Public Notice Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board P. O. Box 2261 Jackson, Mississippi 39225 Telephone No. (601) 961-5171

Public Notice Start Date: December 28, 2021

MDEQ Contact: Florance Bass

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality proposes to reissue the statewide Large Construction Storm Water General Permit (MSR10). The Large Construction General Permit, originally issued in July 1992, covers the State of Mississippi and authorizes the discharge of storm water runoff into waters of the State from construction sites that have installed Best Management Practices for erosion and sediment control. Construction activities include clearing, grading, grubbing, excavating, and other land disturbing activities that disturb five (5) acres or more. Large construction activities disturbing fewer than five (5) acres are regulated by this permit, if the project is part of a larger common plan of development or sale with a planned disturbance of equal to or greater than five (5) acres. The current Large Construction General Permit expires on December 31, 2021. This reissuance will allow the continued discharge of storm water for an additional five-year period.

The staff of the Permit Board has developed the draft general permit and has made a preliminary determination that the Large Construction General Permit meets the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act and applicable provisions of the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Law. Construction sites granted coverage under the permit and adhering to conditions contained therein should operate within State and Federal environmental laws and standards concerning storm water discharges. However, before proceeding to the final staff evaluation, public comments are being solicited. Public review and comment on the draft permit is an important element of staff evaluation. The staff recommendation to the Board, as well as the Board decision, will be made only after a thorough consideration of all public comments. The draft permit conditions have been developed to ensure compliance with all State and Federal regulations but are subject to change based on information received as a result of public participation.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations are invited to submit comments in writing to Florance Bass at the Permit Board's address shown above, no later than the end of the thirty (30) day public notice. All comments received by this date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the general permit. A public hearing will be held if the Permit Board finds a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit. Persons wishing to request a public hearing may do so by submitting that request in writing to Florance Bass or the Chief of the Environmental Permits Division at the address shown above. The Permit Board is limited in the scope of its analysis to environmental impact. Any comments relative to zoning or economic and social impacts are within the jurisdiction of local zoning and planning authorities and should be addressed to those authorities.

A copy of the proposed draft permit may be found on the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality's website at: <u>www.mdeq.ms.gov/construction-stormwater/</u> or by writing or calling Florance Bass at the above Permit Board address and telephone number. This information is also available for review at the following location during normal business hours:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Office of Pollution Control 515 E. Amite Street Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know will be interested.