

IEPA Log No.: **C-0627-08**
CoE appl. #: **2008-614**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **April 20, 2011**
Public Notice Ending Date: **May 20, 2011**

Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
Amendments of 1972

Section 401 Water Quality Certification to Discharge into Waters of the State

Public Notice/Fact Sheet Issued By:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water
Facility Evaluation Unit
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
217/782-3362

Name and Address of Discharger: Matt Holsizer 1077 Sheridan Rd. Winnetka, IL 60093

Discharge Location: Sec. 17, T42N, R13E, 3rd P.M., Cook County within Winnetka

Name of Receiving Water: Lake Michigan

Project Description: Reconstruct existing quarystone breakwater, quarystone revetment, and place sand within Lake Michigan

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has received an application for a Section 401 water quality certification to discharge into the waters of the state associated with a Section 404 permit application received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Public Notice period will begin and end on the dates indicated in the heading of this Public Notice. The last day comments will be received will be on the Public Notice period ending date unless a commenter demonstrating the need for additional time requests an extension to this comment period and the request is granted by the IEPA. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the project to the IEPA at the above address. Commenters shall provide their names and addresses along with comments on the certification application. Commenters may include a request for public hearing. The certification and notice number(s) must appear on each comment page.

The attached Fact Sheet provides a description of the project and the antidegradation assessment.

The application, Public Notice/Fact Sheet, comments received, and other documents are available for inspection and may be copied at the IEPA at the address shown above between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday when scheduled by the interested person.

If written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in the certification application, the IEPA may, at its discretion, hold a public hearing. Public notice will be given 30 days before any public hearing. If a Section 401 water quality certification is issued, response to relevant comments will be provided at the time of the certification. For further information, please call Keith Runge at 217/782-3362.

KAR: PN0627-08.doc

Fact Sheet for Antidegradation Assessment
RE: Mr. Matt Hulsizer County: Cook
IEPA Log No. C-0627-08
COE Log No. LRC-2008-614
Contact: Mark T. Books at 217/558-2012
April 20, 2011

Matt Hulsizer (“Applicant”) has applied for 401 water quality certification for repair work on an existing quarystone breakwater, and for installation of a quarystone revetment along Lake Michigan in Section 17, Township 42 North, Range 13 East, Cook County, Illinois. The project site is located at 1077 Sheridan Road in Winnetka. The breakwater repair includes reconstructing the breakwater to a proper elevation over the originally permitted footprint and cover the same square footage of lakebed. In addition, steps would be constructed through the breakwater for pedestrian access to the beach. The revetment would encapsulate the existing concrete seawall with a crest of 589 feet and will taper gently from the revetment at the landward end to 583 feet at the lakeward end. The purpose of the revetment is to help break storm wave energy and provide scour protection for the existing seawall. As part of the proposed project the Applicant will also place 850 tons of clean sand onto the existing beach, as beach nourishment, as required by IDNR.

Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.

Lake Michigan is a large oligatrophic lake subject to the Lake Michigan Basin water quality standards of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302 Subpart E. The open waters are listed in the Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List – 2010 as impaired for fish consumption with a cause given as PCBs and mercury.

According the IDNR WIRT System Marram Grass, Sea Rocket and Seaside Spurge were identified as threatened or endangered species residing within the project site.

Identification of Proposed Pollutant Load Increases or Potential Impacts on Uses.

The construction activities will cause a temporary increase in suspended solids. Habitat will be disturbed in the vicinity of the construction area. All sand placed onto the beach will be clean and from inland quarries.

Fate and Effect of Parameters Proposed for Increased Loading.

The increase in suspended solids will be local and temporary. The benthic habitat disturbed by the construction activities is anticipated to recover to pre-construction conditions over time.

Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.

This project will repair a breakwater that has been damaged due to recent storm events. This project will also provide scour protection for the existing seawall as well as provide access to Lake Michigan from an existing house.

Assessments of Alternatives for Less Increase in Loading or Minimal Environmental Degradation.

The construction of the proposed project will follow guidelines set forth by the Agency and USACE. Erosion control measures need to be implemented to prevent additional impacts. The least intrusive alternative would be to not complete the project. This is not an acceptable alternative given that this is a useful project and will repair a breakwater from total failure along Lake Michigan, as well as provide access to the lake.

Summary Comments of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Regional Planning Commissions, Zoning Boards or Other Entities

In a letter from Tracy Evans dated April 8, 2011, IDNR stated that an initial report submitted through the EcoCAT website indicated the potential presence of protected resources in the vicinity of the project location. The letter further states that the IDNR has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse impacts to the protected resources are unlikely; therefore, consultation is terminated.

Agency Conclusion.

This preliminary assessment was conducted pursuant to the Illinois Pollution Control Board regulation for Antidegradation found at 35 Ill. Adm. Code 302.105 (antidegradation standard) and was based on the information available to the Agency at the time the assessment was written. We tentatively find that the proposed activity will result in the attainment of water quality standards; that all existing uses of the receiving stream will be maintained; that all technically and economically reasonable measures to avoid or minimize the extent of the proposed increase in pollutant loading have been incorporated into the proposed activity; and that this activity will benefit the community at large by providing a stabilize shoreline along Lake Michigan. Comments received during the 401 Water Quality Certification public notice period will be evaluated before a final decision is made by the Agency.