

From: [Brunet, Sean G CIV USARMY CEMVN \(USA\)](#)
To: [Kelsey Calvez](#)
Cc: [Assenza, Adam](#)
Subject: USACE REPLY: Plaquemines Parish Rail Extension_ FD 36633: Agency Consultation Letter
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 3:05:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Plaq Parish New Rail Line.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from sean.g.brunet@usace.army.mil. [Learn why this is important](#)

ORM#: MVN-2025-00811-SQ

Applicant: Adam Assenza, Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District

Project/Subject: Construction of Ten (10) miles of Rail Line Extension (part of New Orleans & Gulf Coast Railroad Mainline Extension Project)

Location: West side of Ironton to the east side of Point Celeste, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as shown in SOV request

Dear Ms. Calvez,

This email is in reference to your below email dated September 9, 2025, concerning the proposed Rail Line Extension in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

Information and signatures obtained from recent maps, aerial photographs, and local soil surveys concerning the proposed ten (10) miles of rail line extension study area are indicative of the occurrence of waters of the U.S., including possible wetlands and non-wetland waters. Department of the Army (DA) permits are required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands and non-wetland waters. This response does not constitute authorization to conduct the project.

A jurisdictional determination will be required to determine the extent of waters of the U.S. Please submit a jurisdictional determination request form to our office along with a detailed wetland delineation that we require for all jurisdictional determinations. Please visit <https://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Jurisdiction-Wetlands/> for more information. Additionally, detailed project plans would be required, along with an accurate delineation of aquatic resources, to determine if a DA permit would be required for any portion of the proposed 10-mile rail line extension project. The fact that a jurisdictional determination has not been completed does not alleviate your responsibility to obtain the proper DA permits prior to working in jurisdictional areas, which include wetlands, occurring at these locations.

You are advised that you must obtain a permit from the Plaquemines Parish Government for any work within 300 feet of the a federal flood control HSDRRS structure and/or 1,500' of the Mississippi River & Tributaries flood control structure such as a levee/floodwall. You must apply by email to the Plaquemines Parish Government including full-size construction plans, cross sections, and details of the proposed work. Concurrently with your application to the Plaquemines Parish Government, you must also forward a copy of your letter and plans to Operations Division, Operations Manager for Completed Works of the Corps of Engineers and to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) office in Baton Rouge for their review and comments concerning the proposed work. The Plaquemines Parish Government will not issue a permit for the work to proceed until they have obtained letters of no objection from both of these reviewing agencies. For further information

regarding permit requests affecting federal flood control levees and structures, please contact Ms. Amy Powell, Operations Manager for Completed Works at (504) 862-2241.

Please contact Mr. Bill Nethery of our Regulatory Branch by telephone at (504) 862-1790, or by email: william.r.nethery@usace.army.mil for questions concerning wetlands determinations or need for on-site evaluations. Questions concerning regulatory permit requirements may be addressed to Mr. Brad LaBorde by telephone at (504) 862-2225 or by email: brad.laborde@usace.army.mil.

Future correspondence concerning this matter should reference account number MVN-2025-00811-SQ. This will allow us to more easily locate records of previous correspondence, and thus provide a quicker response.

Kind regards,

Sean Brunet

Sean Brunet, PE, PMP
USACE - New Orleans District
504-862-2232 (desk)
504-344-1520 (cell)
sean.g.brunet@usace.army.mil

From: Kelsey Calvez <Kelsey.Calvez@freese.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 7:30 PM
Cc: Assenza, Adam <Adam.Assenza@stb.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FD 36633: Agency Consultation Letter

Dear Agency Representative:

Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District (PPHTD) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate approximately 10 miles of new rail line in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana (the Line). The Line would be part of PPHTD's New Orleans & Gulf Coast Railroad Mainline Extension Project .

Please find attached a letter from the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) describing the project and initiating consultation with your agency, as well as a project location map, study area map, and distribution list.

Thank you,

Please note this email is being sent by Freese and Nichols, Inc. on behalf of OEA.

Kelsey Calvez

Environmental Scientist | Project Manager

Western Gulf Coast Integrated Water Management Division**Freese and Nichols, Inc.**

10431 Morado Circle

Bldg. 5, Suite 300

Austin, TX 78759

Office: (512) 617-3165

Mobile: (713) 574-0220

Kelsey.Calvez@freese.com

