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Cleveland Harbor Dredged Material Management Plan

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Submitted by Kim Palmer | Last edited November 15, 2007 - 11:45am

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Cleveland Harbor Dredged Material Management Plan (Environmental Impact Statement)

Annually, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredges on average 330,000 cubic yards of sediment from the Cuyahoga River and for the last decade deposits that material in the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) 10B adjacent to Burke Lakefront Airport. If 330,000 cubic yards is difficult to conceptualize, think of it equivalent to the football field of Cleveland Brown's Stadium stacked to the lip of the stadium edge with sediment.



There have been five such CDFs constructed and essentially 'filled' with sediment 'not suitable of open-lake disposal' in that last four decades, and the most recent facility, 10B is reaching capacity sooner than was originally expected.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Corps of Engineers is, "to give notice of intent to prepare a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP)" which is schedule to be released in June of 2007 followed by a final report January 2008.

Although no recommendations have been officially put forth, two sites (2 and 3) north of Cleveland Harbor's break wall on the east and west of the river seem to be the most promising and the in-line with the most recent Lakefront Plan.

Under the law, 100 percent of federal funds will be used for any approved plan, as long as the plan is the least expensive of the proposed and environmentally-sound options. Any alternative, more expensive plan will only receive 75 percent federal funding and local 'sponsors' will be required to make up the difference as well as pay for 10 percent of maintenance cost after construction.

No formal future meetings are required by law for the EIS, however Corps representatives offered to hold more public meeting before the June 2007 draft deadline.

Schedule for Environmental Impact Statement meetings, drafts and reviews

- June 2006 – Issue Resolution Conference
- January 2008 – Agency and Public
- June 2006 – EIS Public Scoping Meeting
- September 2006 – Public Information Meeting
- December 2006 – Alternative Formulation Briefing
- January 2007 – Independent Technical
- June 2007 – Agency and Public Review of DMMP/DEIS.
- September 2007 – Final DMMP/DEIS completed
- November 2007—Independent Technical
- January 2008 – Final DMMP/FEIS

\*More public meetings may be schedule between September 2006 and June 2007.

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