U.S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard



Commander United States Coast Guard Eighth District 1222 Spruce Street Room 2.102D St. Louis, MO 63103 Staff Symbol: dwb Phone: (314) 269-2378 Email: eric.washburn@uscg.mil

September 19, 2022

# PUBLIC NOTICE DWB 906-22

All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District, has received application materials dated May 4, 2022 from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for approval of location and plans for the replacement of a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Arkansas Waterway, mile 363.1, on S.H. 100/U.S. 64, between Webbers Falls, Muskogee County and Gore, Sequoyah County, Oklahoma.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** Construct a fixed two lane bridge. The new bridge replaces a structurally deficient bridge which will be removed.

# MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

The proposed replacement bridge will have clearances as described in the table below. These clearances are equal to or are an increase from current clearances over this section of the waterway at or near this mile.

	Existing	Proposed
Vertical	64.5 feet above normal pool elevation 460.0 feet m.s.l.	65.0 feet above normal pool elevation 460.0 feet m.s.l.
Horizontal	307.0 feet measured normal to axis of the channel*	300.2 feet measured normal to axis of the channel*

\*The horizontal clearace will remain unchanged as the pier protection cells are remaining. The slight difference in calculated horizontal clearance is due to measurements methods.

### Datum: NGVD29

# **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead Federal agency for satisfying the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FHWA is acting on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard for all environmental control laws. A Categorical Exclusion dated March 8, 2022 pursuant to NEPA, as amended was issued. The U.S. Guard has tentatively determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact for the purposes of NEPA and plans to issue a categorical exclusion for the project. Documents are available for review at the above address, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The applicant has received a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number 16 with a Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. No wetlands will be taken or affected by this project. The bridge is located in the floodplain. The 100-year flood elevation is 488.0 feet, while elevation of the low member of the navigation span is 525.0. Elevations are referenced to NGVD29 datum. Approximately zero cubic yards of fill material will be placed below mean high water level for the construction of the bridge and approaches.

The decision as to whether to grant approval of the location and plans for the proposed action rests primarily upon the effect it has on navigation.

# SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

Mariners are requested to comment on the proposed navigation clearances, placement of a bridge protective system and other navigational safety issues, including need for clearance gauges and extent of nighttime navigation to determine the need for bridge lighting. Interested parties are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge project including its possible impacts to navigation.

We will forward comments of an environmental nature such as those regarding wildlife refuges, public parks, historic sites, wetlands, floodplain issues, air, water quality, environmental justice, etc. to the FHWA. Comments will be received for the record at the address noted in the header or via email (eric.washburn@uscg.mil) through <u>October 20, 2022.</u>

Map of location and plans attached.

ERIC WASHBURN Bridge Supervisor, Western Rivers By direction of the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District

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