



SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

BUILDING STRONG®

DECISION TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER TO EXPEDITE PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

Public Notice/Application No.: SPL-2019-00412-GLH

Project: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power WRDA Program Agreement

Contact: Aaron O. Allen, Ph.D.; 805-585-2148; Aaron.O.Allen@usace.army.mil

This Special Public Notice announces the decision of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District (Corps) to accept and expend funds from the City of Los Angeles, acting by and through its Department of Water and Power (LADWP), to expedite processing of their Department of the Army (DA) permit applications.

On October 7, 2020, the Los Angeles District Commander determined that acceptance and expenditure of such funds would be in accordance with Section 214 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, (WRDA 2000, Public Law No. 106-541), as amended.

Section 214 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (WRDA 2000, Public Law No. 106-541), as amended, authorizes the Secretary of the Army, after public notice, to accept and expend funds contributed by a non-Federal public entity, public-utility company, natural gas company, or railroad carrier to expedite the evaluation of a permit of that entity related to a project or activity for a public purpose under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army. The authority to accept and expend funds under Section 214 has been delegated from the Secretary of the Army to District and Division Commanders, including the Commander of the Los Angeles District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The authority to accept and expend funds from non-Federal public entities was made permanent by the passage of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014 (Public Law No. 113-121) on June 10, 2014.

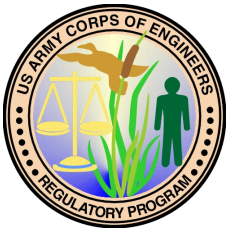
The Corps is implementing the requirements of Section 214 of WRDA 2000, as amended, with LADWP through a signed memorandum of agreement (MOA).

Procedures to be used to ensure impartial decision-making: To ensure the funds will not impact impartial decision-making, the following procedures would apply:

- a) The Corps will ensure that the evaluation of permits carried out using funds accepted from LADWP are reviewed at least one level above the decision maker, unless the decision maker is the District Commander. For example, if the decision maker is the Chief of the Regulatory Division, then the reviewer would be the District Commander.

- b) The Corps will ensure that all final permit decisions carried out using accepted funds from LADWP are made available to the public, including on the Internet at: <https://permits.ops.usace.army.mil/orm-public>
- c) The Corps will utilize the same procedures for decisions that would otherwise be required for the evaluation of permits for similar type projects or activities not carried out using funds accepted from LADWP.
- d) The Corps will comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
- e) The Corps will only expend funds accepted from LADWP to provide priority review of permit applications, and will not use them to carry out a review of the evaluation of permits, as required under (a) above.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Aaron O. Allen, Ph.D., of my staff at 805-585-2145 or via e-mail at Aaron.O.Allen@usace.army.mil. This special public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.



Regulatory Program Goals:

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps' administration of its regulatory program.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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