



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Rock Island District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: MidAmerican Energy

Date: June 23, 2023

Expires: July 22, 2023

CEMVR-RD-2023-0598

Section 10/404/408

**Joint Public Notice
US Army Corps of Engineers
Iowa Department of Natural Resources**

1. **Applicant.** MidAmerican Energy, John Carlson POC.

2. **Project Location.**

- Section 24, Township 78N, Range 4 E
- Bettendorf, Scott County, Iowa
- Mississippi River, river mile 489.9
- Datum NAD-83, UTM Zone 15,
- Northing 712924.537168, Easting 4601851.421336
- Latitude 41.54, Longitude -90.4474

3. **Project Description.** The applicant proposes to demolish: the main building, and turbine hall associated outbuildings and structures, two cooling water intake screen houses (Screen House Nos. 1 and 2), and the removal of underground facilities associated with the plant. Restoration primarily consists of placing imported earth fill to raise the elevation of portions of the site, restoration of the riverbank at the location of the main building, and modification of the stormwater drainage system.

a. Installation of Temporary Combi-wall Cofferdam and Turbidity Barrier. Install a temporary cofferdam around the work area so demolition and restoration can be performed in a dewatered (dry) condition using conventional land-based equipment with access from the uplands. Approximate cofferdam dimensions are 850 feet long and 100 feet wide (perpendicular to shore), while the cofferdam itself is approximately 3 feet wide. The proposed cofferdam is a combi-wall (interlocking pipe pile) cofferdam and represents the best balance of project purpose and need relative to impacts. For the combi-wall cofferdam alternative (also referred to as interlocking pipe pile), 36-inch outside diameter and 1/4-inch wall thickness steel pipe piles would be drilled and grouted into the subsurface along the cofferdam alignment. The pipe piles would have connectors pre-welded, which would allow for structural interlocking and hydraulic sealing of the piles.

b. Screen House and Eastern Foundation Wall Demolition. The two screen houses and foundation wall are approximately 550 feet long (parallel to shore) by 65 feet wide (perpendicular to shore). Demolition of the screen houses and eastern foundation wall to the river bottom mudline which will result in approximately 2,500 cubic yards of concrete demolition debris and 5,080 cubic yards of excavated sediment to be removed.

c. Wing Dam Extension. The existing wing dam is approximately 100 feet long by 50 feet wide by 5 feet tall. Approximately 240 cubic yards of revetment riprap (IADOT Class D revetment stone) will be placed to restore and connect the wing dam to the reconstructed riverbank within the dewater cofferdam area.

d. Riverbank Restoration. Upon completion of screen house and eastern plant foundation wall demolition, the riverbank will be reshaped to match upstream and downstream bank slope/gradient to provide long-term stability. Construction will consist of a combination of clean fill, clay cap, and revetment riprap (IADOT Class D revetment stone) encompassing approximately 4,930 cubic yards.

4. Avoidance and Minimization Statement: The applicant has selected a combi-wall cofferdam to facilitate demolition of the east plant foundation wall for riverbank restoration and demolition of the two screenhouses. Completion of this work mitigates riverbank stability concerns and removes long-term safety and security liabilities in the river (screen house structures). Certain cofferdam alternatives were rejected due to their relatively large footprint, including a cellular-wall cofferdam, braced sheet pile, earthen berms, and patented cofferdam systems. These systems would result in either a larger dewatered area and/or larger area directly impacted by the cofferdam and would consequently affect more mussels. The combi-wall cofferdam (Selected Alternative) limits the number of mussels impacted relative to the rejected options. Minimization measures to reduce effects include selecting a cofferdam type that reduces the impact area footprint to the extent practicable, salvaging resident mussels from the cofferdam footprint, dewatered area, and an approximate 30 feet buffer riverward of the cofferdam (collectively considered the salvage area), stringent best management practice implementation, and construction monitoring.

5. Agency Review and Where to Reply:

a. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Department of the Army application is being processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). This application is also being reviewed under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 408) due to proximity for certain work at or near a federally-authorized flood risk management project of the United States.

b. State of Iowa. The project plans have been submitted to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IaDNR) for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the Department's opinion that the proposed activity will comply with Iowa's water quality standards (Chapter 61 IAC). The applicant has also applied for authorization of work in the floodplain pursuant to Chapter 455B of the Iowa Code and other applicable state permits. Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Iowa should be addressed to: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034. A copy of the comments should be provided to the Corps of Engineers office (see paragraph 12. of this public notice for address).

6. Historical/Archaeological: The District has received and reviewed the report entitled, *Historic Architectural Assessment of MidAmerican Energy Company Riverside Generating Station, Bettendorf, Scott County, Iowa* dated March 2023. The District Archaeologist will review the report. Once it has been determined to be adequate it will be coordinated with the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO) under separate cover letters.

7. Endangered Species: District staff has held consultation telecons with IaDNR, USFWS and applicant to discuss drilling seven borings within the Mississippi River which included a mussel salvage effort. Due to high number of listed mussels encountered it was deemed less harm would occur if they just performed the borings. The plan as proposed (above) does have a mussel salvage plan removing them from demolition activity footprint. The mussel salvage plan will be coordinated and approved by USFWS, IaDNR & USACE as part of the Biologic Assessment (BA) and Biologic Opinion (BO). Therefore, a preliminary review of this application for the potential impact on threatened or endangered species pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended has occurred. The mussel species being reviewed are Higgins Eye (pearly mussel), Sheepnose Mussel and the Spectaclecase (mussel). Consultation has been initiated with the USFWS at this time, we are further coordinating this application with the USFWS and the respective resource agencies through this public notice.

8. Dredge/Fill Material Guidelines: The evaluation of the impact of the proposed activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

9. Public Interest Review: The decision whether to issue the Corps 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, cultural values, 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 production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

10. Who Should Reply: 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 need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. These statements should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. These statements should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable.

11. Public Hearing Requests: 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 public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided.

12. **Reply to the Corps:** Comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: RD, Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. **Mrs. Donna Hardy (309/794-5378)** may be contacted for additional information (email: donna.r.hardy@usace.army.mil).

Attach
Plan

Donna Hardy
Mrs. Donna R. Hardy
Project Manager, IL/MO Branch
Regulatory Division

REQUEST TO POSTMASTERS: Please post this notice conspicuously and continuously until the expiration date specified at the top of page 1.

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Figure 2B - Project Location Map (Aerial)

Riverside Generating Station
6001 State Street
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Riverside Generating Station

Project Location
Riverside Generating Station