



Red Wing Port Authority

INDUSTRIAL BULKHEAD RELOCATION—RED WING, MN

In early 1998, Pinnacle began work assisting the Red Wing Port Authority (RWPA) with the relocation of its Industrial Bulkhead facility. The existing facility was located in an area of Red Wing that is used extensively for mooring of pleasure boats. The location of the facility did not allow for significant expansion of materials handling activities that were necessary to the ports users.

Project Highlights

The Challenge: The new planned bulkhead facility was a existing bulkhead site that was no longer used by a power utility. The planned utilization of the bulkhead required extensive negotiation with the utility to assure the bulkhead operations would not interfere with the utilities operation. Due to stringent permits held by the utility relating to air quality and storm water issues, the permitting of the facility was complex. In addition, the back channel of the Mississippi River that this facility was located on had not been dredged for over 45 years and required extensive dredging to accommodate the barge traffic.

The Issues:

- The river channel sediments were contaminated with materials that likely came from a historic coal gasification facility located just upstream of the bulkhead facility.
- The City of Redwing needed to find a dredge disposal site to handle the 350,000 plus yards of dredged materials.
- The Utility needed to keep operating at full capacity during the duration of the project.
- The property owned by the Utility was not for sale and a long term lease with operating conditions had to be negotiated.
- This back channel of the Mississippi River was likely habitat for a rare form of mussel, as well as used extensively by eagles in late fall and winter as a feeding ground and resting area.

Environmental Assessment: Pinnacle conducted surveys for potentially rare species at the subject site and found no rare species to be present in the study area. Pinnacle then conducted an extensive EAW of the entire project.

Surveys and Permits: Other work efforts included conducting extensive sediment surveys and identifying contaminated sediments that would be left in place. Dredging permits were prepared and submitted.

The end product of these work efforts is a highly efficient and updated bulkhead facility serving the users in the Red Wing area. This project allowed significant production increases to be made at a major employer in the Red Wing area.

Project Team:

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