



# Public Notice

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

**Galveston District**

Permit Application No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
Due: \_\_\_\_\_

SWG-2016-00898  
(Formerly DA Permit  
18910)

6 December 2016

9 January 2017

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## 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 project site is located on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in the Coastwise Safety Fairway Brazos Santiago Pass, Aransas Pass, in the Gulf of Mexico, originating at Platform JA at North Padre Block (NPB) 969 and terminating at Platform A in NPB 975, approximately 24 miles offshore, east from Kenedy County shoreline, Texas. There is no associated USGS quadrangle map for this location.

### LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Originate NPB 969: Latitude: 26.841597 North; Longitude: 96.978710 West  
Terminate NPB 975: Latitude: 26.831551 North; Longitude: 96.941682 West

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant proposes to decommission-in-place a 4-inch test pipeline (Segment No. 8889) and a 6-inch bulk gas pipeline (Segment No. 8893) originating at the Platform JA NPB 969 and terminating at Platform A NPB 975 in the Coastwise Safety Fairway Brazos Santiago Pass, Aransas Pass, Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Texas. The total length of pipeline to be decommissioned-in-place is 13,900 linear feet, which a portion of that measuring 12,647 linear feet will be decommissioned-in-place within the safety fairway. The 4-inch and 6-inch pipelines have already been flushed, pickled with inhibited seawater, and blinded. The tube turns were then cut and removed. The ends of the pipes were buried a minimum of 3 feet below the natural bottom and covered with mix bags outside of the safety fairway. The sections of the pipeline within the fairway were originally buried at a depth of 10 feet below the seafloor in water 135 to 165 feet deep. The remaining sections outside the fairway will be decommissioned-in-place per the Department of the Interior's regulations. The location map is enclosed in 1 sheet, the original redline permit dated 21 November 1989 is enclosed in 5 sheets as Attachment A, and the pipeline decommissioning-in-place procedure is enclosed in 3 sheets as Attachment B.

The applicant has stated that in February 2016, pipeline decommissioning-in-place procedures were completed in accordance with the regulations contained in 30 CFR 250.1751.

**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 135 to 165 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-2016-00898**, and should be submitted to:

Corpus Christi Field Office  
Regulatory Division, CESWG-RD-CC  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4318  
361-814-5847 Phone  
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DISTRICT ENGINEER  
GALVESTON DISTRICT  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS