

Exhibit DD. Crosspoint South Site LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Letter





JOHN BEL EDWARDS GOVERNOR



JACK MONTOUCET SECRETARY

PO BOX 98000 | BATON ROUGE LA | 70898

March 23, 2021

CSRS, Inc Attn: Sarah Wannamaker 6767 Perkins Road Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Crosspoint South Site LA. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Letter

Dear Ms. Wannamaker,

After review of your gopher tortoise survey results and the site photographs you provided on March 23, 2021 of the proposed Crosspoint North and South sites near Albany, LA as potential Certified Sites through Louisiana Economic Development, the project will not likely impact gopher tortoises or their burrows.

If at any time gopher tortoises or their burrows are encountered within the project area, please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676 or klejeune@wlf.la.gov. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Carolyn Michon, Wildlife Diversity Program Biologist, at 225-765-2357 or cmichon@wlf.la.gov.

Sincerely,

Keri Lejeune, State Herpetologist

Wildlife Diversity Program

JOHN BEL EDWARDS GOVERNOR



JACK MONTOUCET SECRETARY

PO BOX 98000 | BATON ROUGE LA | 70898

Date January 15, 2021

Name Sarah Wannamaker

Company CSRS

Street Address

City, State Zip

Project Crosspoint South Site

Project ID 822020

Invoice Number 21011501

Crosspoint South Site LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries Letter

Personnel of the Coastal & Nongame Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project.

The proposed project is located within the range of the Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) in Louisiana. The Gopher Tortoise is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The Gopher Tortoise is the only native tortoise found in the southeastern United States. It is a species in decline and warrants additional protection range wide on both state and federal levels. Gopher Tortoises live in extensive subterranean burrows in dry upland habitats. The habitats where Gopher Tortoises are found include longleaf pine sandhills, dry oak hammocks, scrub, pine flatwoods, dry prairies, and coastal dunes. Tortoises also can live in man-made environments, such as pastures, old fields, and grassy roadsides. They also occur in existing maintained transmission rights-of-way within Washington, Tangipahoa, and St. Tammany Parishes. To be suitable for gopher tortoises, the habitat must have relatively well-drained sandy soils for digging burrows, herbaceous food plants, and open sunny areas for nesting and basking. Habitat alteration and land development pose the most serious threat to the continued survival of the gopher tortoise. If Gopher Tortoises or Gopher Tortoise burrows are located within the project area, please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676 for further consultation.

After careful review of our database, no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. The Wildlife Diversity Program (WDP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. WDP reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the WDP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not

the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. WDP reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. WDP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time WDP tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the WDP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,

Nicole Lorenz, Program Manager Wildlife Diversity Program

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