

## 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** 

Public Notice No. Special Public Notice Public Notice Date February 5, 2014

Expiration Date March 7, 2014

## Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Numbers: 2013-742 and 2013-743

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District (Corps), will hold a Public Hearing for two Draft Environmental Assessments (EAs) for river training structure construction activities (Regulating Works) for the Grand Tower Phase 5 Project and the Dogtooth Bend Phase 5 Project. The Grand Tower Phase 5 Regulating Works Project is located in the Middle Mississippi River (MMR) between River Miles (RM) 67.0 and 74.0 in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri and Union County, Illinois near the town of Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The Dogtooth Bend Phase 5 Regulating Works Project is located in the Middle Mississippi River (MMR) between river miles 20.0 and 40.0 in Scott and Mississippi Counties, Missouri and Alexander County, Illinois, roughly 3.5 miles downstream of Commerce, Missouri. The Grand Tower Phase 5 Project is designed to address repetitive channel maintenance dredging issues in the project area. The Proposed Action includes the construction of two chevrons and the extension of one dike in the Crawford Towhead between RM 72 and 74. The Vancill Towhead project is located between RM 67.0 and 70.0 and includes construction of 3 weirs, 3 diverter dikes (S-dikes), repair of dike 67.8, revetment at 67.3 and shortening of dikes 67.3 and 67.1. The Dogtooth Bend Phase 5 Project is designed to address repetitive dredging in the project area. The Proposed Action consists of construction of two weirs near RM 34.00, four weirs near RM 32.00, a dike at RM 31.60 and two weirs near RM 31.00.

The Corps Project Management Branch prepared Draft EAs, which includes Clean Water Act Section 404 and Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 evaluations, and Draft Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) for the proposed activities. These documents were made available by public notice on December 20, 2013, with an expiration date of January 20, 2014. However, it was discovered that the Dogtooth Bend Section 404(b)(1) Report was inadvertently left out of the document. Therefore, this Special Public Notice also serves as a notification of the availability of the Dogtooth Bend Section 404(b)(1) Report (Appendix D) and solicitation of comments on this document. This document can be viewed at <a href="http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProgramsProjectManagement/PlansReports.aspx">http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProgramsProjectManagement/PlansReports.aspx</a> Comments must be received by March 7, 2014. The Grand Tower EA can also be viewed at <a href="http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProgramsProjectManagement/PlansReports.aspx">http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProgramsProjectManagement/PlansReports.aspx</a>

2. <u>Announcement of Public Hearing:</u> Where and when: In the Library, at the Shawnee High School (Community Unit School District #84) in Wolf Lake, Illinois, **February 19, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.** Information on the projects, supporting documents, and maps will also be available for public inspection, February 19, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the library, prior to the public hearing.

The purpose of the public hearing is to gather additional public review and comment on the original public notices that were issued by the Corps on December 20, 2013. Written statements for inclusion in the record have already been submitted during that public notice comment period. These written statements will not be read at the hearing, however they will be fully considered in evaluating the projects. The hearing will afford all interested parties an additional opportunity to have their comments, objections, protests, and suggestions included in the record of these proposals. This may be accomplished in any (or all) of two ways:

a. Additional written statements or comments will be accepted for 14 days following the public hearing. These statements should be mailed or brought to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Regulatory Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103-2833. Statements must be received by this District no later than March 7, 2014, to be included in the hearing record. Letters addressed or hand-carried to the District Engineer or another department of the Corps of Engineers rather than to the Regulatory Branch, may not reach the proper office in time to be included in the hearing record.

b. Information, either written or oral, may be presented at the hearing. All persons who wish to do so will be allowed an opportunity to speak. Persons speaking at the hearing may read from written statements, if they so desire.

c. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow the general public to submit testimony, either oral or written, relative to the merits, and/or detriments of the proposals, to be used to assist the District Engineer in his decision on the proposals. The public hearing is neither an adversary proceeding nor a debate. There will be no cross-examinations of speakers.

(1) The hearing will be transcribed by a stenographer. A complete verbatim transcript will be prepared, and can be viewed at the St. Louis District Office, Regulatory Branch. A copy will also be posted on the St. Louis District Regulatory Branch web page.

(2) To insure that the transcript is complete and accurate, persons speaking at the hearing are requested to provide important data, particularly that involving numbers, in writing. This is not mandatory, but it is highly desirable.

(3) It is the intent that everyone who wishes to speak be allowed the opportunity to do so. To this end, a time limit for speakers may be imposed. This will be done to keep the hearing from running excessively long.

All replies to the public hearing and comments on the Dogtooth Bend Section 404(b)(1) Report should be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Regulatory Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833, by March 7, 2014. For additional information contact Mr. Danny McClendon, (314) 331-8574, or electronic mail address: danny.d.mcclendon@usace.army.mil

Keith Q. M. Mullen DANNY D. MCCLENDON Chief, Regulatory Branch

## NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 30 days from the date of this notice.