



CORPS ANNOUNCES DECISION ON ALABAMA MOTORSPORTS PARK

Alabama Motorsports Park Developers Granted Permit

Mobile, Ala. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, announced it has reached a decision to issue a permit to Gulf Coast Entertainment, L.L.C. for the Alabama Motorsports Park to be built in Prichard, Ala.

“The decision to issue the permit was made after a finding of no significant impacts to the environment in the Environmental Assessment,” said E. Patrick Robbins, Public Affairs Officer, Mobile District.

The applicant, Gulf Coast Entertainment, L.L.C., submitted its initial permit application in May 2007.

“As the process moved forward there were many comments received from various Federal and state agencies, interested organizations and the general public,” said Robbins. “Due to the concerns raised in these comments, the applicant made major revisions to the request which resulted in a dramatic drop in impacts to wetlands and streams. The permit will authorize impacts to 84-acres of wetlands and approximately 3,119 linear feet of streams.”

The Corps regulatory process has three simple principles. They are: avoid impacts to wetlands/streams, minimize unavoidable impacts, and then mitigate for impacts that have occurred.

“The applicant, in response to the concerns raised, followed these three principles in reconfiguring the development layout to avoid and minimize. They also eliminated several of the development proposals to further reduce or avoid impacts,” said Robbins.

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