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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202-1129 Phone 800-227-8917 www.epa.gov/region8

Received by

**EPA Region VIII** Hearing Clerk

Ref: 8ENF-W February 27, 2023

## **SENT VIA EMAIL READ RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Jean Ramer, CESCP Terracon 15080 A Circle Omaha, NE 68144 jean.ramer@terracon.com

> Re: James Hein Restoration Plan Approval, Administrative Order on Consent Docket No. CWA-08-2020-0014

Dear Ms. Ramer:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Yellowstone River restoration plan (Plan) that was prepared by Terracon, on behalf of James Hein, and made available to the EPA electronically on January 30, 2023. The restoration plan was prepared in response to the EPA's administrative order on consent (AOC) referenced above and addresses impacts to wetlands and other waters of the United States along the Yellowstone River. The impacts occurred in section 21, Township 3 North, Range 29 East on property owned by James Hein in connection with riverbank restoration and involving dredged or fill material discharged within and around the Yellowstone River.

You provided a final restoration plan on January 30, 2023, after which the EPA gave you verbal notification that the Plan, as submitted, becomes the final EPA-approved restoration plan (Approved Restoration Plan). This letter is to provide you formal notification of the EPA's January 30, 2023, restoration plan approval.

As is required by the AOC, James Hein is in consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to determine if any work to be performed pursuant to the AOC and the Approved Restoration Plan requires a permit from the Corps under section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). A permit application must be submitted to the Corps within 30 days, as indicated in the Plan.

You also are advised to consult with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) at the address and telephone number below to determine if a permit from MDEQ is required under section 401 or 402 of the CWA.

> Montana Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division 1520 E 6th Avenue Helena, MT 59601 Telephone: (406) 444-5546

If permits are required from the Corps, MDEQ, or any other agencies, they must be obtained, and copies provided to the EPA pursuant to paragraph 62 of the AOC, prior to initiating any of this work.

Thank you for providing the EPA with the Plan for your efforts to move this matter forward. If you have any questions regarding this letter or the AOC, please contact Jay Colingham, Enforcement Officer, USEPA Region 8, at (303) 312-6372.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Cantor Acting Branch Manager Water Enforcement Branch Enforcement and Compliance Assistance Division USEPA, Region 8 Headquarters

cc:

Sage L. Joyce

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Katherine Tribbett, Regional Hearing Clerk (via email, <u>Tribbett.Katherine@epa.gov</u>) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency