



SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ROOM 9M15, 60 FORSYTH ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8801

ATTENTION OF CESAD-CM-OC

(1130-2-320b)

MEMORANDUM FOR

8 Mar 02

COMMANDER, CHARLESTON DISTRICT COMMANDER, JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MOBILE DISTRICT COMMANDER, SAVANNAH DISTRICT COMMANDER, WILMINGTON DISTRICT

SUBJECT: South Atlantic Division Policy for Evaluating Land Use Requests on Civil Works Water Resources Development Projects

- 1. Routinely we receive requests for use of Corps lands by non-Corps interests for items including, but not limited to, easements for pipelines, sewer lines, power lines, water intake structures, and roads; leases for intensive recreation development (e.g., golf courses, water parks); and other actions that involve appreciable land disturbance and the potential to diminish the value of the public resources under our stewardship. Moreover, we have not had a standard approach or methodology with which to evaluate these requests to ensure they are processed consistently across the region. A set of clearly established evaluation procedures that are well communicated internally, with the public, and with congressional interests will improve consistency in review and help maintain the integrity of our project resources.
- 2. Wilmington District developed and successfully implemented a comprehensive "land use review template" for evaluating and processing requests for use of Corps lands. You were introduced to the Wilmington model at the October 2001 Command Council meeting. On 6 November 2001, Wilmington District Operations staff briefed their "land use review template" to the SAD Regional Management Board (RMB). The RMB wholeheartedly endorsed the Wilmington process and agreed that it should be adopted and implemented SAD wide.
- 3. Effective with the date of this memorandum, all SAD Districts will use the enclosed procedures for evaluating land-use requests. These procedures follow the project management business process with Operations as the PM, fully utilizing a team approach with Real Estate, Planning, Office of Counsel, and other organizational elements as appropriate. I am confident that you will find the results of their efforts quite impressive, especially their ability to recoup administrative costs and to achieve appropriate and fair mitigation outcomes that exceed anything that I have observed elsewhere.

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- 4. Intentionally, this guidance is not too prescriptive, rather it focuses on the general principles and processes that each District will implement as they evaluate land use requests. We want to allow and encourage further innovation and flexibility, not stifle it. Furthermore, these procedures are not perfect. There may always be questions and issues unique to the request under review. Nevertheless, by making use of the best practices available, they represent a consistent regional approach for evaluating land use requests.
- 5. My point of contact for this action is Jonathan Davis, CESAD-CM-OC, 404-562-5135.

Encl

PETER T. MADSEN Brigadier General, USA

Commanding