



Alaska District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Operations Branch

Public Notice

Issue Date: August 15, 2019 Expiration Date: August 30, 2019
Identification No. 408-POA-2019-0003
Please refer to the identification number when replying.

Section 408 Review **MTA Fiber Holdings, LLC Fiber Optic Line** **Chena River Lakes Flood Control Project** **North Pole, Alaska**

The Alaska District (District) of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has received a request pursuant to Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408), from MTA Fiber Holdings, LLC to install a new underground fiber optic line across the Chena River Lakes Flood Control Project near North Pole, Alaska.

The proposed project could potentially alter the federally authorized Chena River Lakes Flood Control Project dam embankment and floodway and therefore requires authorization from USACE. MTA Fiber Holdings, LLC proposes to install a fiber optic line across the Chena River Lakes Flood Control Project within the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT&PF) Richardson Highway right of way. The proposed alignment follows the heavy haul bypass road along the south side of the Richardson Highway. MTA Fiber Holdings, LLC proposes to install the fiber optic line above grade over the dam embankment and below grade across the floodway east of the dam embankment. Section 408 provides authority to the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration of USACE civil works projects when the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the federal project. USACE policy and procedural guidance for processing Section 408 requests are outlined in Engineer Circular 1165-2-220.

This public notice announces the Section 408 review and requests that interested parties submit, in writing, any comments directed specifically to this review. Comments will be part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the public interest to proceed with this action. Comments must refer to the identification number above, be postmarked by the public notice expiration date, and sent to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District
CEPOA-EC-O (West)
PO Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

For more information about the proposed project or to submit comments electronically, please email Donna West, Project Section 408 Coordinator, at Donna.L.West@usace.army.mil.