

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 1229
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

March 6, 2019

Policy Analysis Branch

SUBJECT: Department of the Army Permit Application SWG-2019-00067

Port of Corpus Christi Authority
Attn: Sarah Garza
222 Power Street
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Dear Ms. Garza:

This is in reference to your permit application submitted on January 7, 2019 requesting authorization to dredge 12.8 miles of the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (CCSC) to -78 to -80 MLLW between Station 54+00 at Harbor Island and Station - 620+00 in the Gulf of Mexico. The proposed project also involves the placement of 38.9 million cubic yards of dredged material in waters of the United States.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (Corps) has reviewed and evaluated the factors concerning this permit application relative to the proposed work in waters of the United States. Based on this review, when considering both context and intensity, the Corps has reasonably arrived at the conclusion that the project, as proposed, may have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required to implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in processing of the DA permit application. Details related to this review may be found in the enclosed copy of *Determination of the Requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement for Department of the Army Permit SWG-2019-00067*.

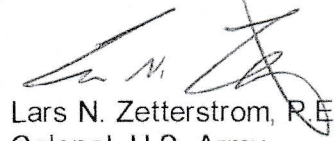
The primary method for preparing an EIS for a DA permit application is through a third-party contract. A third-party contract is a reference to contractors paid by the applicant but selected by the Corps. For more information on the third-party contractor selection process, please see our guidance document at:

<https://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Portals/26/docs/regulatory/PN%20Feb/TPC%20Guidelines.pdf?ver=2018-02-13-164932-380>

In addition, there is a Federal Interest in the vicinity, the Corpus Christi Ship Channel and its dredged material placement areas, whose operations may be affected by your proposed project. The process of scoping the EIS will help identify additional information that is needed to determine if the proposed project could impact the adjacent Federal Interest.

While we are ready to assist you in whatever way possible, we must hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, otherwise your application will be withdrawn. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Jayson M. Hudson at the letterhead address or by telephone at 409-766-3108 or email at jayson.m.hudson@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lars N. Zetterstrom', written over a horizontal line.

Lars N. Zetterstrom, P.E.
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding

cc w/Encl.

AECOM
Attn: Carl Sepulveda P.E.
5444 Westheimer Road, Suite 400
Houston, Texas 77056