

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps
of Engineers
New York District
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

In replying refer to:
Public Notice Number: **NAN-2015-01501-WCA**
Issue Date: **February 5, 2016**
Expiration Date: **March 7, 2016**

To Whom It May Concern:

The New York District, Corps of Engineers has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

APPLICANT: Sims Metal Management, Inc.
1 Linden Avenue East
Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

ACTIVITY: Perform maintenance dredging with upland disposal within Claremont Terminal Channel to facilitate continued safe shipping access to the Sims Metal Management Inc., facility.

WATERWAY: Upper New York Harbor

LOCATION: Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your review.

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 proposal 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, 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; 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 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.

ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity. Comments provided will become a part of the public record for this action.

CENAN-OP-RW
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. NAN-2015-01501-WCA

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA/FS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The proposed work, fully described in the attached work description, could cause the disruption of habitat for various life stages of some EFH-designated species. Further consultation with NOAA/FS regarding EFH impacts and conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

Reviews of activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act and the applicant will obtain a water quality certificate or waiver from the appropriate state agency in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act prior to a permit decision.

Pursuant to Section 307 (c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456 (c)], for activities under consideration that are located within the coastal zone of a state which has a federally approved coastal zone management program, the applicant has certified in the permit application that the activity complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with, the approved state coastal zone management program. By this public notice, we are requesting the state's concurrence with, objection to, or waiver of the applicant's certification. No permit decision will be made until one of these actions occurs. For activities within the coastal zone of New Jersey State, the applicant's certification and accompanying information is available from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Coastal Management Program, P.O. Box 418, 401 E. State Street, Trenton, NJ, 08625, Telephone (609) 633-2201. Comments regarding the applicant's certification, and copies of any letters to this office commenting upon this proposal, should be so addressed.

In addition to any required water quality certificate and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

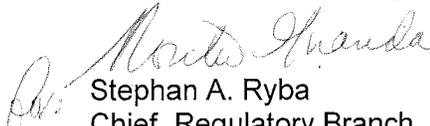
(New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Waterfront Development Permit)

CENAN-OP-RW
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. NAN-2015-01501-WCA

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (917) 790-8412 and ask for Jim Cannon.

In order for us to better serve you, please complete our Customer Service Survey located at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/CustomerSurvey.aspx>.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>.


Stephan A. Ryba
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

WORK DESCRIPTION

The applicant, Sims Metal Management, Inc., has requested Department of the Army authorization to maintenance dredge, with upland disposal, approximately 160,000 cubic yards of material from the Claremont Terminal Channel. The project site is located within the Upper New York Harbor, in the City of Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey.

The proposed regulated work would include the maintenance dredging, by environmental closed-bucket, of approximately 160,000 cubic yards of material from a 2,477,542 square foot portion of the Claremont Terminal Channel. The applicant proposes to dredge to a depth of -25 feet below the plane of Mean Low Water (MLW), plus a 2-foot overdepth, for a maximum depth of -27 feet below the plane of MLW. The proposed maintenance dredging area would extend through the Federal Navigation Channel along the New Jersey Pierhead line.

The dredged material would be loaded onto a barge, and the decanting of excess water would be performed in accordance with the requirements of a water quality certificate issued by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for the project. The 160,000 cubic yards of material shall be placed at the state approved upland site known as the "Koppers Seaboard Site", located in the Town of Kearny, Bergen County, New Jersey. The applicant anticipates the duration of the proposed dredging activities to be approximately twelve (12) weeks.

The proposed portion of Claremont Terminal Channel was previously dredged in 2000 through 2003 pursuant to Department of the Army permit number 1999-07810, issued May 12, 2000. This permit authorized dredging, within Claremont Terminal Channel, to a maximum depth of -36 feet below the plane of MLW. The proposed maintenance dredging activities would be limited to the same area of the Claremont Terminal Channel as previously permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in May 2000.

The stated purpose of this project is to ensure continued safe navigation access to the Sims Metal Management recycling facility.