

Technical Staff Report Regulatory Basis of Issuance

Conditions for Issuance of Individual and Conceptual Approval Permits – Section 62-330.301, F.A.C –

I. An applicant must provide reasonable assurance that the construction, alteration, operation, maintenance, removal, or abandonment of the projects regulated under this chapter:

- **Will not cause adverse water quantity impacts to receiving waters and adjacent lands.**

The project is for multiple geotechnical investigations and temporary access roads along Interstate 10 in Gadsden County. The geotechnical bore pits impacts are considered minimal and the areas that are disturbed for access must be restored to natural grades. No adverse water quantity is expected as the impacted wetlands and other disturbed areas are to be restored to natural conditions after construction.

- **Will not cause adverse flooding to on-site or off-site property.**

The project is for multiple geotechnical investigations and temporary access roads along Interstate 10 in Gadsden County. The geotechnical bore pits impacts are considered minimal and the areas that are disturbed for access must be restored to natural grades. No adverse flooding on-site or off-site are expected as the impacted wetlands and other disturbed areas are to be restored to natural conditions after construction.

- **Will not cause adverse impacts to existing surface water storage and conveyance capabilities.**

The project is for multiple geotechnical investigations and temporary access roads along Interstate 10 in Gadsden County. The geotechnical bore pits impacts are considered minimal and the areas that are disturbed for access must be restored to natural grades. No adverse impacts to surface waters or conveyance are expected as the impacted wetlands and other disturbed areas are to be restored to natural conditions after construction

- **Will not adversely impact the maintenance of surface or ground water levels or surface water flows established pursuant to Section 373.042, F.S.**

The project is for multiple geotechnical investigations and temporary access roads along Interstate 10 in Gadsden County. The geotechnical bore pits impacts are considered minimal and the areas that are disturbed for access must be restored to natural grades. No adverse impacts to surface/ground water levels or surface water flows are expected as the impacted wetlands and other disturbed areas are to be restored to natural conditions after construction

- **Will not cause adverse impacts to a Work of the District established pursuant to Section 373.086, F.S.**

The project is not located near on on a Work of the District. No adverse impacts are expected.

- **Will be capable, based on generally accepted engineering and scientific principles, of performing and functioning as proposed.**

The project is based on generally accepted engineering and scientific principles and is expected to perform and function as proposed.

- **Will comply with any applicable special basin or geographic area criteria.**

The project will comply with any applicable special basin or geographic area criteria.

Environmental Conditions for Issuance

II. Elimination or Reduction of Impacts – 10.2.1, A.H. Vol. I –

All proposed impacts are considered temporary and the sites will be restored to natural conditions once the work is done. No mitigation is required for this project because all impacts are temporary.

III. Fish, Wildlife, Listed Species and their Habitat – 10.2.2, A.H. Vol. I, 10.1.1(a), A.H. Vol. I –

The application was sent to Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for commenting. None were received.

IV. Water quantity, impacts to wetlands and other surface waters – 10.2.2.4, A.H. Vol. I –

All proposed impacts are considered temporary and the sites will be restored to natural conditions once the work is done. The hydroperiod of the impacted wetlands are not expected to be impacted because all impacts are temporary, and any impacts made will be restored to preconstruction conditions.

V. Public Interest Test – Chapter 373.414(1)(a), F.S., Paragraph 62-330.302(1)(a), F.A.C., 10.2.3, A.H. Vol. I –

- **Whether the activity will adversely affect public health, safety, or welfare or the property of others.**

The project's impacts are temporary and not expected to adversely affect public health, safety or welfare of the public. Majority of the bore pit locations are within the FDOT Right-of-Way; however, some locations do cross into private property. The locations that are within private property have an easement granted to Gulf Power to conduct the proposed work.

- **Whether the activity will adversely affect the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habitats**

The application was sent to Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for commenting. None were received.

- **Whether the activity will adversely affect Navigation or the flow of water or cause harmful erosion or Shoaling**

The proposed work is not located in, on, over or under any open water body where navigation could occur, thus navigation is not expected to be adversely impacted. Standard BMPs are required during construction as to preclude any harmful erosion or shoaling during construction. After the construction, any impacts will be restored to preconstruction conditions thus not expecting to cause any erosion or shoaling after the project is completed.

- **Whether the activity will adversely affect the fishing or recreational values or marine productivity in the vicinity of the activity**

The proposed work is not located in, on, over or under any open water body where navigation could occur, thus not expected to adversely affect fishing or recreational values or marine productivity within waterbodies in the vicinity of the project locations.

- **Whether the activity is temporary or permanent in nature**

The activity is temporary in nature. All impacts made will be restored after the work is complete.

- **Whether the activity will adversely affect or will enhance significant historical and archeological resources**

The application was sent to the Division of Historical Resources for commenting. None were received.

- **The current condition and relative value of functions being performed by areas affected by the proposed activity.**

The current conditions of the wetlands are somewhat moderate as they are located off a major interstate which can be subject to pollution, various litter, and exposure to invasive/exotic plant species. The ROW areas are regularly mowed causing little habitat to various wildlife.

VI. Water Quality – 10.2.4, A.H. Vol. I –

- **Short term water quality considerations – 10.2.4.1, A.H. Vol. I –**
Appropriate BMPs are required during construction. Short term water quality impacts are not expected.
- **Long term water quality considerations – 10.2.4.2, A.H. Vol. I –**
The project is temporary, and the applicant is required to restore any and all impacts to preconstruction condition. Long term water quality impacts are not expected.
- **Additional Water Quality considerations for docking facilities – 10.2.4.3, A.H. Vol. I –**
The project is not for a dock.
- **Mixing Zones – 10.2.4.4, A.H. Vol. I –**
Mixing zones are typically required for dredging projects. No dredging is proposed and mixing zones are not required.
- **Where Ambient Water Quality Does Not Meet Standards – 10.2.4.4, A.H. Vol. I –**
The project is not located in an Outstanding Florida Waterbody or Aquatic Preserve.

VII. Class II Waters; Waters Approved for Shellfish Harvesting – 10.2.5 A.H. Vol. I –

The project is associated with Class III waters, Unclassified for Shellfish Harvesting. The application was sent to the Department of Aquaculture for commenting. None were received.

VIII. Vertical Seawalls – 10.2.6 A.H. Vol. I –

No vertical seawalls are proposed.

IX. Secondary Impacts – 10.2.7 A.H. Vol. I –

All proposed impacts are considered temporary and the sites will be restored to natural conditions once the work is done. Secondary impacts are not expected for this project because all impacts are temporary.

X. Cumulative Impacts – 10.2.8 A.H. Vol. I –

All proposed impacts are considered temporary and the sites will be restored to natural conditions once the work is done. Cumulative impacts associated with the major interstate are expected.

XI. Mitigation – 10.3 A.H. Vol. I –

All proposed impacts are considered temporary and the sites will be restored to natural conditions once the work is done. No mitigation is required for this project because all impacts are temporary.