

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District

Applicant: Blue Grass Development, L.C.

Date: March 18, 2004 Expires: April 7, 2004

CEMVR-OD-P-2004-150

Section 404

Joint Public Notice US Army Corps of Engineers Iowa Department of Natural Resources

1. Applicant. Blue Grass Development, L.C., 260 East 90th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806.

2. Project Location. An Unnamed Tributary to Pine Creek in Section 31, Township 78 North, Range 2 East, and in Section 36, Township 78 North, Range 1 East, near Blue Grass, in Scott and Muscatine Counties, Iowa.

3. Project Description. The applicant proposes to construct two impoundments on an Unnamed Tributary to Pine Creek. The applicant's stated purpose of the project is to create two recreational impoundments for a proposed adjacent commercial and residential development. The upstream dam will be approximately 400 feet long, 40 feet wide (top width), and 26 feet high. The impoundment created will be approximately 8.0 acres at the established normal pool. The downstream dam will be approximately 300 feet long, 40 feet wide (top width) and 18 feet high. The impoundment created will be approximately and feet wide (top width) and 18 feet high. The impoundment created will be approximately acres at the established normal pool elevation. Discharge structures and emergency spillways will be constructed in the dam design to pass excess flows. Stone riprap will be placed around the outlet structures to prevent erosion. The two impoundments will inundate approximately 2650 lineal feet of the unnamed tributary.

4. Agency Review.

a. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The Department of the Army application is being processed under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

b. State of Iowa. The project plans have been submitted to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for state certification of the proposed work in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the Department's opinion that the proposed activity will comply with Iowa's water quality standards (Chapter 61 IAC). The applicant has also applied for authorization of work in the floodplain pursuant to Chapter 455B of the Iowa Code and other applicable state permits. <u>Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Iowa should be addressed to: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 900 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.</u> A copy of the comments should be provided to the Corps of Engineers office (see paragraph 11. of this public notice for address).

5. Historical/Archaeological. The Corps consulted with geographic information systems (GIS) archeological site and survey databases as maintained by the Corps and current as of August 2003. The query determined that there was one previously recorded archeological site (13ST102) at the eastern edge of the permit area. Otherwise no surveys for historic properties had been conducted in the permit area. The Corps has determined that the permit area has the potential to contain historic properties that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Corp will require the applicant to submit two (2) copies of a Phase I archaeological survey and geomorphological evaluation report covering the permit area. This must include all access and staging areas as well as the areas directly affected by the project. Geomorphological investigation must extend at least 50 centimeters below the proposed depths of soil disturbance or to a depth below which no possibility of historic properties exists. In addition to the Phase I survey, the applicant may be required to conduct additional Phase II test excavations to evaluate sites for eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP as well as other studies, site avoidance, or data recovery as may be the case. 6. Endangered Species. District staff have performed a preliminary review of this application for the potential impact on threatened or endangered species pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. Based upon the information provided and available at this time, our preliminary determination is that the proposed activity would have no effect on federally-listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat. While no consultation has been initiated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at this time, we are further coordinating this application with the FWS and the respective resource agencies through this public notice. Accordingly, our preliminary determination is subject to change should further information become available.

7. Dredge/Fill Material Guidelines. The evaluation of the impact of the proposed activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

8. Public Interest Review. The decision whether to issue the Corps permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

9. Who Should Reply. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. These statements should be submitted on or before the expiration date specified at the top of page 1. These statements should bear upon the adequacy of plans and suitability of locations and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes considered desirable.

10. Public Hearing Requests. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided.

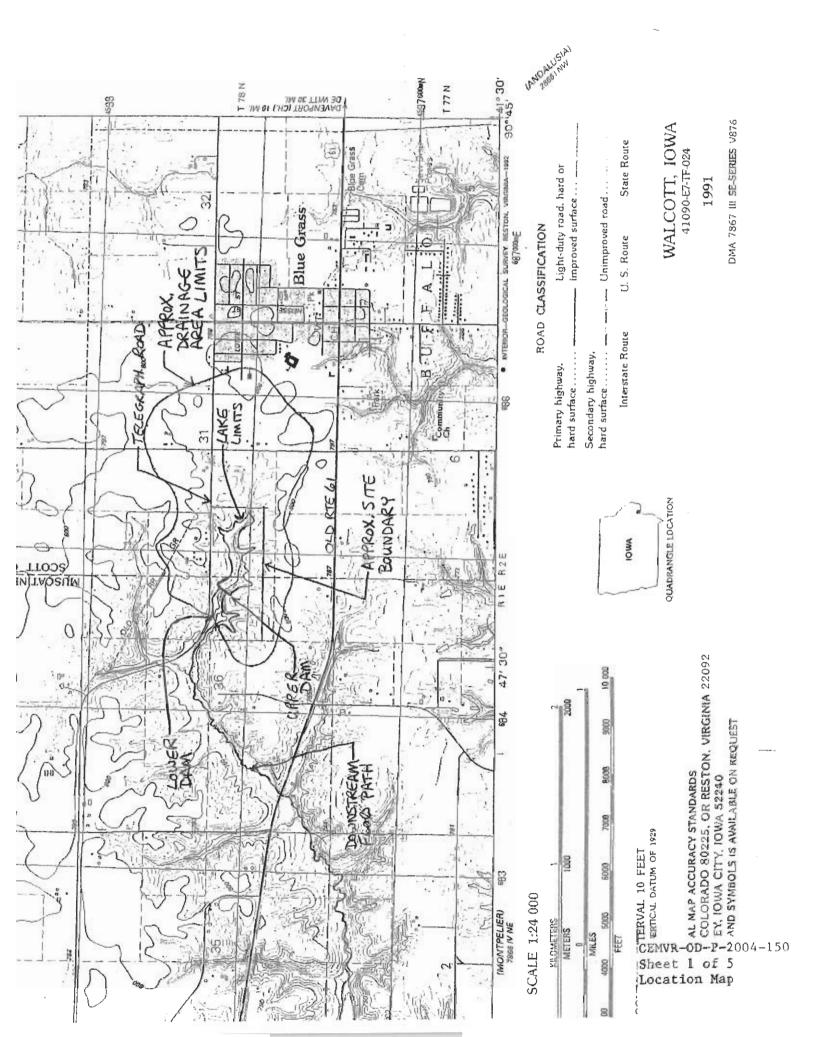
11. Reply to the Corps. Comments concerning the Corps permit should be addressed to the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, ATTN: OD-P, Clock Tower Building - Post Office Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004. <u>Mr. John Betker (309/794-5380)</u> may be contacted for additional information.

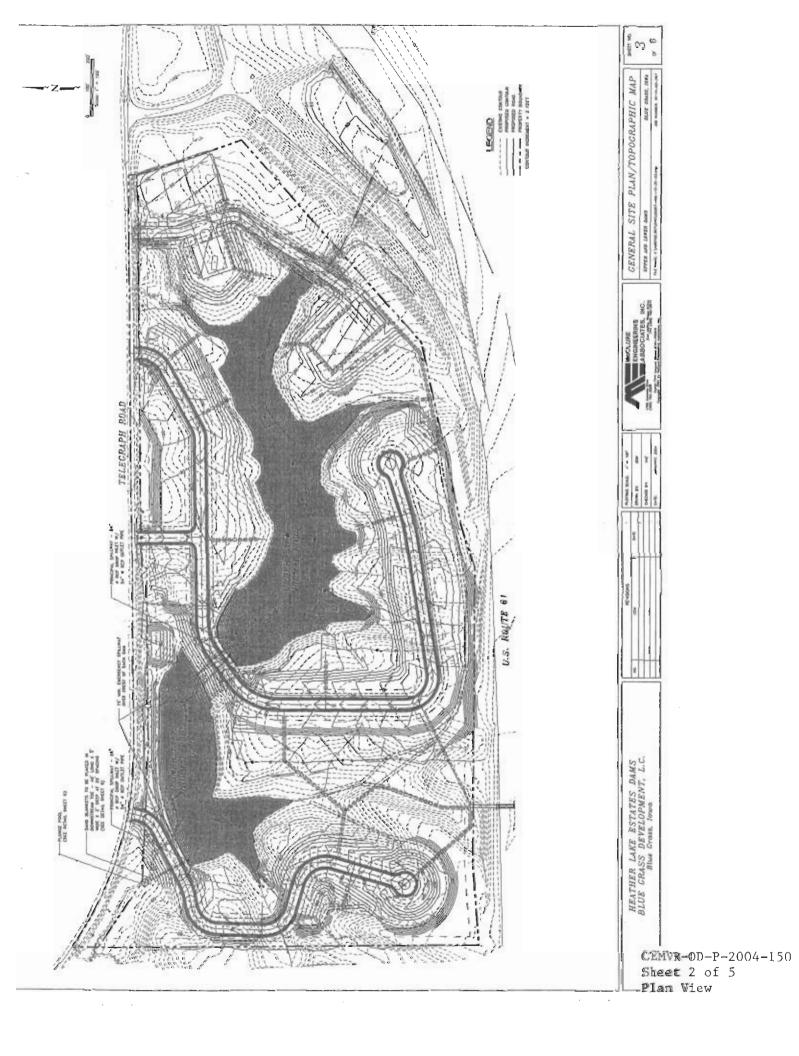
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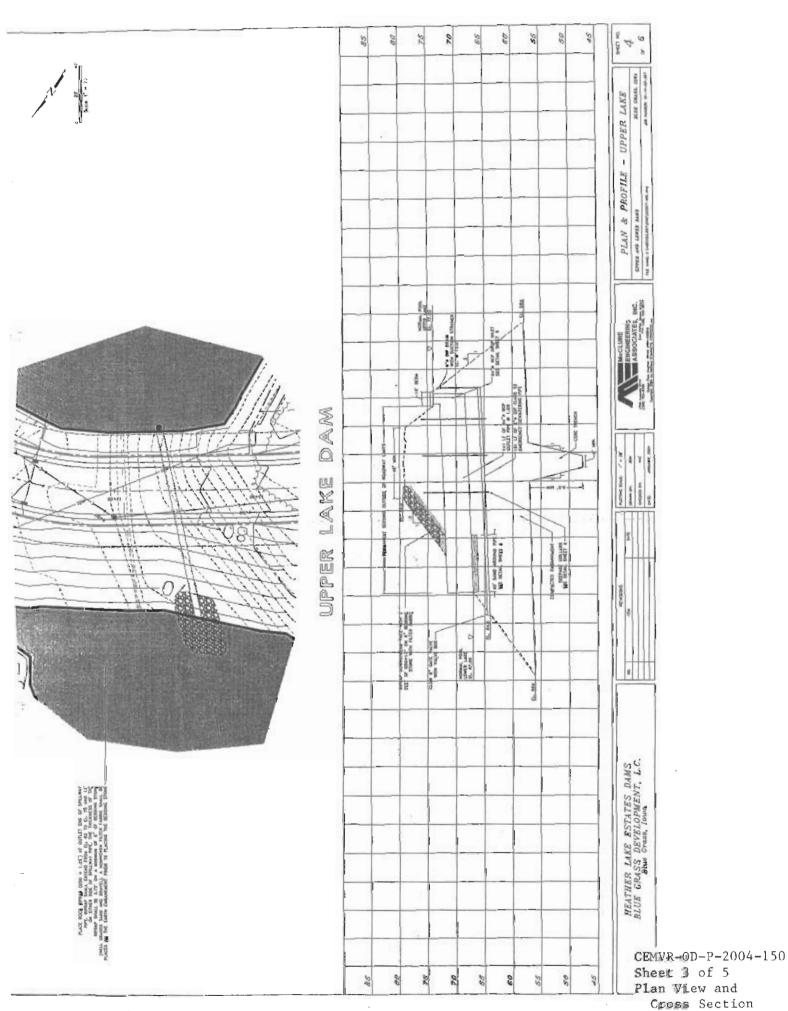
Attach Plan John G. Betker Project Manager Regulatory Branch

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