Army Corps Land Swap
Supports New Spoil Dumping in South Jersey and Potential New Nuclear Plant on Delaware River Front and Wetlands.

Take Action to Ask for More Time to Comment and a Public Hearing

The Army Corps is proposing a land swap with PSE&G which, if it happens, will provide PSE&G the land they need and want to build a new nuclear power plant on Artificial Island along the Delaware River (called Salem 4) and will give the Army Corps lands they want in Logan Township and Oldmans Township, NJ for a new Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) for dredge spoil disposal.

The Army Corps released its Environmental Assessment on the proposal with little fanfare in the middle of vacation season. The public has 30 days to comment and to request a public hearing. That means comments are due by August 13, still in the height of vacation season.

Take a moment to urge the Army Corps to grant a public hearing on this proposal to be held in September when vacation season is over. And urge them to likewise extend the public comment period an additional 45 days to allow people until late September to review and comment upon this important proposal and environmental assessment document.

A quick review of the document already suggests that the ramifications of a new nuclear power plant which would be constructed on the swapped lands has been ignored. This is not allowed under the law. And their consideration of the impacts to the communities of Logans and Oldmans also seems to give short shrift to critical issues.

Please take a moment to urge the Army Corps to give the public a full and fair opportunity to review the proposal and to be heard.

Send your own letter directly or submit one through our website at: http://bit.ly/DRN-LandSwapActionAlert1
Letters sent directly should be addressed to:
Mr. Peter R. Blum, P.E., Attn: Environmental Resources Branch
US Army Corps of Engineers, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Phila, PA 19107-3390

Sample letter:

Dear Mr. Blum,

I urge that that a public hearing and 45 day extension of the public comment period be granted for CENAP-PL-E-14-01, Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Land Exchange of Properties at Artificial Island, Salem County, NJ for Properties in Oldmans Township, Salem County and Logan Township, Gloucester County, NJ; Development of Confined Disposal Facility.

This land swap will have significant ramifications for the communities and the environments of Logan Township and Oldmans Township, New Jersey and for the Delaware River. A known outcome of the swap will be to pave the way for construction of a new nuclear power plant on Artificial Island by PSE&G called Salem 4 (paperwork has already been filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission years ago that support this assertion).

In 2010, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network made you aware of the Salem 4 construction plan, and so, there is no excuse for you to have ignored the significant environmental ramifications of this proposal in your released Environmental Assessment on the proposed land exchange.

There are several significant environmental impacts from the proposed construction of Salem 4 on Artificial Island that the Corps must consider, including, but not limited to:

• Concerns about flooding and the introduction of nuclear materials into our communities and the environment;
• Impacts to wetlands, aquatic life, bird life and wildlife;
• Impacts to the health, aesthetics and quality of life of those fishing, boating, birding and living in the region.

Issues associated with the new spoil disposal site need better attention and consideration.

A public hearing and additional time for review and comment by the public to review the draft Environmental Assessment are needed to bring all of these important issues to light.

In order to ensure full opportunity for public review and comment we ask that you hold a public hearing on the proposal and the recently released Environmental Assessment in the month of September at the earliest and that you provide a minimum 45 day extension for written comments.

Respectfully,