

Responsiveness Summary

Sandusky Erosion Control and Marina Project

A.K.A. The Paper District Project

USACE Public Notice No. (B)2005-01936(0); Ohio EPA ID No. 052425

Ohio EPA Section 401 Public Hearing

April 18, 2006

The following Responsiveness Summary was prepared by Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water to address comments and questions raised during the public participation component of the review of The City of Sandusky's Section 401 application to construct two shore-connected armor stone revetments, a shore-connected armor stone breakwater, an armor stone jetty, a steel sheet pile bulkhead for the purpose of erosion control; and, for the excavation of existing lands to create a new marina. In accordance with Rule 3745-1-05 of the Ohio Administrative Code, a public hearing is required whenever impacts to a water body categorized as a superior high quality water are proposed. The proposed activity from this project will result in impacts to Lake Erie, a Superior High Quality Water.

Ohio EPA conducted the public hearing on April 18, 2006, at Sandusky City Hall located at 222 Meigs Street in Sandusky, Ohio. Comments were accepted through April 25, 2006.

This Responsiveness Summary is intended to encompass all concerns, questions, and comments raised in letters received by Ohio EPA and from testimony given at the public hearing.

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- 1. Ohio EPA is required to consider technical, economic, social, and environmental aspects of the project. Will all of these questions be answered if they are not part of the applicant's petition? Will those things be addressed?**

Chapter 3745-1 of the Ohio Administrative Code requires that technical, economic, social, and environmental aspects of a project be considered as a part of the anti-degradation review process. For the most part, this information is asked for and included on the Section 401 application for the project by the applicant. If such information is not included to Ohio EPA's satisfaction, then additional information would be requested from the applicant and/or the applicant's representative.

2. **Will concerns with the dredging and discharge with Bay Point, Cedar Point, and Sheldon's Marsh be addressed in regards to the environment and habitat?**

According to the City of Sandusky, any dredged material associated with this project will be disposed of upland. It is not the intention of the City to discharge dredged material into the Sandusky Bay or Lake Erie.

It is believed that this comment is in regards to another Section 401 project that involves the discharge of dredged material into East Harbor/Middle Harbor of Sandusky Bay (Ohio EPA ID # 052426) for the purpose of creating habitat restoration units as a means to address the beneficial reuse of dredged material. The applicant for that project is the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and is currently under review by Ohio EPA. That 401 project is unrelated to this project, and will not be further commented on in this Responsiveness Summary.

3. **Will the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) output into 401 shoreline Drive be eliminated with this project?**

In a letter from the City of Sandusky to the Commenter received by Ohio EPA on June 16, 2006, the issue of the removal of the CSO at this location was addressed. The City explained that they are in the planning stages of a major Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) expansion project that would likely result in the elimination of the CSO that discharges at this location. However, that CSO will not be eliminated as a part of this marina project.

In a phone conversation with Kathleen McKillips, Director of Engineering Services for the City of Sandusky on August 22, 2006, Ohio EPA was informed that it is anticipated that the WWTP expansion will be completed no later than the year 2010. It is also anticipated that this expansion will eliminate the discharge of the CSO at this location since this a relatively small CSO as compared to other CSO's located in the City. Also, permanent warning signs will continue to be present and maintained in accordance with Part VIII, Subparts 13.(a), 13.(b), and 13.(c) of a consent order dated February 27, 1995, and amended thereafter.