

Public Notice

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

Public Notice No.

P-3072 Public Notice Date

<u>January 10, 2018</u>

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Expiration Date January 31, 2018

Regulatory File Number: 2017-841

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received to request periodic maintenance dredging with associated open river disposal in the Mississippi River, as described below and shown on the attachment.

<u>COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Comments on the described work 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 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 (<u>Charles Frerker</u>) 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: America's Central Port District, c/o: Mr. Bill Stahlman, 1635 West 1st Street, Granite City, IL 62040, 618-452-8450.

LOCATION: The project area is located at America's Central Port District's Madison Harbor (ACP), which is situated at 38° 40' 49.56" N and 90° 11' 9.24" W in Madison, Madison County, Illinois. ACP's Madison Harbor is situated along the left descending bank of the Mississippi River at approximate River Mile 183.5.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The purpose of the project is to remove accumulated silt that has dropped out of the Mississippi River's suspended sediment transport system into the harbor facilities. The applicant's harbor is an active municipal river port with goods moving in and out by barge, truck and rail. To ensure uninterrupted barge access, the applicant requests authorization to perform annual maintenance dredging within the harbor footprint. While not anticipated, up to 100,000 cubic yards of accumulated silt would be dredged from the project area with associated open river disposal. Annual dredge volume would vary and be influenced by river deposition patterns. A ballasted dredge disposal pipeline would be submerged near or on the riverbed to provide adequate clearance to avoid navigation hindrance. ACP's Madison Harbor is located near the southern entry of the Chain of Rocks Canal. The open river dredge disposal would be located in the State of Missouri, at approximate river mile 183.3. The submerged dredge disposal line would start in the harbor, continue southwest until it crosses over a rock dike near the entry of the Chain of Rocks Canal and re-submerge to its terminus located in deeper and faster water to re-suspend the dredged sediment back to its original source in the Mississippi River. The applicant has an existing upland dredge disposal cell. The percolation rate and disposal cell size is not adequate to handle the requested larger quantity during periodic dredging cycles. Open river disposal in the State of Missouri is required to avoid slower moving currents and disruption of navigation within the Chain of Rocks Canal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the applicant or Mr. Charles Frerker, Regulatory Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at <u>charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil</u>

<u>AUTHORITY</u>: This permit authorization request will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: The project plans have been submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification is requested as of the date of this Public Notice, and if issued, will express the Agency's opinion that the proposed activities will not violate applicable water quality standards. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Protection Program, Post Office Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with a copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Request for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding the public hearing.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project is within range of the endangered Indiana bat, least tern, pallid sturgeon, spectaclecase (mussel), the threatened northern long eared bat, eastern massasauga rattlesnake, decurrent false aster and the eastern prairie fringe orchid. A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that the proposed dredging and open river disposal 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.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and the public, in response to this public notice.

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 described activity will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those 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.

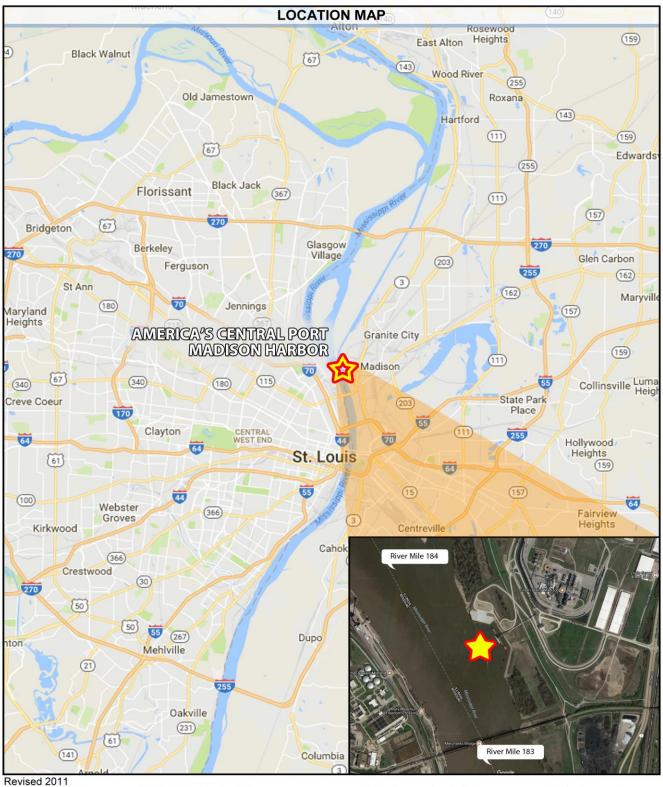
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of these proposed activities. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army 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.



Corps of Engineers

IL Dept of Natural Resources

□ IL Environmental Protection Agency

Applicant's Copy



Revised 2011

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