

Kaiser

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.E., Suite 1152 East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

Chris Clark, Commissioner

F. Allen Barnes, Director

Environmental Protection Division

404/656-4713

January 12, 2010

Mr. Russell Kaiser, Chief
Regulatory Division, Savannah District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 889
Savannah, Georgia 31402-0889

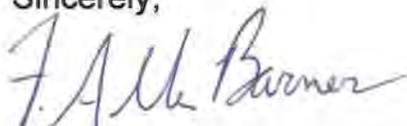
Re: Water Quality Certification
Regional General Permits¹

Dear Mr. Kaiser:

This will respond to your letter requesting a 401 Water Quality Certification for the proposed Regional General Permit to conduct activity in, on or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. We understand that the Regional General Permits are being proposed in order to expedite qualifying projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Although we share your interest in expediting these projects we have determined that the Regional General Permit may not be adequately protective and moreover are not necessary to move these projects forward.

Although we will continue to process all 401 Water Quality Certifications on a project specific basis, qualifying projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will receive expedited review by the Georgia EPD. In order to insure that these projects receive priority handling, please identify them as ARRA projects at the time of submittal. If you have any questions regarding this determination or the processing of any 401 Water Quality Certification, please contact Jim Ussery at 404-656-4713.

Sincerely,



F. Allen Barnes
Director

¹ RGP105, RGP106, RGP107, RGP108



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