

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water, Permit Section
(IEPA)**

1021 North Grand Avenue East, Post Office Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, 217/782-3362

The IEPA has issued a Public Notice of a request for a Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification that would allow the issuance of a federal permit for the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State.

Public Notice Beginning Date:

Friday, October 22, 2021

Public Notice Ending Date:

Friday, November 12, 2021

Agency Log No.:C-0072-21

Federal Permit Information: Federal permit/license no. LRC-2020-01065 is under the jurisdiction of Chicago District, Regulatory Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Name and Address of Discharger: :ExxonMobil Pipeline Company, Clint Beck - 22777 Springwoods Village Parkway, E3.5A.528, Spring, TX 77389

Discharge Location: In Section 19 of Township 32-North and Range 10-East of the East 3rd Principal Meridian in Will County. Additional project location information includes the following: 0.3 mile east of Custer Park, near intersection of Hwy 113 and Washington Street, near Custer Park, IL 60481

Name of Receiving Water: Kankakee River

Project Description: placement of grout filled stabilization bags along two segments of crude oil pipeline crossing the Kankakee River

Construction Schedule: Beginning and ending Jul 2021

The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the project to the IEPA at the above address. Commenters shall provide their name and address along with comments on the certification request. The IEPA Log number must appear on each comment page. Commenters may include a request for public hearing. Only comments that pertain to Clean Water Act Section 401 authority as defined under 40 CFR part 121.3 will be considered. Part 121.3 defines the "scope of a Clean Water Act section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements". Requests for additional comment period must provide a demonstration of need. The final day of comment acceptance will be on the Public Notice Ending date shown above, unless the IEPA grants an extended notice period.

The attached Fact Sheet provides a detailed description of the project and the findings of the IEPA's antidegradation assessment.

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 see the contact information below.

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Post Document. No. C-0072-21-10222021-PublicNoticeAndFactSheet.pdf

ExxonMobil Pipeline Co. (EMPCo) (“Applicant”), has applied for a 401 Water Quality Certification for impacts associated with placement of grout-filled articulated mats over the existing Kankakee River crossing pipeline in order to prevent future scour and reduced depth of cover. The project is located in Will County, Custer Park, Illinois. During a routine assessment of the existing 18-inch S-232 pipeline crossing of the Kankakee River, EMPCo identified streambed scour that has resulted in reduced depth of cover over the existing pipeline. The mats will be filled with a standard ready mix concrete grout mix after placement by dive contractors and filled via internal PVC pipe from a concrete grout pump truck within the project ROW. The filled mats will be connected by zippers as each section is filled. The articulated mat and temporary instream workspace will be approximately 14,122 square feet.

Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.

The project is in the Kankakee River at a point where 470 cfs of flow exists upstream of the outfall during critical 7Q10 low-flow conditions. The Kankakee River is classified as a General Use Water. The Kankakee River is listed as a biologically significant stream in the 2008 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*, and it is given an integrity rating of “B” in that document. The Kankakee River, Waterbody Segment, IL_F-04, is listed on the 2018 Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List as impaired for fish consumption with potential causes given as mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Aesthetic quality and aquatic life uses are fully supported. The Kankakee River is subject to enhanced dissolved oxygen standards.

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

An EcoCAT endangered species consultation was submitted on May 14, 2021, Project #2113732. An Illinois Department of Natural Resources letter dated May 21, 2021 states that protected resources may be in the vicinity. The Department recommended that no permits be issued until ITA # 232 for Monkeyface, Purple Wartyback, Sheepnose and Spike mussels is complete.

Due to a risk of uncured grout cement content being lost through the fabric forms, there is a concern about surface water pH increases. To minimize the risk of pH impacts, use of a sediment curtain during placement of grout into the articulated mats will be required. Additionally, in-stream pH monitoring at downstream, upstream and worksite locations will be required.

Agency Conclusion.

Upon completing the assessment, it has been determined that the proposed activity will result in only short-term, temporary increases in pollutant loading and will not result in long term or permanent impacts to existing uses including aquatic life habitat; therefore, we find that it is subject to Subsection (d) “Activities Not Subject to a Further Antidegradation Assessment” of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105.