

Public Notice

Reply To:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CEMVS-OD-F

1222 Spruce Street

St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No.

P-2845

Public Notice Date
March 20, 2013

Expiration Date

April 9, 2013

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

File Number: 2013-135

Interested parties are hereby notified that proposed plans have been received for Department of the Army Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act authorization to install a 15 barge fleet and associated mooring in navigable waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached figure.

COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice Number P-2845 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-OD-F (<u>Charles Frerker</u>) 1222 Spruce Street St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

APPLICANT: American Commercial Lines, Mr. Paul Brown, 5500 Hall Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63147.

LOCATION: The project area is proposed along the right descending bank of the Mississippi River, at approximate river mile 184.9, in St. Louis, St. Louis County, Missouri. (See Attached Map).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proposal is to install a concrete deadmen mooring structure in the bank of the Mississippi River with attached cables and chain and to install a 15 barge fleet in a 3 barge wide by 5 barge long configuration. The fleet would be situated immediately upstream of the applicant's existing coal loading river terminal. In addition to supporting barge capacity for loading and shipping coal, the vessels would help to deflect seasonal debris and ice away from the river terminal.

<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:</u> Contact Mr. Paul Brown (<u>paul.brown@aclines.com</u>) with American Commercial Lines at 314-389-1500 or Mr. Charles Frerker (<u>charles.f.frerker@usace.army.mil</u>) of the Regulatory Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (314) 331-8583 for additional information.

AUTHORITY: This proposal will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act.

<u>SECTION 404 (b)(1) EVALUATION:</u> 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 proposed project is within range of the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), pink mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), sheepnose (*Plethobasus cyphyus*), snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), the threatened decurrent false aster (*Boltonia decurrens*), mead's milkweed (*Asclepias meadii*) and running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stolonifereum*). 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, 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 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 21 days from the date of this issuance of this notice.



15 Barge Fleet at River Mile 184.9 City of St. Louis, Missouri







