



NOTICE OF HEARING

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

Notice is hereby given: the Tennessee Division of Water Resources will hold a public hearing regarding an application for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for stream and wetland alterations associated with the proposed widening of the Interstate 24 and Interstate 75 in East Ridge, TN.

Location: East Ridge High School
4320 Bennett Road
Chattanooga, TN 37412

Date: **Thursday September 19, 2019**

Informational Session: **5:30 – 6:30 pm Eastern time**

Public Hearing: **6:30 – 7:30 pm Eastern time**

Public comments will be received concerning the proposed permit action described below:

Applicant: Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)
C/o Robert W. Thompson Jr.
C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc.
Authorized Agent for TDOT
Post Office Drawer 970
Marietta, GA 30061
770-422-7520

Division File Number: NRS19.128

End of Comment Period: September 29, 2019

Description: The Tennessee Department of Transportation, through its authorized agent C.W. Matthews Contracting Co., Inc., proposes to upgrade Interstate 24 and Interstate 75 in East Ridge, Hamilton County, TN. The applicant proposes 9.38 acres of permanent impact to six wetlands, 2.23 acres of temporary impact to five wetlands, and two stream crossings resulting in approximately 580 linear feet of permanent impact. The proposed stream work will result in additional temporary stream impacts within the footprint of the proposed permanent stream crossings. The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts through partial on-site mitigation and the purchase of 28.40 wetland bank credits from the Sequatchie Valley Wetland Mitigation Bank. Mitigation for unavoidable stream impacts will be provided through the purchase of 38.4 functional feet credits from the Lodi Stream Mitigation Bank. The sponsor of the Lodi Stream Mitigation Bank has submitted a Mitigation Banking Instrument and is pending approval through the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Tennessee Inter-Agency Review Team.

Hearing Process: The purpose of this hearing is to inform the public and provide an opportunity to comment on water quality issues that would occur from this project. Prior to opening the formal public hearing, an informational session will be held with Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) staff. The informational session will have a question and answer format where the public can ask one-on-one questions of TDEC staff or the permit applicant.

Once the formal public hearing begins, the question and answer format will end and all public comments will be collected for the hearing record without response from TDEC. TDEC staff will provide written responses to all oral and written comments following the public hearing, prior to making a final determination on the permit action.

The meeting moderator may limit the length of oral comments in order to allow all parties an opportunity to speak, and will require that all comments be relevant to the proposed permit action and Division of Water Resources issues.

Written comments will be accepted at the hearing and following the hearing and will be considered part of the hearing record. If one cannot attend but would like to comment, written comments will be accepted through the end of the comment period listed above. Please send to the attention of the permit writer at the following address:

Division of Water Resources
William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available for review on the internet at the Division's data viewer (<https://www.tn.gov/environment/about-tdec/tdec-dataviewers.html>) by entering the permit number listed in the title of this Public Notice. Interested persons may also obtain additional information and may inspect and copy related documents at the Division's Central Office at the address listed above, Attn: Robert Wayne, at robert.j.wayne@tn.gov.

EEO/AA/ADAAA inquiries or complaints may be directed to the ADAAA Coordinator, HR Division, at 1-615-532-0200. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (1-800-848-0298).

If it is hard for you to read, speak, or understand English, TDEC may be able to provide translation or interpretation services free of charge. Please contact Saul Castillo at 615-532-0462 for more information.