

IEPA Log No.: C-0100-17
CoE appl. #: 2016-843

Public Notice Beginning Date: **October 5, 2017**
Public Notice Ending Date: **November 3, 2017**

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

Section 401 Water Quality Certification to Discharge into Waters of the United States

Public Notice/Fact Sheet Issued By:

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

Name and Address of Discharger: City of Danville, Engineering & Urban Services Department, 1155 E. Voorhees St., Suite A, Danville, IL 61832

Discharge Location: Section 34, T20N, R11W of the 2nd P.M. in Vermilion County within Danville

Name of Receiving Water: Unnamed Wetland.

Project Description: Koehn Creek Flood Mitigation Project.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification to discharge into the Waters of the United States (WOUS) 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 Thaddeus Faught at 217/782-3362.

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Fact Sheet for Antidegradation Assessment
City of Danville – Unnamed Wetland – Vermilion County
IEPA Log# C-0100-17
COE # 2016-843
Contact: Scott Twait (217) 558-2012
October 5, 2017

The applicant is constructing a stormwater management facility. The construction of a diversion channel and stormwater management basins will result in impacts to 0.42 acres of a forested wetland. Mitigation will be provided on-site for a total of 1.425 mitigation credits. The project is located north of the intersection of E. Voorhees Street and Fowler Avenue, City of Danville.

The existing commercial businesses within the project area experience flooding of their facilities during rain events. This is due to the current alignment of the intermittent tributaries associated with Koehn Creek. One of the existing intermittent channels flows in between the two existing buildings. In addition to the facilities experiencing flooding, the stream also typically overtops Voorhees Street and flows down the residential street of Koehn Drive, which parallels Koehn Creek. The resulting effect is flooding of the existing residential homes south of Voorhees Street. The proposed diversion channel will direct the stormwater to a proposed stormwater management basin and then ultimately through the permittee responsible on-site wetland mitigation prior to discharging into Koehn Creek. The proposed flood mitigation control project will disturb 0.42 acres of wetland/Intermittent WOUS.

The disturbance is within a intermittent WOUS/forested wetland and the 0.42 acres of wetland impact will be mitigated for at a ratio of 2:1. The proposed permittee responsible on-site wetland mitigation includes 1.15 acres of wetland creation with the establishment of 0.73 acres of native sedge meadow and 0.42 acres of native emergent wetland plugs. In addition, 1.10 acres of native mesic prairie vegetation will be established on the side slopes of the on-site wetland mitigation area.

Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.

V3 Companies conducted a wetland survey within the project study area. Survey methods and results are described in the attached wetland delineation report. A total of 2.48 acres of wetland were identified within the study area consisting of forested wetland. The floristic quality index value was 17.68. The total wetland impact is 0.42 acres.

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

The project will consist of permanent impacts to 0.42 acres of forested wetlands from the construction of the proposed flood mitigation diversion channel.

Fate and Effect of Parameters Proposed for Increased Loading.

The disturbance is within intermittent WOUS/forested wetland, the 0.42 acres of wetland impact will be mitigated at a ratio of 2:1. The proposed permittee responsible on-site wetland mitigation includes 1.15 acres of wetland creation with the establishment of 0.73 acres of native sedge meadow and 0.42 acres of native emergent wetland plugs. In addition, 1.10 acres of native mesic prairie vegetation will be established on the side slopes of the on-site wetland mitigation area.

Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.

The proposed project will provide a reduction in the flooding of the businesses and residential areas.

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

The applicant avoided impacts of the entire wetland by routing the diversion channel to the east and through two water quality basins before rejoining the Koehn Creek. The “no action” alternative would result in continued flooding. This is not an acceptable alternative as it would not benefit the community at large by providing a reduction in the flooding of the businesses and residential areas.

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

On May 2, 2016, the IDNR EcoCAT web-based tool was used and indicated that there were no endangered/threatened species present in the vicinity of the discharge. The IDNR EcoCAT web-based tool terminated the consultation.

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 draft permit 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 reduction in the flooding of the businesses and residential areas. Comments received during the 401 Water Quality Certification public notice period will be evaluated before a final decision is made by the Agency.