**REGULATORY PROGRAM**

**PERMIT ACTION**

**Hunter’s Point Natural Gas Well**

APPLICANT: **:** Sunset Exploration, Inc.

CORPS FILE NUMBER: SPN-2011-00065N

AREA: Suisun Marsh, Solano County, CA

DESCRIPTION: Sunset Exploration has applied for a Department of the Army Permit to discharge fill into jurisdictional wetlands for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of a natural gas well drilling project. Phase 1 would require 1.05 acres of fill in jurisdictional wetlands to explore the potential of natural gas production in a new well (Phase 1). Phase 2 of the project would be development of the well for production resulting in an additional 0.31 acres of fill for a total of 3,800 cubic yards of fill impacts to 1.36 acres of jurisdictional wetlands from both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project. A new 8,821 foot pipeline along the existing levee would be connected to existing natural gas infrastructure.

PRIMARY ISSUE: The Corps received public notice comments requesting additional information and an extension of the public comment period. Comments received have been predominantly in opposition to the project and opposition to permit approval. The major issues include: opposition to fossil fuel development, concern about pipelines and safety in wetlands and Suisun Marsh, questions about environmental justice issues in Benicia, and consistency with state and local regulations and land use plans.

STATUS: The initial public notice opened January 26, 2021 and closed February 26, 2021. The Corps received several requests to extend the public comment period and comments asking for additional information. The Corps responded by releasing a supplemental public notice which clarified the original notice and contained additional information and maps. This notice opened March 16 and closed April 2, 2021. Over 400 comments were received during the combined public comment periods. The Regulatory Project Manager will review the comments for substantive issues and new information. Regulatory will solicit additional information from the applicant related to the public comments. Additionally, the Corps will continue to analyze the applicant’s proposed alternatives and mitigation, including avoidance, minimization, and compensatory mitigation.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

* Garamendi, CA-2
* Thompson

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