



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229  
August 16, 2019

CESWG-RDP

SUBJECT: Department of the Army Permit Application No. SWG-2019-00067

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
ATTN: Ms. Rebecca Hensley  
6300 Ocean Drive, Mail Unit 5846  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

Dear Ms. Hensley:

This is in regards to the Department of the Army (DA) permit application for the Port of Corpus Christi Authority's (PCCA) proposed Channel Deepening Project (CDP) located in the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (CCSC) in Port Aransas, Nueces County, Texas. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) notified the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) in a letter dated July 3, 2019, that:

- 1) The Corps is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in order to analyze the potential impacts of issuing a DA permit;
- 2) On June 18, 2019, Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC) added the proposed CDP to the inventory of "covered projects" that are pending environmental review or authorization of the head of any Federal Agency pursuant to the requirements set forth in Title 41 of Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41). 42 U.S.C. §4370m-1(c)(1)(A)(i);
- 3) The proposed CDP has been placed on the FAST-41 Infrastructure Projects Permitting Dashboard (dashboard) in accordance with the Joint Memorandum of the Office of Management and Budget/Council on Environmental Quality (OMB/CEQ) dated January 13, 2017 and entitled: "*Guidance to Federal Agencies Regarding the Environmental Review and Authorizations Process for Infrastructure Projects*";
- 4) The proposed CDP is also subject to the "One Federal Decision" (OFD) Executive Order (EO) 13807: *Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure projects*, dated August 15, 2017;
- 5) That the Corps is responsible, as the Lead Federal Agency under NEPA and FAST-41, for developing and maintaining a Coordinated Project Plan (CPP) and project permitting timetable in cooperation with PCCA as well as the Cooperating and Participating Agencies; and
- 6) The Corps invited the TPWD to participate as a Cooperating or Participating Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and FAST-41 processes; and
- 7) The Corps enclosed a draft schedule for TGLO input on key roles and responsibilities during the DA permit process.

Enclosed is the final CPP dated August 16, 2019, for the proposed PCCA CDP. The information in the CPP is being used for this initial permitting dashboard update. The CPP must be updated quarterly in accordance with FAST 41 regulations. Please review

the FAST-41 coordination schedule, enclosed as Appendix A in the CPP to become aware of the coordination requirements.

On July 24, 2019, the Corps coordinated the Draft CPP Template with the supplemental information agreed upon in the Interagency Meeting on July 23, 2019, with PCCA as well as Federal and State Agencies identified in Section 3 of the CPP. The Corps never received an official response from the TPWD regarding their status under the NEPA and FAST-41 processes. It is unclear how TPWD will be involved in the development of the EIS; however, the Corps does request that the TPWD provide an official response to the July 3, 2019, Agency Request Letter. The response should be on TPWD Agency Letterhead clarifying the status as a Cooperating and/or Participating Agency under NEPA and FAST-41. The response should also identify any specific roles and responsibilities the TPWD may require and/or provide expertise to during the DA permitting process. This response can be provided during the next quarter CPP update initiation notice scheduled to occur on August 30, 2019.

In closing, the Corps is notifying TPWD that on September 3, 2019, the current Project Manager (PM), Mr. Bobby Jones will relinquish the primary PM role to Ms. Kristie Brink. Ms. Brink will assume all primary PM roles and responsibilities outlined in the CPP on that day. Mr. Jones will still be assisting as a support secondary PM; however, all direct communication pertaining to the proposed CDP as well as the CPP shall be directed to Ms. Brink. She can be reached by telephone at 361-814-5847 ext/1005; or by email at: [Kristie.A.Brink@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kristie.A.Brink@usace.army.mil). Please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns or issues.

Sincerely,



Janet Thomas Botello  
Interim Chief, Policy Analysis Branch  
Regulatory Division

Enclosure

cc:

TPWD: Ms. Leslie Koza: [Leslie.Koza@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Leslie.Koza@tpwd.texas.gov); Ms. Jackie Robinson: [Jackie.Robinson@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Jackie.Robinson@tpwd.texas.gov); Mr. Paul Silva: [Paul.Silva@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Paul.Silva@tpwd.texas.gov);

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