

IEPA Log No.: **C-0673-09**  
CoE appl. #: **CEMVR-OD-P-2009-1012**

Public Notice Beginning Date: **May 13, 2011**  
Public Notice Ending Date: **June 3, 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  
Permit Section  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276  
217/782-3362

**Name and Address of Discharger:** Oak Run Property Owners Association – 1470 Knox Road, 1725 N,  
Dahinda, IL 61428

**Discharge Location:** Near Dahinda in Sections 1-4,10-12,33,34 of Township 11N, 12N, Range 3E of  
the 3rd P.M. in Knox County.

**Name of Receiving Water:** Spoon Lake

**Project Description:** Proposed maintenance dredging to be done inside Spoon lake

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 James Blessman at 217/782-3362.

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Fact Sheet for Antidegradation Assessment  
For Oak Run Property Owners Association  
IEPA Log No. C-0673-09  
COE Log No. CEMVR-OD-P-2009-1012  
Contact: Mark Books; 217/785-6937  
Public Notice Start Date: May 13, 2011

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The Oak Run Property Owner's Association ("Applicant") has applied for 401 water quality certification for the removal and placement of hydraulically dredged material from Spoon Lake ("Lake") in Sections 1-4 and 10-12, Township 11 North, Range 3 East, near Dahinda. The project involves the removal of approximately 39,723 cubic yards of sediment from seven different coves within the Lake. The material would be pumped via pipeline to a previously permitted two cell Sediment Control Facility (SDF). An additional 19,272 cubic yards of sediment will also be removed from the SDF, prior to pumping the dredged sediment from the Lake. Some of the sediment removed from the SDF will be used to raise the height of the SDF's berm and additional excavated material will be hauled offsite and placed onto an upland campground location that is owned and managed by the Applicant. Areas where the soil will be placed will be stabilized with perennial grasses. The Applicant has followed a Management Sediment Plan on the Lake since the early 1990's, which included building the two SDFs during 1992. Additionally, dredging in the Lake has occurred during 1992 and again during 2000.

**Identification and Characterization of the Affected Water Body.**

Spoon Lake is a General Use Waterbody. Spoon Lake Waterbody Segment IL\_SDZH has not been evaluated by the Illinois EPA Surface Water Monitoring Unit. The Lake is not an enhanced water body pursuant to the dissolved oxygen standard. Using the 2008 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Publication *Integrating Multiple Taxa in a Biological Stream Rating System*, the Lake is not listed as a biologically significant area nor has it received an integrity rating. The drainage area of the Lake is about 11,053 acres. The Lake is approximately 570 acres in size.

The IDNR WIRT System does not list any threatened or endangered species residing in the project area.

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

No pollutant load increases would occur from this project other than some increases in suspended solids during the dredging and placement of the spoil material. The benthic habitat to be dredged within the Lake will be disturbed but should revert to its previous condition of aquatic life support soon after dredging. Additionally, any discharge from the SDF will need to meet the effluent limits of their permit (Permit #2009-EA-2730, issued December 15, 2009).

**Fate and Effect of Parameters Proposed for Increased Loading.**

The increase in suspended solids will be local and temporary. The dredging is estimated to last approximately 1-2 months.

### **Purpose and Social & Economic Benefits of the Proposed Activity.**

As part of a continuing effort to control and manage sediment loadings the Applicant conducted a sedimentation survey and management plan of Spoon Lake in May 2008. The primary objective of this study was to determine the extent of sediment deposition in select areas of the Lake. Applicant has stated the following concerning this study:

“The results of this survey indicate that several coves are currently impacted by shallow water and two or more feet of accumulated sediment, especially within the upper reaches...Sediment and Nutrient Control Basin #1 has also lost a significant portion of its sediment trapping capacity. Over one half of the basin has been filled with sediment, indicating the basin has been functioning as intended; however, its function is currently impaired and maintenance dredging is required”.

This project will restore water depths to their original contours in seven different coves of Spoon Lake that are currently impacted by accumulated sediment. Applicant has stated the following;

“There will be a significant reduction in pollutant loading as a result of the removal of previously deposited sediment in the areas identified. This project will greatly benefit Spoon Lake Property Owners and other users of Spoon Lake through the restoration of water depths, aquatic habitat, improving water quality, and the overall aesthetic quality of the dredged areas.”

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

The dredging of Spoon Lake will follow guidelines set forth by the Agency and USACE. The least intrusive alternative would be to not dredge the portions of the lake. This is not an acceptable alternative given that this is a useful project.

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

In a report generated through IDNR's EcoCAT system dated April 22, 2011, the Illinois Natural Heritage Database contains no record of State-listed threatened or endangered species in the vicinity of the project location; 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 improving Spoon Lake quality. Comments received during the 401 Water Quality Certification public notice period will be evaluated before a final decision is made by the Agency.