

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT

LOG NUMBERS: 2021-66302

PERMIT NO.: 2021-EO-66302

Bureau ID#: W0316000866

FINAL PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, APPLICATION  
AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

DATE ISSUED: December 10, 2021

PREPARED BY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District

SUBJECT: U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CALUMET DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL FACILITY

PERMITTEE TO OWN AND OPERATE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District  
231 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, IL 60604-1437

Permit is hereby granted to the above designated permittee(s) to operate the water pollution control facilities referred to in the above heading, and described as follows:

The facility includes an approximately 43-acre Dredged Material Disposal Facility (DMDF), previously identified as the Chicago Area Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), located within Calumet Harbor at the mouth of the Calumet River. The facility is used for handling and disposal of mechanically dredged material from the Chicago Area Waterway System including Calumet River and Harbor. In accordance with permit log number 2017-62720 the facility may also receive bedrock from Calumet Harbor resulting from navigational improvements within the Harbor. A separate request under permit log number 2021-66169 will evaluate construction of a vertical expansion plan. This authorization does not include expansion activities including installation of wick drains. Stormwater runoff and drainage resulting from the placement of the dredged materials into the facility is directed to an onsite settling basin in the southern portion of the facility. Water from the settling basin is pumped to two (2) 34-foot diameter dual media filter cells and is then discharged to the Calumet River.

This operating permit expires on November 30, 2022.

This permit renews and replaces Permit Numbers 2016-EO-60898 and 2016-EO-60898-1 which were previously issued on June 7, 2016 and September 29, 2017, respectively, for the herein permitted facilities.

This Permit is issued subject to the following Special Condition(s). If such Special Condition(s) require(s) additional or revised facilities, satisfactory engineering plan documents must be submitted to this Agency for review and approval for issuance of a Supplemental Permit.

SPECIAL CONDITION 1: A pump with a capacity of 500 gallons per minute shall be used during mechanical dredging operations to carry wastewater to the filter cells in order to reduce the volume of liquids in the DMDF in direct proportion to the incoming sediment and wastewater volume during dredging and disposal events. During hydraulic dredging operations a pump with a capacity of 2,250 gallons per minute shall be used to carry wastewater to the filter cells in order

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THE STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ISSUANCE INDICATED ON THE REVERSE SIDE MUST BE COMPLIED WITH IN FULL. READ ALL CONDITIONS CAREFULLY.

DEL: DRG:2021-66302\_State Permit\_Final 28Apr21.docx

cc: IEPA, DWPC, FOS, DesPlaines  
Records  
Binds

BUREAU OF WATER



Darin E. LeCrone, P.E.  
Manager, Permit Section  
Division of Water Pollution Control  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

**READ ALL CONDITIONS CAREFULLY:  
STANDARD CONDITIONS**

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1. Unless the construction for which this permit is issued has been completed, this permit will expire: (1) two years after the date of issuance for permits to construct sewers or wastewater sources or (2) three years after the date of issuance for permits to construct treatment works or pretreatment works.
2. The construction or development of facilities covered by this permit shall be done in compliance with applicable provisions of Federal laws and regulations, the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, and Rules and Regulations adopted by the Illinois Pollution Control Board.
3. There shall be no deviations from the approved plans and specifications unless a written request for modification of the project, along with plans and specifications as required, shall have been submitted to the Agency and a supplemental written permit issued.
4. The permittee shall allow any agent duly authorized by the Agency upon the presentations of credentials:
  - a. to enter at reasonable times, the permittee's premises where actual or potential effluent, emission or noise sources are located or where any activity is to be conducted pursuant to this permit;
  - b. To have access to and copy at reasonable times any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
  - c. To inspect at reasonable times, including during any hours of operation of equipment constructed or operated under this permit, such equipment or monitoring methodology or equipment required to be kept, used, operated, calibrated, and maintained under this permit;
  - d. To obtain and remove at reasonable times samples of any discharge or emission of pollutants;
  - e. To enter at reasonable times and utilize any photographic, recording, testing, monitoring or other equipment for the purpose of preserving testing, monitoring, or recording any activity, discharge, or emission authorized by this permit.
5. The issuance of this permit:
  - a. shall not be considered as in any manner affecting the title of the premises upon which the permitted facilities are to be located;
  - b. does not release the permittee from any liability for damage to person or property caused by or resulting from the construction, maintenance, or operation of the proposed facilities;
  - c. does not release the permittee from compliance with other applicable statutes and regulations of the United States, of the State of Illinois, or with applicable local laws, ordinances and regulations;
  - d. does not take into consideration or attest to the structural stability of any units or parts of the project;
  - e. in no manner implies or suggests that the Agency (or its officers, agents, or employees) assume any liability, directly or indirectly, for any loss due to damage, installation, maintenance, or operation of the proposed equipment or facility.
6. Unless a joint construction/operation permit has been issued, a permit for operating shall be obtained from the Agency before the facility or equipment covered by this permit is placed into operation.
7. These standard conditions shall prevail unless modified by special conditions.
8. The Agency may file a complaint with the Board for suspension or revocation of a permit:
  - a. upon discovery that the permit application contained misrepresentation, misinformation or false statement or that all relevant facts were not disclosed; or
  - b. upon finding that any standard or special condition have been violated; or
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to reduce the volume within the DMDF in direct proportion to the incoming sediment and wastewater volume during dredging and disposal events. Pumping to the filter cells is not required during minor dredging events equal to or less than 2,000 cubic yards when the mechanically dredged material is placed upland and out of the liquid contents of the DMDF.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 2:** Monitoring shall be conducted in accordance with the Corps of Engineers report entitled "Proposed Water Quality Monitoring at the Chicago Area Confined Disposal Facility, Calumet Harbor, Illinois, January 2011 and as modified by Tables 1 and 2 of this Special Condition, by Special Condition No. 12 Stormwater Management Plan or a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) associated with an NPDES permit issued by the Illinois EPA, and by Special Condition No. 13 near-dike monitoring requirements. In accordance with Section 4 of the above cited document, the permittee shall monitor:

- i) For mechanical or hydraulic dredging, all parameters in Table 1 and Table 2;
- ii) At least once during each calendar year when no dredging occurs, all parameters in Table 1. Monitoring shall include at least one of the wells CH-18-81 or CH-19-81.
- iii) For when pumping to the filter cells is required to meet design capacity requirements of the Stormwater Management Plan under Special Condition No. 12 or a SWPPP associated with an NPDES permit issued by the Illinois EPA, monitoring of the filter cell outfall for all parameters in Table 1 shall occur on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Current Dredging Water Quality Monitoring Parameters

Parameter	Required Reporting Limit, mg/L unless otherwise noted
Ammonia as Nitrogen	0.01
Arsenic (Total)	0.01
Barium (Total)	0.1
Cadmium (Total)	0.0015
Chromium (Total)	0.005
Copper (Total)	0.01
Cyanide (Total)	0.005
Dissolved Oxygen	±0.1
Hardness	2
Lead (Total)	0.005
Manganese	0.005
Mercury (Total)*	0.0002 µg/L
Nickel (Total)	0.025
Oil & Grease	1
pH	±0.01 units
Phosphorus (Total)	0.005
Temperature	±0.1° C
Total Dissolved Solids	1
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	0.2
Total PCBs	0.1 µg/L
Total Suspended Solids	1
Zinc (Total)	0.005

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3. There shall be no deviations from the approved plans and specifications unless a written request for modification of the project, along with plans and specifications as required, shall have been submitted to the Agency and a supplemental written permit issued.
4. The permittee shall allow any agent duly authorized by the Agency upon the presentations of credentials:
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  - b. To have access to and copy at reasonable times any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit;
  - c. To inspect at reasonable times, including during any hours of operation of equipment constructed or operated under this permit, such equipment or monitoring methodology or equipment required to be kept, used, operated, calibrated, and maintained under this permit;
  - d. To obtain and remove at reasonable times samples of any discharge or emission of pollutants;
  - e. To enter at reasonable times and utilize any photographic, recording, testing, monitoring or other equipment for the purpose of preserving testing, monitoring, or recording any activity, discharge, or emission authorized by this permit.
5. The issuance of this permit:
  - a. shall not be considered as in any manner affecting the title of the premises upon which the permitted facilities are to be located;
  - b. does not release the permittee from any liability for damage to person or property caused by or resulting from the construction, maintenance, or operation of the proposed facilities;
  - c. does not release the permittee from compliance with other applicable statutes and regulations of the United States, of the State of Illinois, or with applicable local laws, ordinances and regulations;
  - d. does not take into consideration or attest to the structural stability of any units or parts of the project;
  - e. in no manner implies or suggests that the Agency (or its officers, agents, or employees) assume any liability, directly or indirectly, for any loss due to damage, installation, maintenance, or operation of the proposed equipment or facility.
6. Unless a joint construction/operation permit has been issued, a permit for operating shall be obtained from the Agency before the facility or equipment covered by this permit is placed into operation.
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\* Low-Level Mercury by method 1631.

Table 2: Sediment Grab Sample Monitoring Parameters During Dredging

Parameter	Required Reporting Limit, mg/Kg unless otherwise noted
Arsenic (Total)	1
Barium (Total)	5
Cadmium (Total)	1
Chromium (Total)	1
Copper (Total)	2.5
Lead (Total)	5
Mercury (Total)*	0.02
Manganese (Total)	5
Nickel (Total)	5
Zinc (Total)	2
Total Solids (%)	1%
Total Volatile Solids (%)	1%
Cyanide	0.2
Chemical Oxygen Demand	100
Ammonia Nitrogen	0.5
Oil & Grease	10
Total Phosphorus	1
Total PCBs	0.01
Total Organic Carbon	100

**SPECIAL CONDITION 3:** Reports of all analytical results shall be submitted to the Illinois EPA on a monthly basis. The permittee shall also submit an electronic copy of the results in datasheet format to the Illinois EPA. The reports shall be submit to the following email and office addresses: [epa.401.docs@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.401.docs@illinois.gov)

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Water  
Compliance Assurance Section  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

**SPECIAL CONDITION 4:** A report containing data from the beginning of the project to the time of the next permit renewal submission shall be provided in the application for the renewal of the permit. The permittee shall provide an analysis of these data showing trends for the parameters tested. A separate analysis of the current permit data shall be provided in addition to the historical analysis. All data will be accounted for and correlated with locations currently used (i.e., BACK 1, 2, 3, ND 1, 2, 3, RIV 1, 2, 3, CDF 1, 2, 3, and CH 18, 19, 20, etc.).

**SPECIAL CONDITION 5:** Upon completion, the site shall be covered with a five (5) foot thick clay and topsoil cap, graded to drain, and seeded and mulched to prevent erosion. Any alternative cover including use of dredged material will require modification of this permit and review of supporting documentation that such use will not cause water pollution or impact

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  - c. To inspect at reasonable times, including during any hours of operation of equipment constructed or operated under this permit, such equipment or monitoring methodology or equipment required to be kept, used, operated, calibrated, and maintained under this permit;
  - d. To obtain and remove at reasonable times samples of any discharge or emission of pollutants;
  - e. To enter at reasonable times and utilize any photographic, recording, testing, monitoring or other equipment for the purpose of preserving testing, monitoring, or recording any activity, discharge, or emission authorized by this permit.
5. The issuance of this permit:
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  - d. does not take into consideration or attest to the structural stability of any units or parts of the project;
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to health and environment.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 6:** For minor dredging events of 2,000 cubic yards or less of mechanically dredged material, one pre-dredging sampling event and one during dredging sampling event shall be conducted. Such sampling shall be at the locations and for the parameters indicated in Special Condition No. 2 except filter cell and DMDF pond sampling will not be required.

- i) If the mechanically dredged material is placed by truck directly in the DMDF, no rehandling area sampling will be required. TSS monitoring shall be conducted for minor mechanical dredging events of less than 2,000 cubic yards instead of turbidity measurements.
- ii) In years when a minor dredging event of 2,000 cubic yards or less occur, no separate annual monitoring event is required.
- iii) The minor dredging event shall be reported in accordance with the permit Special Conditions 3 and 4.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 7:** The three DMDF pond sample sites, CDF-001, CDF-002, and CDF-003 have been relocated to the south basin cell. Future reports shall include the location of the three DMDF pond sample points on a map.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 8:** Bedrock material from Calumet Harbor described in the letter dated September 14, 2017 from the Corps of Engineers may be placed into the DMDF as proposed without pumping required by Special Condition 1. Monitoring and reporting shall be done in accordance with Special Conditions 2 through 4 of this permit.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 9:** The permittee is prohibited from discharging stormwater runoff from this facility to waters of the State without an NPDES permit issued by the Illinois EPA. All storm water runoff from the facility not handled in accordance with Special Condition 11 shall be directed to the sedimentation pond.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 10:** The permittee shall be responsible for obtaining an NPDES stormwater permit prior to initializing construction, that is not an activity associated with dredged material management, if the construction will result in the disturbance of 1 (one) or more acres of total land area.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 11:** The permittee shall obtain an NPDES permit for the discharge of surface runoff from dredged materials and other earthen areas disturbed by dredging activities that has the potential to drain off-site from the facility. An NPDES permit will not be required for surface runoff from stone dikes, gravel areas, earthen berms and other earthen areas erected using uncontaminated soil provided these areas meet the following conditions:

- A) The area is graded to an acceptable slope, covered with sufficient uncontaminated topsoil as needed to support vegetation, seeded at an adequate rate with an appropriate grass mixture to stabilize such areas and properly maintained with vegetation and other practices to minimize the potential for erosion.
- B) Erosion control measures consistent with the "Illinois Urban Manual" <http://www.aiswcd.org/illinois-urban-manual/>.
- C) There is no contamination of the areas by wind-blown dredged materials, chemical spillage, other wastes or wastewaters from dredging activities at the site.
- D) Surface runoff from the earthen areas does not cause water quality violations.

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  - d. To obtain and remove at reasonable times samples of any discharge or emission of pollutants;
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5. The issuance of this permit:
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- E) The applicant has met the requirements of the Stormwater and Storm Wave Management Plan outlined in Special Condition 12.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 12:** Unless an NPDES stormwater permit with separate SWPPP has been issued by the Illinois EPA, the permittee shall implement a Stormwater and Storm Wave Management Plan for preventing the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff or settling basin overflow. The plan will contain surface drainage controls, dust control measures, spill control and prevention, containment, and clean-up procedures, measures to ensure capacity is maintained for the design precipitation tributary to the south basin cell including daily liquid level monitoring and basin pump-down measures, storm wave overtopping measures, good housekeeping and preventative maintenance activities and monthly visual inspections. The design precipitation event shall be a 100-year, 24 hour precipitation event or greater. The plan and records of visual inspections shall be kept on-site for the duration of the permit. The plan is hereby incorporated as a condition of this permit.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 13:** The nine (9) near dike samples shall be separately analyzed and reported instead of analyzed as three (3) composited samples. To maintain consistency with past reporting and trend analyses, the separate results may be grouped and averaged to facilitate comparisons to the results of previously composited samples.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 14:** In accordance with the goals of the USEPA approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Illinois Lake Michigan Nearshore PCB Final TMDL Report (April 2019) and Illinois Lake Michigan Nearshore Mercury Final TMDL Report (April 2019), the permittee shall develop a study scoping document for an investigation to determine if there is a potential for the DMDF to increase the PCB and Mercury contributions into the local food web. Key information necessary for such an investigational study would include PCB and Mercury concentrations in feeder fish and invertebrates that inhabit the outer surface areas of the containment dike as well as concentrations found in similar species within various other areas around the Calumet Harbor and Calumet River and as well in similar species along other stretches of the Lake Michigan shoreline with no known concentrated sources of contamination.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 15:** The permittee is advised that an NPDES permit will be required if activities undertaken at the disposal facility include processing of materials for commercial use.

**SPECIAL CONDITION 16:** The permittee is advised that on October 21, 2021 the Illinois EPA revised its determination regarding CWA Section 401 water quality certification coverage under the Department of the Army Nationwide Permit 16 and anticipates the revised certification will be effective on or about March 17, 2022 when the 2017 Nationwide Permits expire.

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  - c. To inspect at reasonable times, including during any hours of operation of equipment constructed or operated under this permit, such equipment or monitoring methodology or equipment required to be kept, used, operated, calibrated, and maintained under this permit;
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