



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

PUBLIC INTEREST CENTER

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: December 23, 2009

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Public Invited to Comment on Proposed Cleveland Confined Disposal Facility and Harbor Dredging Projects

Proposals to construct a massive confined disposal facility along Cleveland's lakefront and dredge the Cuyahoga River federal navigation channel will be the focus of a January 7, 2010, Ohio EPA public meeting. The information session and public hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Horizon Science Academy Rotunda, 6000 S. Marginal Road, Cleveland.

Ohio EPA is holding the meeting to accept comments concerning two applications submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The first application (Ohio EPA ID #093550) proposes to construct a 157-acre in-water confined disposal facility (CDF) adjacent to Cleveland's shoreline at East 55th Street. If approved, the CDF would open in 2015, hold up to 6.85 million cubic yards of dredged material and operate for approximately 20 years.

The second application (Ohio EPA ID #093556) requests approval to perform annual maintenance dredging in Cleveland Harbor. Up to 675,000 cubic yards of material would be dredged and disposed in existing CDF 10B and/or CDF 12 located in Cleveland's outer harbor.

With both proposals, Ohio EPA will consider other project alternatives that would result in lesser or no impacts to Lake Erie's water quality.

Anyone wanting to discharge dredged or fill material to waters of the State must first obtain a water quality certification from Ohio EPA and a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ohio EPA's review is to ensure any proposed projects will comply with Ohio's water quality standards.

USACE's proposed projects may result in a change from the current water quality conditions of Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River, but cannot violate Ohio's water quality standards that protect human health and the environment. Ohio EPA will consider the technical, economic, social and environmental aspects of the projects before deciding to issue or deny water quality certifications.

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Anyone interested in being placed on a mailing list for these projects or submitting written comments concerning the applications should write to: Ohio EPA, DSW Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. The public comment period ends January 14, 2010.

The applications and related materials are available for review by calling (614) 644-2001 and online at: www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/401/index.aspx.

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