



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

August 10, 2015

Charles Frerker
USACE-St. Louis District
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103

**RE: Gavillon Group LLC, Grain Loading Terminal
Project Number(s): 1601499 [P-2929], (OWR S20150091/1512063)
County: Jackson**

Dear Mr. Frerker:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project proposed by Gavillon Group LLC, involving the construction of a new grain loading barge facility. The Department is reviewing an Office of Water Resources permit application (S20150091) for this project and a Phase 1 archeological survey has been requested. The OWR permit and consultation under Part 1075 is pending.

The Department has reviewed potential natural resource impacts and provides the following comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Our District Heritage Biologist recently observed two juvenile bald eagles roughly 2.5 miles east of the project and the nest could not be located at that time. There is some potential for bald eagle nesting in this project area. The applicant should inspect the area for bald eagle nesting before disturbance activities and consult with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service if nesting is observed.

It appears tree clearing will likely be needed to facilitate the project. The tree clearing should comply with bat conservation guidelines to mitigate impacts to the state and federally-endangered Indiana bat, gray bat, and threatened northern long-eared bat.

Further, the Department is concerned about potential conflicts with the Wagner Landing Boat Launch and public safety. The Department recommends this be considered and the proposed project be adjusted to mitigate potential issues.

Lastly, our Fisheries Division has a long-term sampling site in the Mississippi River near or within the proposed barge terminal that may be affected. The Department recommends this issue be coordinated with Butch Atwood of our Fisheries Division and impacts mitigated as feasible.

Given these recommendations are adopted, the Department has no objection to issuance of an USACE permit.

Please note that this review does not preclude permit decisions made by the IDNR Office of Water Resources under the Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act.

Thank you for the opportunity comment. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this review.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nathan Grider
Impact Assessment Section
217-785-5500

cc: Butch Atwood – IDNR, Fisheries
Matt Mangan – USFWS
Janet Sternburg - MDC
Scott Ballard – IDNR, DHB
Jerry Bishoff – IDNR, OWR