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Inspections Division
Approved with Conditions
Date: 10/16/15

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

PATRICIA W. AHO
COMMISSIONER

June 2015

Cianbro Corporation
Attn: Tom Ruksznis
101 Cianbro Square
Pittsfield, ME 04967

RE: Natural Resources Protection Act Application, Portland
DEP #L-19226-4E-B-N/L-19226-TW-C-N

Dear Mr. Ruksznis:

Please find enclosed a signed copy of your Department of Environmental Protection land use permit. You will note that the permit includes a description of your project, findings of fact that relate to the approval criteria the Department used in evaluating your project, and conditions that are based on those findings and the particulars of your project. Please take several moments to read your permit carefully, paying particular attention to the conditions of the approval. The Department reviews every application thoroughly and strives to formulate reasonable conditions of approval within the context of the Department's environmental laws. You will also find attached some materials that describe the Department's appeal procedures for your information.

If you have any questions about the permit or thoughts on how the Department processed this application please get in touch with me directly. I can be reached at (207) 523-9807 or at david.cherry@maine.gov.

Sincerely,

David Cherry, Project Manager
Division of Land Resource Regulation
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

pc: File

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

web site: www.maine.gov/dep

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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

CIANBRO CORPORATION	) NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT
Portland, Cumberland County	) COASTAL WETLAND ALTERATION
MODIFY BOAT LAUNCH	) SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITAT
L-19226-4E-B-N (approval)	) WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
L-19226-TW-C-N (approval)	) FINDINGS OF FACT AND ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 480-A et seq. and Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Department of Environmental Protection has considered the application of CIANBRO CORPORATION with the supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

A. History of Project: In Department Order #L-19226-4E-A-N, dated November 26, 1996, the Department approved several modifications of an existing marine repair and construction facility. These included the expansion of the crane pier and the tug pier, as well as the repairs to an existing barge loading ramp. Specifically, the Department approved a larger deck for the crane pier and a larger walkway for the tug pier, both of which used existing pilings as supports. The repairs to the barge loading ramp increased the deck of the ramp from 16 feet wide by 44 feet long to 16 feet wide by 50 feet long. Several existing concrete abutments and pilings were also replaced. All of these activities have been constructed.

B. Summary: The applicant proposes to make additional repairs to the barge loading ramp. The proposed project includes the installation of a sheet pile wall that will surround the existing launch. The sheet pile wall will be installed below the Highest Annual Tide (HAT) line and will involve fill in subtidal wetland. The wall will be anchored from within the launch. The proposed project is found on a plan titled "Ricker's Wharf," drawn by Cianbro Corporation and dated April 3, 2015. The project site is located on Cassidy Point Drive in the City of Portland.

C. Current Use of the Site: The proposed project is located on a developed lot that is used for the applicant's commercial business. The parcel is identified as Lot 7 on Map 71/F of the City of Portland's tax maps.

2. EXISTING SCENIC, AESTHETIC, RECREATIONAL OR NAVIGATIONAL USES:

In accordance with Chapter 315, Assessing and Mitigating Impacts to Scenic and Aesthetic Uses, the applicant submitted a copy of the Department's Visual Evaluation Field Survey Checklist as Appendix A to the application along with a description of the

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property and the proposed project. The applicant also submitted several photographs of the proposed project site, including an aerial photograph of the project site.

The proposed project is located in the Fore River, which is a scenic resource visited by the general public, in part, for the use, observation, enjoyment and appreciation of its natural and cultural visual qualities. The applicant has minimized the amount of sheet piling to that necessary to secure the launch to reduce the visibility from the scenic resource. The proposed project is located in a heavily developed commercial and industrial portion of the Fore River, thus the addition of a sheet pile wall will not affect the view from the resource.

The proposed project was evaluated using the Department's Visual Impact Assessment Matrix and was found to have an acceptable potential visual impact rating. Based on the information submitted in the application and the visual impact rating, the Department determined that the location and scale of the proposed activity is compatible with the existing visual quality and landscape characteristics found within the viewshed of the scenic resource in the project area.

The Department did not identify any issues involving existing recreational and navigational uses.

The Department finds that the proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic, aesthetic, recreational or navigational uses of the protected natural resource.

3. SOIL EROSION:

The applicant proposes to install the sheet pile wall around the exterior of the existing launch and then install fill behind it, between the launch and the wall. Construction below the HAT line will occur during periods of low tide and no equipment will enter the water. The driving of the sheet pile is not expected to be a significant source of sediment, and the wall will act as a barrier to prevent fill material from discharging into the coastal wetland.

The Department finds that the activity will not cause unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment nor unreasonably inhibit the natural transfer of soil from the terrestrial to the marine or freshwater environment.

4. HABITAT CONSIDERATIONS:

According to the Department's Geographic Information System database the project area is mapped as Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat (TWWH) which is designated as Significant Wildlife Habitat under the Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA). There are no mapped Essential Habitats located at the site.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) reviewed the proposed project and stated that because the project area is currently highly disturbed, there is no anticipated impact on wildlife.

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The Department finds that the activity will not unreasonably harm any significant wildlife habitat, freshwater wetland plant habitat, threatened or endangered plant habitat, aquatic or adjacent upland habitat, travel corridor, freshwater, estuarine or marine fisheries or other aquatic life.

5. WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The applicant intends to follow the erosion and sedimentation control plan during construction as described in Finding 3. The Department finds that the proposed project will not violate any state water quality law, including those governing the classification of the State's waters.

6. WETLANDS AND WATERBODIES PROTECTION RULES:

The applicant proposes to fill 270 square feet of coastal wetland to install the proposed sheet pile wall and associated fill for the launch. The applicant indirectly altered approximately 14,134 square feet of coastal wetland as a result of shading from the activities approved in Department Order #L-19226-4E-A-N.

The Wetland and Waterbodies Protection Rules, 06-096 CMR 310, interpret and elaborate on the NRPA criteria for obtaining a permit. The rules guide the Department in its determination of whether a project's impacts would be unreasonable. A proposed project would generally be found to be unreasonable if it would cause a loss in wetland area, functions and values and there is a practicable alternative to the project that would be less damaging to the environment. Each application for a NRPA permit that involves a coastal wetland alteration must provide an analysis of alternatives in order to demonstrate that a practicable alternative does not exist.

A. Avoidance. No activity may be permitted if there is a practicable alternative to the project that would be less damaging to the environment. The applicant submitted an alternatives analysis for the proposed project completed by Woodard and Curran. The project purpose is to prevent future failure of the existing seawall by installing the sheet pile wall. The applicant considered several options, which included not making any improvements, removing the existing launch and constructing a new launch, selectively removing and reinstalling blocks, and installing riprap.

The applicant determined that not making any improvements at the project site could lead to a failure of the existing structure due to the effects of tidal and river currents. Removing the existing seawall and fill for the launch, and then building a new launch was also considered, but was determined to result in significantly more disturbance in the coastal wetland. Removing and reinstalling selective blocks in the seawall would provide a temporary solution, but would create a potential risk in the fill behind it shifting and failing. This would also not address the issue of the deteriorating timber portions of the wall. A riprap slope would be a viable solution in that it would provide the necessary support for the launch and would be resistant to ice and wave action. This method was not selected because it would require approximately 5,800 square feet of impact to intertidal and subtidal portions of the launch, which is greater than what the proposed project would alter.

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B. Minimal Alteration. The amount of coastal wetland to be altered must be kept to the minimum amount necessary for meeting the overall purpose of the project. The applicant has minimized the proposed project to the extent practicable by limiting the amount of sheet piling installed to the area where failure is most likely. The applicant has also minimized the amount of alteration of the coastal wetland by not expanding further into the resource. The addition of fill material is intended to square off the launch and will not extend further into the resource than the edge of the existing launch.

C. Compensation. In accordance with Chapter 310 Section 5(C)(6)(b), compensation is not required to achieve the goal of no net loss of coastal wetland functions and values since the project will not result in over 500 square feet of fill in the resource, which is the threshold over which compensation is generally required. Further, the proposed project will not have an adverse impact on marine resources or wildlife habitat as determined by MDIFW and the Department. For these reasons, the Department determined that compensation is not required.

The Department finds that the applicant has avoided and minimized coastal wetland impacts to the greatest extent practicable, and that the proposed project represents the least environmentally damaging alternative that meets the overall purpose of the project.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

The Department did not identify any other issues involving existing scenic, aesthetic, or navigational uses, soil erosion, habitat or fisheries, the natural transfer of soil, natural flow of water, water quality, or flooding.

BASED on the above findings of fact, and subject to the conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 480-A et seq. and Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act:

A. The proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with existing scenic, aesthetic, recreational, or navigational uses.

B. The proposed activity will not cause unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment.

C. The proposed activity will not unreasonably inhibit the natural transfer of soil from the terrestrial to the marine or freshwater environment.

D. The proposed activity will not unreasonably harm any significant wildlife habitat, freshwater wetland plant habitat, threatened or endangered plant habitat, aquatic or adjacent upland habitat, travel corridor, freshwater, estuarine, or marine fisheries or other aquatic life.

E. The proposed activity will not unreasonably interfere with the natural flow of any surface or subsurface waters.

F. The proposed activity will not violate any state water quality law including those governing the classifications of the State's waters.

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The proposed activity will not unreasonably cause or increase the flooding of the alteration area or adjacent properties.

H. The proposed activity is not on or adjacent to a sand dune.

I. The proposed activity is not on an outstanding river segment as noted in Title 38 M.R.S.A. Section 480-P.

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of CIANBRO CORPORATION to modify a boat launch as described in Finding 1, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations:

1. Standard Conditions of Approval, a copy attached.

2. The applicant shall take all necessary measures to ensure that its activities or those of its agents do not result in measurable erosion of soil on the site during the construction of the project covered by this approval.

3. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision, or part thereof, of this License shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License shall be construed and enforced in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provision or part thereof had been omitted.

THIS APPROVAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OR SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY OTHER REQUIRED STATE, FEDERAL OR LOCAL APPROVALS NOR DOES IT VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCES.

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 8th DAY OF June, 2015.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Filed
JUN 08 2015
State of Maine
Board of Environmental Protection

BY: Michael Kuhns
For: Patricia W. Aho, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE THE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES…

DC/L19226BNCN/ATS#79201&79286

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Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA)
Standard Conditions

THE FOLLOWING STANDARD CONDITIONS SHALL APPLY TO ALL PERMITS GRANTED UNDER THE NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT, TITLE 38, M.R.S.A. SECTION 480-A ET.SEQ. UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY STATED IN THE PERMIT.

A. Approval of Variations From Plans. The granting of this permit is dependent upon and limited to the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted and affirmed to by the applicant. Any variation from these plans, proposals, and supporting documents is subject to review and approval prior to implementation.

B. Compliance With All Applicable Laws. The applicant shall secure and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local licenses, permits, authorizations, conditions, agreements, and orders prior to or during construction and operation, as appropriate.

C. Erosion Control. The applicant shall take all necessary measures to ensure that his activities or those of his agents do not result in measurable erosion of soils on the site during the construction and operation of the project covered by this Approval.

D. Compliance With Conditions. Should the project be found, at any time, not to be in compliance with any of the Conditions of this Approval, or should the applicant construct or operate this development in any way other the specified in the Application or Supporting Documents, as modified by the Conditions of this Approval, then the terms of this Approval shall be considered to have been violated.

E. Time frame for approvals. If construction or operation of the activity is not begun within four years, this permit shall lapse and the applicant shall reapply to the Board for a new permit. The applicant may not begin construction or operation of the activity until a new permit is granted. Reapplications for permits may include information submitted in the initial application by reference. This approval, if construction is begun within the four-year time frame, is valid for seven years. If construction is not completed within the seven-year time frame, the applicant must reapply for, and receive, approval prior to continuing construction.

F. No Construction Equipment Below High Water. No construction equipment used in the undertaking of an approved activity is allowed below the mean high water line unless otherwise specified by this permit.

G. Permit Included In Contract Bids. A copy of this permit must be included in or attached to all contract bid specifications for the approved activity.

H. Permit Shown To Contractor. Work done by a contractor pursuant to this permit shall not begin before the contractor has been shown by the applicant a copy of this permit.

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DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Department Licensing Decision

Dated: March 2012 **Contact: (207) 287-2811**

SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's ("DEP") Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection ("Board"); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. An aggrieved person seeking review of a licensing decision over which the Board had original jurisdiction may seek judicial review in Maine's Superior Court.

A judicial appeal of final action by the Commissioner or the Board regarding an application for an expedited wind energy development (35-A M.R.S.A. § 3451(4)) or a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 480-HH(1)) or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 636-A) must be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court.

This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with a review of the statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help a person to understand his or her rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

The laws concerning the DEP's *Organization and Powers*, 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 341-D(4) & 346, the *Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001, and the DEP's *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* ("Chapter 2"), 06-096 CMR 2 (April 1, 2003).

HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written appeal within 30 days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board will be rejected.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by the Board's receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner a copy of the appeal documents and if the person appealing is not the applicant in the license proceeding at issue the applicant must also be sent a copy of the appeal documents. All of the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

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HAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

Appeal materials must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status*. The appeal must explain how the person filing the appeal has standing to maintain an appeal. This requires an explanation of how the person filing the appeal may suffer a particularized injury as a result of the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.
5. *All the matters to be contested*. The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing on the appeal is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence, referred to as supplemental evidence, to be considered by the Board in an appeal only when the evidence is relevant and material and that the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license application file is public information, subject to any applicable statutory exceptions, made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.
2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* If a license has been granted and it has been appealed the license normally remains in effect pending the processing of the appeal. A license holder may proceed with a project pending the outcome of an appeal but the license holder runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will formally acknowledge receipt of an appeal, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal. The notice of appeal, any materials accepted by the Board Chair as supplementary evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members with a recommendation from DEP staff. Persons filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision or remand the matter to the Commissioner for further proceedings. The Board will notify the appellant, a license holder, and interested persons of its decision.

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DICIAL APPEALS

Maine law generally allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner or Board licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & M.R. Civ. P 80C. A party's appeal must be filed with the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Board's or the Commissioner's decision. For any other person, an appeal must be filed within 40 days of the date the decision was rendered. Failure to file a timely appeal will result in the Board's or the Commissioner's decision becoming final.

An appeal to court of a license decision regarding an expedited wind energy development, a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project, or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project may only be taken directly to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. See 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(4).

Maine's Administrative Procedure Act, DEP statutes governing a particular matter, and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure must be consulted for the substantive and procedural details applicable to judicial appeals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, for administrative appeals contact the Board's Executive Analyst at (207) 287-2452 or for judicial appeals contact the court clerk's office in which your appeal will be filed.

Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.