

NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL INFORMATIONAL HEARING

A *virtual* public hearing for the request for Water Quality Certification is planned to be held, if one is requested by the public during the open public comment period from August 15, 2021 to September 15, 2021 by 5:00 pm. To view the Department's Public Notice soliciting comments on this project, please visit the following link:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/Jabez-Branch-Tributary3.aspx>

The purpose of the hearing is to gather information and hear testimony to assist the Department in making a determination for a Maryland Water Quality Certification on the request detailed below. Statements may be presented orally through the virtual platform during the hearing or in writing to the Maryland Department of the Environment, Wetlands and Waterways Program, Alex Sicard, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD, 21230 or by email alex.sicard1@maryland.gov or Telephone No.(410) 537-3803. **The virtual public hearing is pre-scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on December 1, 2021. Registering to view or participate in the hearing is not considered a request for the Department to hold a hearing; please check the Department's website for updates on the hearing status at the following link:**

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/Jabez-Branch-Tributary3.aspx>

In order to view or participate in the hearing, a participant must register at

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/56289915063421711>

Directions will be electronically forwarded to the email provided. If internet service is not available, the participant may call **1-877-568-4108** and then enter access code **873-302-154** to hear the public hearing. Phone only participants will not have the ability to provide testimony during the hearing, however, statements may be provided to Alex Sicard at the above contact information. All statements must be received by the Maryland Department of the Environment by 5:00 pm on November 24, 2021 to be read during the hearing. Statements may not be longer than three minutes in length. Statements can be provided orally by participants during the hearing through the virtual platform. Associated materials can be accessed at the following link:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/Jabez-Branch-Tributary3.aspx>

2021161424/21-WQC-0326: Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401 has requested a State Water Quality Certification in connection with its application to the Army Corps of Engineers for a federal Clean Water Act (CWA) permit to restore the stream channel and wetlands at Jabez Branch Tributary 3 (Class III) in Millersville, Maryland. The purpose of this project is to restore impaired hydrological, hydraulic, geomorphic, and physiochemical functions of the stream and wetland ecosystems. The project will temporarily impact 2,199 linear feet (18,768 square feet) of perennial stream, and 185,852 square feet of the 100-year floodplain. The project will also permanently impact 79,165 square feet of nontidal wetlands, and 70,419 square feet of 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer. The wetland impacts are expected to be self-mitigating on-site through the creation of new wetland areas. Any further notices concerning actions on the application will be provided only by mail to those persons on the interested persons list. Please refer to the Code of Maryland Regulations 26.08.02 for information regarding the Water Quality Certification application process.