



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

Public Notice No.
P-2689
Public Notice Date
December 16, 2008

Expiration Date
December 29, 2008

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: 2006-477

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit involving proposed Section 10 river terminal activities in navigable waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached map.

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 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: OD-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833
(or at e-mail: charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil)

APPLICANT: Riverbend Corporation, Mr. Doug Francis, Post Office Box 716, Brighton, Illinois 62012 (618-410-3370)

LOCATION: The project site is located along the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 203.9, in Alton, Madison County, Illinois (See Attached Figures).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant requests authorization to rejuvenate and clean up operations at the former Laclede Steel river terminal in Alton, Illinois, currently owned by Norfolk Southern Railroad. The site has four existing river cells, a riverine loading conveyor system and remnant landside features. The applicant intends to utilize the conveyor system, river cells and some of the landside infrastructure to unload dry, non-hazardous goods such as grain, rock and occasional scrap metal. Some of the derelict landside infrastructure and building features will be cleaned up or removed in their entirety. The applicant's intended hours of operation would be during daylight hours to reduce any associated noise. Two of the four existing river cells are located nearly side by side at the conveyor location. The applicant intends to install a piece of metal near the riverward face of the cells for additional support and work area. The duration of inactivity at the site has resulted in some silt accumulation. The applicant requests a one time authorization to utilize a clamshell excavator to remove the accumulated sediment from an approximate 50-foot-wide by 200-foot-long by 5 to 7-foot-deep area where the barges would temporarily moor during conveyor to barge loading cycles. A small portion of the excavated material would be placed within the contained cavity that is created after the applicant installs the sheet of metal between the two existing side by side river cells.

The remainder of the excavated material would be placed on the adjacent upland site. The perimeter of the spoil area will be contained by staked straw bales or other appropriate means. After the excavated material dries the applicant intends to spread portions across the adjacent upland area. Any excess material will be removed to other off-site, non-jurisdictional areas. A small portion of the excavated material would contain large rip rap that currently lines most of the shoreline. If any rip rap is excavated, it would be re-installed along the shoreline in areas where it sloughed off. In terms of navigation, the applicant states a maximum of three to four barges would be temporarily moored at the facility at any given time. This is a maximum scenario based on unknown river conditions and business orders for dry goods. The applicant envisions only one or two barges typically being present while they are being loaded. The barges would be shipped out shortly after being loaded. No barges would be permanently moored at the activity site. The attached drawings show the proposed work area in greater detail.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Charles Frerker, PM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (314) 331-8583 or at electronic mail address: charles.f.frerker@mvs.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).

PUBLIC HEARING: 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.

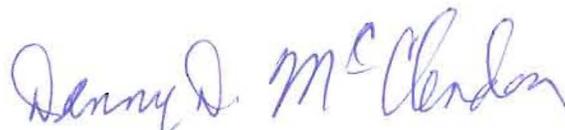
ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project is within the range of the endangered Indiana bat (**Myotis sodalis**), and Gray bat (**Myotis grisescens**). A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that this proposed activity is not likely to affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, written comments are solicited by this public notice from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.

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:

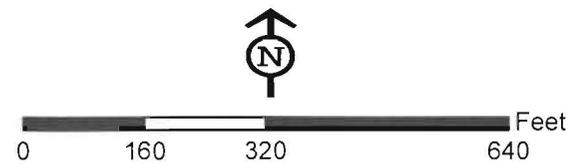
It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 15 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.



Legend

- Street
- State Hwy
- US Hwy
- Interstate
- Stream

Riverbend Corporation
P-2689
Alton, Illinois



US Army Corps of Engineers®
 St Louis District