U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Region 4, Water Division
61 Forsyth Street SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
South Atlantic Division, Corps of Engineers
60 Forsyth Street SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
and
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

SITE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN
for
INACTIVE OCEAN DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL SITES (ODMDS)
in the
Southeastern United States

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division (USACE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4 have prepared a draft Site Management and Monitoring Plan (SMMP) to specifically address the disposal of dredged material at the Southeastern United States Inactive Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Sites (ODMDS). Comments on this draft SMMP are requested from the public, other agencies and all interested parties.

Under Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA), it is the responsibility of the EPA and the USACE to monitor and manage ocean dredged material disposal sites to ensure that ocean dredged material disposal activities will not unreasonably degrade the marine environment or endanger human health. The MPRSA requires the development and periodic review and revision of a site management and monitoring plan (SMMP) for each ODMDS. Following an opportunity for public review and comment, the SMMP will be finalized and will provide for emergency use of an inactive ODMDS until a site-specific SMMP can be developed.

Section 228.3 of the Ocean Dumping Regulations and Criteria (40 CFR 220-229) states: "Management of a site consists of regulating times, rates, and methods of disposal and quantities and types of materials disposed of; developing and maintaining effective ambient monitoring programs for the site; conducting disposal site evaluation studies; and recommending modifications in site use and/or designation." The SMMP specifies the requirements for monitoring and reporting disposal activities at each ODMDS. Under this proposal, an inactive

ODMDS would be used only in an emergency. If an inactive ODMDS is used, a site-specific SMMP will be developed within one year. That site specific SMMP will include a monitoring program. The monitoring is used to determine changes in bathymetry, any movement of the disposed material, and environmental effects of the material on the site and adjacent areas. At a minimum, a Trend Assessment Survey (40 CFR 228. 13) will be conducted within 2 years of initiation of site use if none has been conducted within the last ten years.

The currently inactive Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Sites are designated sites at Georgetown, South Carolina; Palm Beach, Florida; Pensacola Nearshore, Florida; Port Royal, South Carolina and Tampa, Florida.

Written comments are requested via email or letter within 30 days of the date of this notice, submitted to the following:

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