

Oct. 21, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Public Hearing: Mississippi State Port Authority
Requests Reaffirmation of Existing Permit**

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi State Port Authority has filed a request with the Department of Marine Resources for reaffirmation of Phase III of an existing permit to conduct regulated activities under the provision of the Coastal Wetlands Protection Law Act, Title 49, Chapter 27, Mississippi Code of 1972.

A public hearing for the proposed project will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010, at the Mississippi State Port Authority offices located at 2510 14th Street in Gulfport, on the 14th floor. The public hearing will not be a question and answer session, but will be a medium for interested parties to make comments about the previously permitted project.

Phase I of the project has been completed and Phase II is currently under construction. Phase III consists of the filling of the final 24 acres. The configuration of the 24-acre fill will conform to site conditions to avoid an existing federally maintained navigation channel.

In compliance with Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, 1341), as amended by PL 95-217, the applicant will request certification from the Office of Pollution Control that the above mentioned activity will be in compliance with applicable provisions of Section 301 (33 U.S.C. 1311), Section 302 (33 U.S.C. 1312), Section 303 (U.S.C. 1313), Section 306 (U.S.C. 1316), and Section 307 (U.S.C. 1317) of the Act and appropriate requirements of the State Law.

Any person wishing to make comments or objections to the proposed regulated activity must submit those comments in writing to the Department of Marine Resources at 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530 and the Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, MS 39225-2261 before 1:00 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2010.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.ms.gov.