DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

January 20, 2012

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BAKER PUMPING PLANT DALLAS, TEXAS

Description. Interested parties are hereby notified that the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fort Worth District, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) regarding proposed improvements to the Baker Pumping Plant in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas.

Statutory Authority. This notice is being issued to all interested parties in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and USACE regulations found in 33 CFR Part 230. Section 5141 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-114; 121 Stat.1041) provides authorization for improvements to interior drainage for the Dallas Floodway. The proposed improvements to the Baker Pumping Plant would be implemented in compliance with 33 United States Code § 408.

Background. The Baker Pumping Plant is located adjacent to the east levee of the Dallas Floodway off Pump Plant B Road, approximately 1,000 feet (ft) west of the intersection of Sylvan Avenue and Irving Boulevard in the City of Dallas, Texas. Constructed in 1929, the original pump station (Old Baker) consists of four, 52,000-gallons per minute (gpm) pumps. In 1975, the City of Dallas constructed another pump station at Baker Pumping Plant (New Baker) consisting of five, 80,000-gpm pumps, and one, 6,000-gpm pump. In the 1980s, the City of Dallas installed six, 10 ft by 10 ft gravity sluices. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide 100-year, 24-hour storm event flood risk management for the area served by the Baker Pumping Plant. The City of Dallas ("the City") needs to implement Baker Pumping Plant improvements because people and property in the Hampton-Oak Lawn Basin are currently subject to stormwater flooding impacts from the 100-year, 24-hour storm event. During substantial rainfall, localized flooding in the Hampton-Oak Lawn drainage area occurs regularly. By improving the Baker Pumping Plant, the City would be able to provide improved flood risk management to people and property in the Hampton-Oak Lawn Basin.

Proposed Action. Under the Proposed Action, the City would construct a new approximately 13,000-square ft pump station (Baker No. 3) consisting of four, 175,000-gpm pumps, and one, 6,000-gpm low-flow pump. Discharge from the new pumps would flow through four, 84-inch diameter pipes to the existing six, 10 ft by 10 ft culverts under the levee and into the Trinity River. The existing New Baker Pump Station would operate in concert with the proposed Baker No. 3 Pump Station.

The City would also temporarily remove sections of the existing sump liner in the area immediately adjacent to the proposed Baker No. 3 Pump Station to improve drainage underneath the sump and allow for utility line maintenance and relocation. Additionally, the City would improve the existing New Baker Pump Station to increase the service life and minimize future maintenance. The improvements would include repairs to trash racks, handrails, stairs, service bridge, and surface erosion minimization measures. The Old Baker Pump Station would be decommissioned and its connections to the stormwater drainage system closed.

Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in significant impacts on the social, economic, or human and natural environment. No adverse impact on any species, which are proposed or listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, is expected. No significant transportation, noise, land use, environmental justice, or hazardous waste concerns were identified within the project area. Long-term effects of the Proposed Action would be beneficial. The existing Old Baker Pump Station is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historical Places. Consultation with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer determined that the proposed action would have no adverse impacts on the Old Baker Pump Station.

Prior to beginning construction, contractors would be required to have erosion control, traffic control, and hazardous spill prevention plans in place. Proposed construction measures and operation and maintenance features of the project would meet the criteria for a Nationwide Permit 13 - "Bank Stabilization." The potential adverse and beneficial cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action and other proposed projects within the study area were assessed for human and natural resources and are documented in the EA.

Public Meeting. A public meeting has not been scheduled for the Proposed Action. Prior to the close of the comment period, any person may make a written request for a public meeting, setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will then determine whether the issues raised are substantial and should be considered. If a public meeting is warranted, all known interested parties will be notified of the time, date, and location of such a meeting.

Public Review. Pursuant to the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended in 1975 (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), the U.S. Department of the Army gives notice that it has prepared the required environmental documentation for the proposed improvements to the Baker Pumping Plant in Dallas, Texas. The EA and draft FONSI are available for review at the project public website (http://www.swf.usace.army.mil/pubdata/notices/DallasFloodway/) and the following addresses:

Dallas Public Library
Government Information Center
6th Floor
1515 Young Street
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 670-1482

Oak Lawn Branch Library
4100 Cedar Springs Road
Dallas, Texas 75219
(214) 670-1359

Comment Period. The comment period for this action is 30 days from the date of this Public Notice; the comment period ends on February 20, 2012. Please address any comments to Ms. Marcia R. Hackett, CESWF-PER-EE, Post Office Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300, or by e-mail at Marcia.R.Hackett@usace.army.mil. Copies of the EA and draft FONSI may be requested in writing at the above address or by telephone at (817) 886-1373.

Rob Newman
Acting Chief, Planning, Environmental, and
Regulatory Division