

From: Linda (Brown) Piper <Linda.Piper@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2022 9:44 AM
To: Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>
Cc: Vivian (Aucoin) Johnson (DEQ) <Vivian.Johnson2@la.gov>; Keith Horn <Keith.Horn@LA.GOV>; Regina Philson <Regina.Philson@LA.GOV>
Subject: DEQ SOV#221118/1325 LA Gateway Rail Extension Project

December 21, 2022

Danielle Goslin, Director
 Office of Environmental Analysis
 Surface Transportation Board
 Washington, DC 20423
Adam.Assenza@stb.gov

RE: 221118/1325

LA Gateway Rail Extension Project
 Surface Transportation Board Funding
 Plaquemines Parish

Dear Ms. Goslin:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Business and Community Outreach Division has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit is required. An application or Notice of Intent will be required if the sludge management practice includes preparing biosolids for land application or preparing sewage sludge to be hauled to a landfill. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.

- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- It seems that this project involves new construction over a large area, that extensive excavation may be needed to complete the project, and historic land uses have not been identified in the submittal. It is therefore advised that a site-specific environmental assessment be performed on the entire project corridor to address specific environmental concerns, and provide for worker safety.
- If the project will involve the removal or disturbance of any soils which may have contaminant concentrations that exceed the Screening Option Standards established by the LDEQ Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program (RECAP) Regulation, these materials may be considered a waste and disposed of at a permitted facility, or might be managed as part of a Solid Waste Beneficial Use or Soil Reuse Plan in accordance with LAC 33:VII.Chapter 11. Alternately, a site-specific RECAP Evaluation might be conducted and submitted to the LDEQ

Currently, Plaquemines Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.

Please send all future requests to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-3954 or by email at linda.piper@la.gov.

Sincerely,

Linda (Brown) Piper

Environmental Scientist Manager

LDEQ Office of the Secretary

Outreach and Small Business Assistance

225-219-3954 • linda.piper@la.gov

Small Business/Community Assistance Program(SB/CAP) services are provided as a courtesy of the LDEQ. The SB/CAP claims no responsibility for any omissions or inaccuracies in values or information presented to the LDEQ Administrative Authority by small businesses seeking compliance with state environmental regulations. The LDEQ Administrative Authority alone determines when compliance is achieved, and small businesses are ultimately responsible for satisfying all requirements of such Authority.