

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. LRP 2021-115 Date: May 11, 2021

Notice No. 21-23 Closing Date: June 11, 2021

- 1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
- 2. <u>APPLICANT</u>: Clarion Industries 143 Fiberboard Road

Shippenville, Pennsylvania 16254

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: Wetlands and unnamed tributaries to Blyson Run/Deer Creek at an existing fiberboard manufacturing facility at 143 Fiberboard Road, Paint Township, Clarion County, Pennsylvania (41.230944, -79.417978)
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to expand their existing industrial operation on a 209 acre parcel located along S.R. 0322 and Fiberboard Road in Paint Township, Clarion County, Pennsylvania (41.230944, -79.417978). Construction activities will include construction of multiple commercial/industrial facilities, associated parking, roadways, and loading areas, utilities, and earthmoving activities within a 114-acre limit of disturbance. The project proposes to permanently impact 1,927 linear feet (LF) of nine streams and 4.15 acres of 41 wetlands. The wetland and stream mitigation proposed is onsite wetland creation and stream enhancement. The wetland creation will be completed in two locations abutting/adjacent to existing non-impacted wetlands located on the site. A total of 4.68 acres of wetland are proposed to be created for a replacement ratio of 1.13:1. Stream enhancement of 2,051 LF is being proposed to offset the 1,927 LF of stream being proposed to be impacted for a replacement ratio of 1.06:1. The stream enhancement areas will include bank stabilization where needed and planting of the riparian buffer.
- 5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: The applicant may be required to obtain a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Northwest Regional Office Waterways and Wetlands Section CELRP-RG Public Notice No. 21-23

> 230 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335 Phone: 814-332-6138

- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended). If the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurs with the may affect, not likely to adversely affect determination please respond with written concurrence.
- 7. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).
- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- 9. <u>EVALUATION</u>: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. Public comments may be subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Division, attn. Matthew Gilbert by telephoning (412) 395-7189, or by e-mail at matthew.c.gilbert@usace.army.mil

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

Please refer to CELRP-RG LRP 2021-115 in all responses.

//SIGNED//

Tyler J. Bintrim North Branch Chief Regulatory Division



