St. Louis District Corps of Engineers / American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri / American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois Liaison Committee - MINUTES -

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 Location: CDG Engineers One Campbell Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63139

Attendees: St. Louis District COE: ACEC Missouri: ACEC Illinois:

Don DuncanGlen CherryKip ChepkoitJeremy EckKaren FrederickJeff ChurchDanny McClendonRick LodewyckLorie DaiberGene MorisaniJohn McEneryMike Hartoin

Shawn Sullivan Mel Millenbruck

Genny Walters Paul Reitz Mandy Yeomans Bruce Wylie

- 1. Update on NGA: Gene Morisani of the Corps provided updated information about the N2W project for the NGA.
- 2. \$17 billion Supplemental Funding: How is this being distributed? Will it impact the St. Louis District? See web link below for Corps of Engineers News Release, list of projects, locations, and amount allocated. https://www.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/News-Release-Article-View/Article/1567778/us-army-corps-of-engineers-identifies-long-term-disaster-recovery-projects-and/
- 3. Status of Regional A/E IDC Selection large and small business: Status? Selection is imminent.
- 4. Regulatory Permitting Process: Danny McClendon gave an update. WOTUS (Clean Water Act) 2015 rules have been upheld in about half the states. The other half drop back to 1986 regulations and post-rapanos guidance for clean water act jurisdiction. This is main determinant in Section 404 permits. A new WOTUS rule is scheduled to come out for comment in October 2018. Does not pertain to Section 10 permits doing any construction in navigable waters.
- **5. 408 Permitting Process:** Jeremy Eck presented a review of this process. Corps just approved new regulations. Pertains to local levee districts. Reduces number of activities that require 408 permits in navigable waters. Timelines now for reviews and notifications in accordance with WRDA 2016. The Corps has 90 days to issue 408 permits. If change in scope occurs, then 90 days start over. Will be coordinating permits "one door to the Corps". Question about with multi-state Corps projects, which District takes the lead. Wherever the bulk of the work is being done determines which District. Need a single point of contact.
- 6. Waters of the US Status? Assumption of Waters by the States? Some states want to be able to issue 404 permits but won't get federal funds to administer the 404 program. Those states would have to raise their own state permit fees. Currently the Corps' 404 permit costs a maximum of \$100 for an individual permit while general permits are no cost to the applicant/permit recipient.
- 7. Trump Administration proposal for different agencies to control Locks and Dams is this progressing? There is an executive branch proposal under study to do away with Corps and move responsibility for locks/dams to US DOT and flood risk/wetlands/environmental to Dept of Interior. All of this is preliminary, and anything done this major would have to be approved by Congress.
- **8.** Confirm Next Meeting Date and Location: SCI has previously volunteered to host the next meeting. It will be held at SCI's Illinois office on January 10, 2019, beginning at 10:30 am. Agenda and directions will be forwarded prior to the meeting.