

*DR 1125-2-305

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1222 SPRUCE STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2833

CEMVS-CO

Regulation
DR 1125-2-305

14 August 2000

Plant
USE, LOAN, LEASE OF FLOATING PLANT

1. **PURPOSE.** This regulation establishes policy and procedures for the use, loan, and lease of floating plant.
2. **APPLICABILITY.** This regulation applies to all staff elements within the St. Louis District that may have occasion to use District floating plant.
3. **REFERENCES.**
 - a. ER 1130-2-500, Project Operations – Partners and Support (Work Management Policies), 27 Dec 96.
 - b. ER 360-1-1, Public Affairs, 1 Apr 91.
4. **GENERAL.** The use of the St. Louis District vessels, attendant plant, and their facilities, whether revolving fund or project owned, (hereinafter “plant”) will be limited to the requirements of official Government business (ER 1125-2-305). ER 360-61 and DR 360-1-1 specify that the use of Government property in furtherance of programs is considered to be official Government business. ER 360-1-1 provides guidance for establishing a public affairs program to include cooperation with Government officials and community leaders with the objective of carrying out a program of action to earn public understanding, support, and acceptance. ER 360-1-1 also states that “the Commanders and/or Directors of Field Operating Activities have the primary responsibility for public affairs for their activities.”
5. **INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION.** The primary purpose for the plant is for river channel maintenance and channel patrol and also for lock and dam maintenance. However, the plant may be used for various public education activities. Interpretation and application are

*This regulation supersedes DR 1125-2-305, dated 15 June 1994.

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secondary to its primary purpose. The purpose of such activities must be to educate the public about the Corps mission serving the needs of the St. Louis District. The focus of such an educational effort is to be directed to school groups, civil and professional organizations, local sponsors, public officials, and others with a special interest in the topic being presented. The following conditions apply:

- a. The plant will be used for structured educational activities and not for mere entertainment.
- b. The USACE Interpretive services and outreach program is intended to educate the public, not to support charity or special interests.
- c. Food or refreshments served to the public on board by the Corps are to be furnished on a reimbursable basis only. The consumption of alcohol on the plant is forbidden unless written approval is obtained from the District Engineer.
- d. No fund raising, member solicitation, or similar activity to promote non-government organization is permitted on the plant.
- e. No fee may be charged participants by a group invited to a community relations event, which includes use of the plant.
- f. The cost of use of the plant for community relations and educational programs shall be charged to the appropriate civil works projects that are using the vessel(s). The Construction Operations Division (CO) shall coordinate all use of plant for educational and community relations.
- g. Non-federal groups should be large enough to justify the expense of use of Corps plant for a community relations activity.
- h. Justification for use of the plant for community relations programs must not be based upon the fact that other Corps duties will be performed simultaneously. Primary work of the vessel will precede any public relations or education activities and the District Commander's inspection of river conditions may not be used as a "convenient" justification to allow a non-federal group to be aboard a vessel. If independent justification is lacking, the functions will not be combined. If functions are justifiably combined, costs must be charged appropriately, in accordance with accounting policy, to the projects responsible for each individual mission.
- i. Authorized use for educational purposes should highlight the overall Corps mission and/or the St. Louis District mission. Authorization will be contingent upon proper documentation that demonstrates that the use meets the overall public affairs goals of the district.

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j. Authorization for the use of the plant must first be obtained through CO. Once authorization is granted through CO, authorization must then be obtained from the District Commander or his authorized designee in writing.

k. There is no exception to any of the above for state and local governments, cooperative associations, professional organizations, or other non-profit organizations.

l. This regulation pertains to functions whereby the St. Louis District operates the plant at federal expense to fulfill public education goals. ER 1125-2-305 prohibits the lease or loan of the plant and other equipment to states, their political subdivisions, or to private parties, except where an urgent or essential need exists and all efforts to obtain such plant and other equipment from private sources have failed. To lease a vessel pursuant to the exception of "urgent or essential need," approval of the Division Commander is required for leases of three years or less. Leases of more than three years must be approved by the Chief of Engineers. Nothing herein precludes the emergency use of the plant to save life or property, where adequate time to request advance approval does not exist. Where the plant is used to save private property, limited reimbursement from the owner is required in accordance with ER 1125-2-305, paragraph 4.

The use of the plant, except in strict conformance with the above, is prohibited. This policy is effective immediately.



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