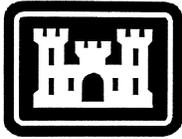


# PUBLIC NOTICE



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Kansas City District**

**Permit No. NWK-2012-175  
Issue Date: September 4, 2012  
Expiration Date: September 25, 2012**

**21-Day Notice**

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**Notice of Proposed Adverse Effects  
to the  
Abilene Energy Center Steam Power Plant Building  
in Dickinson County, Kansas**

The Kansas City District will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR 800. The purpose of this Public Notice is to allow the public to express their views on resolving adverse effects concerning the proposed demolition of the Abilene Energy Center Steam Power Plant Building. This structure, formerly known as the Riverside Power Station, was originally constructed in 1929. The structure was expanded in 1939-1940 with the original building either being removed or subsumed into the new structure. The facility was expanded to its current size in 1946. The plant is significant for its early-day use in the production and transmission of electricity to the city of Abilene and the surrounding community via overhead transmission lines. Further, the facility is significant for its use in augmenting the production of sister plants to supply electricity throughout the State of Kansas. The power plant was fueled via the use of natural gas piped into the facility, thus augmenting the rise and growth of the oil/gas industry in Kansas. The circa 1946 power plant building, though defunct, provides a visual representation of a mid-twentieth century energy production facility - utilized prior to the rise of expansive high production coal-fired and/or nuclear power plants serving to provide electricity to Kansas residents today. Through consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Corps has determined the structure is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The demolition of the power plant would result in the discharge of demolition debris into the Smoky Hill River and require fill for temporary access pads into the river, which are eligible for Nationwide Permit (NWP) 18 and 33; however, in accordance with NWP general condition 18, the project must comply with the provisions of 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C. Through consultation with the SHPO, a mitigation plan was developed that would require Westar Energy to prepare architecturally accurate digital three-dimensional models and historical documentation of three significant power plants (Abilene Steam Power Plant, Tecumseh Energy Center, and the Wichita System Control Center) for contribution to Google Earth for inclusion in the global model. The SHPO shall be given the opportunity to review and comment on the project before the final product is submitted to Google Earth and a copy of all electronic files shall be provided to SHPO for the permanent record. Westar Energy would also ensure that digital photos and documentary information of the three selected power plants are included in the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (KHRI).

Additional information about this project may be obtained by contacting **Luke M. Cory, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kanopolis Regulatory Field Office, 107 Riverside Drive, Marquette, Kansas 67464** at telephone **785-546-2130 (FAX 785-546-2050)** or via email at [luke.m.cory@usace.army.mil](mailto:luke.m.cory@usace.army.mil). All comments to this public notice should be related to the proposed adverse impacts to the identified stone arch bridges and directed to the above address.

**APPLICANT:** Westar Energy  
P.O. Box 889  
Topeka, Kansas 66601-0889

**PROJECT LOCATION** (As shown on the attached location map): The project (demolition of the Abilene Energy Center Steam Power Plant Building) is located in Section 34, Township 13 south, Range 2 east, Dickinson County, Kansas (Latitude: 38.8833 / Longitude: -97.2017).

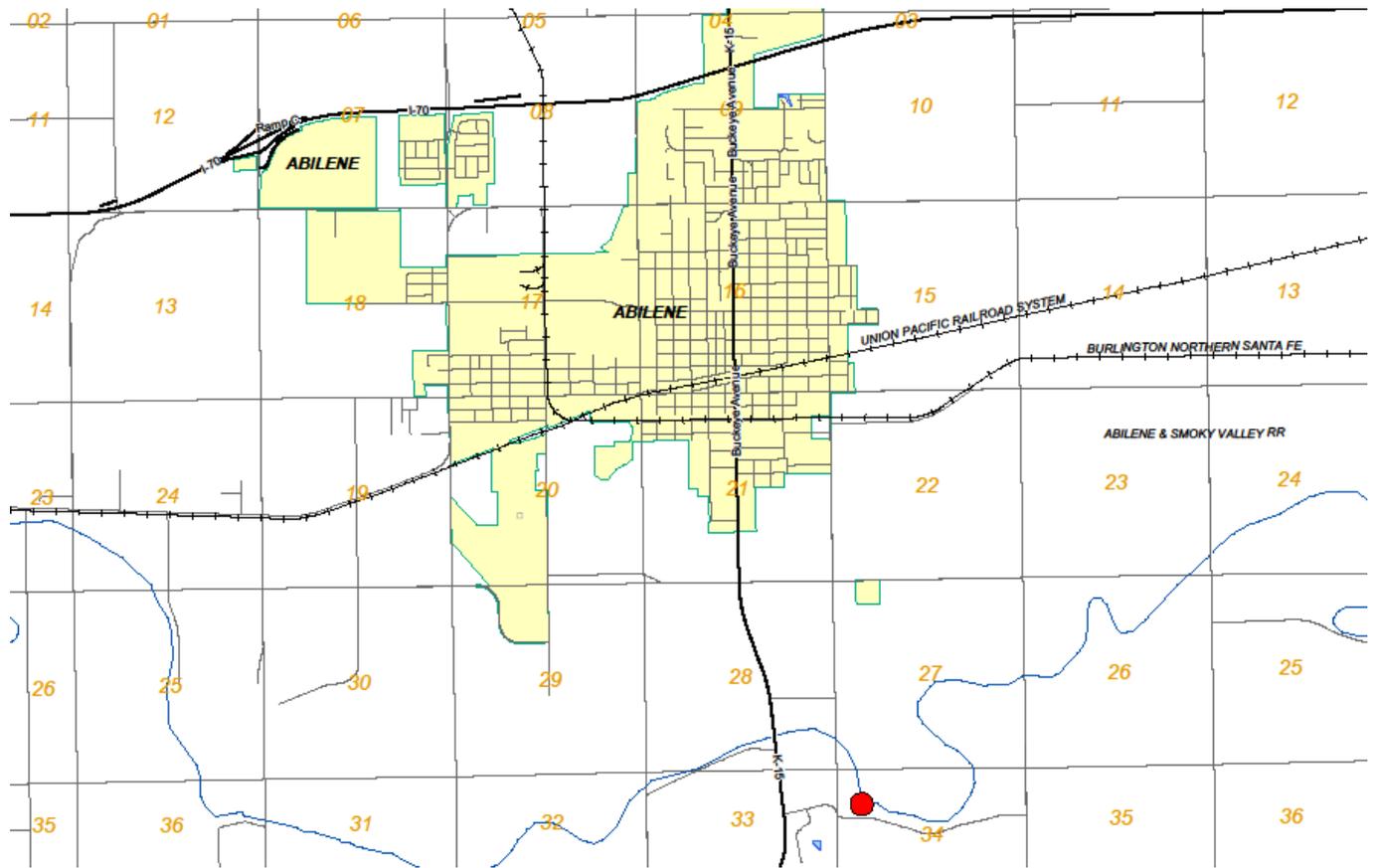
**AUTHORITY:** Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344).

**ACTIVITY:** The applicant proposes the demolition of the Abilene Energy Center Steam Power Plant Building, which would result in the discharge of demolition debris into the Smoky Hill River. This activity is eligible for Nationwide Permit (NWP) 18 and 33 pending consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (amended 1992).

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Any person may request, in writing, prior to the expiration date of this public notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Such requests shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

**NOTE:** This public notice is posted on the Kansas City District Regulatory web page and can be viewed at the following address:

<http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryBranch.aspx>



Abilene Stream Plant Location Map



Abilene Stream Plant Location

APPLICATION NO. 2012-175  
 WESTAR ENERGY  
 DEMOLITION OF ABILENE ENERGY CENTER STEAM POWER PLANT BUILDING  
 DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS  
 SHEET 1 OF 2  
 DATED 4 SEPTEMBER 2012



Abilene Stream Plant

APPLICATION NO. 2012-175  
WESTAR ENERGY  
DEMOLITION OF ABILENE ENERGY CENTER STEAM POWER PLANT BUILDING  
DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS  
SHEET 2 OF 2  
DATED 4 SEPTEMBER 2012