

Public Notice

FILE NUMBER: MVM 2017-170 (JLH)

NOTICE DATE: **June 29, 2017**

Attn: Postmaster, Please Post Until

EXPIRATION DATE:

July 28, 2017

Public NoticeU.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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

APPLICANT:

Tennessee Department of Transportation Attn: Michael White Suite 900, James K. Polk Building 505 Deaderick Street Nashville, Tennessee 37243 (615) 253-5297

PURPOSE: The applicant proposes to widen Tennessee State Route 14 (Austin Peay Highway) from a two-lane to a four-lane highway to relieve traffic congestion, improve safety, and meet projected future traffic needs in the area.

LOCATION: The project site extends along Tennessee State Route 14 from just east of Old Covington Pike to State Route 385 (Paul Barrett Parkway) in Shelby County, Tennessee, with approximate center coordinates of N35.26989° / W-89.86142° as shown on Attachment 1.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant's proposed project would include widening of the roadway from an existing two lane highway to a highway with four 12-foot wide travel lanes, one 12-foot turn lane, and two 12-foot wide shoulders. The project would include replacing the existing bridge across the Loosahatchie River. The construction corridor measures 3.809 miles long by a minimum of 148 feet to a maximum of 325 feet wide. Drawings depicting the applicants proposed plans are included in Attachments 2-5.

The overall project would require stream relocation, installation/expansion of culverts, and bank stabilization in areas where necessary. Current construction plans would include the permanent filling of 12.04 acres of wetlands and impacts to seven streams in 12 separate locations.

Site	Impacts to Wetlands (Acres)	Existing Stream Length (Feet)	Proposed Stream Length (Feet)
1	5.13	Stream 1 = 1498	Stream 1 = 1490
2	0.00	Stream 3 = 48 Stream 4 = 92	Stream 3 = 98 Stream 4 = 55
3	0.00	Stream 1 = 16 Stream 5 = 485 Stream 6 = 2924 Stream 7 = 23	Stream 1 = 16 Stream 5 = 485 Stream 6 = 3020 Stream 7 = 23
4	6.39	Stream 8 = No Impact Stream 9 = No Impact	Stream 8 = No Impact Stream 9 = No Impact

		Stream 10 = 76	Stream 10 = 50
5	0.01	Stream 11 = 66	Stream $11 = 0$
		Stream 13 = 1615	Stream 13 = 1684
6	0.39	Stream 12 = 72	Stream $12 = 0$
7	0.03	Stream 14 = 542	Stream 14 = 1583
8	0.00	Stream 15 = 260	Stream 15 = 217
9	0.05	Stream 16 = 366	Stream 16 = 308
10	0.03	No Stream Impact	No Stream Impact
11	0.01	No Stream Impact	No Stream Impact
12	0.00	Stream 17 = 242	Stream 17 = 242
		Stream 18 = 132	Stream 18 = 145

AVOIDANCE/MINIMIZATION: According to the applicant, because of the location and nature of the project, disturbance to wetlands would not be able to be avoided during construction of the project.

MITIGATION: The applicant has provided proposed wetland mitigation plans for a site located south of Big Creek near Millington in Shelby County, Tennessee (Attachment 6). The applicant has also proposed on-site mitigation of impacted streams within the project alignment. The Memphis District is evaluating the plans against the project impacts prior to making a formal decision on mitigation.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: The applicant is required to request water quality certification from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Pollution Control that the activity will comply with applicable requirements set forth in 33 U.S.C. and 1341(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act and all state laws and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. This certification or evidence of this water quality certification or waiver of the right to certify must be submitted prior to the issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit. 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.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and least tern (*Sterna antillarum*) are listed as endangered or threatened by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Shelby County. 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 has received information from the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office indicating that no historic properties would be adversely affected by the proposed action. The Memphis District will evaluate this information as well as additional information received from Tribal entities and the public prior to making a formal determination.

FLOODPLAIN: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Floodplain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Floodplain administrators should review the proposed public notice and notify this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: 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.

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 project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project 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, 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 recognized 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 need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision. If a public hearing is held, it will be for the purpose of obtaining additional information that we could not otherwise obtain through a public notice process; not to inform the public about the specific details of the project in greater detail than what is found in this notice. This is not a Corps of Engineers project. We are not a proponent nor are we an opponent of the project. We are merely the permitting authority of Section 404 and Section 10 permits required by our office.

COMMENTS: To request additional information or provide comments on this notice, please contact Ms. Jennifer L. Harty using the information below:

U.S. Army Engineer District - Memphis

ATTN: Jennifer Harty

167 N. Main Street, Room B-202 Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894

E-mail: jennifer.l.harty@usace.army.mil

Phone: (901) 544-3473 Fax: (901) 544-0211

Comments may be sent via mail or E-mail. The Corps of Engineers may provide copies of all comments, (including name & address of those providing comments) to the applicant for consideration and response prior to a decision. Comments must be received by the expiration date listed on page one of this notice.

For Final Individual Permits actions in the Memphis District, go to the following link: http://geo.usace.army.mil/egis/f?p= 340:2:0::NO:RP. Using the Filter by District drop down box, select MVM-

Memphis District, then select the year and month (information will populate in the table below). All pending individual permits can be located by selecting the "Pending IP" tab above. All of the environmental documents and statements of findings supporting issuance or denial of the permit decisions are available upon written request and where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. They are also available at the Memphis District, Regulatory Branch office for examination.

Gregg W. Williams Chief Regulatory Branch

Attachments















