



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
CHICAGO DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
231 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET, SUITE 1500  
CHICAGO IL 60604

March 6, 2020

CELRC-PMD-EF

Dear Recipient,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) titled, Burns Waterway Harbor Maintenance Dredging and Placement. The EA evaluates the potential effects of dredging clean littoral sand from two areas of Burns Waterway including the approach channel and maintenance dredging area at Portage, Indiana with its placement on or along the Lake Michigan Shoreline at Portage Beach or Ogden Dunes, Indiana. As part of the 30-day agency and public review period, the Chicago District would appreciate any comments or concerns you might have associated with this work. Comments could be made on any potential environmental effects of the Burns Waterway Harbor dredging from any of the two areas and its placement along or on the Lake Michigan Shoreline. This document is available at:

<https://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works-Projects/>

The project EA is located under "Projects in Alphabetical Order" on the left side of the page, titled "Burns Waterway Harbor Dredging" on the Civil Works Project Page.

A draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) along with the Section 404(b)(1) evaluation for the dredging and placement of material into the waters of the United States, and a contaminate determination have been prepared to accompany the draft EA. The draft FONSI concludes that implementing the maintenance dredging from any of the two areas and its placement on or along the Lake Michigan Shoreline does not constitute a major Federal action that significantly affects the quality of the human environment. Any comments you may have concerning the proposed project should be made within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of this letter, but not later than April 10, 2020 Please direct your comments to: ATTN: CELRC-PMD-EF (John Belcik) at the address located at the top of this letter or by email to

[John.T.Belcik@usace.army.mil](mailto:John.T.Belcik@usace.army.mil).

Any person who has an interest that may be affected by the dredging of the clean sand from any of the two areas with the placement on or along the Lake Michigan Shoreline may request a public hearing. To be considered, the request must be submitted in writing to the above contact within the comment period of this notice but not later than (April 10, 2020). The request must clearly state the interest that may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by this activity.

Following the public review period and a Corps of Engineers review of the comments received, the District Engineer will make a final decision regarding the necessity of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed project. Based

on the preliminary analyses completed to date, it does not appear that the proposed action will result in significant impacts which would require the preparation of an EIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susanne J. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susanne J. Davis, P.E.  
Chief, Planning Branch

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