

## **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, MO 63103-2833

Expiration Date

P-3091

June 21, 2018

Public Notice No.

Public Notice Date

May 29, 2018

**Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:** 

File Numbers: 2018-405

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act permit request has been received to install a 6 barge fleet and 1 permanent mooring barge 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 numbers 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 decisions. 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

<u>APPLICANT:</u> Material Sales Company, c/o Mr. Eric Kohlberg, 920 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102 (314-436-1541).

**LOCATION:** The fleeting area is proposed within the existing river cell protected location where the former Admiral-President Casino was moored along the right descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 180.2, in St. Louis, Missouri.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant, Material Sales Company, requests authorization to install a 6 barge fleet arranged in a 2 wide by 3 long configuration, and to install one permanent mooring barge to be located near the riverbank. All barges would be standard size 35-feet-wide by 195-feet-long vessels. The permanent mooring barge would be held in place with appropriate sized cables and chains affixed to existing deadman infrastructure previously utilized by the Admiral – President Casino vessel that operated and occupied the same location. The fleeting service is proposed to supply and stage barges for river terminal operations in the St. Louis Harbor. The applicant anticipates the movement of up to 6 barges to and from the fleeting site on an every other week cycle. The fleet, if authorized, would be known as the MSC Admiral Fleet. The project area and proposed fleet location is shown on the attachment.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Additional information may be obtained by contacting the applicant, Mr. Eric Kohlberg at 314-436-1541, or Charles Frerker, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Project Manager, at electronic mail address: *charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil* or at 314-331-8583.

**AUTHORITY:** The proposal will be processed under the provision of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

<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: A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, as amended, has been made that the barge fleet proposal would not affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. Therefore, no formal consultation request has been made to the United States Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. In order to complete our evaluation, comments are solicited from the Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals through this Public Notice.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The St. Louis District has done a preliminary evaluation of the site. Based on the fact that the project involves no land disturbance activities, would use existing mooring infrastructure and only involve vessels floating in the Mississippi River, leads to our conclusion that cultural resource reconnaissance surveys may not be required. However, if substantial information from the response to public notice indicates that further investigation is necessary; or at the request of the State Historic Preservation Office or tribal representatives; the USACE will re-consider its decision.

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to authorize the activity 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 which 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 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 other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of Statement of Findings 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

Attachment

<u>NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS</u>: It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of issuance of this notice.

P-3091 - Material Sales Proposed Admiral Fleet - Mississippi River Mile 180.2R

