



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1590 ADAMSON PARKWAY, SUITE 200
MORROW, GEORGIA 30260-1777

MAR 23 2015

Regulatory Division
SAS-2015-00161

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as follows:

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit application will close 30 days from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit, and must be submitted so as to be received on or before the last day of the comment period. Written comments concerning the Department of the Army Permit application must reference the Applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the above address.

Application Number: SAS-2015-00161

Applicant: Joseph Lovekamp
Martin Marietta Aggregates
3019 Riverwatch Parkway
Augusta, Georgia 30907-3246

Agent: Stephen Modica
Gaia Environmental Consulting
109 Birchwood Pass
Canton, Georgia 30114-7752

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located at the site of the existing Martin Marietta Red Oak Quarry, located at 5414 Buffington Road, within southern Fulton County, Georgia (centered at latitude 33.6071, longitude -84.4915).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: The current proposal involves the expansion of the existing aggregate mine pit horizontally to the north of its existing location, within the bounds of the current State-permitted mine boundary. Red Oak Quarry began as a temporary quarry operated by Stockbridge Stone Co. in 1957, and became a permanent quarry in 1963; the mine has remained in continuous operation for the past approximately 55 years. The project as

proposed will allow the Applicant to access additional mineable material and extend the life of the quarry by approximately 20 years.

In order to accomplish the project as proposed, the Applicant will incur adverse impacts 2.93 acres of forested wetlands. The proposed project will utilize a constructed earthen perimeter berm to delineate the proposed, approximately 34.5-acre mine pit expansion area. Once the berm has been completely installed, the impacted wetland area will be dewatered, and overburden located above mineable material will be excavated and stockpiled on the permitted mine property within designated stockpile areas. No return water from excavated soils will be allowed to re-enter jurisdictional waters.

In order to offset unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional waters on the project site, the Applicant is proposing to acquire 17.58 wetland credits from the Flint River Mitigation Bank.

BACKGROUND

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Georgia. The Applicant's proposed work may also require local governmental approval.

In addition to the "no offsite alternative" and "no impact" alternative, two alternative mine pit configurations were evaluated. Avoiding all impacts to jurisdictional waters/wetlands, but still expanding the mine pit north within the permitted mine boundary, would increase the size of the pit by 31.3 acres, but decrease the depth of the new pit, thus providing 40% less mining reserves than the proposed alternative. In contrast, expanding the mine pit to the maximum extent possible, and remaining within the current State-permitted mine boundary, would require impacts to 13.69 acres of wetland and 1,540 linear feet of streams. This larger expansion would add approximately 56.4 acres of the mine pit area in order to provide approximately 60% more mining reserves, than the proposed alternative.

The proposed mine pit expansion alternative will also remain within the State-permitted mine boundary but, according to the Applicant, was designed to minimize impacts to jurisdictional waters/wetlands by avoiding the majority of waters/wetlands located to the north and west of the existing plant area, while maximizing access (i.e., area & depth of mine) to mineable material. The selected alternative would add approximately 34.5 acres to the facility's existing mine pit area and would provide approximately 42.3 million tons of mining reserves.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, intends to certify this project at the end of 30 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required for a Federal Permit to conduct activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch, 7 MLK, Jr. Drive, Suite 450, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 25 cents per page. Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 30 days of the State's receipt of application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can also be reviewed in the Savannah District, US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 200 Morrow, Georgia 30260-1777.

The mining operation utilizes settling ponds and a clarifier system in order to remove fines from plant process and discharge waters. Fines recovered from the clarifier system and settling ponds are stockpiled on-site and permanently stabilized. Process water is also pumped to the plant and is recycled for re-use.

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia, which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit, permit amendment or other appropriate instrument.

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army Permit.

Cultural Resources Assessment: During the period of September 15 through 22, 2014, the Applicant's consultant conducted a field survey of the proposed expansion area for the Red Oak Quarry. Based on literature, file and field evaluations, no previously recorded cultural resources were located within the project area. One Middle Archaic lithic scatter was recorded during the current field survey. This site is believed to be ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP") and no additional archeological work has been recommended for this resource. No historic structures or features are located within or near the project area. However, presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data could potentially be discovered at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), we request information from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Marine Fisheries Service; or, any other interested party, on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

Public Interest Review: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact 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 benefit, 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 including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Consideration of Public Comments: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement 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.

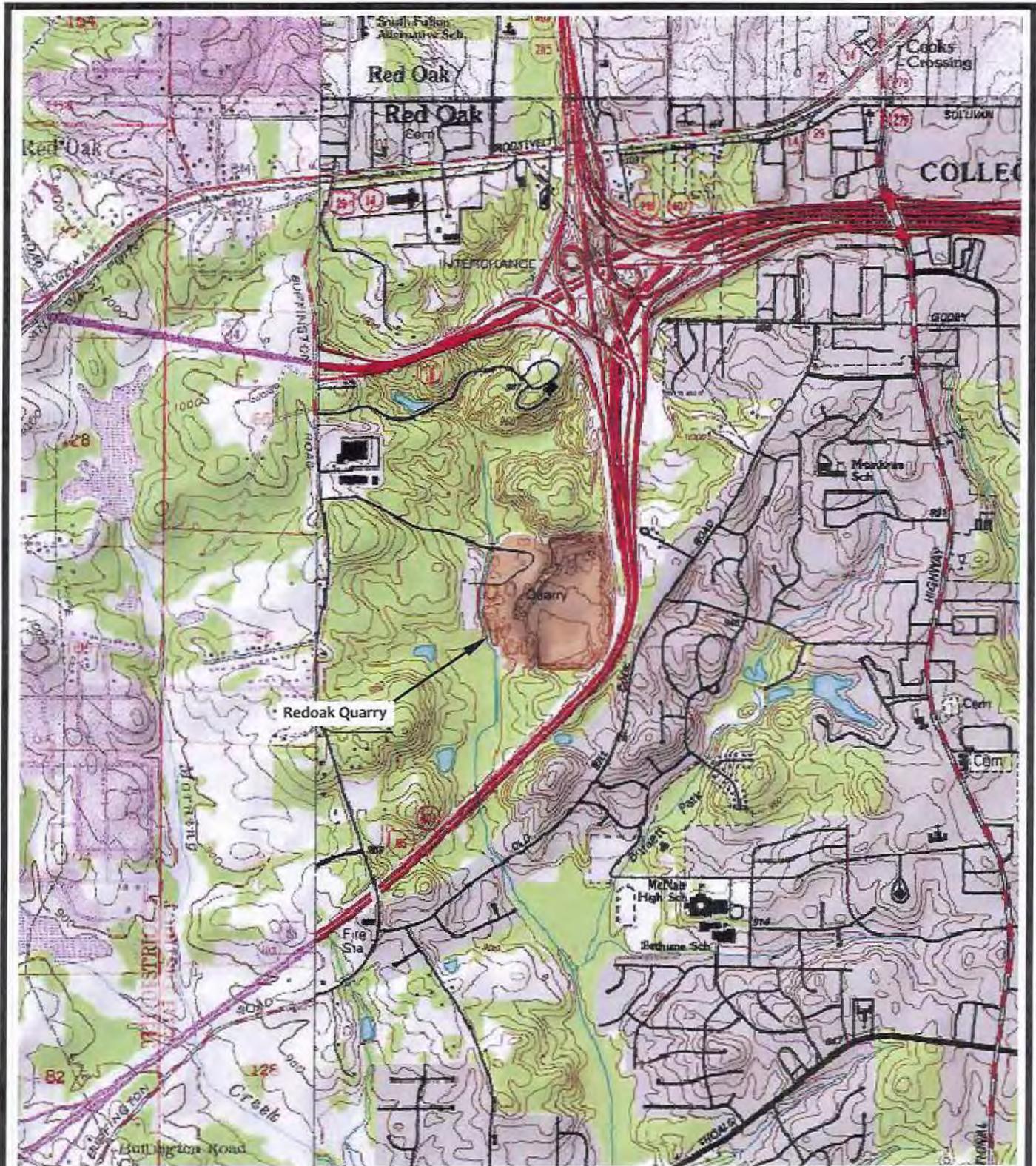
Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army Permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Adam F. White, 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 200, Morrow, Georgia 30260-1777, no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the Applicant's name (Martin Marietta Aggregates) and the application number (SAS-2015-00161) in your comments. If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Adam F. White, Project Manager, Piedmont Branch at 678-422-2730.

**Encls

1. Figure 2 - USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map
2. Figure 7 - Existing Site Layout
3. Figure 8 - Proposed Site Layout
4. Figure 9 - Alternate Site Layout (No Wetland Impact)
5. Figure 10 - Alternate Site Layout (Increased Wetland/Waters Impact)
6. Figure 11 - Proposed Grading Plan



Base Map Source: United States Geological Survey 7.5-Minute Series (Topographic) Quadrangle Map of Riverdale, GA. 1993.

Figure 2 - USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map
 Martin Marietta - Redoak Quarry
 5154 Buffington Road
 Red Oak, Fulton County, Georgia
 Gaia Project No. 2014-85

Scale: 1 = 2000



109 Birchwood Pass, Canton, Georgia 30114-7752



FIGURE 8
PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT
RED OAK, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

QUARRY: RED OAK

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FILE NAME	17B-19
DATE	12/15/18
BY	TS/aw

