



Public Notice

SWG-2009-01012
(Formerly DA Permit
18151)

**U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Permit Application No: _____

Date Issued: _____

6 December 2016

Comments _____

Galveston District

Due: _____

9 January 2017

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: Peregrine Oil and Gas II, LLC
3 Riverway, Suite 1750
Houston, Texas 77056-2061
Telephone: 713-589-6800
POC: Lawson Fancher

AGENT: J. Conner Consulting, Inc.
19219 Katy Freeway, Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77094-1009
Telephone: 281-578-3388
POC: Kim Sayre

LOCATION: The proposed project site is located in the Coastwise Safety Fairway Brazos Santiago Pass, Aransas Pass, in the Gulf of Mexico, originating at Platform A North Padre Block (NPB) 975 and terminating at NPB 948, on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Federal Waters, approximately 24 miles offshore, east of Kenedy County shoreline, Texas. There is no associated U.S.G.S. quadrangle for this proposed project site.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Originate at NPB 975: Latitude: 26.832476 North; Longitude: 96.939448 West
Within Fairway at NPB 970: Latitude: 26.842855 North; Longitude: 96.941459 West
Within Fairway NPB 969: Latitude: 26.879608 North; Longitude: 96.978003 West
Terminate at NPB 948: Latitude: 26.929705 North; Longitude: 97.028084 West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to decommission-in-place the entire 12-inch gas/condensate pipeline segment No. 8133 that crosses the Coastwise Safety Fairway Brazos Santiago Pass, Aransas Pass, in NPB 969 and 970. The decommissioning-in-place will originate at NPB 975 and will terminate at NPB 948. Peregrine plans on removing the platforms from this area as well. The total length proposed to be decommissioned-in-place is 46,260 linear feet (8.76 miles) with 17,794 linear feet (3.37 miles) within the safety fairway. The pipeline was installed 10 feet below the ocean floor in water 145 to 155 feet deep. The pipeline will be pigged, disconnected from the subsea flange, and cut. The riser will be cut above the tube turn and removed. The ends will be buried at a minimum of 3 feet below the ocean floor at the originating and terminating points. The section of the pipeline proposed to be decommissioned-in-place within the fairway will remain buried at 10 feet below the ocean floor. The remaining sections outside the fairway will be decommissioned-in-place per the Department of the Interior's regulations. Enclosed are the project plans in 3 sheets, the original redline permit dated 21 August 1987 in 5 sheets, and the *Project Execution Plan* in 6 sheets.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: Due to the effects on shipping traffic and the amount of cover to jet this type of seafloor, the applicant believes removing this pipeline could cause unnecessary personnel and vessel safety exposure, potential interruption of navigation while the work is being completed, and unnecessary disturbance to the seafloor and environment; therefore, the alternative to remove the pipeline was not chosen as the applicant's preferred alternative.

MITIGATION: No mitigation is being proposed.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS: The proposed pipeline to be decommissioned-in-place is in water 145 to 155 feet deep within the Coastwise Fairway in the Gulf of Mexico. The following pipelines have also been decommissioned-in-place within the same fairway: Segment No. 12273, 15636, 15801, & 17300.

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: The project site is not located within the Texas Coastal Zone and therefore, does not require certification from the Texas Coastal Management Program.

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 proposed work and/or structures are of such limited nature and scope that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon a historic property, even if present within the affected area.

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, aesthetics, 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 **9 January 2017**. 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-2009-01012**, and should be submitted to:

Corpus Christi Field Office
Regulatory Division, CESWG-RD-CC
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4318
361-814-5847 Phone
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DISTRICT ENGINEER
GALVESTON DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS