

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Pittsburgh District

## **Public Notice**

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

Application No. 2005-1048

Date: November 2, 2015

Notice No. 15-48

Closing Date: November 23, 2015

- 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 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.
- 2. APPLICANT:

NRG Power Midwest LP 121 Champion Way, Suite 300 Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: Allegheny River, Right Bank, Mile 15.6, Springdale Borough Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (40.536341/-79.792137).
- 4. <u>PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK</u>: The applicant is re-applying to perform maintenance dredging, as necessary, for a period of 10 years, at their Cheswick Generating Station facility in order to maintain adequate flow for the intake and outfall structures and sufficient depth for the barge facility. Approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material would be dredged from the 2,470-foot long by 135-foot wide barge mooring area to a depth of 10-20 feet below normal pool elevation 734.5-feet mean sea level. Dredged material would be disposed of at either Republic Service's Greenridge Landfill or Waste Management's Valley Landfill upon their acceptance approval, to preclude its re-entry into the waterway. Drawings of the proposed project are attached to this notice.
- 5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: The applicant obtained Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit Number E02-147 which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.
- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, 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).

- 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. EVALUATION: 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.
- 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

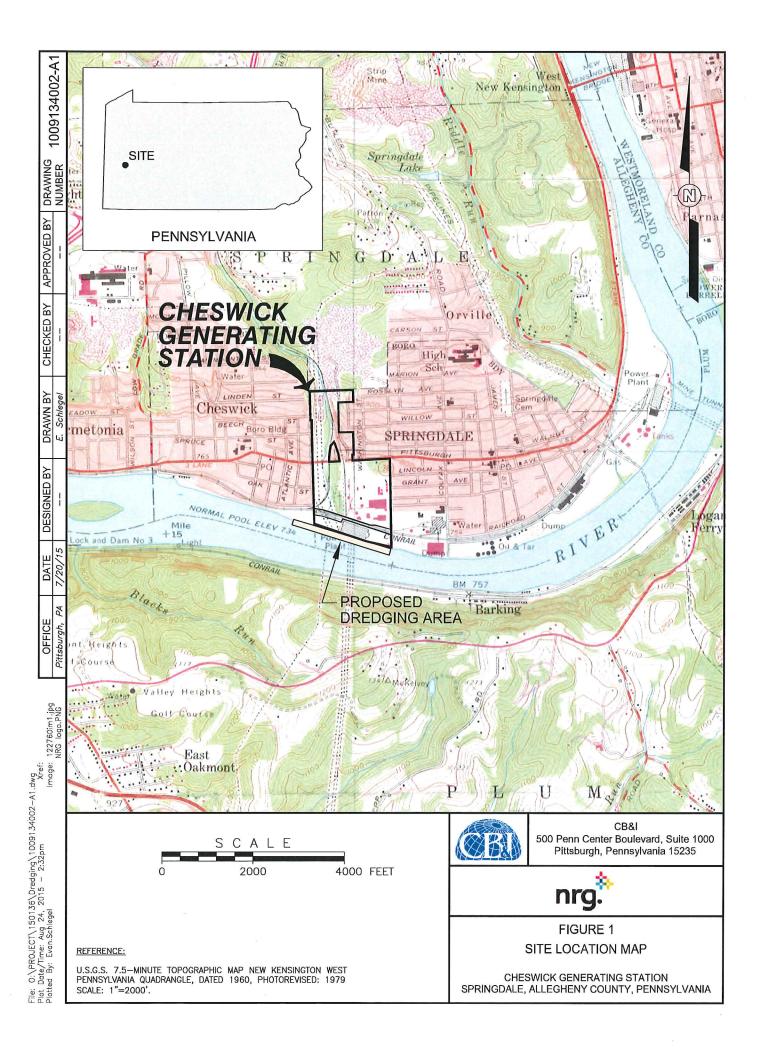
made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Matthew Gilbert at the above address, by telephoning

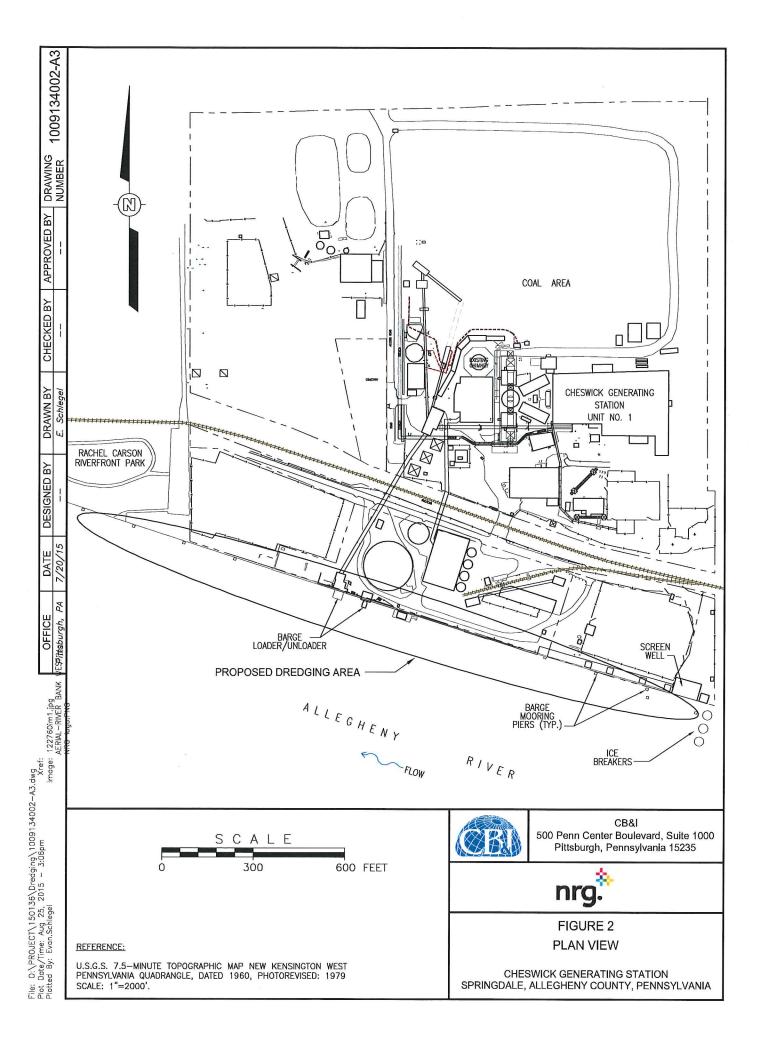
CELRP-OP-F Public Notice No. 15-48

(412) 395-7189, or by e-mail at <a href="matthew.c.gilbert@usace.army.mil">matthew.c.gilbert@usace.army.mil</a>. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2004-228 in all responses.

/signed/

Karen A. Kochenbach Chief, South Section, Regulatory Branch





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DRAWN BY

DESIGNED BY

DATE

OFFICE

