



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Rock Island District

Applicant: Dresden Nuclear Power Station Date: July 16, 2020

Expires: August 14, 2020

CEMVR-OD-P-2020-463

Section 10/404

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**Joint Public Notice**  
**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

1. **Applicant.** Dresden Nuclear Power Station, c/o Mr. Patrick Boyle, 6500 North Dresden Road, Morris, Illinois, 60450.

2. **Project Location.**

- IL – Minooka USGS quad sheet
- Sections 25 and 26, Township 34 North, Range 8 East
- Grundy County, Illinois
- Illinois River mile approximately 273
- Datum NAD-83. UTM Zone 15
- Northing: 4582929, Easting: 393930
- Latitude: 41.3909 Longitude: -88.2687

3. **Project Description.**

a. Previous Authorization. NA.

b. Current Request. The applicant proposes to perform hydraulic maintenance dredging in the Units 2/3 cooling water intake canal for the Dresden Nuclear Power Plant's Units 2 & 3; located east of Morris, Illinois. The dredge slurry will be pumped into a decommissioned Unit 1 canal that is separated from the Illinois River to settle. Once settled, the dredged material will then be mechanically moved on land.

(1) Concrete blocks/gravel will be placed in the decommissioned Unit 1 discharge canal to block the canal off from the Illinois River.

(2) Hydraulic maintenance dredging of Units 2/3 water intake canal will commence, an area approximately 400 feet long by 70 feet wide. The purpose of the project is to enable adequate cooling water for compliance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensing and safety requirements.

(3) The hydraulically dredged spoils will be placed in the decommissioned Unit 1 discharge canal, an area approximately 2,000 feet long by 40 feet wide that has been closed off from the Illinois River. The slurry will settle in this canal for approximately 2 weeks.

(4) The dredge material placed in the decommissioned Unit 1 discharge canal will then be mechanically dredged using a clamshell crane to a temporary de-watering area adjacent to the canal, an area approximately 0.4 acres. This area is assumed to be wetland and the material will be temporarily placed for up to one month. When dredging is periodically performed over the next 10 years, all dredge material will be removed from the wetland once dried and the area will be restored to its original condition. Appropriate native vegetation will be seeded in the wetland to fully restore it to prior conditions.

(5) The dried dredge material will then lastly be removed from the temporary storage area via front end loader and dump trucks to an upland long-term disposal site that is approximately 1.7 acres.

(6) To complete the project, the concrete blocks/gravel placed to block off decommissioned Unit 1 discharge canal will be removed, re-establishing connection with the Illinois River.

c. Permit Area. The permit area consists of the existing decommissioned Unit 1 discharge canal, operational Unit 2/3 Canal, immediately adjacent temporary dredge material placement site that consists of approximately 0.4 acres of wetland, and a long-term dredge storage area that is approximately 1.7 acres of upland.

#### 4. Agency Review.

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 of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

b. State of Illinois.

(1) The project plans have been submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for review.

(2) The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources (IDNR/OWR) is a participant in the joint application process and requires that IDNR/OWR permits be obtained for construction within floodways; construction and other activities within public bodies of water; and construction, operation and maintenance of dams pursuant to the State of Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act (615 ILCS 5). Inquiries concerning IDNR/OWR jurisdiction and/or review of the activity should be directed to the Office of Water Resources at [dnr.dworm@illinois.gov](mailto:dnr.dworm@illinois.gov) or 217/782-3863. Information on the IDNR/OWR regulatory and other programs can be found at <http://dnr.state.il.us/owr>.

5. **Historical/Archaeological**. The District consulted with the Illinois geographic information systems archeological site and survey databases online and determined there are multiple surveys in the area one of which covers the dredge disposal area. There are no previously identified historic properties in the vicinity of the permit area. In addition, the Corps consulted “*An Investigation of Submerged Historic Properties in the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway*” (October 1997) prepared by American Resources Group, Ltd. for the Corps (Contract No. DACW25-93-D-0012, Delivery Order No. 37). There are no shipwrecks indicated in the vicinity of the current permit. The proposed action under the permit includes maintenance dredging to remove only recently accumulated sediments in the area. In addition, dredging at this location has been completed to similar depths. Therefore, it is the opinion of the District there low to no potential for intact historic properties to be affected by the proposed action and there will be **no historic properties affected** by the issuance of the permit.

## 6. Endangered Species.

a. District staff have performed 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. The following threatened or endangered species are listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as occurring in Grundy County, Illinois:

(<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/illinois-cty.html>)

- Indiana bat. The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) is considered to potentially occur in any area with forested habitat in any county in Illinois. Indiana bats migrate seasonally between winter hibernacula and summer roosting habitats. Winter hibernacula include caves and abandoned mines. Females form nursery colonies under the loose bark of trees (dead or alive) and/or cavities, where each female gives birth to one single young in June or early July. A single maternity colony may utilize a number of trees during the summer, typically a primary roost tree and several alternates. The species or size of tree does not appear to influence whether Indiana bats use a tree for roosting provided the appropriate bark structure is present.
  - There will be no tree removal associated with this dredging project and therefore there will be **no effect** to Indiana bats.
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid. The threatened eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*) may potentially be found in any Illinois county. It occupies wet prairie remnant habitat. There is no critical habitat designated for this species.
  - Since there is no wet prairie remnant habitat to be affected by the project, there should be **no effect** on the eastern prairie fringed orchid.
- Northern long-eared bat. The northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is listed as threatened. It hibernates in caves and mines and swarms in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. It roosts and forages in upland forests and woods.
  - There will be no tree removal associated with this dredging project and therefore there will be **no effect** to Indiana bats.
- Scaleshell Mussel. The Scaleshell Mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*) is listed as endangered.
  - The location of planned dredging is in a man-made cooling water “intake canal” that has experienced excess sedimentation. Therefore this is not suitable habitat for this species and there will be **no effect** to Scaleshell Mussels.
- Rattlesnake Master Borer Moth.
  - As this is a maintenance dredging project in a canal off the Illinois River, there will be **no effect** to Rattlesnake Master Borer Moth.

b. The proposed project is being coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments it may have concerning Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat will be considered in the final assessment of the proposed project. Accordingly, our preliminary determination is subject to change should further information become available.

7. **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.

**8. 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.

**9. 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.

**10. Reply to the Corps of Engineers.** Comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to the District Engineer, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: OD-PE (Samantha Chavez), Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. For additional information you may contact **Samantha Chavez (309/794-5104)** or email [samantha.j.chavez@usace.army.mil](mailto:samantha.j.chavez@usace.army.mil).

Attach  
Plan

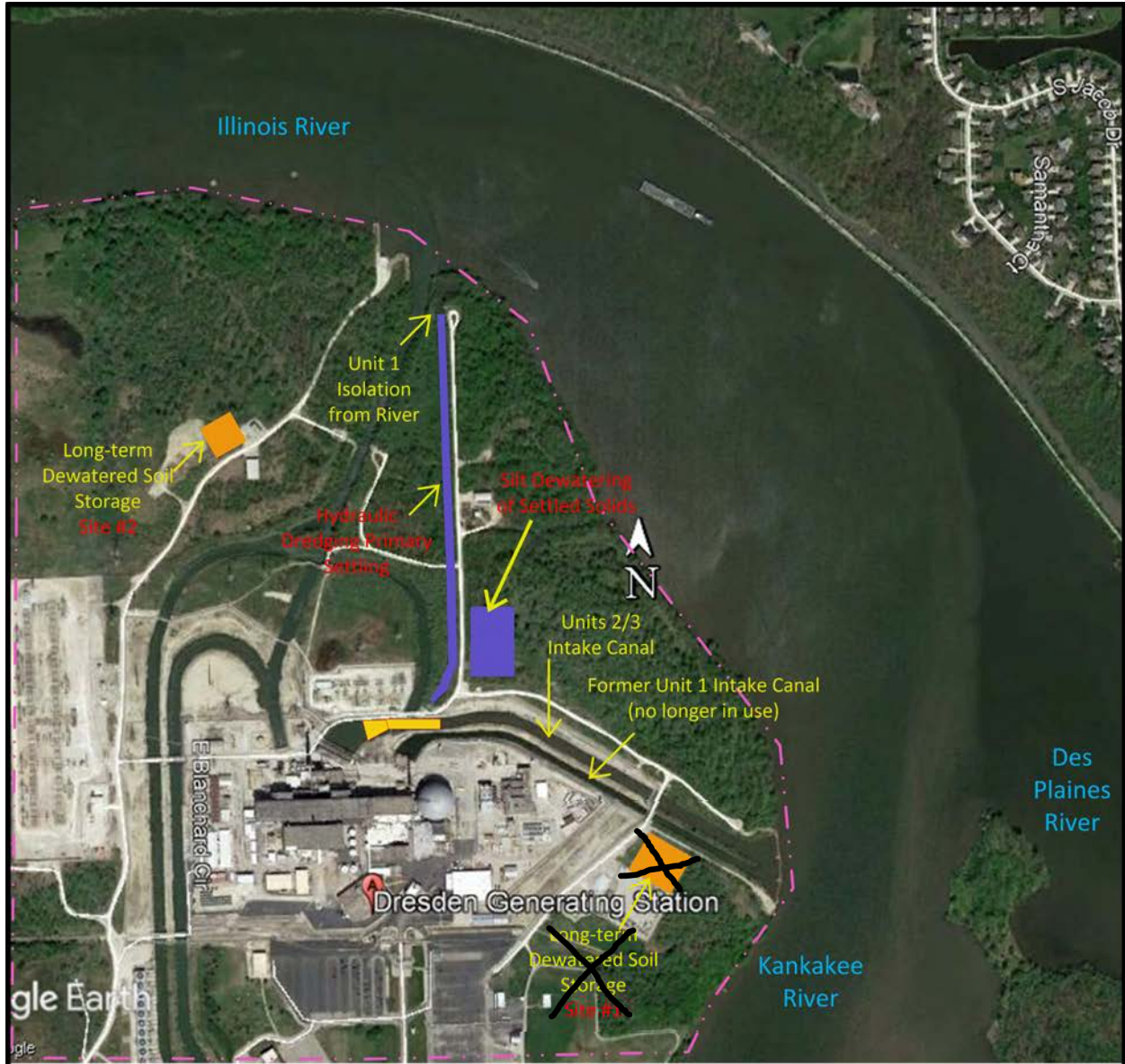
Mr. Trevor E. Popkin  
Illinois/Missouri Section Chief  
Regulatory Branch





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**NOTICE TO EDITORS:** This notice is provided as background information for your use in formatting news stories. This notice is not a contract for classified display advertising.

**\*\*Dresden Dredging -- Long Sterm Site #2 to be Used**



<b>LEGEND:</b>		
	Property Boundary	
	Dewatering Area (former Unit 1 discharge canal)	
	Maintenance Hydraulic Dredging (taken from Intake and pumped to Unit 1 discharge canal / Dewatering Area)	
Dredging Area Location: Lat 41.3909 Long -88.2687		<p><b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b></p> <p>Dresden Nuclear Power Station Maintenance Dredging Project</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Dresden Station Morris, IL</p> <p><b>Figure 1 – Location Map</b></p>

**Figure 1. Dresden Dredging Location Inside Plant Property.**