



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Memphis District

REFERENCE:
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
REPLY TO [REDACTED]
167 North Main Street, RM B202
Memphis, TN 38103-1894
Telephone: (901) 544-3682
[REDACTED]

POSTMASTER PLEASE POST UNTIL:

PUBLIC NOTICE NO.
MVM-2012-087-RSA

Public Notice Date
March 16, 2012

Expiration Date
April 16, 2012

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE: This public notice is issued jointly with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The Department of Natural Resources will use the comments to this notice in deciding whether to grant Section 401 water quality certification. Commenters are requested to furnish a copy of their comments to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, P. O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176.

AUTHORITY: This notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986.

APPLICANT: Ms. Jennifer L. Burns
Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.
2814 S. Golden
Springfield, MO 65801
Phone (417) 891-5405

LOCATION: The subject property is located near State Highway EE and St. Jude Industrial Park Road approximately one mile east of Marston in New Madrid County, MO, at latitude 36.5152° and longitude -89.5854°, in Section 30, Township 22N, Range 14E. The project area is shown on the enclosed location map (attachment 1), based on the New Madrid, MO, 7.5 minute quadrangle.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated project purpose is to increase the capacity of an existing 500 kV transmission line and increase operability, reliability, and transmission flow by adding a new electrical substation.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The proposed project is the construction of a new electrical substation, including site preparation, fencing, installation of a grounding grid, and installation of substation components. In order to facilitate construction, approximately 1,900 linear feet of a water course that currently flows through the applicant's property would be relocated to the northern and northwestern edges of the property before rejoining the existing channel (details are shown on attachment 2).

The channel to be relocated is approximately 10-12 feet wide at the bottom and is incised approximately 3 feet. The banks are shaped to approximately 2:1 slopes. The adjacent property is currently farmed to top bank; no riparian vegetation is present on either bank.

As proposed, the new channel would be approximately 1,900 feet long. The channel would be approximately 12 feet wide at the bottom and have approximately 3:1 (H:V) side slopes. The applicant has proposed to establish a 50-foot wide vegetated buffer along each bank of the relocated channel. The buffer would be planted with a mix of switchgrass, sideoats grama grass, and partridge pea. Details of the proposed ditch are shown on attachments 2 and 3.

A road crossing (approximately 60 linear feet of twin 8 ft X 6 ft box culvert) will be constructed within a drainage ditch located east of the subject property in order to construct an access road. Additionally, 3 drainage pipes will be directed to this ditch; each pipe will include a headwall and an approximately 8-foot wide layer of riprap that extends from the pipe to the bottom of the ditch.

According to the applicant, the subject property was chosen for the project because of its proximity to necessary transmission lines and its current dedication to transmission; relocation farther from existing lines would adversely affect the operation of the project and would increase cost. Drainage ditches are also present on other potential sites within close proximity to the existing transmission lines.

The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the activities for which a permit is sought and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

404(b)1 EVALUATION: The Corps of Engineers evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES: No endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, are known to exist in the project area. This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments they may have regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants, or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Memphis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally-recognized Tribes, and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct or require a survey of the project area.

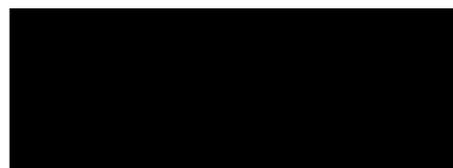
PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the activity, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the activity will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain 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; Federally-listed Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the 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 the 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 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.

Any person who has an interest, which may be affected by the deposition of this material, may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the comment period of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest, which may be affected, and the manner in which the interest may be affected by this activity. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision.

If you wish to obtain additional information or to submit comments on the application, please contact [REDACTED] the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 167 North Main Street, RM B202, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894, telephone 901/544-3682.

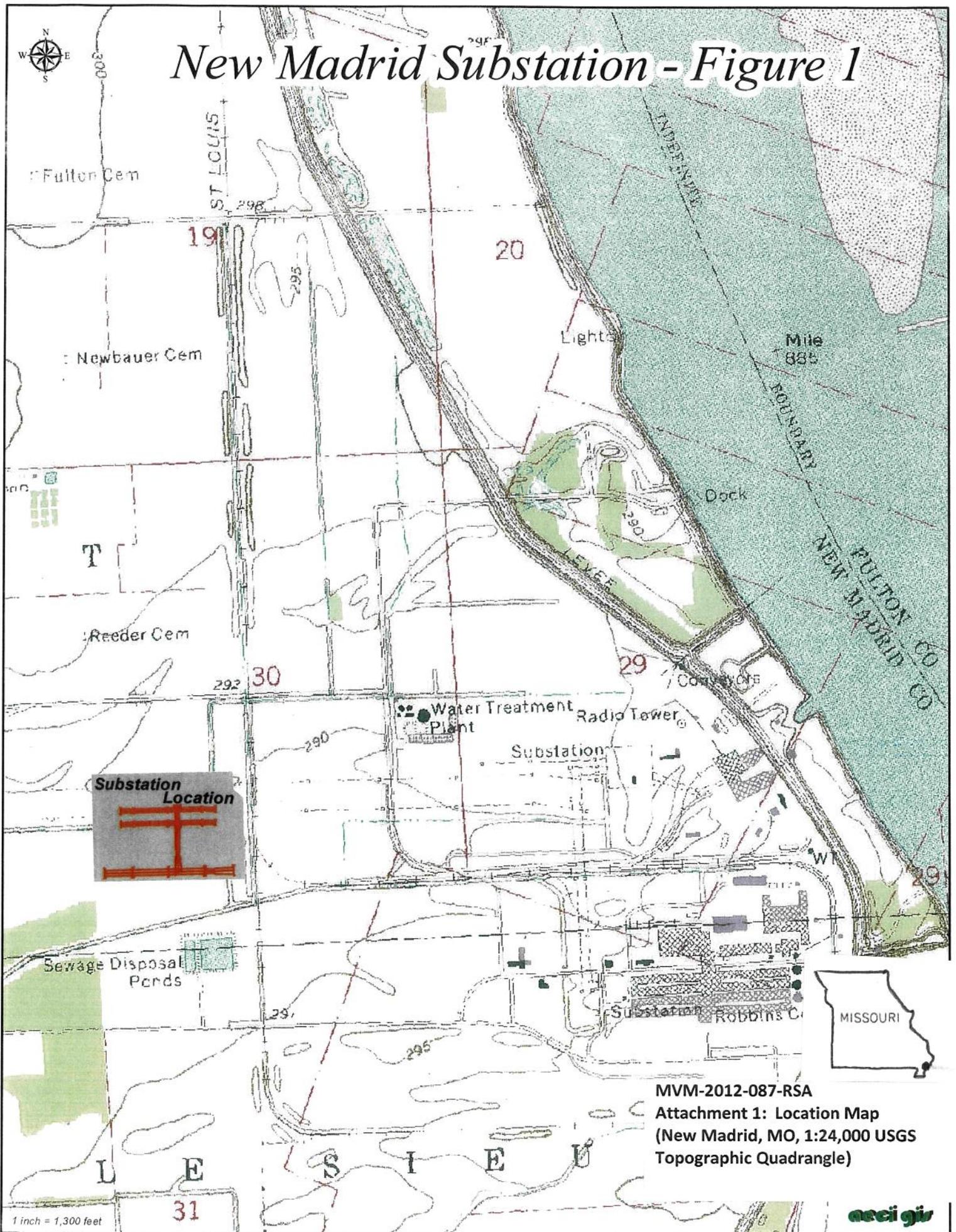
Comments should be forwarded to reach this office by April 16, 2012.



Acting Chief
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

New Madrid Substation - Figure 1



MVM-2012-087-RSA
Attachment 1: Location Map
(New Madrid, MO, 1:24,000 USGS
Topographic Quadrangle)



New Madrid Substation - Figure 2

