		FI	ood	3.0	
***************************************	<u> </u>	Υ		,			2	2.5		
Cumulative	< 0.25 Acre	0.25-0				1	3.0-9.99		≥10.0 Acres	
Impact	0.1	Acre	s Ac		res		Acres		2.0	
		0.2	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	0	.5		1.0			

Note: The cumulative impact factor for the <u>overall</u> project should be included in the sum of factors for each impacted area on the Required Wetland Mitigation Credit Worksheet.

REQUIRED WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT WORKSHEET

Factor	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6
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R x AA=	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	and an order of the control of the c	

Required Wetland Mitigation Credits = Σ (R x A) = 2.0



MAR 16 2017

Colonel Robert G. Dixon District Commander U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 867 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867

RE: Public Notice: Re-issuance of Nationwide Permits

Dear Colonel Dixon:

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CHUCK CARR BROWN, Ph.D. SECRETARY

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

APR 1 7 2017

Mr. Martin S. Mayer Chief, Regulatory Branch Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District P. O. Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267 Attention: Brenda A. Archer AJ No.: 149056 WQC 160629-02

Activity No.: CER20160001

RE:

Water Quality Certification WOC 160629-02 *CORRECTED*

2017 Nationwide Permit Reissuance

State of Louisiana

Dear Mr. Mayer:

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WQC 160629-02 *CORRECTED* AI 149056 2017 Nationwide Permit Reissuance State of Louisiana Page 2

LDEQ denies 401 Water Quality Certification to the reissuance of NWP 29 except those associated with construction or expansion of a single residence pursuant to the attached State of Louisiana Nationwide Permit Regional Conditions.

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Sincerely,

Assistant Secretary

Elliott B. Vega

Attachment

c: IO-W

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