



#### **US Army Corps of Engineers** Regulatory Branch

Post Office Box 3755 Seattle, WA 98124-3755 Telephone: (206) 316-3048 ATTN: Danette L. Guy, Project Manager

# **Joint Public Notice**

Application for a Department of the Army Permit and a Washington Department of Ecology Water Quality Certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence

> WA Department of Ecology SEA Program Post Office Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504-7600 Telephone: (360) 407-6068 ATTN: SEA Program, Federal Permit Coordinator

Public Notice Date: September 29, 2015 Expiration Date: October 29, 2015

Reference No.: NWS-2015-324 Name: Northwest Alloys, Inc./Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, LLC

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have received an application to perform work in waters of the U.S. as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings dated December 9, 2014.

The Corps will review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Ecology will review the work pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws.

<u>APPLICANT</u>: Northwest Alloys, Inc. Attention: Mr. Mark Stiffler 201 Isabella Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212 Telephone: (412) 553-1658

> Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, LLC Attention: Ms. Kristin Gaines 4029 Industrial Way Longview, Washington 98632 Telephone: (360) 425-2800

AGENT: Grette Associates, LLC Attention: Mr. Glen Grette 151 South Worthen, Suite 101 Wenatchee, Washington 98801 Telephone: (509) 663-6300

LOCATION: Columbia River Mile 62.9 – 63.5 in Longview, Cowlitz County, Washington. In Section 36, Township 8 North, Range 3 West. Latitude: 46.1354°N, Longitude: -123.0022°W

<u>WORK</u>: Dredge up to 500,000 cubic yards (cy) of sediment over a 10 year period, with up to 50,000 cy dredged annually.

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<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: Proposed dredging would achieve a target depth of -40 feet Columbia River Datum (CRD), plus a 2-foot over-dredge. Dredging will be accomplished using a barge-mounted clamshell dredge. Material will be loaded directly into a bottom-dump barge for transport to the flow lane for disposal between River Mile ~60 to 66. The applicants were previously authorized to dredge the same prism under a previous permit (NWS-2010-1225).

<u>PURPOSE</u>: Maintain adequate depths for berthing and navigation.

#### DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (DMMP):

<u>Dredged Material Testing</u>: The applicant has chosen not to complete the testing before this Public Notice was published. Prior to completing our review, the proposed dredged material must be tested according to the procedures specified by the DMMP. The DMMP evaluation may include both chemical and biological testing of sediments. For this project, the DMMP agencies will determine whether the dredged material is suitable for disposal in the flow lane or must be disposed of at an upland location. The sediment testing data will be available at the Corps, Seattle District, Dredged Material Management Office.

<u>Disposal Site Use Conditions</u>: The following standard site-use conditions will be specified by the Corps and the Washington Department of Natural Resources as part of the Federal/State permitting processes if a permit is issued: (1) disposal operations must not interfere with Indian treaty fishing at the disposal site, including gill nets and other fishing gear; (2) the permittee must coordinate any nighttime disposal with the Corps, Seattle District, Regulatory Branch Project Manager; and (3) approval must be received from the District Engineer prior to conducting nighttime disposal. Other appropriate special conditions may be added as a result of comments received during the public review period for this public notice.

MITIGATION: No mitigation has been proposed for the action.

<u>ENDANGERED SPECIES</u>: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA on all actions that may affect a species listed (or proposed for listing) under the ESA as threatened or endangered or any designated critical habitat. A preliminary determination indicates that the activity will affect endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. Consultation under Section 7 of the ESA is required.

<u>ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT</u>: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The proposed action would impact EFH in the project area. If the Corps determines that the proposed action may adversely affect EFH for federally managed fisheries in Washington waters, the Corps will initiate EFH consultation with the NMFS. The Corps' final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

<u>CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The Corps has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data and other sources of information. There are no recorded historic properties within the permit area. The permit area has been so extensively disturbed by modern development that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon an undisturbed historic property. The Corps invites responses to this public notice from Native American Tribes or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns regarding historic properties and sites of religious and cultural significance at or near the project area. After receipt of comments from this public notice, the Corps will evaluate

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potential impacts and consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Native American Tribes in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: 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.

<u>EVALUATION</u> – <u>CORPS</u>: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 benefits, 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, historic properties, 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 and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. 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 activity.

The described discharge will be evaluated for compliance with guidelines promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. These guidelines require an alternatives analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

<u>EVALUATION</u> – <u>ECOLOGY</u>: Ecology is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Ecology will be considering all comments to determine whether to certify or deny certification for the proposed project.

<u>COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD</u>: Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether authorizing the work would not be contrary to the public interest. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. Either conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commenter's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration.

<u>CORPS COMMENTS</u>: All e-mail comments should be sent to danette.l.guy@usace.army.mil. Conventional mail comments should be sent to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attention: Danette L. Guy, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, Washington 98124-3755. All comments received will become part of the administrative record and are subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act including any personally identifiable information such as names, phone numbers, and addresses.

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<u>ECOLOGY COMMENTS</u>: Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to a request for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA and/or Coastal Zone Management consistency concurrence, may do so by submitting written comments to the following address: Washington State Department of Ecology, Attention: Federal Permit Coordinator, Post Office Box 47600, Olympia, Washington 98504-7600, or e-mail to ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov.

To ensure proper consideration of all comments, responders must include the following name and reference number in the text of their comments: Northwest Alloys, Inc./Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, LLC; NWS-2015-324.

Encl: Figures (3)





