

## **Notice for Early Public Review of a Proposal to Support Activity in the 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland**

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) will be submitting an application to HUD for the construction of new Chiquita and Crowley Terminals at the Port of Gulfport. The project will involve the necessary work to prepare the site for filling, placing fill material on the site for construction of a container storage yard at elevation +25'±, grading and paving, drainage structures, utilities and infrastructure, and various support facilities. The proposed project is located entirely on Port property. The project description is available for review at [www.portofthefuture.com/Environmental.aspx](http://www.portofthefuture.com/Environmental.aspx).

This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management, and by Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11990 for the Protection of Wetlands, and is implemented by HUD Regulations found at 24 CFR 55.20(b) for the HUD action that is within and/or affects a floodplain or wetland.

The proposed site for this project is the existing West Pier area at the Port of Gulfport and the 60-acre fill area authorized by Department of the Army Permit MS96-02828-U that is currently under construction. The project will affect approximately 66 acres of the 100-year floodplain. Geographically, the project area lies in Section 9, Township 8 South, Range 11 West, Harrison County, Mississippi.

Based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Flood Insurance Rate Map numbers 28047C0376G and 28047C0377G effective June 16, 2009, the project site is located within Zone VE. No construction is anticipated within a designated floodway or a wetland.

This notice with a request for comment was mailed to the Regional Offices of FEMA and EPA, Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and Emergency Management Agency, City of Gulfport, and Harrison County. Additional information may be obtained by contacting: Ms. Elizabeth Stanga, MDA Port of Gulfport Restoration – Team leader at the Mississippi Development Authority; P.O. Box 849; Jackson, MS 39205.

Written comments must be received by the MDA at the following address on or before May 13, 2010. Mississippi Development Authority; P.O. Box 849; Jackson, MS 39205; Attention: Elizabeth Stanga, Port of Gulfport Restoration – Team Leader.

Date issued: April 26, 2010