



**US ARMY CORPS
OF ENGINEERS**
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice

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

Public Notice No.
P-2996 to P-3022
Public Notice Date
June 12, 2017
Expiration Date
July 3, 2017

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received to reauthorize commercial sand dredging activities from waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attachments.

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 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
ATTN: CEMVS-CO-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: Shakespeare Oil Company, Inc., c/o: Mr. Kirk R. Wilkins, 202 West Main Street, Salem, IL 62881 (618-548-1585)

LOCATION: Renewal of existing commercial sand dredging activities is proposed at specific locations between approximate Mississippi River miles 157.0 to 95.0 (See Attached).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Shakespeare Oil Company, Inc., (applicant) requests permit reauthorization to continue commercial sand dredging activities. Permits originally issued to the Southern Illinois Sand Company were transferred to applicant several years ago. Permit authorizations and permit extensions to commercially dredge sand in this reach of the Mississippi River has been approved since June 1938, under permit numbers P-232, P-233, P-1074, P-1075 and P-1872. The reauthorized permits, if issued, would allow the applicant to continue commercial sand suction dredging of approximately 750,000 cubic yards of sand annually. The dredged sand is primarily sold to the construction industry for use in ready-mix concrete, asphalt, and fill material. Suction dredging is a process involving a mixture of water and dredge material passing through screens attached to the dredge vessel. The dredge material passes over 3/8-inch size screen allowing desirable material to flow through into hopper barges attached to the dredge boat. Oversized material greater than 3/8-inch passes over the screen and returns to the dredging area in the river. Filled hopper barges are transported to existing river terminals for unloading with a clamshell excavator and placed on conveyor belts to stockpile the material. The applicant periodically uses the Simpson Barnhart Quarry offloading terminal, located at approximate river mile 156.2, and the original Southern Illinois Sand Company's Chester, Illinois offloading terminal, located at approximate river mile 107.8. Barge fleetings at the Chester, Illinois offloading site would continue to take place as previously permitted. The dredged sand material would be temporarily stored in adjacent areas near the river terminals for sorting, processing and future sales. Standard dredging conditions created by coordinated efforts with other Federal and state resource agencies would be applied to the proposed reauthorized dredging activities to further minimize impacts to aquatic life, navigation and natural/manmade river features. Additional permit conditions may be required as a result of coordination procedures associated with this public notice.

The attached series of maps identifies the permit applicant's planned dredging locations and existing offloading sites. A pending permit "P" number has been assigned to each dredging area, which is broken out by state boundary areas and river mile reaches for commenting and reauthorization consideration. Tables 1 through 4 correspond to the attachments and are intended to help identify state jurisdiction for both dredging locations and existing offloading sites.

Table 1: Mississippi River Dredging Locations – MISSOURI		
Identification on Maps	Approx. River Mile Range	Corresponding Map Page
P-2996 (2017-287)	157-155.7	A
P-2988 (2017-289)	154.5-154	A
P-3000 (2017-291)	152-148.1	B-C
P-3002 (2017-293)	140.5-139.7	E-F
P-3004 (2017-295)	139-134	F-G
P-3006 (2017-297)	132.8-130.9	H
P-3008 (2017-299)	128.3-127.6	I
P-3009 (2017-300)	127.2-126	I-J
P-3010 (2017-301)	125.7-121.2	J-K
P-3014 (2017-305)	109.7-108.9	N
P-3015 (2017-306)	108.7-108.1	O
P-3018 (2017-309)	108-107.3	O
P-3019 (2017-310)	99.9-97.3	Q-R
P-3022 (2017-313)	96.8-95.1	R

Table 2: Mississippi River Dredging Locations – ILLINOIS		
Identification on Maps	Approx. River Mile Range	Corresponding Map Page
P-2997 (2017-288)	157-155.7	A
P-2999 (2017-290)	154.5-154	A
P-3001 (2017-292)	152-148.1	B-C
P-3003 (2017-294)	140.5-139.7	E-F
P-3005 (2017-296)	139-134	F-G
P-3007 (2017-298)	132.8-130.9	H
P-3011 (2017-302)	125.7-121.2	J-K
P-3012 (2017-303)	111-110.3	N
P-3013 (2017-304)	109.7-108.9	N
P-3016 (2017-307)	108.7-108.1	O
P-3017 (2017-308)	108-107.3	O
P-3020 (2017-311)	99.9-97.3	Q-R
P-3021 (2017-312)	96.8-95.1	R

Table 3: Existing Mississippi River Dredging Material Offloading Site – MISSOURI		
Identification on Maps	Approx. River Mile	Corresponding Map Page
Simpson Barnhart Quarry Offloading Site	156.2	A

Table 4: Existing Mississippi River Dredging Material Off-load Sites – ILLINOIS		
Identification on Maps	Approx. River Mile	Corresponding Map Page
Shakespeare Oil Co., Inc. Offloading Site	107.8	O

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the permit applicant or Charles Frerker, Regulatory Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (314) 331-8583, charles.f.frerker@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) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: By issuance of this public notice, the project plans are considered submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Pollution Control Program for state certification of the proposed activity in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to: Water Pollution Control Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

This public notice also provides documentation to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for water quality certification, or waiver thereof, for the proposed activity in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Certification or waiver indicates that IEPA believes the activity will not violate applicable water quality standards. The review by the IEPA is conducted in accordance with the Illinois water quality standards under 35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle C. The water quality standards provide for the IEPA to review individual projects by providing an antidegradation assessment, which includes an evaluation of alternatives to any proposed increase in pollutant loading that may result from this activity. The "Fact Sheet" containing the antidegradation assessment for this proposed project may be found on the IEPA's web site, at www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/. In the event that the IEPA is unable to publish the "Fact Sheet" corresponding to the timeframe of this Joint Public Notice, a separate public notice and "Fact Sheet" will be published by the IEPA at the web site identified above. You may also obtain a copy of the "Fact Sheet" by contacting the IEPA at telephone number (217) 782-3362 or the address shown below. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Missouri should be addressed to:
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water, Watershed Management Section, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Pollution Control Program guidelines and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

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.

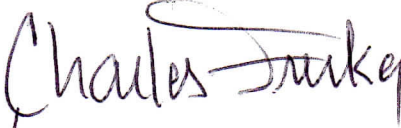
ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project is within range of the federally endangered pallid sturgeon, least tern, Indiana bat, gray bat, grotto sculpin, Illinois cave amphipod and the federally threatened northern long-eared bat and small whorled pogonia. As previously mentioned, standard dredging conditions created by coordinated efforts with other Federal and state resource agencies would be applied to avoid impacts to the listed species. In order to further complete our evaluation, written comments are hereby solicited from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested parties to ascertain any potential impacts upon this listed species, any others species or their critical habitats.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and the public, in response to this public notice. Additional reconnaissance surveys of the project area may be required if warranted.

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 which 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.


for Danny D. McClendon
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.