

Public Notice

US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence

Reply To:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVS-OD-R
1222 Spruce Street

St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

Permission No.

OD-R 21-011
Public Notice Date

June 21, 2023

Expiration Date July 20, 2023

Postmaster, Please Post Conspicuously Until:

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO MODIFY A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER SECTION 408

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army Section 408 permission for certain work near federally constructed flood protection projects of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached maps.

<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 of the Public Notice 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 Readiness Branch 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833 ATTN: Jeffrey Wells, P.E. or Jeffrey.M.Wells@usace.army.mil

REQUESTER: Klingner & Associates, P.C., Attention: Mr. Gavin H. Risley, P.E. CFM.

LOCATION: The site is located along and perpendicular to the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee. The work is located at the approximate coordinates 38°40'15.66"N 90°40'29.14"W in Chesterfield, MO. (Monarch-Chesterfield Levee and Drainage District, St. Louis County, Missouri).

PROPOSED ACTION: The applicant is requesting to make alterations to the Monarch-Chesterfield Levee and the Levee Seepage Berm. The proposed alterations include the installation of a pump station with associated discharge pipes that cross the seepage berm and the levee in St. Louis County, Missouri. Specifically, this Section 408 application details the portion of the project where the discharge pipes cross the levee and the seepage berm. Three 42" discharge pipes will cross over the levee and seepage berm and discharge water onto a concrete and sheet pile discharge bay that is located at the riverside levee toe. A siphon break/air release is also located at the levee crown.

LOCATION MAPS AND DRAWINGS: See Attachment

<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Jeffrey Wells, P.E., St. Louis District 408 Coordinator, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (314)-331-8568. Your inquiries may also be sent by e-mail to Jeffrey.M.Wells@usace.army.mil.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY: The St. Louis District Regulatory Branch has conducted a preliminary review of the proposed project. Based upon review of the project activity description, as well as the location of the work, the Regulatory Branch determined that this activity will trigger the need for a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. The proposed project involves a discharge into the Missouri River via the placement of a new outfall structure at the site. The St. Louis District Regulatory Branch intends to issue a Department of the Army Nationwide Permit #07 (Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures) for the proposed action.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to grant the requested permission for project modification under Section 408 will be based on several factors. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of the requests for modification will be reviewed by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers technical review team considering the following factors:

- Impair the Usefulness of the Project Determination. The review team will determine if the
 proposed alteration would limit the ability of the project to function as authorized, or would
 compromise or change any authorized project conditions, purposes, or outputs. The decision
 whether to approve a request for modification would be based on a determination of no
 impairments.
- 2. <u>Injurious to the Public Interest Determination</u>. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts that the proposed alteration to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors that are relevant in each case. Factors that may be relevant to the public interest depend upon the type of USACE project being altered and may include, but are not limited to, such things as conservation, economic development, historic properties, cultural resources, environmental impacts, water supply, water quality, flood hazards, floodplains, residual risk, induced damages, navigation, shore erosion or accretion, and recreation. The decision whether to approve an alteration will be determined by the consideration of whether benefits are commensurate with risks. If the potential detriments are found to outweigh the potential benefits, then it may be determined that the proposed alteration is injurious to the public interest.
- 3. Environmental Compliance. A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action and is therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. While ensuring compliance is the responsibility of USACE, the requester is providing all information that the St. Louis District identifies as necessary to satisfy all applicable federal laws, executive orders, regulations, policies, and ordinances. NEPA and other analysis completed to comply with the other environmental statutes (e.g. Endangered Species Act) should be commensurate with the scale and potential effects of the activity that

would alter the US Army Corps of Engineers project. The scope of analysis for the NEPA and environmental compliance evaluations for the Section 408 review is limited to the area of alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration. The proposed work is not expected to involve significant impacts to endangered species, important fish and wildlife resources, water quality, floodplains, or other natural and cultural resources. The environmental effects of this project are minor. In compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, a (updated) list of species and critical habitat was acquired from the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) website on 04 May 2023 (Project Code: 2023-0018767) for the Proposed Action Area. The listed species included Gray Bat, Indiana Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, Tricolored Bat, Monarch Butterfly, and Decurrent False Aster. A "no effect" determination was made for the Decurrent False Aster. A "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination was made for the Gray Bat, Indiana Bat, and Northern Long-eared Bat. A "not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of" determination was made for the Tricolored Bat and Monarch Butterfly. Any tree clearing required to create the outfall into the river or to pass under the access road would take place during the established winter tree clearing dates between 01 Nov and 31 March. Impacts from the work would be consistent with typical land use in the highly-developed area and would be temporary and minor. USFWS concurred with the above species determinations in a letter dated 30 January 2023. An automated MDC Heritage Database Report was generated on 23 November 2022 and a detailed report was provided by MDC on 12 December 2022. MDC had no additional comments or concerns.

St. Louis District Archaeologists conducted a Historic Property Preliminary Review on 20 April 2022. There are no known archeological sites within the project area; however, the project area is in a culturally significant location. The area has been previously surveyed, but the surveys are more than 10 years old. For these reasons, the USACE-St.Louis requested a Phase 1 Survey be performed for the project.. Environmental Research Center, Inc. performed the cultural resource survey, and nothing was found. A determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" was found for the project. The Missouri SHPO concurred with this determination.

All actions taken were in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA). In the unlikely event that, earthmoving activities associated with the proposed work did impact potentially significant archeological/historic remains, all construction activities and earthmoving actions in the immediate vicinity of the remains would be held in abeyance until the potential significance of the remains could be determined. The precise nature of such investigations would be developed by the Saint Louis District in concert with the professional staff of the Missouri SHPO.

- 4. <u>Environmental Impact Statement</u>. A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.
- 5. <u>Technical Analysis</u>. The St. Louis District is working closely with the requestor to ensure that all technical plans, maps, drawings, specifications are provided and complete. A District-led Technical Review is being conducted to determine any potential adverse impacts to the US Army Corps of Engineers flood protection system.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: 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 the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permission 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 taken into consideration 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.

<u>SUMMARY:</u> It should be noted that materials submitted as part of the Section 408 request become part of the public record and are thus available to the general public under the procedures of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Individuals may submit a written request to obtain materials under FOIA or make an appointment to view the project file at the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers, Office of Counsel.

Interested parties wishing to comment on the proposed activity must do so in writing no later than **July**, **20 2023**. It is presumed that all parties receiving this notice will wish to respond to this public notice; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the project as described.

This public notice is not a paid advertisement and is for public information only. Issuance of this notice does not imply Corps of Engineers endorsement of the project as described.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

John L. Osterhage Chief, Readiness Branch

Attachment

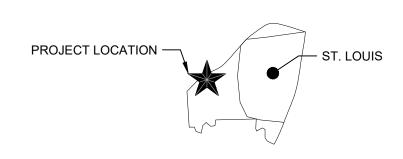
NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

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



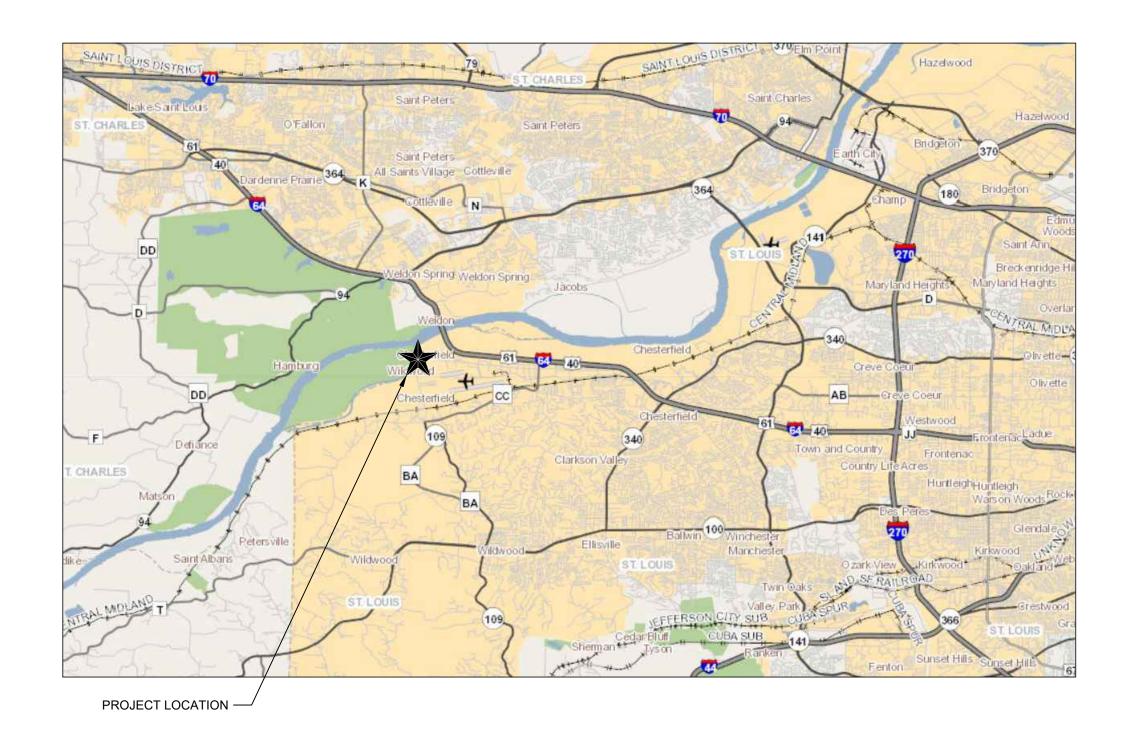
WEST END PUMP STATION MONARCH-CHESTERFIELD LEVEE DISTRICT

DECEMBER, 2022



OWNER:

MONARCH-CHESTERFIELD LEVEE DISTRICT 190 CARONDELET PLAZE, SUITE 600 ST. LOUIS, MO 63105



LOCATION MAP

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