



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

100 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Legislation Text

File #: 16-0594, **Version:** 1

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2016

COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE

Mr. David St. Pierre, Executive Director

Authority to accept and execute Illinois Department of Natural Resources Permit No. NE2016020 in connection with a temporary low water crossing downstream from the CSSC Controlling Works

Dear Sir:

The District's Lockport Powerhouse and Controlling Works, along with other District real estate in Lockport, are accessed via the 9th Street Bridge. In late 2014, an 8-ton load limit was placed on the 9th Street Bridge until it can be rehabilitated. In early 2015, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") began undertaking its project to rehabilitate and repair the Forebay Wall, located near the Lockport Powerhouse. Because of the load limits on the 9th Street Bridge, the Corps constructed a temporary low water crossing on District land adjacent to Main Channel Parcel 15.02 for the duration of the Forebay Wall Project. The Forebay Wall Project is nearing completion in August of 2016 and the low water crossing is scheduled to be removed at that time by the Corps.

The District requested that the Corps leave the low water crossing in place so that the District can continue to access the Lockport Power House and Controlling Works. The 9th Street Bridge repairs, which are being undertaken by the City of Lockport, are scheduled to commence in 2018 and will last for one to two years. In the meantime, the District needs access to a road that supports vehicles over 8 tons to perform routine and emergency maintenance at the Lockport Powerhouse and to allow emergency vehicles to access the Powerhouse and other District parcels accessed by 9th Street. Until the 9th Street Bridge is repaired, the only current available route is the low water crossing. The Corps indicated that it would be amenable to allowing the low water crossing to remain in place, provided that the District obtained the necessary permit required from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and that the District assumed all future maintenance and liability, including removal, of the crossing. The estimated removal costs are between \$350,000.00 to and 750,000.00, which is anticipated to occur in 2019. IDNR has issued a permit to the District granting emergency after-the-fact authorization for use of the temporary low water crossing until March 31, 2019. The permit is contingent upon the District accepting and executing it.

It is requested that the Executive Director recommend to the Board of Commissioners that it accept and approve Illinois Department of Natural Resources Permit No. NE2016020 in connection with a temporary low water crossing downstream from the CSSC Controlling Works.

It is also requested that the Executive Director recommend to the Board of Commissioners that the Chairman of the Committee on Finance and the Clerk be authorized and directed to execute said IDNR Permit on behalf of the District after it is approved by the Director of Maintenance and Operations as to technical matters and by the General Counsel as to form and legality.

Requested, Ronald M. Hill, General Counsel, John P. Murray, Acting Director of Maintenance and Operations,
RMH:JPM:STM:BD:vp

Recommended, David St. Pierre, Executive Director

Respectfully Submitted, Mariyana T. Spyropoulos, Chairman Committee on Real Estate Development

Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for June 2, 2016

Attachment