

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps	Permit Application	No: SWG-1997-01373
Of Engineers	Date Issued:	3 April 2025
	Comments	
Galveston District	Due:	5 May 2025

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: To inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is not the entity proposing or performing the proposed work, nor has the Corps taken a position, in favor or against the proposed work.

AUTHORITY: This application will be reviewed pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

APPLICANT: TotalEnergies

7600 32nd Street

Port Arthur, Texas 77642

POC: Carl Boyd

Telephone: 409-212-1051

Email: carl-e.boyd@totalenergies.com

AGENT: Lanier & Associates

350 Pine Street, Suite 1440 Beaumont, Texas 77701 POC: Haley Strahan Telephone: 409-212-1051

Email: hstrahan@lanier-engineers.com

LOCATION: The project site is located in the Neches River, at Docks 1, 3A, and 3B, at 7600 32nd Street, in Port Arthur, Jefferson County, Texas.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Latitude: 29.980556 North; **Longitude:** -93.881844 West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes work associated with construction of twelve 20-foot by 16-foot winch platforms raised one foot above the mean high water and supported by 18-inch-diameter pilings. The project also includes the construction of three 3-foot-wide walkways connecting the platforms with lengths measuring 139 feet, 76 feet, and 106 feet.

PERMIT HISTORY- Department of the Army (DA) Permit 17841 was issued on 28 November 1986, and authorized the installation of five mooring dolphins at Dock 1. Amendment (01) was issued 7 December 1990, and authorized the construction of a hose-handling tower and four steel support pilings on Dock 1. Amendment (02) was issued on 30 September 1997, and authorized the installation of nine new steel breasted dolphins, four new ship mooring dolphins, and two new crane platforms on Dock 1. Amendment (03) was issued 27 May 2003, and authorized the widening of an existing pipe rack and lengthening of an existing hose tower, as well as an extension of time until 31 December 2008.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has stated that they have avoided and minimized the environmental impacts by avoiding impacts to wetlands.

MITIGATION: The applicant has not proposed mitigation.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS: The project site is located within an industrial area along the banks of the Neches River and approximately 2 miles upstream from where within the river empties into Sabine Lake. The project area includes three existing docks and adjacent petroleum infrastructure. The river is tidally influenced at this location and the substrate consists of unconsolidated bottom with no aquatic vegetation.

NOTES: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This project information has not been verified by the Corps. The applicant's plans are enclosed in 6 sheets.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. Since permit assessment is a continuing process, this preliminary determination of EIS requirement will be changed if data or information brought forth in the coordination process is of a significant nature.

OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS: Consistency with the State of Texas Coastal Management Plan is required. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with Texas' approved Coastal Management Program goals and policies and will be conducted in a manner consistent with said program.

No water quality certification is required.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: The staff archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

The permit area has been so extensively impacted by industrial development that there is no potential for historic properties to exist within the permit area. Therefore, the proposed project has no potential to effect historic properties.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary indications are that no known threatened and/or endangered species or their critical habitat will be affected by the proposed work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on Essential Fish Habitat or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FACTORS: This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-332, the Regulatory Programs of the Corps, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered: among those are conservation, economics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The Corps 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 proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. 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 Impact Assessment and/or an EIS 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 proposed activity.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts upon which a decision by the Corps may be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

PUBLIC HEARING: The purpose of a public hearing is to solicit additional information to assist in the evaluation of the proposed project. Prior to the close of the comment period, any person may make a written request for a public hearing, setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will determine if the reasons identified for holding a public hearing are sufficient to warrant that a public hearing be held. If a public hearing is warranted, all known interested persons will be notified of the time, date, and location.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this public notice must reach this office on or before 5 May 2025. Extensions of the comment period may be granted for valid reasons provided a written request is received by the limiting date. If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections. Comments and requests for additional information should reference our file number, SWG-1997-01373, and should be submitted through the RRS system or the physical address listed below: https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/public-notices OR

Central Unit, Evaluation Branch Regulatory Division, CESWG-RDE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District 2000 Fort Point Road Galveston, Texas 77550 409-766-3869 Phone swg_public_notice@usace.army.mil

> DISTRICT ENGINEER GALVESTON DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS