

IEPA Log No.: **C-0858-10**  
CoE appl. #: **LRC-2010-791**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **October 24, 2011**  
Public Notice Ending Date: **November 23, 2011**

Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act  
Amendments of 1972

**Section 401 Water Quality Certification to Discharge into Waters of the State**

**Public Notice/Fact Sheet Issued By:**

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Water  
Permit Section  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276  
217/782-3362

**Name and Address of Discharger:** Karen Citow – 565 Jackson Avenue, Glencoe, IL 60022

**Discharge Location:** Near Glencoe in SE 1/4 of Section 6 of Township 42N, Range 13E of the 3rd P.M. in Cook County.

**Name of Receiving Water:** Lake Michigan

**Project Description:** Proposed construction of a steel boat ramp and stone beach stabilization

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification to discharge into the waters of the state associated with a Section 404 permit application received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice. The last day comments will be received will be on the Public Notice period ending date unless a commenter demonstrating the need for additional time requests an extension to this comment period and the request is granted by the IEPA. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the project to the IEPA at the above address. Commenters shall provide their names and addresses along with comments on the certification application. Commenters may include a request for public hearing. The certification and notice number(s) must appear on each comment page.

The attached Fact Sheet provides a description of the project and the antidegradation assessment.

The application, Public Notice/Fact Sheet, comments received, and other documents are available for inspection and may be copied at the IEPA at the address shown above between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when scheduled by the interested person.

If written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in the certification application, the IEPA may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 30 days before any public hearing. If a Section 401 water quality certification is issued, response to relevant comments will be provided at the time of the certification. For further information, please call Darren Gove at 217/782-3362.

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Fact Sheet for Antidegradation Assessment  
For Karen Citow  
IEPA Log No. C-0858-10  
COE Log No. LRC-2010-791  
Contact: Mark Books; 217/785-6937  
Public Notice Start Date: October 24, 2011

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Ms. Karen Citow (“Applicant”) has applied for 401 water quality certification for work along Lake Michigan that consist of constructing a stone and native plant sandy wetland lakeward of a ravine outfall and bluff toe to help stabilize the beach. The velocity of the water runoff from the ravine has caused scouring on the beach and does not allow plants to establish in the discharge area. In addition to this wetland creation the Applicant proposes to build a boat ramp. The project is located in Cook County, Section 6, Township 42 North, Range 13 East. The address of the project is 81 Lakewood, Glencoe.

Approximately 308 tons of clean quarried stone will be used in the project (200 tons of 6”to 18”, 100 tons of 18” to 30”, and 8 tons of ½ ton size limestone for use in the steps across the ravine area). Beach sand will be moved in order to place the stone directly on clay. The sand that is moved will be stockpiled above the lake’s ordinary high water mark within the area bounded by the property’s breakwaters and will be used as part of the restoration project and as fill around the proposed boat ramp.

Additional work during this project includes installing a steel boat ramp. The new boat ramp will be completely made of galvanized steel and will be 62’ long and 12’ wide with an attached 3’ wide stair system. The ramp will extend to lakebed clay; however, a large portion of the ramp will be covered with sand upon completion.

#### **Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.**

Lake Michigan is a large oligatrophic lake subject to the Lake Michigan Basin water quality standards of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302 Subpart E. The open waters are listed in the Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List – 2010 as impaired for fish consumption with a cause given as PCBs and mercury.

According to the IDNR WIRT System Ground Juniper, Sea Rocket, Seaside Spurge and Purple-flowering Raspberry were identified as a threatened or endangered species residing within the project area.

#### **Identification of Proposed Pollutant Load Increases or Potential Impacts on Uses.**

The construction activities will cause a temporary increase in suspended solids. Habitat will be disturbed in the vicinity of the construction area.

#### **Fate and Effect of Parameters Proposed for Increased Loading.**

The increase in suspended solids will be local and temporary. The benthic habitat disturbed by the construction activities is anticipated to recover and actually improve compared to pre-construction conditions.

#### **Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.**

The Applicant has stated the following:

“The goal of the ravine outfall is to enable the beach to serve as a filter for sediment and non-point source pollutants that will help slow the flow of water to allow for native wetland plant restoration and longer residence time of the stormwater in the beach sand...The proposed sandy wetland will provide stable native plant filter for the ravine water, as well as help reduce the water velocity and damage to the beach”.

The Applicant has also stated that the proposed project will reduce sediment discharges into the lake which will improve water quality flowing into Lake Michigan.

### **Assessments of Alternatives for Less Increase in Loading or Minimal Environmental Degradation.**

The construction of the proposed project will follow guidelines set forth by the Agency and USACE. Erosion control measures need to be implemented to prevent additional impacts. The ravine maintenance work will be conducted during no-flow or low-flow times. All of the proposed work will be completed using a backhoe that will work on the land to place the materials. It is anticipated that the materials and machinery will be delivered to the site via barge on Lake Michigan. The Applicant will follow a Sediment Erosion and Silt Control Plan (SESCP) when conducting the work.

The least intrusive alternative would be to not complete the project. This is not an acceptable alternative given that this is a useful project and will stop excessive scouring and erosion from the ravine discharges, resulting in less suspended solids load into the lake.

### **Summary Comments of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Regional Planning Commissions, Zoning Boards or Other Entities**

In a letter from Tracy Evans dated May 31, 2011, IDNR stated that an initial report submitted through the EcoCAT website indicated the potential presence of protected resources in the vicinity of the project location. The letter further states that the IDNR has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse impacts to the protected resources are unlikely; therefore, consultation is terminated.

### **Agency Conclusion.**

This preliminary assessment was conducted pursuant to the Illinois Pollution Control Board regulation for Antidegradation found at 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105 (antidegradation standard) and was based on the information available to the Agency at the time the assessment was written. We tentatively find that the proposed activity will result in the attainment of water quality standards; that all existing uses of the receiving stream will be maintained; that all technically and economically reasonable measures to avoid or minimize the extent of the proposed increase in pollutant loading have been incorporated into the proposed activity; and that this activity will benefit the community at large by providing a stabilized shoreline along Lake Michigan and reducing suspended solids discharges into the lake. Comments received during the 401 Water Quality Certification public notice period will be evaluated before a final decision is made by the Agency.