Jim Giattina/R4/USEPA/US

05/18/2009 07:09 PM

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bcc

Subject Fw: Proposal to Modify Alternative L for further Avoidance

History:

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From: GHOUSE

Sent: 05/18/2009 04:36 PM AST

To: jefferson.ryscavage@usace.army.mil; brooke.lamson@usace.army.mil; william.t.walker@usace.army.mil; Jim Giattina; Philip Mancusi-Ungaro Subject: Proposal to Modify Alternative L for further Avoidance

Colonel Jefferson M. Ryscavage District Engineer Wilmington District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 69 Darlington Avenue Wilmington, NC 28403

Mr. Jim Giattina
Director
Water Protection Division
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: PCS Phosphate Company, Inc. Mine Continuation Permit

Dear Col. Ryscavage and Mr. Giattina:

Attached is a complete Proposal with graphics to further modify Alternative L to meet the requests of the ASA and the EPA for further avoidance: $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac$

(See attached file: EPA-ASA Avoidance Description.DOC)(See attached file: NCPC_Bon_S33 Mod Alt L Conservation Esement and Deed Restriction (2).pdf)(See attached file: NCPC_BON_S33 MOD ALT L BIOTIC COM 051309.pdf)

George W. House

Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard Attorneys and Counsellors at Law P.O. Box 26000 Greensboro, N.C. 27420 Direct Dial: 336-271-3114

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PROPOSED ADDITIONAL AVOIDANCE TO RESPOND TO EPA AND ASA CONCERNS

Summary of Avoidance (in addition to Modified Alt L)

1.	Total additional avoidance	s
2.	Total additional linear feet of stream avoided	F
3.	Total additional mining reserves lost	'es
4.	Permanent conservation easement around Drinkwater Creek and PN streams Jacks, Jacobs and Tooley Creeks from 100 yards upstream fro their mouths on South Creek to the Modified Alternative L Boundary ar	m nd
	Porter Creek from 100 yards upstream from its mouth on Durham Creek to the Modified Alternative L Boundary.	

Total linear feet of stream preserved by conservation easement.. 57,316 LF

5. Permanent mining restriction around Cypress Run from its mouth on South Creek to the Modified Alternative L Boundary.

Total linear feet of stream preserved by mining restriction 9,659 LF

6. Avoidance of high value PNA headwaters areas in NCPC and Bonnerton.

Specific Areas

- 1. The attached mine plans provide for the avoidance of an additional 81.7 acres north of Highway 33:
 - a. 6.0 acres on the NCPC Tract at the headwaters of Jacobs Creek (ASA, EPA & modified NMFS exclusion area 1):
 - i. 0.56 acre of bottomland hardwood forest
 - ii. 1.28 acres of shrub-scrub assemblage
 - iii. 1.82 acres of hardwood forest

- iv. 0.09 acre of pine forest
- v. 0.04 acre of pond
- vi. 0.19 acre of stream
- vii. 830 linear feet of stream
- viii. 2.00 acres of associated uplands
- b. 14.1 acres on the NCPC Tract at the headwaters of Jacks Creek (ASA & EPA exclusion area):
 - i. 0.51 acre of bottomland hardwood forest
 - ii. 1.79 acres of herbaceous assemblage
 - iii. 1.42 acres of shrub scrub assemblage
 - iv. 0.63 acre of mixed pine/hardwood forest
 - v. 0.02 acre of pine forest
 - vi. 0.26 acre of pond
 - vii. 0.02 acre of stream
 - viii. 353 linear feet of stream
 - ix. 9.46 acres of associated uplands
- c. 6.7 acres on the NCPC Tract at the headwaters of Drinkwater Creek (EPA & NMFS exclusion area 2):
 - i. 3.87 acres of hardwood forest
 - ii. 1.06 acres of pine forest
 - iii. 0.32 acre of pond
 - iv. 0.04 acre of stream
 - v. 492 linear feet of stream
 - vi. 1.36 acres of associated uplands
- d. 21.2 acres on the NCPC Tract at the headwaters of Tooley Creek (EPA & NMFS exclusion area 5):
 - i. 2.33 acres of bottomland hardwood forest
 - ii. 0.40 acre of herbaceous assemblage
 - iii. 0.48 acre of hardwood forest
 - iv. 0.54 acre of mixed pine/hardwood forest
 - v. 0.54 acre of pine forest
 - vi. 16.9 acres of associated uplands
- e. 33.8 acres on the Bonnerton Tract along Porter Creek (ASA, EPA & NMFS exclusion areas 3 and 6 and associated connector):
 - i. 2.68 acres of bottomland hardwood forest
 - ii. 9.04 acres of hardwood forest
 - iii. 3.22 acres mixed pine/hardwood forest
 - iv. 1.33 acres of pine forest
 - v. 0.14 acre of stream
 - vi. 1,180 linear feet of stream

- vii. 17.38 acres of associated uplands
- viii. In addition to the water quality protective functions of the wetlands, the combination of NMFS exclusion areas 3 and 6 and a connector between them provides for a significant expansion of watershed draining to Porter Creek.
- 2. The attached mine plans provide for the avoidance of an additional 7.9 acres South of Highway 33 near Cypress Run shown as Cypress Run Creek exclusion area:
 - a. 6.61 acres of hardwood forest
 - b. 1.29 acres of associated uplands
- 3. To accomplish avoidance of the areas identified in paragraphs 1 and 2, PCS will be prevented from mining 104 acres (2.58 million tons of phosphate rock concentrate) currently available in Modified Alternative L.
- 4. PCS will further agree to place a conservation easement permanently preserving the following streams on the NCPC and Bonnerton Tracts beginning 100 yards upstream of their mouths running to the Modified Alternative L Boundary (see attached maps) in their current natural state. This restriction will provide a 100 foot buffer from the back edge of the brackish marsh, or from the bank of the stream where no marsh exists, on either side of each of the following streams:
 - a. Jacks Creek 50 acres and 7,467 LF
 - b. Jacobs Creek 78 acres and 9,349 LF
 - c. Tooley Creek 81 acres and 8,953 LF
 - d. Drinkwater Creek 63 acres and 7,939 LF
 - e. Porter Creek 228 acres and 23,608 LF (subject to the limited, temporary surface impacts related to carrying out and supporting mining activities on the Bonnerton Tract and the inability to place restrictions on non-owned properties)
- 5. PCS will further agree to place a mining restriction on Cypress Run preventing mining of Cypress Run from its mouth running to the Modified Alternative L Boundary (see attached map). This restriction will provided a 100 foot buffer from the bank of the stream on either side of Cypress Run. This will permanently protect 48 acres and 9,659 LF from mining activities (subject to the inability to place restrictions on non-owned properties).
- 6. The offer above is conditioned upon the COE appropriately revising mitigation requirements for the wetlands and streams avoided.

















