



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
MOBILE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
BIRMINGHAM FIELD OFFICE  
218 SUMMIT PARKWAY, SUITE 222  
HOMEWOOD, ALABAMA 35209

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**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2012-01407-LCB**

**November 8, 2012**

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND**  
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL**

**PROPOSED FILL OF WETLANDS FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF**  
**THE EXISTING STAMPEDE 31-8 #1 ST WELL PAD IN SMITH COUNTY,**  
**MISSISSIPPI**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The Mobile District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT:** Tellus Operating Group, LLC  
Attention: Mr. Thomas Clarke  
602 Crescent Place, Suite 100  
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157

**AGENT:** Headwaters, Inc.  
Attention: Mr. Clay Cromwell  
Post Office Box 820188  
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39182

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located 6.8 aerial miles southwest of Raleigh, Smith County, Mississippi, in Section 31, Township 2 North, Range 7 East. The center of the site is located at Latitude 31.9697° North and Longitude 89.6113° West. The project is located in the Upper Leaf River watershed (HUC 03170004).

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** The purpose of this project is to expand the currently existing well pad in order to improve the CO2 injection capabilities of this facility in association with the Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) operations currently underway within the Stampede Oil and Gas Field.

**WORK:** The Applicant proposes to grade and permanently fill approximately 2.364 acres of forested wetland in association with the expansion of the existing Stampede 31-8 #1 ST well pad.

The proposed project would increase the current size of the Stampede 31-8 #1 ST well pad from 200' x 200' (0.92 ac) to 400' x 400' (3.67 ac)

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The agent provided the following: "Initially, it was considered to construct a new location adjacent to the Stampede 31-8 #1 well site. However, upon further review, it was confirmed that the adjacent habitats are similarly positioned within a low-lying floodplain of Clear Creek and would increase the anticipated wetland impacts from the original concept. Due to the potential for increased wetland impacts, this alternative was no longer pursued as a viable option. Further consideration was taken to utilize the existing Stampede 31-8 #1 well site and access road to facilitate the project. Utilizing the existing access road and improved well site reduced the anticipated wetland impacts by over 50% from other alternatives. As a result, it was determined that this was the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative to complete the project." *The USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization statement at this time.*

**MITIGATION:** The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts by withdrawing credits from the Cohay Conservation Area permittee responsible mitigation (PRM) area located in Smith County, Mississippi. The Cohay Conservation Area PRM area is located in the same watershed as the impact site. *The USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's mitigation proposal at this time.*

**WATER QUALITY:** The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

**COMMENTS:** This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and use of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To

make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**HISTORIC PROPERTIES:** In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer for review.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The applicant submitted a request to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for a review of project SAM-2009-0626-JMC, for which the area of analysis included the proposed Stampede 31-8 #1 ST well pad expansion site. The USFWS responded electronically stating that there are no known federally listed threatened or endangered species, or their habitats, within the project area, and that they do not anticipate any impacts to listed species as a result of the proposed project. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the USFWS for review.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2012-01407-LCB and should be directed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District  
Birmingham Field Office  
Attn: Lewis Brockette  
218 Summit Parkway, Suite 222  
Homewood, AL 35209

with a copy to the:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Pollution Control  
Post Office Box 2261  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225

Comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of this Public notice.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at **Lewis.C.Brockette@usace.army.mil** or telephone number **(205) 290-9096**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at [www.sam.usace.army.mil/RD/reg](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/RD/reg), and please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey while you are there. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

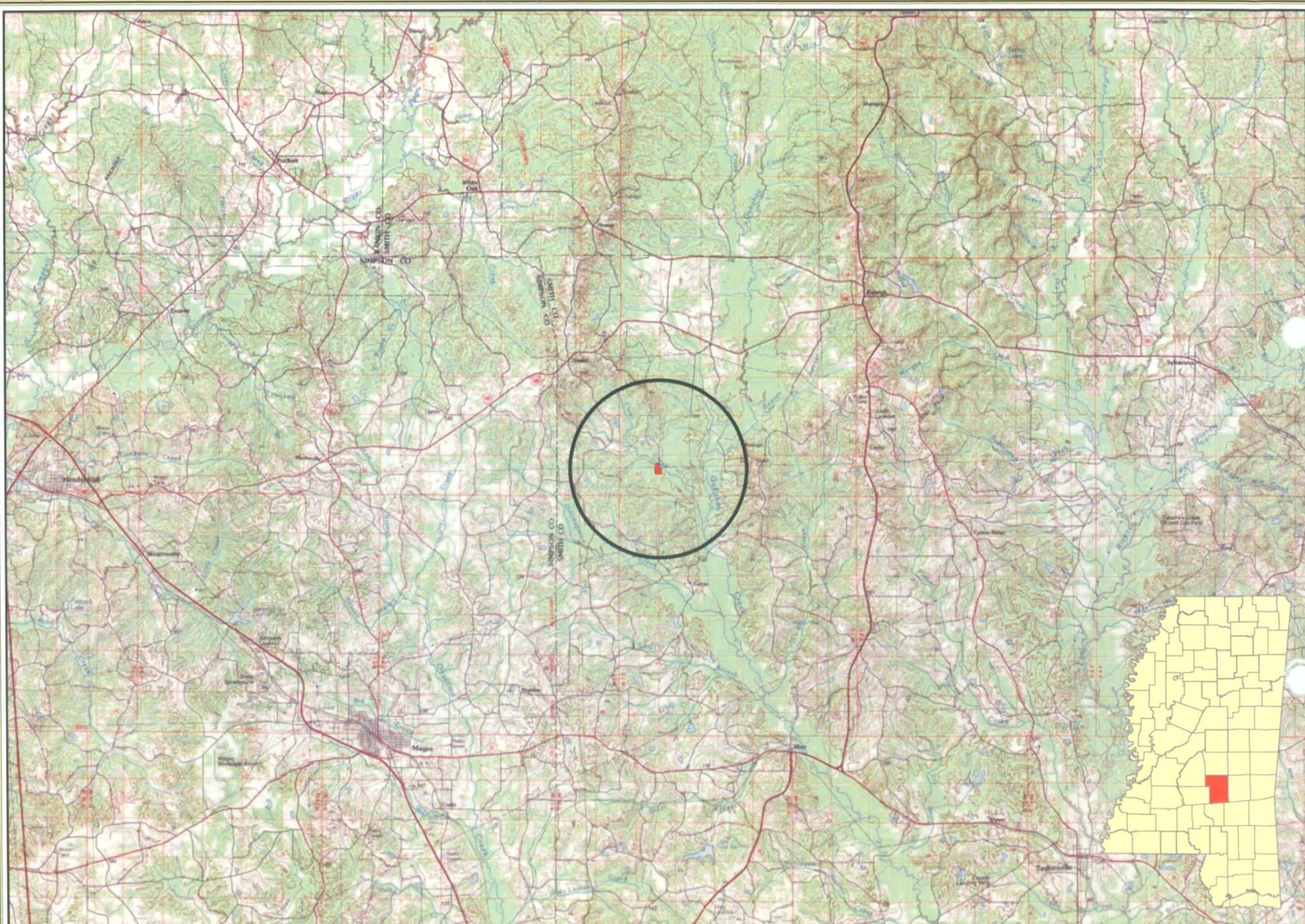
MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



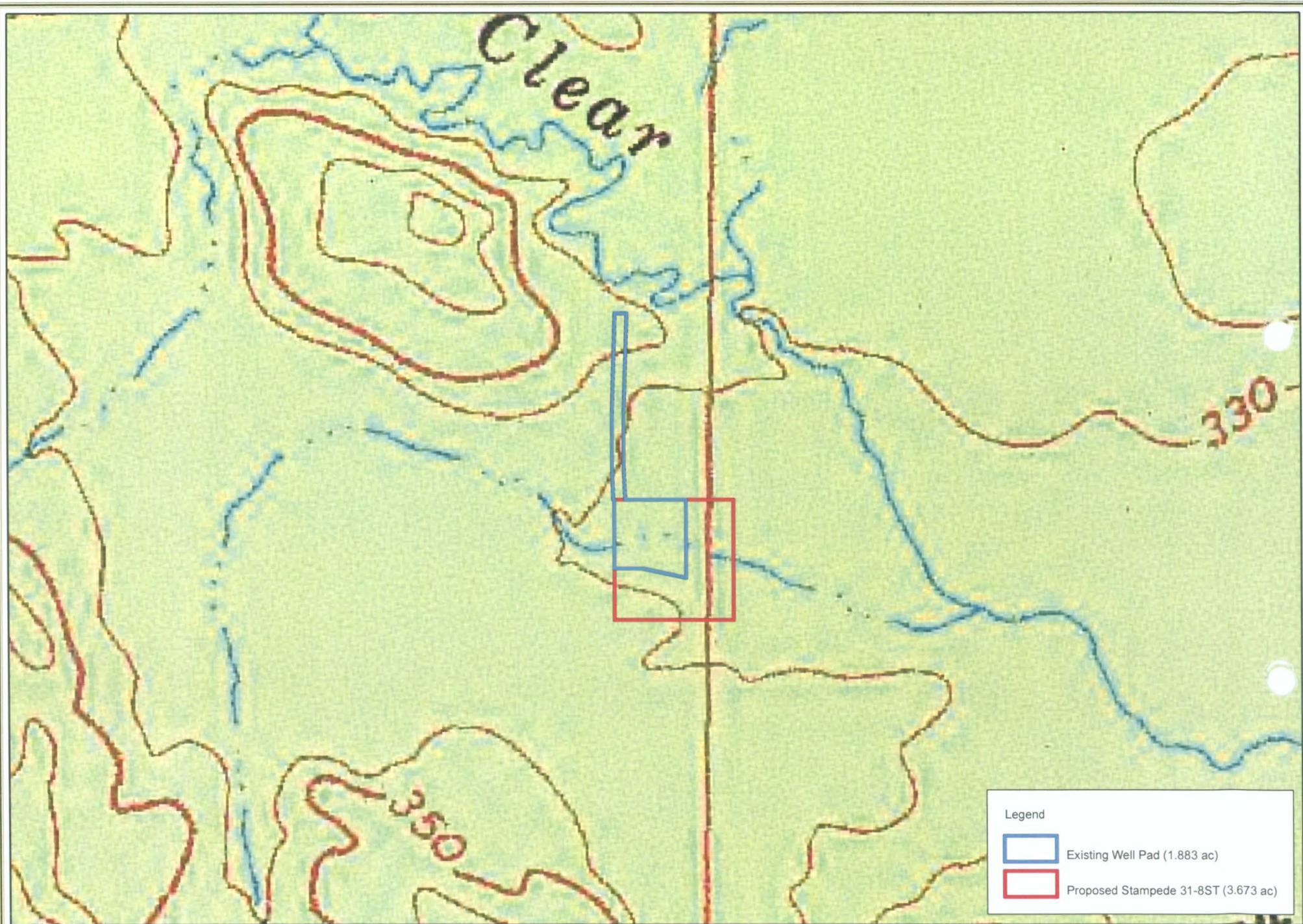
Legend

-  Existing Well Pad (1.883 ac)
-  Proposed Stampede 31-8ST (3.673 ac)



Tellus Operating Group, LLC  
Stampede 31-8 #1 ST  
Smith County, Mississippi  
[General Location Map](#)





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