



**US Army Corps
of Engineers ®**
Memphis District

ISSUE DATE: November 5, 2024

EXPIRATION DATE: November 20, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District

U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 408 Permission Evaluation

TITLE: Section 408 Permission Evaluation for installation of a sign welcoming visitors to the city of Hickman, Fulton County, Kentucky.

INTRODUCTION: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent alterations of any U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) federally authorized civil works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and codified in 33 USC 408. The Board of Levee Commissioners has requested a Section 408 Permission Evaluation to pour a concrete foundation next to the Fulton County Levee to install a sign welcoming visitors to the City of Hickman, Kentucky (Figure 1).

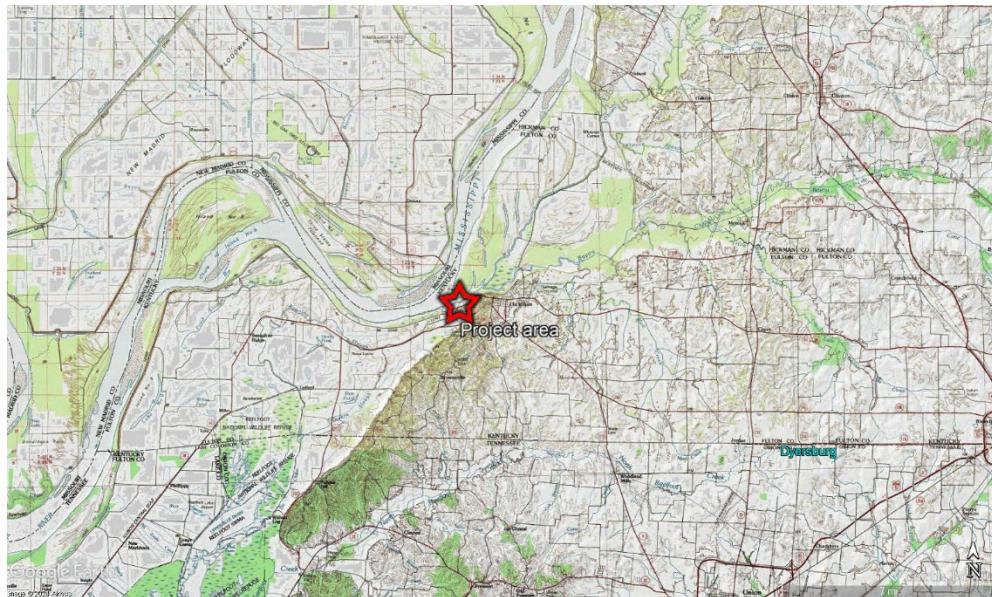


Figure 1. Project area of proposed sign installation, Fulton County, Kentucky.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Section 408 authorizes USACE to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of the project if USACE determines that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the project. The Mississippi River Levees (MRL) feature of the Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) Project, the federally authorized civil works project proposed for alteration, provides for managing flood risks to lands outside of the levees from floodwaters of the Mississippi River. The purpose of this project is to erect a “Welcome to Hickman” sign at the Hickman city limits near the Dorena-Hickman Ferry. This would consist of pouring a concrete foundation that is roughly 136 inches long, 33 inches wide, and 6 inches deep next to the Fulton County Levee. A brick sign would then be erected on top of the concrete foundation.



Figure 2. Proposed Welcome sign installation, Fulton County, Kentucky.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE: A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action, and therefore subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental compliance requirements. The scope of analysis for the NEPA and environmental compliance evaluations for the Section 408 review should be limited to the area of alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration. As the proposed project would not result in fill material being placed into any wetlands or waters of the U.S., a Section 404(b)(1) permit is not required from USACE Regulatory Branch. Similarly, a Water Quality Certification would not be required from the States of Kentucky. The USACE Memphis District Archaeologist has determined that the proposed activities would cause no effects to known historic properties, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed Section 408 alteration was determined to have no effect on threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The decision on this Section 408 request is being analyzed in accordance with NEPA and is limited to the Section 408 boundaries described herein.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties. Comments received within 15 days of this publication will be used in the evaluation of potential impacts of the proposed action on important resources. All comments

will be considered in preparing environmental documentation pursuant to NEPA. USACE has jurisdiction under 33 USC 408 only over the specific activities that have the potential to alter existing USACE projects.

Please limit comments to the area of the alteration and those adjacent areas that are directly or indirectly affected by the alteration to the federally authorized civil works project described herein. **Comments may be submitted to jennifer.hiltonsmith@usace.army.mil and should be received by November 20, 2024.**

Sincerely,



Mark R. Smith
Chief, Environmental Compliance Branch
Regional Planning and Environmental Division South