



Public Notice

US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice Number: 200150004

Date: January 25, 2001

Comments Due: February 14, 2001

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to place fill material for improvements to Brigham City Airport in wetlands adjacent to the Black Slough, as shown in the attached drawings.

APPLICANT: Bruce Leonard
Brigham City Corporation
20 North Main
Brigham City, UT 84302

LOCATION: The project is located at 1700 North 2000 West in the Brigham City Airport within Section 3, Township 9 North and Section 34, Township 10 North, Range 2 West, Box Elder County, Utah.

PURPOSE: Presently, there are numerous C-II and a small number of D-II jet aircraft utilizing the airport. It is necessary to upgrade the existing airport from a B-II to a D-II category. This will involve expanding the safety features. The proposed improvements will help to meet current and future traffic needs and will prepare the community for anticipated future growth.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Brigham City proposes to improve the Brigham City Airport facilities. The proposed work includes extending Runway 16/34 from the existing 7,500 foot runway to 8,900 feet. The existing taxiway is 2,750 feet long, 35 feet wide. The new taxiway will be relocated to the west 160 feet and would be 8,900 feet long and 50 feet wide. Approximately 250,000 cubic yards of material would be placed in 68.83 acres of mudflats and wetlands and there would be secondary impacts to 8.27 acres of wetlands. The project construction would fill 47.83 acres of mudflats, 9.4 acres of emergent wetland and 11.6 acres of open water. These impacts would be mitigated with the purchase of credits from the Inland Sea Shorebird Reserve Wetland Mitigation Bank. There would be other improvements within the airport that would not impact wetland or mudflats.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The topography of the area immediately surrounding the Brigham City Municipal Airport is extremely flat, being located on the lake bed of prehistoric Lake Bonneville and the more recent Box Elder Lake. There are two ponds, emergent wetlands, salt grass wetlands and mudflats within the project site. These wetlands are adjacent to the Black Slough.

ALTERNATIVES: Several alternative were considered Prior to selecting the preferred alternative. These alternatives include expansion to the south, expansion to the north and south, relocate the airport and no-action alternative and the preferred alternative to extend the runway to the north. Expansion to the south was not selected because it would involve the acquisition and relocation of commercial developments to the south. North and south expansion would not reduce wetland losses and is not economically and environmentally feasible. Relocation of the airport would be extremely costly and would result in increased environmental impacts. Other alternative not discussed are the use of the Logan or Ogden airports which now facilitate ARC C-II and D-II aircraft. Both people and goods could then be transported to Brigham City. The Ogden and Logan airports are approximately 25 miles from Brigham Airport.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and its monthly supplements have been reviewed and there are no places either listed or recommended as eligible which would be affected. Presently unknown cultural resources may be located in the permit area. This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Certification for this project according to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act has been requested form the Utah Division of Water Quality. The Utah Division of Water Quality intends to issue certification, provided that the proposed work will not violate applicable water quality standards. Projects are usually certified where the project may create diffuse sources (nonpoint sources) of wastes which will occur only during the actual construction activity, and where best management practices will be employed to minimize pollution effects. Written comments on water quality certification should be submitted to Mr. William O. Moellmer, Ph. D. Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119-4870, on or before **January 25, 2001**.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **February 25, 2001**. 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.

The decision whether to issue a 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, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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.

If additional information is required, please contact Bruce Leonard, with Brigham City Corporation, telephone (435)734-2001, or Mr. Anthony Vigil, 1403 South 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah 84010, telephone (801) 295-8380.

Michael J. Walsh
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

Enclosures: 5 Drawings