



The Heavy Constructors Association of The Greater Kansas City Area

April 8, 2015

Mr. Matthew Sailor
Regulatory Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Kansas City Regulatory Office
601 E. 12th St., Room 402
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

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Re: Renewal of Missouri River Commercial Dredging Permits

Mr. Sailor:

The following comments are submitted to your office in the matter concerning Holliday Sand & Gravel, LLC's (Holliday) request for a renewed Missouri River Dredge Permit. We have been given to understand that during the previous permit renewal in 2010, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reduced Holliday's allowable dredging volume in the Kansas City segment of the river by 79 percent. The Heavy Constructors Association believe that the company's three facilities, (located on the Missouri River in the Greater Kansas City Area and St. Joseph), are vital to the economic vitality of our region. Rejection of the permit application or further reductions of volume would have negative impacts on construction costs, jobs and our area's economy.

Holliday supports many union and non-union construction employees in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The unions representing Holliday's organized employees include: Operating Engineers Local 101 and Laborers Local 663 and 1290. The Greater Kansas City Area's construction industry has not fully recovered from the recent recession. Holliday's requested volumes of dredging on the Missouri River would provide the necessary amounts of sand that would directly support construction materials jobs and indirectly support construction jobs in the broader market providing a stimulus to the Kansas City and St. Joseph economies.

Holliday is the key producer of sand for the construction market in the Kansas City metropolitan area and St. Joseph. If sufficient local sand is not available, replacement materials would need to be transported into the area, increasing costs of area infrastructure projects such as highways, bridges commercial buildings and housing developments. To say that we have concerns with this development would be an understatement. Further reduction or outright elimination of river dredging in the three previously mentioned locations will produce undesired economic results.

With the Kansas City and St. Joseph's construction markets dependent on quality, economical sand from the Missouri River, we ask for your favorable consideration of Holliday's dredging permit and that it be permitted at the higher volume than at present.

Sincerely,

Edward R. DeSoignie
Executive Director
Heavy Constructors Association of Greater Kansas City

