

## **Public Notice**

Public Notice No.Open Date:Close Date:LRL-2015-578-kjs4 Sep 20155 Oct 2015

Phone: (502) 315-6691

Please address all comments and inquiries to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District ATTN: Ms. Kimberly J. Simpson, CELRL-OPF-W, Rm 752 P.O. Box 59

Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

This notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army (DA) Permit subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

APPLICANT: Indiana Michigan Power Company

1 Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215

AGENT: Carndo

3901 Industrial Boulevard Indianapolis, Indiana 46254

LOCATION: 2791 North Highway 231 at Ohio River Mile 744-

745.5, right bank, Rockport, Spencer County,

Indiana.

Latitude: 37.913688 N Longitude: -87.021557 W

7.5 Minute Quad: Rockport, IN-KY

PURPOSE: To perform maintenance dredging on an as-needed

basis over a 10-year period.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to dredge four specific areas to maintain a minimal draft of 13 feet below normal pool (358 above mean seal level) that would extend a maximum of 130 feet riverward from the breasting line to assure that barges and tows can pass freely along the docks. Material would be removed with the use of a clamshell barge and loaded onto barge-mounted collector containers. It is expected that approximately 110,000 cubic yards of dredged material would be removed from the channel over the 10-year period. The material would then be transported and stored at a previously permitted upland disposal area located at New Hope Dock Corporation at Ohio River 736, right bank, east of Grandview in Spencer County, Indiana.

The barge utilized for containing and transporting the dredged material from the Rockport Facility to New Hope is constructed so that decant water would flow from the dredged material and out of the container through openings in the barge's side wall and back into the river.

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AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND MITIGATION MEASURES: The applicant's preferred alternative was selected after considering the existing facility operations and needs to maintain adequate draft to allow for continued coal loading activities. By utilizing upland disposal, the applicant is minimizing impacts versus in-river disposal.

REVIEW PROCEDURES: A DA Permit cannot be issued if any legally required Federal, State, or local authorization or certification is denied.

Copies of this notice are sent to the appropriate Federal and State Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Their views and comments are solicited in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1956. In addition, the applicant performed a Biological Assessment on several mussel species. This assessment has been sent to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service requesting initiation of formal consultation.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. A request for a public hearing must state the specific interest which might be damaged by issuance of the DA Permit.

The National Register of Historic Places has been examined and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the Register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice or by other means, of specific archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 -Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetic values, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the public.

The 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 this proposed activity. It is presumed that all interested parties and agencies will wish to respond; therefore, a lack of response will be

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interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the proposed project. Any comments received will be considered by the 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 the 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.

Written statements received in this office on or before the closing date will become a part of the official record and will be considered in the determination on this permit request. Any objections which are received during this period will be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

Information pertaining to this application is available for public examination during normal business hours upon prior request. Drawings are available on Louisville District's Internet site at <a href="http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx">http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx</a>. All comments regarding this proposal should be addressed to Ms. Kimberly J. Simpson, CELRL-OPF-W at the address noted above and should refer to the Public Notice Number LRL-2015-578-kjs.

If you desire to submit your comments by email, you must comply with the following:

a) In the subject line of your email, type in  ${\tt ONLY}$  the Public Notice ID No. LRL-2015-578-kjs.

## Example:

Subject: LRL-2015-578-kjs

- b) Provide your physical mailing address and telephone number.
- c) Send your email to: lrl.regulatorypubliccomment@usace.army.mil.
- d) If you are sending attachments greater than 1 Mb in size with your email, you must send a hard copy (CD or paper) to the Corps' physical address as well.







