

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Log No.: **C-0067-20**
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Log No.: **CEMVR-OD-P-2020-355**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **July 8, 2020**
Public Notice Ending Date: **July 23, 2020**

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

Section 401 Water Quality Certification for Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material

Public Notice 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

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification for activities that would result in discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States associated with a federal permit application under Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Title 35 Illinois Administrative Code Section 395.202 requires that the IEPA issue a publish notice for such applications. The public notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the above section. 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 or send them via email to the IEPA contact address provided below. Commenters must provide their names and addresses along with comments on the certification application. Commenters may include a request for public hearing. The Agency Log Number must appear on each comment page.

Name and Address of Applicant: City of Bloomington – 25515 Waterside Way, Hudson, IL 61748

Name of Receiving water: Evergreen Lake

Discharge Location: The affected waterbody is located near Hudson in Sections 1 and 12 of Township 25-North, Range 1-East of the 3rd P.M. in Woodford County and Sections 7 and 18 of Township 25-North, Range 2-East of the 3rd P.M. in McLean County. More specifically, the activity would occur immediately adjacent to nine (9) specific reaches of shoreline areas within Evergreen Lake which are in need of stabilization.

Project Description: The Applicant proposes to conduct shoreline stabilization activities along approximately 8,100 linear feet of Evergreen Lake's shoreline to address poorly vegetated, steep and actively eroding banks. The proposed activity consists of constructing quarried stone revetment parallel to the shoreline. The revetment would have a crest elevation of 2 feet above normal pool elevation and have a crest width of approximately 3 feet. The structure would be placed between 10 and 20 feet from the waterline and would consist of RR-4 material. All construction would occur from a barge using hydraulic equipment to prevent disturbance to the existing shoreline riparian

vegetation. The stone revetment would halt lateral erosion and reduce sedimentation as lake wave action would no longer pose a threat to the erodible shoreline. The proposed activity would be performed over the next 6 years according to a schedule but would address one of the nine reaches sequentially. Pollutant loading caused by this project would consist of total suspended solids that are resuspended during placement of the stone. This loading is expected to be limited to the area where work is occurring and would be present only when placement is occurring. The improvements to water quality in the nearshore areas of the lake resulting from constructed revetment is expected to be far greater than any loading caused by the construction activity itself.

Identification and Characterization of Receiving Water: The proposed discharge would occur within Evergreen Lake, at a point where 0 cfs of flow exists during critical 7Q10 low-flow conditions. The affected water is a man-made reservoir constructed in 1971 to function as a supplemental water supply for the City of Bloomington. It is located on Six Mile Creek approximately 9 miles north of Bloomington, IL. Its current pool surface area is 900 acres and has a drainage area of approximately 40 square miles. Evergreen Lake is classified as a General Use Water. It is listed on the draft 2016 Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List as impaired for Fish Consumption because of Mercury and it is not listed as a biologically significant stream in the 2008 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*, nor is it given an integrity rating in that document. The receiving water is not subject to enhanced dissolved oxygen standards.

Agency Conclusion regarding Antidegradation:

The Agency finds that this activity has no potential to adversely impact designated uses of the water body associated with the project as detailed under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(a). The Agency also finds that this activity is intended to reduce long term pollutant loading from natural erosive processes and will establish a more diverse aquatic habitat. The water body has not been designated as an Outstanding Resource Water under 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(b). The Antidegradation provision affecting High Quality waters in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(c) are met given that all existing uses will be maintained, and all water quality standards will be met. The Agency has determined that for permitting convenience the applicant is seeking approval for multiple distinct shoreline reaches, though the activity will occur as a sequence of 9 separate but nearly identical construction activities. Therefore, the nature of any pollutant loading is short-term and temporary. Consequently, pursuant to Subsection (b) of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105, no further review is necessary and no Antidegradation assessment according to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105(f) is warranted.

The application, 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 contact Darren Gove at email darren.gove@illinois.gov or phone no. 217/782-3362.