



**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. 2014-1154

Date: June 23, 2016

Notice No. 16-32

Closing Date: July 22, 2016

1. **TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** 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 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
2. **APPLICANT:** Ohio West Virginia Excavating
56461 Ferry Landing Road
Shadyside, Ohio 43947
3. **LOCATION:** Ohio River ~RM 103 Right Descending Bank, Big Run, unnamed tributaries to Ohio River and Big Run, adjacent wetlands and open water bodies, in Mead Township, Belmont County, Ohio.
4. **PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The applicant proposes to fill no more than 5,092 linear feet of stream, 3.564 acres of wetland, and 27.831 acres of open water bodies for the construction of PTTGCA US Petrochemical Complex more commonly referred to as an ethane cracker. The fills would facilitate an ethane cracker unit, a high density polyethylene unit with two trains, an ethylene oxide/ ethylene glycol unit, and associated utilities infrastructure including an electrical substation, a natural gas fired steam plant, flares, water supply and treatment, cooling towers, water intake structure, wastewater treatment, wastewater and stormwater outfall structures, stormwater management facilities, logistics infrastructure including a truck terminal, roadways, parking areas, barging areas including dolphins and dock facilities, rail expansion and a rail yard, and administrative offices. Additionally a material offloading facility will be constructed in the Ohio River. The complex encompasses approximately 511 acres consisting of the Hendershot/ Lewis parcels, properties currently owned by First Energy Corporation (R.E. Burger plant), and residential properties located in the Dilles Bottom area. Compensatory Mitigation is proposed to be satisfied through the purchase of stream and wetland credits from Stream + Wetlands Foundation In-Lieu Fee program. Stream credits will be purchased at a 1:1 ratio and 7.4 wetland credits will be purchased for wetland impacts at appropriate ratios. Drawings of the proposed project and a location map may be found at the following website by clicking on Public Notice No. 16-32.
<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/>
5. **WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** A Permit will not be granted until Water Quality Certification is received or waived from:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA)
Section 401 Coordinator
PO Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0149
Telephone Number: 614-644-2001

6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: 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 determination is based on the requirement of a special condition that would only allow tree clearing of trees greater than or equal to three inches diameter at breast height from October 1 through March 31 to protect federally threatened and endangered bats. Please reference TAILS# 03E15000-2016-TA-0163. 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. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: 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. A Phase I Investigation was conducted for the site and these reports were shared with the Ohio History Connection for input. 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. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: 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. 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. RESPONSES: 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. Tyler Bintrim at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7115, or by e-mail at tyler.j.bintrim@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2014-1154 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//SIGNED//

By Nancy Mullen for:

Scott A. Hans
Chief, Regulatory Branch