

IEPA Log No.: **C-0334-09**
CoE appl. #: **LRC-2009-240**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **April 2, 2012**
Public Notice Ending Date: **April 23, 2012**

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: Mike and Angela Quattrocki – 715 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL
60202

Discharge Location: Near Evanston in SE 1/4 of Section 21 of Township 42N, Range 13E of the 3rd
P.M. in Cook County.

Name of Receiving Water: Lake Michigan

Project Description: Proposed breakwater bay beach system

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 Mike and Angela Quattrocki
IEPA Log No. C-0334-09
COE Log No. LRC-2009-240
Contact: Bob Mosher; 217/785-3950
Public Notice Start Date: April 2, 2012

Mr. Michael Quattrocki & Mr. Doug Skites (“Applicants”) has applied for 401 water quality certification for work necessary to construct a breakwater bay beach system along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Applicants propose to construct a primary quarystone breakwater that will be built extending from the south property line of 713 Sheridan Road to help retain a sandy beach and break wave energy prior to impact with a new constructed revetment in order to help reduce lakebed down cutting. The primary quarystone breakwater structure will extend approximately 105 feet offshore from the current revetment toe. A subordinate breakwater will also be constructed which will extend about 30 feet east from the revetment toe along the north property line of 715 Sheridan Road. The existing broken concrete revetment will be removed and if possible, some of the material will be used to build the new breakwater structures. The bluff at these addresses will also be cut back into the tableland approximately 25 feet and a new quarystone revetment will be constructed along the perimeter of the cut area. Approximately 2,650 tons of clean quarried stone, pending quantity of clean broken concrete that can be reused from the existing revetment, will be used to construct the breakwaters and the new revetment. As part of the proposed project the Applicant will also place 2,410 tons of clean sand onto the existing beach as beach nourishment as required by IDNR. In addition, the applicant will be required to purchase 0.28 acres of wetland credits for the discharge of fill material associated with the new breakwaters into approximately 0.14 acres of Lake Michigan. Wetland credits will be purchased at the Atkinson Road Wetland Mitigation Bank within the Chicago River watershed in Lake County. The project is located in Cook County, Section 20, Township 42 North, Range 13 East, in the town of Evanston. The purpose of the project is to help break storm wave energy and provide shore protection. The site lies within a fully engineered section of urban lakeshore that is typically protected with quarystone breakwaters, revetments, seawalls, and steel sheetpile groins, as well as large municipal breakwaters to support public beaches.

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. The open waters of Lake Michigan are fully supportive of aquatic life, primary contact (swimming), secondary contact (recreation), and public water supply use.

According the IDNR WIRT System Seaside Spurge and Sea Rocket were identified as threatened or endangered species residing within the project site.

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. All sand and quarried stone that will be used in this project will be clean and from inland quarries.

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 to pre-construction conditions over time.

Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.

This project will provide shoreline protection. The Applicants have stated the following;

“The coastline at 713 and 715 Sheridan Road, Evanston, consists of a deteriorating broken concrete revetment lakeward of a low bluff. Large lake stormwaves overtop the revetment and wash out soil landward of the revetment. During high lake levels, this area is more susceptible to erosion. Additionally, the lakebed of the revetment is sand-starved with intermittent sand cover-allowing for lakebed erosion.”

The Applicants have provided pictures which show that the existing concrete revetment is falling.

“The existing concrete revetment at this site continues to provide minimal shore protection during low to average lake levels, it has outlived its design life and is deflating and deteriorating. When the lake rises, stormwaves may cause severe icing problems and impacts to the property, as well as cause deeper water in the near shore.”

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. It is anticipated that the materials and machinery will be delivered to the site via road access with trucks.

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 minimize the excessive scouring and erosion from storm events and thus reduce suspended solids load into the lake.

The Applicants also looked at only repairing the existing revetment.

“A quarrystone revetment constructed along the shoreline would serve to protect the tableland. However, over time as the lakebed erodes, the toe of the revetment would likely become undermined due to lakebed erosion.”

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

In a letter from Karen Miller dated December 19, 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.