



April 30, 2015

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
Attn: Ms. Tina Hadden, Regulatory Division
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403

Dear Ms. Hadden:

We are writing in support of Berkeley County's application for a permit to place fill materials in jurisdictional waters near Timothy Creek, P/N #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

The South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance is the state's largest membership organization of manufacturers. Our members create and support hundreds of thousands of jobs across South Carolina, contributing in a significant way to the economy and the state's overall competitiveness. We welcome the opportunity for South Carolina to successfully recruit Project Soter, an advanced manufacturer that would create 4,000 jobs in an area that needs them.

Project Soter has the potential to not only transform the surrounding communities with economic opportunity, but the project also offers the chance to enhance the local environment through the preservation of properties valued by the National Audubon Society and other conservation groups. I have confidence that all parties will work together to ensure that this project is executed in an environmentally sensitive manner through the mitigation plan included in the application.

Failure to approve this permit would result in a missed opportunity to provide thousands of South Carolinians with the chance to better their lives. I respectfully request that you accept Berkeley County's application for this permit, P/N #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Schrum".

Roger Schrum
SCMA Chairman
VP of Corporate Affairs, Sonoco Products Company

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lewis F. Gossett".

Lewis F. Gossett
President & CEO, SCMA

cc: S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1362 McMillan Avenue, Ste. 400
Charleston, SC 29405

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Agriculture



April 30, 2015

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
Attn: Ms. Tina Hadden, Regulatory Division
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403

Dear Ms. Hadden:

As president and CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the state's largest broad-based business organization, I am writing in support of Berkeley County's application for a permit to place fill materials in jurisdictional waters near Timothy Creek, P/N #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

The identified site will house Project Soter, a critical economic development opportunity for Berkeley County, the greater Lowcountry region and the entire State of South Carolina. By issuing this permit, a landmark advanced manufacturing project will be allowed to progress, bringing development and job opportunities to one of our state's most economically challenged areas: the I-95 corridor.

Project Soter has the potential to transform the surrounding communities and do it in a way that is not only sensitive to the environment, but offers the ability to preserve key tracts of land that are important to the local conservation community for generations to come.

I have confidence that all parties will work together to ensure that this project is executed in an environmentally sensitive manner through the robust mitigation plan included in the application.

Failure to approve this permit would result in a missed opportunity to provide thousands of South Carolinians with the chance to better their lives. I respectfully request that you accept Berkeley County's application for this permit, P/N #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

Sincerely,

Ted Pitts

1301 Gervais Street
Suite 1100
Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 799-4601

Fax
(803) 779-6043

www.sccchamber.net

cc: S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1362 McMillan Avenue, Ste. 400
Charleston, SC 29405

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DHEC - OCRM
CHARLESTON OFFICE

James L. Newsome, III
President and Chief Executive Officer



April 29, 2015

176 Concord Street
P.O. Box 22287
Charleston, SC 29413 USA
(843) 577-8608

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District
Attn: Ms. Tina Hadden, Regulatory Division
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, SC 29403

scspa.com

Dear Ms. Hadden:

The South Carolina Ports Authority (SCPA) promotes, develops and facilitates waterborne commerce to meet the current and future needs of its customers, and for the economic benefit of the citizens and businesses of South Carolina. SCPA has an estimated economic impact of \$45 billion and facilitates over 260,000 South Carolina jobs. In furtherance of these priorities, the South Carolina Ports Authority strongly supports Berkeley County's application to impact wetlands near Timothy Creek, P/N #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

Berkeley County has applied to develop an advanced manufacturing and assembly facility, known as Project Soter, requiring certain transportation, distribution, and logistics infrastructure. Our experience shows that these types of facilities significantly benefit from close proximity to seaports allowing efficient and economical movement of cargo. This facility will bring an estimated \$1 billion of initial investment and thousands of jobs to South Carolina.

To mitigate for the potential wetlands impacts of the project, the Berkeley County application proposes to preserve and enhance approximately 1,533 acres of wetlands and 2,496 additional acres of surrounding uplands in the Dean Swamp and Walnut Branch watersheds through a Permittee Responsible Mitigation Plan (PRMP). The mitigation plan was developed through extensive coordination with agencies and stakeholders. The proposed mitigation tracts provide significant public benefit through permittee responsible landscape mitigation.

The Project Soter proposal and accompanying mitigation go far above and beyond the requirements of the law and are in the overwhelming best interest of the economy and environment of South Carolina. SCPA appreciates your thorough review and respectfully

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Stormwater, Construction &
Agriculture Permitting Division



requests that you expeditiously approve Berkeley County's permit application, permit #SAC-2015-0476-SIR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James I. Newsome III".

James I. Newsome, III

cc: S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1362 McMillan Avenue, Ste. 400
Charleston, SC 29405

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Stormwater, Construction &
Agricultural Permitting Division