



Public Notice

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

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

Public Notice No.
P-2979
Public Notice Date
December 01, 2016
Expiration Date
December 22, 2016

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: MVS-2005-45010

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached maps.

COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers File 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
(Regulatory Branch)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833
ATTN: Alan Edmondson

APPLICANT: Bunge North America, Inc., 11720 Borman Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63146.

LOCATION: The project is located on the left descending bank of Mississippi River mile 82.5, Jackson County, Illinois. Specifically, the project is located on the Altenburg USGS quadrangle map, latitude 37:39:52.1481, longitude -89:30:49.4181.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: *NOTE: This proposal is for the re-authorization of the same permit issued to the applicant in July of 2006 (P-2506 Public Notice Issued March 21, 2006).* The applicant requests permission to conduct dredging operations at its' Grand Tower facility in Jackson County, Illinois. Historically, Bunge could load and fleet several barges at one time, but because of yearly low water flows and increased sedimentation/siltation, fleeting operations have become increasingly more difficult. Presently, the company is only able to fleet one barge at a time. The area to be dredged is approximately 415 feet long and 100 feet wide. Approximately 2.5 feet of material will be removed to deepen the area, with maintenance occurring as necessary. The applicant has elected to utilize the services of Luhr Bros, Inc., who would conduct the dredging of approximately 3,500 cubic yards of sandy material with a back hoe perched atop a spud barge. The backhoe will fill awaiting barges for transfer to a disposal site. The disposal site is an existing quarry owned by Luhr Bros., Inc., located in their Tower Rock Stone Company quarry, Missouri, at approximate Mississippi River mile 46. Once at the site, the material will be unloaded from the vessels with a backhoe, and transported by truck to the quarry. The proposed project does not involve a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit, and therefore does not trigger the need for a Section 401 water quality certification from the State of Missouri or Illinois.

LOCATION MAPS AND DRAWINGS: See attached.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Alan Edmondson, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (314) 331-8811. Your inquiries may also be sent by electronic facsimile to (314) 331-8741 or by e-mail to Alan.Edmondson@usace.army.mil.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the applicant's proposal. Any request for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for the hearing, and must be based on issues that would warrant additional public review.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project is within range of the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), pink mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), sheepsnose (*Plethobasus cyphus*) and the threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that the proposed bridge expansion activities are not likely to adversely affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, comments are hereby solicited from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The St. Louis District will evaluate any information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer, tribal interests and the public in response to this public notice. In addition, issuance of this proposed action would prompt renewal of previously established requirements to avoid and protect a known cultural resource site in vicinity of the project area. Additional reconnaissance surveys of the project area may be required if warranted.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that may reasonably be expected to accrue from the described activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the activity described, will be considered including the cumulative effects. Among factors considered are: conservation; economics; aesthetics; general environmental concerns; wetlands; historic properties; fish and wildlife values; flood hazards; flood plain 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.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above.

Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact

Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. 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.


DANNY D. MCCLENDON
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.

P-2979

BLUNGE MAINT. DREDGING

MISSOURI
PERRY COUNTY

WITTENBERG

JACKSON

37° 37' 30"

TOWER ROCK
PUBLIC PARK &
RECREATION AREA

FOUNTAIN BLUFF
DAYBEACON 84.0L

FOUNTAIN BLUFF
LIGHT 82.8L

BUNGE LIGHT (2)
82.4L

WITTENBURG LIGHT
81.9R

TUCKER POINT
DAYBEACON 81.1R

TUCKER POINT LIGHT
80.8R

GRAND TOWER
79.2L

