



**US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence**

Public Notice

Reply To:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVS-OD-F
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No.
P-2807 and P-2808
Public Notice Date
September 9, 2011
Expiration Date
September 29, 2011

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Comments on the proposed fleet relocation activities described below should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice number shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEMVS-OD-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

1. The applicant, Southern Illinois Transfer, Inc., c/o: Mr. Kurt Johnson, 1038 State Street, Chester, Illinois 62233 (618-826-2015), has applied:

a. To the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District Regulatory Branch for authorization under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act to relocate two existing barge fleeting areas slightly riverward from their current locations. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rivers Engineering Branch evaluates currents, sedimentation, bed load transportation patterns and other factors affecting flow, navigation and channel maintenance dredging within navigable waters of the United States. The River Engineering Branch determined the construction of additional dike structures are required to improve safe navigation conditions and reduce the frequency of channel maintenance dredging within the project area. The applicant's existing two fleeting areas are situated within the Corps of Engineers proposed dike construction areas and within the proposed dike's deposition areas, which would negatively reduce adequate water depths for uninterrupted barge fleeting operations. The River Engineering Branch coordinated with the applicant to find suitable fleet relocation areas where deeper water and fleet anchoring could take place. The two proposed barge fleeting relocation areas are proposed near the ends and immediately downstream of the new dike structures. The River Engineering Branch agreed to allow the applicant to place adequately sized deadman anchoring structures at the bottom terminus area of the two dike structures. The deadman anchoring structures have been designed to hold a captive fleet barge in place and additional barges that the applicant would attach to the captive fleet barge. Each relocated barge fleeting area has been assigned pending permit numbers to allow specific comments for each relocation site. The proposed relocated fleet situated near the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 126.05, is assigned pending permit number P-2807. This fleet would be arranged in an 8 barge wide by 9 barge long configuration. The proposed relocated fleet near the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 126.35, is assigned pending permit number P-2808. This fleet would be arranged in a 4 barge long by 8 barge wide configuration. The relocated barge fleeting areas would maintain the applicant's existing fleeting capacity and allow the applicant to continue to provide customers with the same level of fleeting service as they have in the past (See Attached Figures).

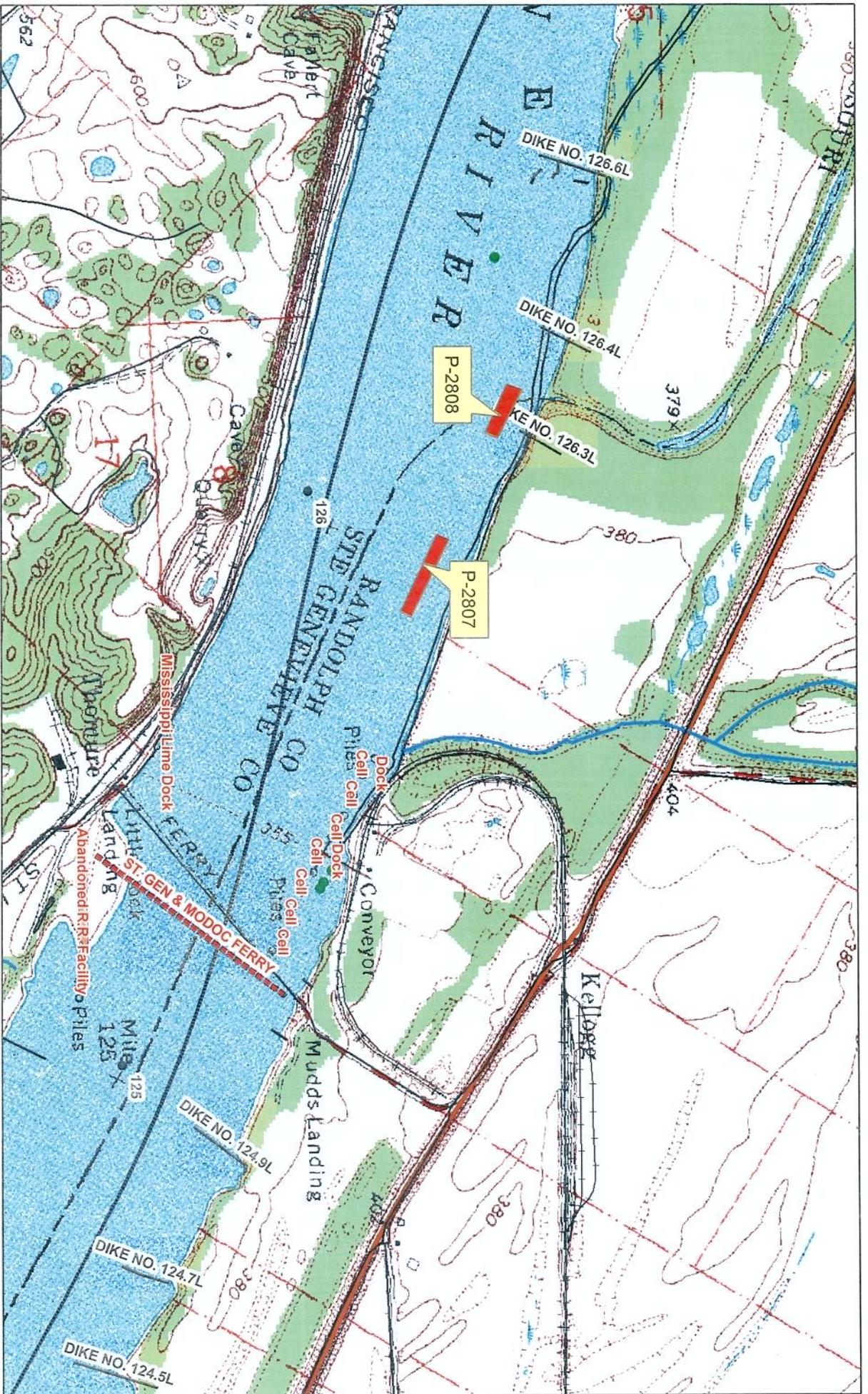
b. To the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources for state approval of the proposed work in accordance with "an Act in relation to the regulation of the rivers, lakes and streams of the State of Illinois" (Ill. Rev. Stat.; Chap. 19, par 52 et seq.). Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Illinois should be addressed to Mr. Mike Diedrichsen, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, Illinois, 62702-1271, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

2. Based on our initial processing of the applicants' proposal, the action is not expected to result in any significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment. However, a final determination of the need for an environmental impact statement will not be made until the St. Louis District has completed its full review of this application. The review will include our evaluation of any written responses received as a result of this public notice.
3. This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.
4. The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.
5. The proposed fleet relocation areas are in Randolph County, Illinois, which is within range of the federally endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Least tern (*Sterna antillarum*) and the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that the proposed activity is not likely to adversely affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, this public notice solicits comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.
6. Any interested parties, particularly navigation interests, Federal and state agencies for the protection of environmental and cultural resources, and the officials of any state, town, or local associations whose interest may be affected by this work, are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections on or before the public notice expiration date. The decision whether to authorize the proposed work will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Project authorization will be granted only if it is found not contrary to the public interest.
7. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny authorization for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.
8. Any person may request that a public hearing be held to consider the applicant's proposal, provided such request identifies significant issues that would warrant additional public review and comment. All replies to this public notice must be submitted in writing and sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: OD-F (Charles Frerker), 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833, or by electronic mail to charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil, on or before the public notice closing date.
9. In accordance with 33 CFR 325.3, it is presumed that all interested parties and agencies will wish to respond to public notices; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the proposed project.


for/ Danny D. McClendon
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

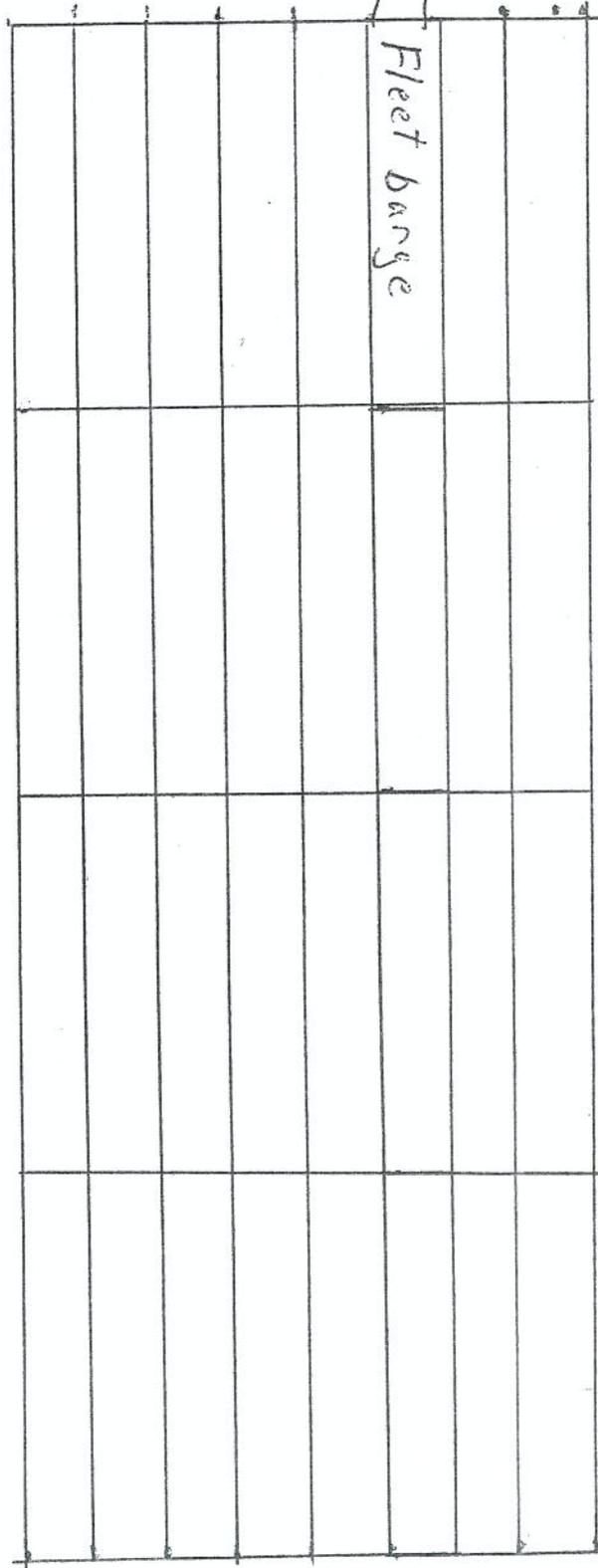
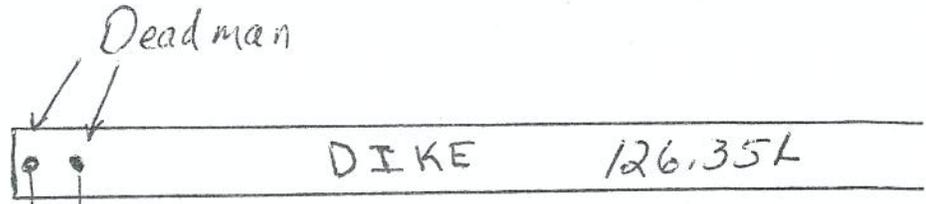
Notice to Postmasters: It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually posted for 21 days.



P-2807 & P-2808
Fleet Relocation Areas



1" = 100'



4 long
8 wide
Configuration

P-2808
Relocated Fleet

1" = 200'

Deadman

126.0'

Fleet barge

9 long
8 wide
configuration

P - 2807
Relocated Fleet

