

Public Notice

Public Notice No.

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

<u>P-2731</u> Public Notice Date: March 4, 2021

> Expiration Date: March 25, 2021

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: MVS-2000-8920 (Holcim St. Gen Harbor Dredge)

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached maps. This Public Notice is a request for reissuance of previously authorized Department of the Army permit P-2731.

<u>COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: 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 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 Regulatory Branch 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833 ATTN: Katie Steinmetz

<u>APPLICANT</u>: Holcim (US) Inc., Attention: Mr. Marcus Genova, 2942 US Highway 61, Bloomsdale, Missouri 63627.

LOCATION: Dredging activities would occur in Holcim's existing inland harbor and existing open river disposal site. The harbor is located along the right descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 138.1, in Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri (See Attachments).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The current dredging proposal is for a reverification to continue annual maintenance dredging of accumulated river deposits with no proposed expansion or deepening of the riprap blanketed inland harbor. Holcim would continue to use a hydraulic cutterhead dredge to conduct periodic maintenance dredging on an as needed basis within Holcim's excavated inland harbor to the original construction depth. Recent high river events have caused fine sediments to deposit within the harbor. Up to 220,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediment material would be dredged annually from within the harbor and transported in a 12-inch-diameter contained pipeline to the existing open river disposal site. The disposal pipe would exit the harbor and run southward on an existing road paralleling the riverbank. The pipeline would then angle down the existing riprap bankline into the river, where it would extend to the point of discharge near the thalwag of

the river. This open river disposal site has effectively allowed for the removal of fine sediments from Holcim Harbor since the last permit renewal. At the point of discharge, the pipeline would be located on pontoons which would allow for rapid removal from the river should such action be necessary. A vessel will attend the point of discharge pipeline area at all times. The vessel would monitor radio Channel 16 at all times to remain in contact with mariners. The applicant would coordinate the activity with the U.S. Coast Guard to make notice to mariners prior to each dredging event. During discharge operations, bathymetric data would be acquired weekly to ensure the open water discharge is not negatively impacting navigation. If authorized, the permit would be valid for a five-year period.

LOCATION MAPS AND DRAWINGS: See attached. In addition, this Public Notice may be viewed by visiting the Public Notice section of our website at: www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices/OpenNotices.aspx

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Katie Steinmetz, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (314) 331-8593. Your inquiries may also be sent by e-mail to Katie.M.Steinmetz@usace.army.mil.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be processed under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. §403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) requires that all discharges of dredged or fill material must be certified by the appropriate state agency as complying with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The project plans will be submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program (the Agency) in accordance with Section 401. While the Corps of Engineers may provide all relevant information to DNR and request Section 401 review on behalf of the applicant, the applicant assumes final responsibility to ensure that both agencies receive all information required to complete their independent review. If issued, Certification will express the Agency's opinion that the proposed activities will not violate applicable water quality standards. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with a copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water 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: The United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) IPaC website was consulted (consultation code: 03E14000-2021-SLI-0824) to determine if federally listed species were present within the project area. That review discovered that the project is within the range of the federally endangered Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), & Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) as well as the federally threatened Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The Corps has coordinated with the USFWS via Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, and preliminarily determined that the proposed activity will have No Effect on the Indiana Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, and Gray Bat. Additionally, it

was determined that the proposed activity will be Not Likely to Adversely Affect the Pallid Sturgeon. In order to further 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.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The St. Louis District has previously evaluated information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and a Memorandum of Agreement, under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, between the USACE, the SHPO, and Holcim.

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 activity described, will be considered including the cumulative effects. Among factors considered 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. Many of the concerns listed above including Air Quality are reviewed, evaluated, and permitted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources through the State Land Reclamation Permitting Process.

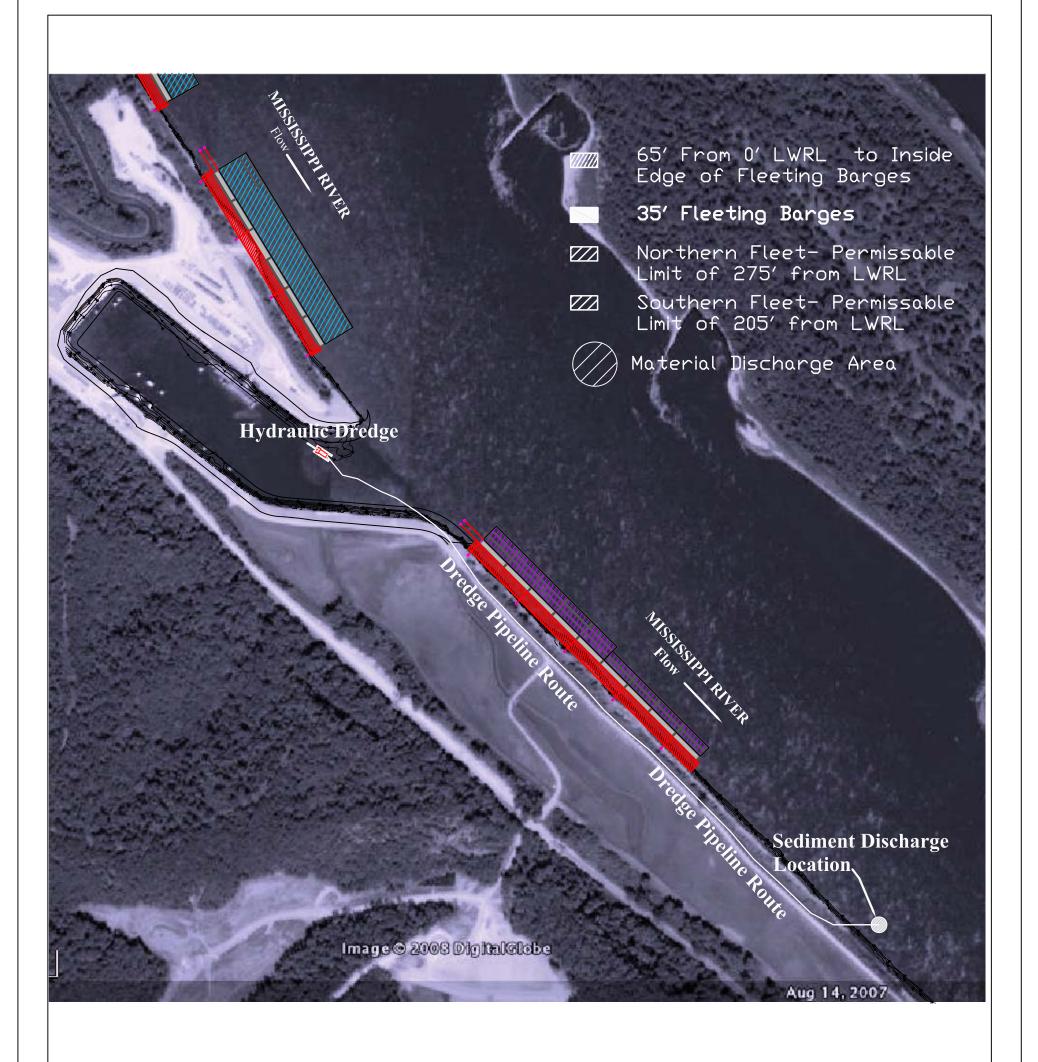
SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a 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.

> Robert S. Gramke Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

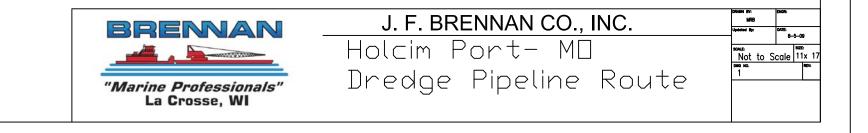
It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually placed for 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.

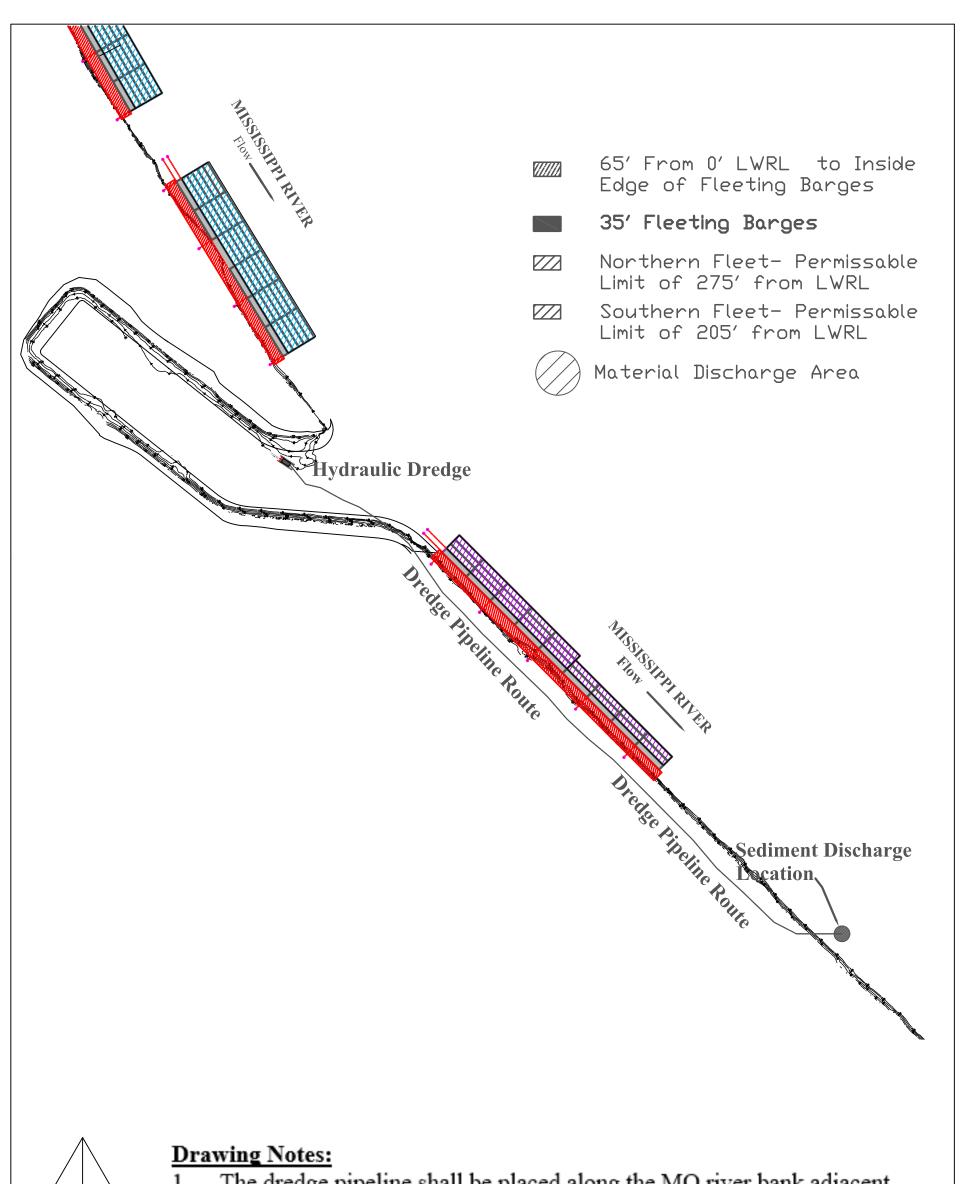




Drawing Notes:

- The dredge pipeline shall be placed along the MO river bank adjacent to the existing roadway and discharge in approximately 24" of water.
- The point of sediment discharge shall be located within the specified area at the thalweg of the channel.
- At all times a tender boat shall standby to move the dredge pipeline discharge point, should it become necessary.
- Pipeline discharge location at UMR mile 137.7





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