Dear Mr. Corona,

The Delaware Riverkeeper Network (“DRN”) respectfully requests that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”) extend the public comment period on the above proposed permit notice by a minimum of sixty (60) days beyond the currently scheduled public comment deadline.

DRN is a nonprofit organization made up of members and volunteers who reside and work throughout the Delaware River Watershed, including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and New York. DRN works in these states and on the federal level on behalf of its membership on issues, actions, legislation, policies, programs, litigation and decisions that impact the health of the Delaware River Watershed waterways and the citizens who use and benefit from them.

On July 30, 2020, the USACE published a revised notice in the Federal Register of an application submitted by the Diamond State Port Corporation, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, to discharge fill material and to conduct dredging and disposal activities, within, and adjacent to, navigable waters of the United States at the Port of Wilmington Edgemoor Expansion project site. This notice provides a 30-day public comment period, which currently closes on August 30, 2020.

The agencies’ proposed permit application solicits comments on a variety of complex technological and scientific issues relating to the discharge of fill material and dredging and disposal activities on the Delaware River. Development of thoughtful comments in the time provided is clearly burdensome and unachievable and is therefore inconsistent with providing adequate or lawful public participation.
As such, DRN respectfully requests that USACE extend the public comment period for at least an additional 60 days, or until no earlier than, October 20, 2020. Thank you in advance for consideration of this request.

Maya K. van Rossum  
Delaware Riverkeeper  
Delaware Riverkeeper Network  
925 Canal St.  
Bristol, PA 19007  

Dated: 8/4/2020