

IEPA Log No.: **C-0170-13**
CoE appl. #: **2013-0627**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **8/28/2013**
Public Notice Ending Date: **9/18/2013**

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: Nauvoo Township

Discharge Location: Nauvoo, IL between Sycamore Street and Mississippi River Mile 377.3

Name of Receiving Water: Mississippi River

Project Description: Mississippi River Bank 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 Yacine Anane at 217/782-3362.

YA: Nauvoo PN and FS.docx

Fact Sheet for Antidegradation Assessment
For Army Corps of Engineers (Rock Island District)
IEPA Log No. C-0170-13
COE Log No. 2013-0627
Contact: Eric Runkel (217) 558-2012
Public Notice Start Date: August 28, 2013

The Nauvoo Township ("Applicant") has applied for Section 401 water quality certification for a bank protection project along approximately 0.4 miles on the Mississippi River. The Applicant proposes to remove driftwood, shape the bank by filling areas that have been undercut and building a slope, installing riprap along the bank, and widening the shoulder area between Sycamore Haven Drive and the Mississippi River. The bank will be sloped 2:1. Riprap thickness will be 22 inches minimum over 8 inches of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch bedding stone, which will be placed over bedding fabric. Approximately 4,721 cubic yards of Class A-3 riprap will be used. The project is located at approximately Mississippi River mile 377.3

Antidegradation assessment materials were received from the applicant under a July 19, 2013 cover, Joint Application, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ACOE Permit # CEMVR-OD-P-2013-0627, IEPA Log # C-0170-13.

Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.

The Mississippi River has a 7Q10 flow of 15,550 cfs at this location and is a General Use water. The Mississippi River, Waterbody Segment IL_K-22 is listed in the Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List 2012 as impaired for Fish Consumption use; Mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls are given as the causes of this impairment and for Food Processing Water Supply; Atrazine and Manganese are given as the causes of this impairment. Atmospheric Deposition and unknown are listed as the causes of the impairments. The river is fully supporting Aquatic Life, Primary Contact Recreation and Secondary Contact. Aesthetic Quality has not been assessed. The river has reached attainment for Water Quality Standards ("WQS") for Fecal Coliform and Total Dissolved Solids and gave the reason for recovery as unspecified. The river at this location is not an enhanced waterbody pursuant to the dissolved oxygen water quality standard. The river is not listed as biologically significant and has not been given an integrity rating in the 2088 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*. There are mussels located in the vicinity of the project. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has proposed that the Applicant work with the United States Fish and Wildlife to relocate any mussels which may be affected by the project.

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

The pollutant load increases that would occur from this project include possible increases in suspended solids locally along the shoreline from removal of driftwood and debris, filling areas that have been undercut and installation of rip rap. Existing benthos directly beneath where the fill is proposed to be placed would temporarily be covered.

Fate and Effect of Parameters Proposed for Increased Loading.

The increase in suspended solids will be local and temporary. The riprap is being rebuilt in the same footprint of the eroded riprap. Biodegradable erosion control fabric, silt fencing and native

plantings would be implemented to minimize the temporary turbidity impacts with the proposed activity. Construction is scheduled to occur during low water levels. A mussel study was conducted in July 2012 and concluded no listed species were identified, however there were native mussels found near the project site. Illinois Department of Natural Resources determined that any mussels discovered during construction should be relocated to deeper water. The Applicant agrees to work with U.S. Fish and Wildlife to relocate any mussels encountered prior to construction.

Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.

If no action is taken the river bank will continue to deteriorate and travel along Sycamore Haven Drive would become increasingly unsafe. The Nauvoo Township may be forced to close the road if no action is taken, which would hinder residents to access and services provided by the City of Nauvoo.

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

The construction of the proposed project will follow conditions set forth by the Agency and USACE. A no action plan was evaluated and concluded that continued deterioration of the bank may eventually lead to closure of Sycamore Haven Drive. Another alternative evaluated was to move Sycamore Haven Drive away from the Mississippi River. The Applicant stated:

“This would require constructing a new road over a steep wooded hill or cutting a new road into the side of the hill, which would be much more environmentally destructive and prohibitively expensive. A benefit of relocating this road is that it would avoid impacts to the mussel bed identified within the proposed project area; however, the new road could be impassable and dangerous in winter months. Sycamore Haven Drive provides the primary access for persons living in Nauvoo and Apponoose Townships to travel to downtown Nauvoo and other regions for medical facilities, employment and shopping.”

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

An Eco-CAT endangered species consultation with Illinois Department of Natural Resources was submitted on July 31, 2013. In an electronic response IDNR stated that the project had previously been evaluated (Eco-CAT dated October 9, 2012-Project # 1213877), was not likely to adversely impact protected resources and that the consultation was 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 this antidegradation review summary was written. We tentatively find that the proposed activity will result in the attainment of water quality standards; that all existing uses of the impacted waters 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 enhance the river bank protection and eliminate the potential road closure. Comments received during the 401 Water Quality Certification public notice period will be evaluated before a final decision is made by the Agency.