



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

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

Planning Branch
Environmental Formulation and Analysis Section

Recipient:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Chicago District has prepared an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to evaluate the potential effects of repairing the Chicago Lock's North Pier Wall located on Lake Michigan in downtown Chicago, Illinois. 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 include potential effects to lacustrine habitats, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources and social resources.

This document is available for your review and can be downloaded at:

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

This project is intended to provide stability to the existing crib structure for a portion of the North Pier. The current sheet pile wall on the river side is supported by tie rods that are corroding and tied to a failing tunnel structure, which require repair or replacement.

A Preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) along with the Section 404(b)(1) evaluation for movement of stone and driving sheet pile into the waters of the United States been prepared to accompany the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). The preliminary FONSI concludes that implementing the Preferred Plan 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 receipt of this letter. If no comments are received by the end of the thirty (30) day review period, it will be assumed that you have no comment. Please direct your comments to: ATTN: CELRC-PMD-EF (Frank Veraldi) at the address located at the top of this notice or by email to Frank.M.Veraldi@usace.army.mil.

Any person who has an interest that may be affected by the discharge and/or disposal of fill material (removing and replacing steel sheetpile and stone) into the waters of the U.S. may request a public hearing. To be considered, the request must be submitted in writing to the contact provided above within the comment period of this notice. The request must clearly set forth the interest that may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected by this activity.

Following the comment period and a 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 conclusions the draft EA, it appears that preparation of an EIS will not be required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susanne J. Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susanne" and last name "Davis" clearly distinguishable.

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