

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT 5151 FLYNN PARKWAY, SUITE 306 CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78411-4318

October 21, 2022

Corpus Christi Field Office

SUBJECT: SWG-2022-00330; Approved Jurisdictional Determination

Belltown Power Texas, LLC Attn: Austin Willis 13612 Midway Road, Suite 200 Farmer Branch, Texas 75244

Dear Mr. Willis:

This is in reference to the approved jurisdictional determination (AJD) request received on May 12, 2022, submitted by Stantec to determine if the 10.2-acre subject review area is subject to Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction. The review area is located on South Mile 2 West Road, approximately 0.95-mile south of US Interstate Highway 2 in Mercedes, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Based on our review of the submitted information, resources available/used, and subsequent desk review, the Corps has determined that the 10.2-acre review area, depicted on the attached map in 1 sheet, does not exhibit waters of the United States (US), subject to jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Section 404). Specifically, the Corps determined that the review area is comprised of uplands.

The Corps of Engineers regulates the placement of structures and/or work performed in/or affecting navigable waters of the U.S. (i.e. bulkheads, piers, etc.) under Section 10. The Corps also regulates the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the US, including navigable waters, under Section 404. Therefore, the placement of structures and/or the discharge of dredged or fill material into this review area does not require a DA permit because it is comprised of wholly of uplands.

The enclosed approved jurisdictional determination (AJD), dated October 21, 2022, is valid for 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants a revision of the determination prior to the expiration date. If you object to this determination, you may request an administrative appeal under Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.5. Also enclosed is a combined Notification of Administrative Appeal Options and Process (NAP) and Request for Appeal (RFA) form. If you request to appeal this determination you must submit a completed RFA to the Southwestern Division Office at the following address:

Mr. Jamie Hyslop
Administrative Appeals Review Officer
Southwestern Division USACE (CESWD-PD-O)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1100 Commerce Street, Suite 831
Dallas, Texas 75242-1317

Telephone: 469-216-8324

Email: <u>Jamie.r.hyslop@usace.army.mil</u>

In order for an RFA to be accepted by the Corps, the Corps must determine that it is complete; that it meets the criteria for appeal under 33 CFR Part 331.5, and that it has been received by the Division Office within **60 days** of the date of the NAP, noting the letter date is considered day 1. It is not necessary to submit an RFA form to the Division office if you do not object to the determination in this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Wayne Fitzpatrick by telephone at 361-814-5847 ext. 1008 or by e-mail at wayne.c.fitzpatrick@usace.army.mil. To assist us in improving our service to you, please complete the survey found at https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/.

Sincerely,

Kristie A. Wood

Kristin A. Wood

Supervisor

Corpus Christi Regulatory Field Office

cc w/Encls:

Lloyd Pope, Belltown Power Texas



DRY LAND APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM¹ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I:	BACKGROUND	INFORMATION
------------	------------	-------------

- A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): October 21, 2022
- DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: ;Galveston District; SWG-2022-00330, Site 1
- PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Texas County/parish/borough: Hidalgo County City: Donna

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 26.138912, Long: -97.943473 Universal Transverse Mercator: 14 R, 605617.82 m E, 2891503.32 m N

Name of nearest waterbody: Arrovo Colorado

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 12110208 South Laguna Madre Watershed.

Check if map/diagram of review area is available upon request.

Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

Office (Desk) Determination. Date: October 17, 2022

Field Determination. Date(s): Click here to enter a date.

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are no "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area.

SE

Α.

CTIO	ON III: DATA SOURCES.			
	PORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and			
	nested, appropriately reference sources below):			
	Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: Map provided by Stantec on 12 May 2022. Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.			
	Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.			
	Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.			
	Data sheets prepared by the Corps: Click here to enter text.			
1	U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: 12110208 South Laguna Madre Watershed.			
	USGS NHD data.			
	USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.			
4	U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: USGS: 1:24K titled: Mercedes, Texas			
	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation:			
1	National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: NWI Mapper Map provided by Stantec on 12 May 2022.			
	State/Local wetland inventory map(s): Click here to enter text.			
4	FEMA/FIRM maps: FEMA Panel provided by Stantec on 12 May 2022.			
	100-year Floodplain Elevation is: Click here to enter text. (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)			
4	Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): Google Earth Aerial 2017 and 2022			
	or 🔽 Other (Name & Date): Site photographs provided by Stantec on 12 May 2022.			
	Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: Click here to enter text.			
	Applicable/supporting case law: Click here to enter text.			
	Applicable/supporting scientific literature: Click here to enter text.			
	Other information (please specify): Click here to enter text.			

B. REQUIRED ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD. EXPLAIN RATIONALE FOR DETERMINATION THAT THE REVIEW AREA ONLY INCLUDES DRY LAND: There are no aquatic resources or potential aquatic resources in the review area that would

warrant the application of a wetland delineation, significant nexus analysis, navigability determination, and/or delineation of the ebb and flow of

¹ This form is for use only in recording approved JDs involving dry land. It extracts the relevant elements of the longer approved JD form in use since 2007 for aquatic areas and adds no new fields.

the tides. There are no features that have lateral limits of jurisdiction. (e.g., OHWM) Based on historical aerial imagery from Google Earth and topographic maps the proposed improvement site has been used primarily as an agricultural field.

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applie	cant: Belltown Power Texas, LLC	File Number: SWG-2022-00330	Date: Oct 21, 2022
Attached is:			See Section below
	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)		A
	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)		В
	PERMIT DENIAL		С
X	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DET	ERMINATION	D
	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL D	DETERMINATION	E

SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at

http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/appeals.aspx 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. Your objections must be received by the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. 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: 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.
- D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information.
- 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.
- E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: 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.

SECTION II - REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OF	BJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PRO	FFERED 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. You	may attach additional information to this fo	rm to clarify where your reasons		
or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)				
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited t	o a review of the administrative record, the	Corps memorandum for the		
record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supp				
clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant no				
you may provide additional information to clarify the loc		lministrative record.		
POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR				
If you have questions regarding this decision and/or the	If you only have questions regarding the a	appeal process you may also		
appeal process you may contact:	contact:			
Wayne Fitzpatrick Project Manager (CESWG-RDR)	Mr. Jamie Hyslop Administrative Appeals Review Officer			
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Southwestern Division (CESWD-PD-O)			
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers			
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4318	1100 Commerce Street, Suite 831			
361-814-5847 ext. 1008	Dallas, Texas 75242-1317			
	Phone: 469-216-8324 Email: Jamie.r.hyslop@usace.army.mil			
RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the rig		l, 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.				
	Date:	Telephone number:		
		_		
Signature of appellant or agent.				