VOLUME I

LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT

JOINT APPLICATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT AND U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS RIVERS & HARBORS ACT §10 AND CLEAN WATER ACT §404 PERMITS

Prepared for:

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC Novi, MI



Prepared by:

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January 2016

LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT JOINT APPLICATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT AND U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS RIVERS AND HARBORS ACT §10 AND CLEAN WATER ACT §404 PERMIT

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VOLUME III

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SECTION A: FORMS

- General Information Form
- General Information Checklist
- Joint Permit Application Form

GENERAL INFORMATION FORM – AUTHORIZATION APPLICATION

Before completing this General Information Form (GIF), read the step-by-step instructions provided in this application package. This version of the General Information Form (GIF) must be completed and returned with any program-specific application being submitted to the Department.

Related ID#s	(If Known)		DEP USE ONLY			
Client ID#	APS ID#		Date Received & G	eneral Notes		
Site ID#	Auth ID#					
Facility ID#						
	CLIENT INFORM	ATION				
DEP Client ID#	Client Type / Code					
Organization Name or Registered	Fictitious Name	Employer	ID# (EIN) Dun	& Bradstreet ID#		
ITC Lake Frie Connector LLC		46-422506	3			
	First Namo	MI		201		
	T II St Name	IVII	Sum St			
Additional Individual Last Name	First Name	MI	Suffix SS	SN		
Mailing Address Line 1	Maili	ng Address I	Line 2			
2/175 Energy Way	Novi	710 4	A = = = = t	_		
Address Last Line – City	State	212+4	Country	1		
Client Contact Last Name	First Name	403/1	USA	Suffix		
Jamieson	Andrew			Julia		
Client Contact Title			Phone	Ext		
Counsel			(248) 946-3000			
Email Address			FAX			
ajamieson@itctransco.com			(248)-946-3229			
	SITE INFORMA	TION				
DEP Site ID# Site Name	Project Convertor Stati	on Site and C	abla Routa			
	Estimated Number of Emp		Present at Site	Less than 10		
			FIESEIII di Sile	Less man TU (after		
				construction)		
Description of Site						
The project site consists of four con	ponents (Attachment H and I)	: (1) a propos	sed Converter Stat	ion site on an		
existing 22.84 acre parcel on Conne	eaut Twp. near to the Penelec	Erie West Sul	bstation consisting	of an agricultural		
field and woods, and an undergrour	nd cable route connecting the (Converter Stat	tion to the Erie We	st Substation; (2) an		
underground cable route that prima	rily tollows existing state and n	nunicipal road	rights-of-way, exc	cept for two areas		
where the route follows easements	across private properties cons	Isting of wood	is and agricultural	Tields; (3) an		
approximately 1/2 acre site on the b	ad of Lake Erie in a porthoast		uonai uniling will 0 a the U.S./Canada	border		
County Name	nicinality			Twn State		
Erie Co	nneaut, Girard, and Springfield	ł				
County Name Mu	inicipality	-	City Boro	Twp State		
	· · ··································					
Site Location Line 1	Site L	ocation Line	2			
Lexington, Springfield, Townline, an	d West Lake Roads					
Site Location Last Line – City	State	ZIP+4				
Girard	<u> </u>	16417				
Eria West Substation and the prope	e sed Converter Station site are	on Levinator	Road From the i	ntersection of LLS		
Route 20 and Pa. Route 18 in Giran	d follow Pa Route 18 south 0	6 mile to Levi	ington Road Turr	right and follow		
			ington Koau. Tun			

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Lexington Road 4.0 miles to the site, which is on the right (west side of Lexington Road). From the Converter Station site, the on-land cable route follows Lexington Road north 1.1 miles to Springfield Road, then north on Springfield Road 1.6 miles to a private driveway, then north across private property 0.7 miles to U.S. Route 20 at Townline Road, then north on Townline Road 2.3 miles to West Lake Road (Pa. Route 5), then west on West Lake Road 0.5 miles to a private driveway, then north along the private driveway 0.7 miles to the Lake Erie shoreline. The in-water cable route proceeds from the shoreline in a northeasterly direction approximately 35 miles to the Canadian border and beyond to Nanticoke. Ontario.

Site	Contact Last Name	First Nan	ne		MI		Suffix
Jami	eson	Andrew					
Site	Contact Title		Site Co	ontact Firm			
Cour	isel		ITC Ho	ldings			
Maili	ng Address Line 1		Mailing	Address Li	ine 2		
2717	5 Energy Way						
Maili	ng Address Last Line – City		State	ZIP+4			
Novi	3		MI	48377			
Phor	ne Ext F	٩X	Email	Address			
248-9	946-3000 24	18-946-3229	aiamies	son@itctrans	co com		
NAIC	S Codes (Two- & Three-Digit Codes -	List All That Appl	lv)	6	-Digit Code	(Ontional)	
22			·) /	2	21121	(optional)	
Clier	t to Site Relationship						
OPR							
		FACILITY I	NFORM	ATION			
Modi	fication of Existing Facility					Yes	No
1.	Will this project modify an existing	ng facility, syst	tem. or ad	ctivitv?			\boxtimes
2.	Will this project involve an addit	on to an existi	ng facility	v. svstem. o	r activitv?	П	\square
	If "Yes", check all relevant facility ty	pes and provid	e DEP fac	ilitv identifica	tion number	s below.	
	Facility Type	DEP Fac ID#	Fa	acility Type			DEP Fac ID#
	Air Emission Plant		ln In	dustrial Minerals	Mining Operat	ion	
	Beneficial Use (water)		— <u> </u>	aboratory Location	on		
	Blasting Operation		La	and Recycling C	leanup Location	י <u> </u>	
	Captive Hazardous Waste Operation		Mi	ineDrainageTrm	t/LandRecyProj	Location	
	Coal Ash Beneficial Use Operation		M	unicipal Waste (Operation		
	Coal Mining Operation		Oi	il & Gas Encroad	chment Locatior	ו <u> </u>	
	Coal Pillar Location		Oi	I & Gas Location	n	_	
	Commercial Hazardous Waste Operation		Oi	I & Gas Water F	Poll Control Faci	ility	
Ц	Dam Location		_ [] Pi	ublic Water Sup	oly System	_	
	Deep Mine Safety Operation -Anthracite			adiation Facility		_	
	Deep Mine Safety Operation -Bituminous				peration	_	
	Encroachment Location (water wetland)			orage Tank Loc	alion optrol Eacility	—	
H	Encloaciment Eocation (water, wettand)			ater Pesource	Unition r admity	_	
	Evolosive Storage Location			thor:		—	
		I I	atitude	liter.			<u> </u>
	Point of Origin	Degrees M	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
Cent	er of Converter Station	41 5	6	12	80	22	36
Horiz	zontal Accuracy Measure	Feet 100	•	0r	- Me	ters	00
Horiz	zontal Reference Datum Code		American I	Datum of 192	07		
			American I	Datum of 192	-'		
			Geodetic S	System of 19	84		
Horiz	zontal Collection Method Code	GISDR		2,000110110	<u> </u>		
Refe	rence Point Code						
Altitu	ide	Feet 846		0r	- Me	ters	
Altitu	ude Datum Name	The Na	ational Ge	odetic Vertica	al Datum of 1	1929	
		The No.	orth Ameri	can Vertical I	Datum of 198	88 (NAVD88)
Altitu	de (Vertical) Location Datum Coll	ection Method	Code	TOPO			1
Geor	metric Type Code	POINT					
Data	Collection Date	3/31/2015					
Sour	ce Man Scale Number	1 1	nch(ec)	=	2000	Eact	
Jour	ce map ocale number	I	101(85)	-	2000	гееі	

Centimeter(s)

=

Meters

PROJECT INFORMATION

--or--

Project Name

Lake Erie Connector Project

Project Description

The proposed Project is a 1,000 megawatt (MW) +/-320 kilovolt (kV) high-voltage direct current (HVDC) bi-directional electric transmission interconnection to transfer electricity between Canada and the United States. For purposes of permits being issued in the U.S., the Project consists of an approximately 42.5-mile HVDC transmission line that would be buried in the lakebed bottom of Lake Erie from the U.S.-Canada border and be installed underground in Pennsylvania to a new converter station, called the Erie Converter Station, as well as approximately 2,080 ft of underground 345 kV alternating current (AC) cable between the Erie Converter Station and the nearby Erie West Substation. The HVDC transmission line consists of two transmission cables, one positively charged and the other negatively charged, along with a fiber optic cable for communications between the converter stations. The U.S. underwater portion is approximately 35.4 miles long, and the U.S. underground portion is approximately 7.1 miles long. The Erie Converter Station would convert +/- 320 kV DC power to 345 kV AC power or vice-versa and connect via AC cables to the point of interconnection at the existing Erie West Substation. More information can be found in Attachment J.

Project Consultant Las	t Name	First Name	MI	Suffix	
Browne		Peter			
Project Consultant Title	e	Consulting Firm			
Senior Regulatory Consu	ultant	HDR			
Mailing Address Line 1		Mailing Address L	ine 2		
970 Baxter Boulevard					
Address Last Line – Ci	ty	State	ZIP+4		
Portland		ME	04103		
Phone	Ext FAX	Email Address			
207-239-3863	207-775-1	031 Peter.browne@h	drinc.com		
Time Schedules	Project Milestone (O	ptional)			
2 ¹¹⁰ Quarter 2017	Project construction be	egins			
4 ^{tr} Quarter 2019	In service date				
1. Have you infor	rmed the surrounding	g community and address	sed any 🛛	Yes 🗌	No
concerns prior to	o submitting the applica	ation to the Department?			
2. Is your project fu	inded by state or federa	al grants?		Yes 🛛	No
Note: If "Yes", sp	ecify what aspect of the pro	pject is related to the grant and prov	vide the grant sou	rce, contact pe	rson and
grant expir	ation date.				
Aspect of F	Project Related to Grant				
Grant Sour					
Grant Con					
Grant Expl					NIa
3. Is this application	on for an authorizatio	on on Appendix A of the Land Llo	and Use	res 🗋	NO
Policy? (For re	eterenced list, see Ap	ppendix A of the Land Use	Policy		
	Nuestion 3 the application in	s not subject to the Land Line Delig			
	Question 3, the application	is subject to this policy and the Apr	<u>y</u> . Nicant should ans	wer the additic	nal
attached to GIF in Note: If "No" to C If "Yes" to 0	nstructions) Question 3, <u>the application is</u> Question 3, the application	s not subject to the Land Use Polic is subject to this policy and the Apr	y. blicant should ans	wer the additic	nal

questions in the Land Use Information section.

LAND USE INFORMATION Note: Applicants are encouraged to submit copies of local land use approvals or other evidence of compliance with local comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances. Is there an adopted county or multi-county comprehensive plan? \boxtimes Yes 1. No \boxtimes 2. Is there an adopted municipal or multi-municipal comprehensive plan? Yes No \boxtimes 3. Yes No Is there an adopted county-wide zoning ordinance, municipal zoning П ordinance or joint municipal zoning ordinance? See attached consistency explanation. Zoning ordinances only in Springfield and Girard Townships. Note: If the Applicant answers "No" to either Questions 1, 2 or 3, the provisions of the PA MPC are not applicable and the Applicant does not need to respond to questions 4 and 5 below. If the Applicant answers "Yes" to questions 1, 2 and 3, the Applicant should respond to questions 4 and 5 below. 4. Does the proposed project meet the provisions of the zoning ordinance or \boxtimes Yes \square No does the proposed project have zoning approval? If zoning approval has been received, attach documentation. See attached consistency explanation. Zoning ordinances only in Springfield and Girard Townships. 5. Have you attached Municipal and County Land Use Letters for the project? \boxtimes Yes No Letters sent on November 23, 2015. Copies of the municipal notices that were sent and the proof of delivery are attached in Part C of the application.

COORDINATION INFORMATION

<u>Note</u>: The PA Historical and Museum Commission must be notified of proposed projects in accordance with DEP Technical Guidance Document 012-0700-001 and the accompanying Cultural Resource Notice Form.

If the activity will be a mining project (i.e., mining of coal or industrial minerals, coal refuse disposal and/or the operation of a coal or industrial minerals preparation/processing facility), respond to questions 1.0 through 2.5 below.

If the activity will not be a mining project, skip questions 1.0 through 2.5 and begin with question 3.0.

		•			
1.0	Is this a coal mining project? If "Yes", respond to 1.1-1.6. If "No", skip to Question 2.0.		Yes	\boxtimes	No
1.1	Will this coal mining project involve coal preparation/ processing activities in which the total amount of coal prepared/processed will be equal to or greater than 200 tons/day?		Yes		No
1.2	Will this coal mining project involve coal preparation/ processing activities in which the total amount of coal prepared/processed will be greater than 50,000 tons/year?		Yes		No
1.3	Will this coal mining project involve coal preparation/ processing activities in which thermal coal dryers or pneumatic coal cleaners will be used?		Yes		No
1.4	For this coal mining project, will sewage treatment facilities be constructed and treated waste water discharged to surface waters?		Yes		No
1.5	Will this coal mining project involve the construction of a permanent impoundment meeting one or more of the following criteria: (1) a contributory drainage area exceeding 100 acres; (2) a depth of water measured by the upstream toe of the dam at maximum storage elevation exceeding 15 feet; (3) an impounding capacity at maximum storage elevation exceeding 50 acre-feet?		Yes		No
1.6	Will this coal mining project involve underground coal mining to be conducted within 500 feet of an oil or gas well?		Yes		No
2.0	Is this a non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project? If "Yes", respond to 2.1-2.6. If "No", skip to Question 3.0.		Yes	\boxtimes	No
2.1	Will this non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project involve the crushing and screening of non-coal minerals other than sand and gravel?		Yes		No
2.2	Will this non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project involve the crushing and/or screening of sand and gravel with the exception of wet sand and gravel operations (screening only) and dry sand and gravel operations with a capacity of less than 150 tons/hour of unconsolidated materials?		Yes		No
2.3	Will this non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project involve the construction, operation and/or modification of a portable non-metallic (i.e., non-coal) minerals processing plant under the authority of the General Permit for Portable Non-metallic Mineral Processing Plants (i.e., BAQ-PGPA/GP-3)?		Yes		No
2.4	For this non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project, will sewage treatment facilities be constructed and treated waste water discharged to surface waters?		Yes		No
2.5	Will this non-coal (industrial minerals) mining project involve the construction of a permanent impoundment meeting one or more of the following criteria: (1) a contributory drainage area exceeding 100 acres; (2) a depth of water measured by the upstream toe of the dam at maximum storage elevation exceeding 15 feet; (3) an impounding capacity at maximum storage elevation exceeding 50 acre-feet?		Yes		No

3.0	Will your project, activity, or authorization have anything to do with a well related to oil or gas production, have construction within 200 feet of, affect an oil or gas well, involve the waste from such a well, or string power lines above an oil or gas well? If "Yes", respond to 3.1-3.3. If "No", skip to Question 4.0.		Yes		No
3.1	Does the oil- or gas-related project involve any of the following: placement of fill, excavation within or placement of a structure, located in, along, across or projecting into a watercourse, floodway or body of water (including wetlands)?		Yes		No
3.2	Will the oil- or gas-related project involve discharge of industrial wastewater or stormwater to a dry swale, surface water, ground water or an existing sanitary sewer system or storm water system? If "Yes", discuss in <i>Project Description</i> .		Yes		No
3.3	Will the oil- or gas-related project involve the construction and operation of industrial waste treatment facilities?		Yes		No
4.0	 Will the project involve a construction activity that results in earth disturbance? If "Yes", specify the total disturbed acreage. 4.0.1 Total Disturbed Acreage ~ 95 acres 		Yes		No
5.0	Does the project involve any of the following? If "Yes", respond to 5.1-5.3. If "No", skip to Question 6.0.	\square	Yes		No
5.1	Water Obstruction and Encroachment Projects – Does the project involve any of the following: placement of fill, excavation within or placement of a structure, located in, along, across or projecting into a watercourse, floodway or body of water?		Yes		No
5.2	Wetland Impacts – Does the project involve any of the following: placement of fill, excavation within or placement of a structure, located in, along, across or projecting into a wetland?		Yes		No
5.3	Floodplain Projects by the commonwealth, a Political Subdivision of the commonwealth or a Public Utility – Does the project involve any of the following: placement of fill, excavation within or placement of a structure, located in, along, across or projecting into a floodplain?		Yes		No
6.0	Will the project involve discharge of stormwater or wastewater from an industrial activity to a dry swale, surface water, ground water or an existing sanitary sewer system or separate storm water system?		Yes		No
7.0	Will the project involve the construction and operation of industrial waste treatment facilities?		Yes	\boxtimes	No
8.0	 Will the project involve construction of sewage treatment facilities, sanitary sewers, or sewage pumping stations? If "Yes", indicate estimated proposed flow (gal/day). Also, discuss the sanitary sewer pipe sizes and the number of pumping stations/treatment facilities/name of downstream sewage facilities in the <i>Project Description</i>, where applicable. 8.0.1 Estimated Proposed Flow (gal/day) 		Yes		No
9.0	Will the project involve the subdivision of land, or the generation of 800 gpd or more of sewage on an existing parcel of land or the generation of an additional 400 gpd of sewage on an already-developed parcel, or the generation of 800 gpd or more of industrial wastewater that would be discharged to an existing sanitary sewer system?		Yes		No
	9.0.1 Was Act 537 sewage facilities planning submitted and approved by DEP? If "Yes" attach the approval letter. Approval required prior to 105/NPDES approval.		Yes		No
10.0	Is this project for the beneficial use of biosolids for land application within Pennsylvania? If "Yes" indicate how much (i.e. gallons or dry tons per year). 10.0.1 Gallons Per Year (residential septage) 10.0.2 Dry Tons Per Year (biosolids)		Yes		No
11.0	Does the project involve construction, modification or removal of a dam? If "Yes", identify the dam. 11.0.1 Dam Name		Yes		No

12.0	Will the project interfere with the flow from, or otherwise impact, a dam?		Yes	\boxtimes	No
	If "Yes", identify the dam.				
	12.0.1 Dam Name				
13.0	Will the project involve operations (excluding during the construction		Yes	\boxtimes	No
	period) that produce air emissions (i.e., NOX, VOC, etc.)? If "Yes", identify				
	each type of emission followed by the amount of that emission.				
	13.0.1 Enter all types & amounts				
	or emissions; separate				
1/ 0	Does the project include the construction or modification of a drinking		Yes		No
14.0	water supply to serve 15 or more connections or 25 or more people at		100		NO
	least 60 days out of the year? If "Yes" check all proposed sub-facilities				
	14.0.1 Number of Persons Served				
	14.0.2 Number of Employee/Guests				
	14.0.3 Number of Connections				
	14.0.4 Sub-Fac: Distribution System		Yes		No
	14.0.5 Sub-Fac: Water Treatment Plant		Yes		No
	14.0.6 Sub-Fac: Source		Yes		No
	14.0.7 Sub-Fac: Pump Station		Yes		No
	14.0.8 Sub Fac: Transmission Main		Yes		No
	14.0.9 Sub-Fac: Storage Facility		Yes		No
15.0	Will your project include infiltration of storm water or waste water to		Yes	\boxtimes	No
	ground water within one-half mile of a public water supply well, spring or				
40.0	infiltration gallery?		Vee		NI-
16.0	Is your project to be served by an existing public water supply? If "Yes",		Yes	X	NO
	indicate name of supplier and attach letter from supplier stating that it will				
	16 0 1 Supplior's Name				
	16.0.2 Letter of Approval from Supplier is Attached		Yes		No
17.0	Will this project involve a new or increased drinking water withdrawal	$\overline{\Box}$	Yes		No
	from a stream or other water body? If "Yes", should reference both Water				
	Supply and Watershed Management.				
	17.0.1 Stream Name				
18.0	Will the construction or operation of this project involve treatment,		Yes	\boxtimes	No
	storage, reuse, or disposal of waste? If "Yes", indicate what type (i.e.,				
	hazardous, municipal (including infectious & chemotherapeutic), residual) and				
	the amount to be treated, stored, re-used or disposed.				
	18.0.1 Type & Amount		.,		
19.0	Will your project involve the removal of coal, minerals, etc. as part of any		Yes	X	NO
20.0	earth disturbance activities?		Voo		No
20.0	storage tank? If "Yes" list each Substance & its Capacity Note: Applicant		165		INU
	may need a Storage Tank Site Specific Installation Permit				
	20.0.1 Enter all substances &				
	capacity of each: separate				
	each set with semicolons.				
21.0	Does your project involve installation of an aboveground storage tank		Yes	\boxtimes	No
·	greater than 21,000 gallons capacity at an existing facility? If "Yes", list			-	
	each Substance & its Capacity. Note: Applicant may need a Storage Tank				
	Site Specific Installation Permit.				
	21.0.1 Enter all substances &				
	capacity of each; separate				
	each set with semicolons.				

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22.0	 Does your project involve installation of a tank greater than 1,100 gallons which will contain a highly hazardous substance as defined in DEP's Regulated Substances List, 2570-BK-DEP2724? If "Yes", list each Substance & its Capacity. <u>Note</u>: Applicant may need a Storage Tank Site Specific Installation Permit. 22.0.1 Enter all substances & capacity of each; separate each set with semicolons. 	Yes		No
23.0	 Does your project involve installation of a storage tank at a new facility with a total AST capacity greater than 21,000 gallons? If "Yes", list each Substance & its Capacity. <u>Note</u>: Applicant may need a Storage Tank Site Specific Installation Permit. 23.0.1 Enter all substances & capacity of each; separate each set with semicolons. 	Yes		No
24.0	Will the intended activity involve the use of a radiation source?	Yes	\boxtimes	No
	CERTIFICATION			

I certify that I have the authority to submit this application on behalf of the applicant named herein and that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information.

Type or Print Name Andrew Jamieson

Counsel Signature Title Date

Conneaut Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Conneaut Township for the following reasons:

Conneaut Township has no zoning ordinance. As a result, the proposed uses of an underground electric line and the construction and operation of the converter station in Conneaut Township are permitted on the properties on which such uses are proposed.

Conneaut Township adopted its Comprehensive Plan in 1980. The site of the proposed converter station is in the northeast corner of the township near the boundary line with Girard Township. That location is in an area identified as future agricultural use in the plan. One of the community goals set forth in the plan is to provide for future development, in an orderly fashion, in those areas of the township where such development is suitable and compatible with other uses. While located in a generally rural and agricultural area, the converter station would be adjacent to the existing Penelec Erie West Substation and is compatible and consistent with that use. The converter station does not conflict with any of the community objectives of the plan, which focus on land use, housing, transportation, community facilities and public facilities. The land use objective is the only objective impacted in any material way by the converter station project, and the fact that the converter station use is compatible and consistent substation use addresses concerns regarding the land use community objective.

Girard Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Girard Township for the following reasons:

Representatives of Girard Township have informed ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC that the Township will consider the underground electric cable to be installed in the Township to constitute the land use of "essential services" under the Girard Township Zoning Ordinance. Essential services is a permitted land use in every zoning district in Girard Township. As a result, the Project is consistent with the Girard Township Zoning Ordinance.

The Project is also consistent with the Girard Township Comprehensive Plan adopted by the township in July 2001. The Project's impact will be limited to the construction and operation of the underground electric line located primarily in the right-of-way of public streets. That use does not conflict with the community development goals and objectives in the Comprehensive Plan which aim to preserve the predominantly rural character of the township by concentrating intensive growth and development in the five areas identified in the Comprehensive Plan as areas in which the infrastructure can support that growth in a high-quality setting. Moreover, the Project is consistent with the Plan's goal that future growth should not detract from the rural nature of the township.

Springfield Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Springfield Townships for the following reasons:

Representatives of Springfield Township have informed ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC that the Township will consider the underground electric cable to be installed in the Township to constitute the land use of "essential services" under the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance. Essential services is a permitted land use in every zoning district in Springfield Township. As a result, the Project is consistent with the use provisions of the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance.

Section 515 of Springfield Township's Zoning Ordinance provides generally that in a designated bluff recession hazard area, "no person shall construct, install or engage in substantial improvement to any structure or any utility facility, such as but not limited to...electric...facilities, in violation of the bluff setback requirements" established in that ordinance.

Section 515 E.2 of the ordinance provides that a variance to this restriction may be granted "when the proposed structure or utility facilities require access to the body of water and there is no feasible alternative for obtaining such access." ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC intends to seek a variance from the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board relating to the installation of the cable at the Lake Erie shoreline.

Springfield Township adopted its Comprehensive Plan effective on January 1, 2004. The Project is consistent with the efforts described in the plan to preserve prime agricultural land because the Project will not impact existing prime agricultural land. The Project is also consistent with the efforts described in the plan to preserve natural resources. All construction disturbances to natural resources associated with the Project are heavily regulated by federal and state laws, and the Project will comply fully with all such applicable laws.

Erie County

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the Erie County Comprehensive Plan for the following reasons:

The potentially relevant sections of the Erie County Comprehensive Plan are the following:

- The 2030 Transportation Plan this section reviews historical information regarding transportation in Erie County and surveys existing transportation systems and discusses recommended improvements. The Project does not negatively impact any existing or recommended traffic improvements in Erie County.
- 2. Land Use Plan the Land Use Plan reviews existing zoning and land development regulation in the communities of Erie County and offers suggestions and advice for improvements to local zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Project does not impact any land uses of regional impact and significance identified in the Land Use Plan or constitute a land use of regional impact as identified in the Land Use Plan.
- 3. Natural and Historic Resources Plan this section of the plan discussed prime agricultural lands preservation guidelines, natural resources preservation guidelines and historic preservation guidelines. The Project will comply with all applicable laws relating to natural resources preservation and historic preservation. The location of the converter station in Conneaut Township is currently used in part for farming by a tenant farmer, but the property is not subject to any of the agricultural preservation techniques identified in this section of the plan, including agricultural securities areas, the Clean and Green program or agricultural preservation zoning.
- 4. Community Facilities and Utilities Plan this part of the Comprehensive Plan sets forth information regarding water and sewer systems in various communities (which do not include any of the townships in the Project will be located), and has sections concerning community facilities, recreation, cultural projects, educational facilities, medical facilities and public safety. None of these sections are relevant to the Project or its impact on the townships in which it will be located.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

GENERAL INFORMATION FORM -- AUTHORIZATION APPLICATION APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST

This final checklist is to assist the applicant in assuring that all requests for responses, contacts, additional documentation, etc. have been addressed. Please check the following list to make sure that you have included all the required information. Failure to provide all of the requested information will delay the processing of the application and may result in the application being placed <u>on hold</u> with <u>no action</u>, or will be considered withdrawn and the application file closed. This applicant's checklist need not be returned to DEP with your completed application.

			REQUIREMENTS
\square	1.	AT Wh	TACHMENTS. The completion of the GIF may require the submission of some or all of the following. nere appropriate, include the appropriate attachment(s) with the completed GIF.
	\boxtimes	a)	Site Information, Written Directions to Site - Attach additional sheets as necessary.
	\boxtimes	b)	Facility Information, Latitude/Longitude – Attach additional sheets as necessary.
	\square	c)	Project Information, Project Description – Attach additional sheets as necessary.
	\boxtimes	d)	Project Information, Time Schedules Attach additional sheets as necessary.
		e) and ear Let De Aut	Land Use Information – Please attached completed County and Municipal Land Use Letters. If County d Municipal Land Use Letters are not included, please attach documentation indicating zoning approval (for ly opt-out option), or certified mail receipts indicating that requests for County and Municipal Land Use ters were sent to the county and municipality. For more information, see GIF Instructions and the partment's Policy for Consideration of Local Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances in DEP Review of thorizations for Facilities and Infrastructure - Document ID: 012-0200-001.
		f)	Coordination Information - If land is disturbed, it may be the applicant's responsibility to also notify the PA Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation, 400 North Street, Floor 2, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093, (717) 787-3362.
			PHMC notification is required for:
			1) purposes of construction activities for Individual NPDES permits disturbing 10 or more acres; and
			2) Erosion & Sediment Control permits.
			General NPDES permits disturbing 10 or more acres are exempt from PHMC notification. For additional information, see Cultural Resource Notice instructions to determine whether submission of information to PHMC is required for this permit application.
		g)	Coordination Information, Question 9.0.1 – Attach copy– Act 537 Approval Letter. <u>Note</u> : Approval required prior to 105/NPDES approval.
		h)	Coordination Information, Question 16.0.2 – Attach copy - Public Water Supplier's Agreement Letter to Serve the Project.
	2.	CO DE for	NTACTS MADE. According to information provided in the Coordination Information section, the appropriate P office may need to be contacted; as well as some agencies outside DEP. See the Instructions document appropriate contact per coordination question.
		In a in t or res	addition to contacts referenced above, prior to proceeding with any project, DEP encourages applicants to be ouch with municipal and county governments to get information on and secure, if possible, any local permits approvals that might be required for the project. By doing so, potential conflicts at the local level can be olved prior to application submission to DEP.
\square	3.	BE	FORE YOU DIG CONTACT. Pennsylvania One Call System at 1-800-242-1776.
\boxtimes	4.	AP and	PLICATION SUBMITTED. Application has been completed and properly signed according to instructions d type codes; and will be submitted to the appropriate DEP office.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

and

DEPARTMENT OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh Districts)

JOINT APPLICATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT AND U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SECTION 404 PERMIT

Before completing this form, j and Section F Application Completeness	blease read the Checklist pro	e step-by-step in wided with this	nstructions Joint Permit package.
AGEN	CY USE ONLY		
Application ID# (Assigned by DEP)	RECEIVED DA	TE	CHECK NO
Program Application No.	REQUIRED AP	P. FEE	AMOUNT \$
SECTION A. APPLICATION TYPE: STANDA	RD 🛛	SMALL PROJECTS	
SECTION B. APPLICANT IDENTIFIER			
Applicant Name		Employe	r ID# (EIN)
ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC		46-422	5063
Consulting Firm		Employe	r ID# (EIN)
HDR		470680	568
SECTION C. PROJECT LOCATION DATA			
Name of stream and/or body of water and Chapter 93 designation	tion.		
Lake Erie (CWF), Unt to Lake Erie (CWF, MF), Cro	oked Creek (H	Q-CWF), Unt to	Crooked Creek (HQ-CWF)
Corps District where project will occur.			
☐ Pittsburgh (Ohio River Basin) ☐ Baltimore (Su	squehanna River	Basin) 🗌 Phil	adelphia (Delaware River Basin)
Name of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of the U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map where provide the transmission of transmission of the transmission of transmission	oject is located: A	lbion	
Indicate location of project: Latitude <u>41.936682</u>	; Longitude <u>-80.</u>	375092	
Project type, purpose and need: The proposed Project is a 1,0	00 megawatt (MW	/) +/-320 kilovolt (kV)	high-voltage direct current (HVDC)
bi-directional electric transmission interconnection to transfer	electricity between	Canada and the Uni	ted States. For purposes of permits
being issued in the U.S., the Project consists of an approximation	ely 42.5-mile HVD	OC transmission line t	hat would be buried in the lakebed
bottom of Lake Erie from the U.SCanada border and be inst	alled underground	in Pennsylvania to a	new converter station, called the
Erie Converter Station, as well as approximately 2,082 ft of un	derground 345 kV	alternating current (A	AC) cable between the Erie
Converter Station and the nearby Erie West Substation. The H	VDC transmissior	n line consists of two	transmission cables, one positively
charged and the other negatively charged, along with a fiber of	ptic cable for com	munications between	the converter stations. The U.S.
underwater portion is approximately 35.4 miles long, and the L	J.S. underground p	portion is approximate	ely 7.1 miles long. The Erie
Converter Station would convert +/- 320 kV DC power to 345 k	V AC power or vio	e-versa and connect	t via AC cables to the point of
interconnection at the existing Erie West Substation. See Pro	ect Description in	Section J for more d	etailed information.
SECTION D. PROJECT STATUS			
HAS ANY PORTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT BEEN AUTH	ORIZED? 🗌 yes	🛛 no 🔄	date authorized
If yes, attach description of those portions of the project tha completed PASPGP-4 Cumulative Impact Project Screening F	t have been auth orm.	orized and identify d	ates of authorization. Also attach a
SECTION E. COMPLIANCE REVIEW			
Yes No			
Is the applicant (owner and/or operator If yes, please provide:	r) currently in vic	lation of any permi	ts issued by the Department?

- 1. Permit Number:
- 2. Nature of the violation (if any):
- 3. Status of violation (i.e., schedule for compliance, etc.):

SECTION F. APPLICATION COMPLETENESS CHECKLIST

Applicant must place an entry - Y = Yes, N = No, N/A = Not Applicable - in each left side column space. See Section 105.13 for additional details. If you are applying under the Small Projects Application format, place an entry in only those comments prefixed by an asterisk (*).

	REQUIREMENT	Applicant Entry	DEP Use Only
а.	GIF and permit application properly signed, sealed and witnessed	*Ү	
b.	Application Fee & Worksheet enclosed (see Section G.)	*Y	
c.	Copies and proof of receipt - Act 14 notification - Acts 67/68/127	*Y	
d.	Cultural Resource Notice (Notice, return receipt and PHMC review letter, as appropriate)	*Y	
e.	PASPGP-4 Cumulative Impact Project Screening Form	*Y	
f.	Bog Turtle Habitat Screening (copy of "No Effect" determination from the Army Corps of Engineers OR copy of documented clearance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service)	*N/A	
g.	Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI Project Environmental Review Search Receipt including Avoidance Measures and documentation of agency coordination, as appropriate)	*Y	
h.	Plans (site plan including cross sections and profiles for Subsections 151, 191, 231, 261)	*Y	
i.	Location map	Y	
j.	Project description narrative	*Y	
k.	Color photographs with map showing location taken	*Y	
١.	Environmental Assessment form	*Y	
m.	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and approval letter	Y	
n.	Hydrologic and hydraulic analysis	Y	
0.	Stormwater Management Analysis with consistency letter	Y	
р.	Floodplain Management Analysis with consistency letter	Y	
q.	Risk Assessment	Y	
r.	Professional engineer's seal and certification	Y	
s.	Alternative analysis	Y	
t.	Mitigation plan	Y	
CE			

SECTION G. DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FEES (DEP FEES ONLY)

The fee required for a project authorized under this permit shall be consistent with 25 PA Code §105.13 (relating to regulated activities – information and fees). To determine the application fee, please complete the <u>Chapter 105 Fee(s) Calculation</u> <u>Worksheet (3150-PM-BWEW0553)</u>. Please provide the completed worksheet and a check for the applicable fee(s) made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Clean Water Fund."

SECTION H. ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS

Please list the name and address of all property owners whose land adjoins the project property.

NAME

ADDRESS

Table 3 in Section J Project Description

See Attached Adjoining Property Owner List

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-

SECTION I. CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

If Privately Owned, all owners (such as husband <u>and</u> wife) must sign. One or more members authorized to sign on behalf of an entire partnership must sign. For a Corporation, the president, vice president or other responsible official is required to sign. For Political Subdivision, signatures of the chief officer or other responsible official empowered to sign is required with the seal affixed and attested by the clerk. For Commonwealth departments, boards, commissions, receivers, trustees and authorities, a department head, bureau director, executive director, chairman, commissioner or other responsible official is required to sign. Signatures other than above must be accompanied by a power of attorney or other notarized legal documentation indicating authorization to sign on behalf of the applicant.

Application is hereby made for a permit to authorize the activities described herein. I certify I am familiar with the information contained in this application, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, such information is true, complete and accurate. I further certify I possess the authority to undertake the proposed activities.

I certify that the project proposed in this application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management program of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. (Only portions of Erie, Bucks, Philadelphia and Delaware Counties are in the Coastal Zone).

I grant permission to the agencies responsible for authorization of this work, or their duly authorized representative, to enter the project site for inspection purposes during working hours. I will abide by the conditions of the permit or license if issued and will not begin work without the appropriate authorization.

LAUDA L MCCDAV

By:	Christine Mason Soneral (PRINT NAME)	1.910160	NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI COUNTY OF OAKLAND MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Jul 30, 2021 ACTING IN COUNTY OF Outcland
	(SIGNATURE)	(DATE)	SEAL
	Senior Vice President and General Counsel, ITC Hold	dings Corp. as	
	(TITLE) Member Representative for ITC Lake Erie C	onnector LLC	
WITNESS:	Raura J. McCray		

SECTION B: APPLICATION FEE

- Chapter 105 Fee Calculation WorksheetCopy of Check

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CHAPTER 105 FEE(S) CALCULATION WORKSHEET

Additional information can be found at <u>25 PA Code §105.13</u> (relating to regulated activities – information and fees), the General Permit Registration (<u>3150-PM-BWEW0500</u>), the Joint Permit Application (<u>3150-PM-BWEW0036</u>) and the Dam Permit Application (<u>3140-PM-BWEW0001</u>)

Federal, State, county or municipal agencies or municipal authorities:

EXEMPT from fees

These entities are exempt from these fees. If the applicant falls into one of these categories, please check the box above and provide only the first page of this worksheet with the project application or registration.

ALL OTHERS:

- 1. Please place an "X" in the box next to all authorizations that apply to the project and complete the fee information below those authorization(s). Projects may require multiple authorizations and fees, further clarification and examples are included below and at the end of this document.
- 2. Total each authorization, Section, and Part. Part One is for Water Obstructions and Encroachment authorizations, Part Two is for Dam Safety authorizations.
- 3. Please provide this completed worksheet (page 1 and page 2 and/or page 3, as is appropriate to the project) and a check for the applicable fee(s) with the project application or registration. The check should be made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Clean Water Fund" OR "Erie Conservation District Clean Water Fund", whichever is the reviewing entity.

NOTES:

Per 25 PA Code \$105.13(c)(2)(iii) Disturbance review fees are calculated by individually adding all of the permanent and temporary impacts to waterways, floodways, floodplains and bodies of water including wetlands to the next highest tenth acre and multiplying the permanent and temporary impacts by the respective fees and then these amounts are added to the other applicable fees.

Entities proposing structures or activities to occupy a Submerged Lands of the Commonwealth must obtain a Submerged Lands License Agreement (SLLA) and pay the appropriate annual charge. The applicant will be contacted if this charge applies to the project.

Floodway – The channel of the watercourse and portions of the adjoining floodplains which are reasonably required to carry and discharge the 100-year frequency flood. Unless otherwise specified, the boundary of the floodway is as indicated on maps and flood insurance studies provided by FEMA. In an area where no FEMA maps or studies have defined the boundary of the 100-year frequency floodway, it is assumed, absent evidence to the contrary, that the floodway extends from the stream to 50 feet from the top of the bank of the stream.

Wetland and Stream Clarification:

¹ In many instances, wetlands are located within the floodplain of a stream. These resources for the purposes of calculating disturbance fees are considered co-located or overlapping and the area of disturbance would only be used once.

² In the case of GP-5, GP-7 and GP-8 fees are charged per structure per resource crossing and the following also applies to the disturbance fees:

- A crossing of the stream and the floodplain with wetlands present within the floodplain is considered one resource crossing.
- When the crossing traverses a stream and the floodplain and a wetland that is located outside of the floodplain or a wetland that extends out beyond the floodplain, it is considered two resource crossings.



PART ONE: WATER OBSTRUCTIONS AND ENCROACHMENTS

SECTION A. APPLICATION FEES

WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT (Joint Permit Application)

Some activities or structures within a project may also qualify for an accumulation of General Permit fees, please mark the box above indicating an Individual Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit AND the corresponding fee(s) in the General Permit section below those. Activities or structures not qualifying for a General Permit fee must include a disturbance fee.

Administrative Filing Fee ¹	\$ 1,750	+
Temporary Disturbance (\$400/0.1ac) on land <u>5.3</u> acres x \$4,000 =	\$ <u>21,200</u>	+
Temporary Disturbance (\$400/0.1ac) in lake <u>12.8</u> acres \$4,000 =	\$ 51,200	+
Permanent Disturbance (\$800/0.1ac) on land <u>1.1</u> acres x \$8,000 =	\$ <u>8,800</u>	+
Permanent Disturbance (\$800/0.1ac) in lake <u>2.0</u> acres x \$8,000 =	\$ 16,000	= \$98,950

WO&E FEE subtotal (a)

\$98,950

GENERAL PERMIT(S) (select activity/structure(s) below, see page 4 for "#" explanation)

Some activities or structures within a project requiring an Individual Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit may qualify for an accumulation of General Permit fees, please mark the corresponding fee(s) below but not the box above indicating a General Permit.

GP-1 Fish Habitat Enhancement Structures \$ 50	= \$
GP-2 Small Docks and Boat Launching Ramps (#) x \$ 175	= \$
GP-3 Bank Rehabilitation, Bank Protection and	
Gravel Bar Removal (#) X \$ 250	= \$
GP-4 Intake and Outfall Structures	= \$
GP-5 Utility Line Stream Crossings ² (#) x (#) x \$250	= \$
GP-6 Agricultural Crossings and Ramps (#) x \$ 50	= \$
GP-7 Minor Road Crossings ² (#) x \$ 350	= \$
GP-8 Temporary Road Crossings ² (#) x \$ 175	= \$
GP-9 Agricultural Activities \$ 50	= \$
GP-10 Abandoned Mine Reclamation \$ 500	= \$
GP-11 Maintenance, Testing, Repair, Rehabilitation, or	
Replacement of Water Obstructions and Encroachments ¹ \$ 750	+
Temporary Disturbance (\$400/0.1ac) acres x \$4,000 = \$	+
Permanent Disturbance (\$800/0.1ac) acres x \$8,000 = \$	= \$
GP-15 Private Residential Construction in Wetlands ¹ \$ 750	+
Temporary Disturbance (\$400/0.1ac) acres x \$4,000 = \$	+
Permanent Disturbance (\$800/0.1ac) acres x \$8,000 = \$	= \$
GP(s) FEE subtotal (b)) \$ <u>0</u>
PART ONE: SECTION A. APPLICATION FEE(S) subtotal (a+b=c)	\$98,950

PART ONE: SECTION A. APPLICATION FEE(S) SUBTOTAL (a+b=c)

SECTION B. OTHER FEES

Environmental Assessment for Waived Activities (§105.13(c)(2)(iv))	\$ 500	\$
Amendment to Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit		
Major Amendment ¹	\$ 500	+
Temporary Disturbance acres x \$4,000 =	\$	+ \$
Permanent Disturbance acres x \$8,000 =	\$	= \$
Minor Amendment	\$ 250	\$
Transfer of Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit		
WITH Submerged Lands License Agreement	\$ 200	\$
WITHOUT Submerged Lands License Agreement	\$ 100	\$
PART ONE: SECTION B. OTHER FEE	(S) subtotal (d)	\$ <u>0</u>
PART ONE: FEE(S) T	OTAL (c+d=e)	\$98,950

DEP USE ONLY

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FEE TOTAL:	Permit / Authorization Num		
Correct Amount:	Check #:		
	Payable to:		
PART TWO: DAM SAFETY (USE ONE FEE SHEET	FPER DAM)	
SECTION A. APPLICATION FEES	6		
DAM PERMIT APPLICATION - N	EW DAM		
Size A Hazard 1 \$26,500	Hazard 2 \$26,500 Haza	ard 3 \$25,500	\$
☐ Size B ☐ Hazard 1 \$19,000	Hazard 2 \$19,000 Haza	ard 3 \$18,500 🔲 Hazard 4 \$17,000	\$
Size C 🛛 Hazard 1 \$10,500	Hazard 2 \$10,500 Haza	ard 3 \$10,000 🔲 Hazard 4 \$ 8,000	\$
STAGED CONSTRUCTION			
NO. OF STAGES BEYOND INITIAL S	TAGE X APPLICATION I	FEE X 0.90 (90%)	\$
DAM PERMIT APPLICATION – M	ODIFICATION OF DAM		
$\square Size A \square Hazard 1 18500	Hazard 2 \$18 500 Hazard	ard 3 \$18,500	\$
Size B Hazard 1 \$12.000	☐ Hazard 2 \$12.000 ☐ Haza	ard 3 \$12,000 Hazard 4 \$11,500	* <u> </u>
Size C Hazard 1 \$ 7,500	Hazard 2 \$ 7,500 Haza	ard 3 \$ 7,500 🗌 Hazard 4 \$ 7,500	\$
STAGED CONSTRUCTION			
NO. OF STAGES BEYOND INITIAL S	TAGE X APPLICATION I	FEE X 0.85 (85%)	\$
	PERATION & MAINTANANO	CE OF EXISTING DAM	
\square Size A \square Hazard 1 \$12 500	☐ Hazard 2 \$12 500 ☐ Haz	ard $3 \$12 000$ \Box Hazard $4 \$10 000$	\$
\square Size B \square Hazard 1 \$10.000	Hazard 2 \$10,000 Hazard	ard 3 \$ 9.500 Hazard 4 \$ 8.500	\$
Size C Hazard 1 \$ 7,000	☐ Hazard 2 \$ 7,000 ☐ Haza	ard 3 \$ 6,500 🗌 Hazard 4 \$ 6,000	\$
PART	TWO: SECTION A. APPL	ICATION FEE(S) subtotal (a)	<u>\$ 0</u>
SECTION B. OTHER FEES		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Letter of Amendment or Authorizati	ion		
Major (≥\$250,000)			
	∐ Size B \$ 8,700	☐ Size C \$ 4,400	\$
\square Size A \$ 1.300	Size B \$ 1 000	Size C \$ 650	\$
Major Dam Design Revision			*
Size A \$4,700	Size B \$ 3,200	Size C \$ 1,700	\$
	Dam Removal (8105 12(a)(16))	\$ 500	\$
Non-Jurisdictional Dams	(3100.12(d)(10))	\$ 900	\$
Letter of Amendment or Author	ization		_
∐ Size A \$1,400	∐ Size B \$1,000	∐ Size C \$ 900	\$
Transfer of Dam Permit			
☐ No Proof of Financial Responsi	ibility \$ 550 🗌 Pro	oof of Financial Responsibility \$300	\$
		-	
Annual Registration	Hazard 2 \$ 1 500	□ Hazard 3 \$ 800	¢
		$\mathbf{I} \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{A}}$ OTHER FEF(S) subtotal (b)	ΨΨ Λ \$ Λ
			φ <u>υ</u> ¢ 0
	FAR		φU

FEE TOTAL:

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Correct Amount:	Check #:	
Check amount:	Payable to:	

Check Date.	0411/28/2010	V CHU	of itumber, ooo	0012050	Fayment Method.	CITIK	CHECKING	Doid Amoun
Invoice Number		Invoice Date	Voucher ID	Bus Unit	Gross Amount	Discounts	Late Charges	
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For questions pleas	e call 248-946-3000 of	r e-mail ap@itctr	ansco.com			<u>6</u>		
For questions pleas Check Numbe	e call 248-946-3000 of	r e-mail ap@itctr Date	ansco.com	To Gross Amou	tal T Int Discor	otal ints	Total Late Charges	Tot Paid Amou
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CHAPTER 105 FEE(S) CALCULATION WORKSHEET

WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT FEE - IMPACT CALCULATIONS AND SUMMARY

	Acres		Fee/acre		Fee
1. Landside Under	ground Transmissi	on L	ine and Convers	sion	Station Portion
Temporary Only	5.3	\$	4,000	\$	21,200
Permanent	1.1	\$	8,000	\$	8,800
2. In-Lake Underw	ater Portion of Proj	ect			
Temporary Only	12.8	\$	4,000	\$	51,200
Permanent	2.0	\$	8,000	\$	16,000
Admin Filing Fee				\$	1,750
		Tot	al	\$	98,950

Summary

1. Landside Underground Transmission Line / Con	verter Station Impact Calculation
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	Temporary Only	Permanent
Wetlands	0.8	1.01
Streams	0.17	0.004
Floodways	4.29	0
Total	5.26	1.01
Rounded Total	5.3	1.1

2. In-Lake Underwater Impact Calculation

Project Location (approximate Kilometer Post [KP])/ Component*	CSR Composite Panel Map (Section H – Project Plans)/ Drawing No. (Section H – Site Plans, Cross Sectional Drawings, and Profiles)	Resource/ Impact Type	Temporary Only	Permanent
KP 103.4 HDD Exit Pits	Sheet 15 of 15 / SKDWG-016	Lakebed (bedrock)	0	0.08
KP 103.4 HDD Transition Trenches	Sheet 15 of 15 / SKDWG-003 (Detail H)	Lakebed (bedrock)	0	0.24
KP 102 to 103.4 Direct Buried Cables in Rock	Sheet 15 of 15 / SKDWG-003 (Detail H and I)	Lakebed (bedrock and sediment)	0	1.58
KP 47 to 102 Direct Buried Cables	Sheet 15 of 15 / SKDWG-003 (Detail G)	Lakebed (sediment)	12.46	0
TBD Submarine Cable Joints	TBD	Lakebed (sediment)	0.28	0.09
		Total	12.74	1.99
		Rounded Total	12.8	2.0

*Note(s):

HDD exit pits – Three (3) pits each 20 feet long x 60 feet wide (3 pits x 20 ft excavation length x [10 ft excavation width + 50 ft additional width for sidecast]). Sand, gravel, or rock backfill.

HDD transition trenches from HDD pits to convergence point – Three (3) trenches each 4-feet wide (plus 10 foot wide sidecast area) x 250 feet long. Sand, gravel, or rock backfill.

Direct buried cables in rock – 4-foot wide trench width (plus 10 foot wide sidecast area) x 4,921 feet (1,500 m) long. Sand, gravel, or rock backfill.

Direct buried cables – 3-foot wide trench x 180,863 feet (55 km) long. Natural infill with native sediment.

Submarine cable joints – Two (2) areas each 10 feet wide x 400 feet long. Natural infill with native sediment.

SECTION C: ACT 14, 67, 68, AND 127 NOTIFICATION LETTERS

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPTS AND LAND USE CONSISTENCY RESPONSE LETTERS

Includes:

- Erie County
- Springfield TownshipGirard Township
- Conneaut Township



105 Meadville Street, Edinboro PA 16412

Ph. 814.734.3640 Fax 814.734.3643

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7015 1520 0000 8026 8311 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 23, 2015

Ms. Kathy Wyrosdick, Director Erie County Department of Planning Erie County Courthouse 140 West 6th St. Erie, PA 16501

Re: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC, Lake Erie Connector Project Acts 14, 67, 68 and 167 Municipal Notification

Dear Ms. Wyrosdick:

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC ("ITC") intends to submit the following permit applications to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") in relation to the proposed construction and operation of the Lake Erie Connector Project (the "Project"). This notification is a follow up to a similar notification that we provided by letter dated April 10, 2015. Because these permit applications have not yet been submitted, we wanted to again provide this notice and opportunity to provide comments as ITC intends to submit these applications soon:

- A Joint Permit Application for a Water Obstructions and Encroachments Permit for the installation of an electric transmission line in the bed of Lake Erie and certain stream and wetland work in relation to the installation of an underground electric line in Springfield, Girard and Conneaut Townships, and a converter station in Conneaut Township.
- An application for an NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities.

Section 1905-A of the Administrative Code, as amended by Act 14, requires that each applicant for a DEP permit must give written notice to the municipality and the county in which the permitted activity is located. The written notice shall be received by the municipality and county at least 30 days before the Department may issue or deny the permit.

Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 which amended the Municipalities Planning Code to support sound land use practices and planning efforts, direct state agencies to consider comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances when reviewing applications for permitting of facilities or infrastructure, and specify that state agencies may rely upon comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances under certain conditions as described in Sections 619.2 and 1105 of the Municipalities Planning Code. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Policy for Consideration of Local Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances in DEP Review of Permits for Facilities and Infrastructure (DEP Land Use Policy) provides

direction and guidance to DEP staff, permit applicants, and local and county governments for the implementation of Acts 67, 68 and 127 of 2000. This policy can be found at the following link: http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/ dsweb/Get/Document-76213/.

In accordance with the DEP Land Use Policy, enclosed is the proposed General Information Form (GIF) for this Project, including maps showing the location of proposed Project features. We have also prepared for your reference a short description of our understanding of how this Project complies with applicable municipal and county land use plans and zoning ordinances. Enclosed is the suggested form of a County Land Use Letter.

If you wish to submit comments to DEP to consider in a land use review of this project, you must respond within 30 days to the DEP regional office listed below. If there are no land use comments received by the end of the comment period, DEP will assume that there are no substantive land use conflicts and proceed with the normal application review process.

Please submit any comments concerning this Project within 30 days from date of receipt of this letter to both of the following:

Regional Waterways and Wetlands Manager Northwest Regional Office Pa. Department of Environmental Protection 203 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335

Steven R. Halmi, P.E. Deiss & Halmi Engineering, Inc. 105 Meadville Street Edinboro, PA 16412

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (814)734-3640 and/or shalmi@deisshalmi.com.

Very truly yours, DEISS & HALMI ENGINEERING, INC.

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Steven R. Halmi, P.E.

- Enclosures: General Information Form Location Maps Analysis of Land Use Consistency Sample County Land Use Letter
- cc: Erie County Council c/o Kathy Dahlkemper, Erie County Executive Andrew Jamieson, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Gretchen Railling, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Peter Browne, HDR (by email)
 - R. Timothy Weston, K&L Gates LLP (by email)

Erie County

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the Erie County Comprehensive Plan for the following reasons:

The potentially relevant sections of the Erie County Comprehensive Plan are the following:

- The 2030 Transportation Plan this section reviews historical information regarding transportation in Erie County and surveys existing transportation systems and discusses recommended improvements. The Project does not negatively impact any existing or recommended traffic improvements in Erie County.
- 2. Land Use Plan the Land Use Plan reviews existing zoning and land development regulation in the communities of Erie County and offers suggestions and advice for improvements to local zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Project does not impact any land uses of regional impact and significance identified in the Land Use Plan or constitute a land use of regional impact as identified in the Land Use Plan.
- 3. Natural and Historic Resources Plan this section of the plan discussed prime agricultural lands preservation guidelines, natural resources preservation guidelines and historic preservation guidelines. The Project will comply with all applicable laws relating to natural resources preservation and historic preservation. The location of the converter station in Conneaut Township is currently used in part for farming by a tenant farmer, but the property is not subject to any of the agricultural preservation techniques identified in this section of the plan, including agricultural securities areas, the Clean and Green program or agricultural preservation zoning.
- 4. Community Facilities and Utilities Plan this part of the Comprehensive Plan sets forth information regarding water and sewer systems in various communities (which do not include any of the townships in the Project will be located), and has sections concerning community facilities, recreation, cultural projects, educational facilities, medical facilities and public safety. None of these sections are relevant to the Project or its impact on the townships in which it will be located.

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. Article Addressed to: 	A. Signature X Juy Chy Agent B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery D. 5 C. Date of Delivery 11-3 5-15 D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes	
Mr. Kathy Wyrosdick, Director Erie County Department of Planning Erie County Courthouse 140 West 6th St. Erie PA 16501	If YES, enter delivery address below:) No
Effe, FA 10501 9590 9401 0078 5168 0138 31 2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7015 1520 0000 8026 833	3. Service Type Priority Ma Adult Signature Registered Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Registered Certified Mail® Delivery Certified Mail® Return Restricted Delivery Collect on Delivery Merchandi Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery Signature ail Signature	Il Express® Mail™ Mail Restricted ceipt for se Confirmation™ Confirmation Delivery
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105 Meadville Street, Edinboro PA 16412

Ph. 814.734.3640 Fax 814.734.3643

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7015 1520 0000 8026 8335 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 23, 2015

Springfield Township Supervisors 1330 Ridge Road West Springfield, PA 16443

Re: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC, Lake Erie Connector Project Acts 14, 67, 68 and 167 Municipal Notification

Dear Supervisors:

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC ("ITC") intends to submit the following permit applications to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") in relation to the proposed construction and operation of the Lake Erie Connector Project (the "Project"). This notification is a follow up to a similar notification that we provided by letter dated April 10, 2015. Because these permit applications have not yet been submitted, we wanted to again provide this notice and opportunity to provide comments as ITC intends to submit these applications soon:

- A Joint Permit Application for a Water Obstructions and Encroachments Permit for the installation of an electric transmission line in the bed of Lake Erie and certain stream and wetland work in relation to the installation of an underground electric line in Springfield, Girard and Conneaut Townships, and a converter station in Conneaut Township.
- An application for an NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities.

Section 1905-A of the Administrative Code, as amended by Act 14, requires that each applicant for a DEP permit must give written notice to the municipality and the county in which the permitted activity is located. The written notice shall be received by the municipality and county at least 30 days before the Department may issue or deny the permit.

Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 which amended the Municipalities Planning Code to support sound land use practices and planning efforts, direct state agencies to consider comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances when reviewing applications for permitting of facilities or infrastructure, and specify that state agencies may rely upon comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances under certain conditions as described in Sections 619.2 and 1105 of the Municipalities Planning Code. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Policy for Consideration of Local Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances in DEP Review of Permits for Facilities and Infrastructure (DEP Land Use Policy) provides direction and guidance to DEP staff, permit applicants, and local and county governments for the

implementation of Acts 67, 68 and 127 of 2000. This policy can be found at the following link: http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/ dsweb/Get/Document-76213/.

In accordance with the DEP Land Use Policy, enclosed is the proposed General Information Form (GIF) for this Project, including maps showing the location of proposed Project features. We have also prepared for your reference a short description of our understanding of how this Project complies with applicable municipal and county land use plans and zoning ordinances. Enclosed is the suggested form of a County Land Use Letter.

If you wish to submit comments to DEP to consider in a land use review of this project, you must respond within 30 days to the DEP regional office listed below. If there are no land use comments received by the end of the comment period, DEP will assume that there are no substantive land use conflicts and proceed with the normal application review process.

Please submit any comments concerning this Project within 30 days from date of receipt of this letter to both of the following:

Regional Waterways and Wetlands Manager Northwest Regional Office Pa. Department of Environmental Protection 203 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335

Steven R. Halmi, P.E. Deiss & Halmi Engineering, Inc. 105 Meadville Street Edinboro, PA 16412

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (814)734-3640 and/or shalmi@deisshalmi.com.

Very truly yours, DEISS & HALMI ENGINEERING, INC.

An Ref

Steven R. Halmi, P.E.

Enclosures: General Information Form Location Maps Analysis of Land Use Consistency Sample County Land Use Letter

 cc: Erie County Council c/o Kathy Dahlkemper, Erie County Executive Andrew Jamieson, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Gretchen Railling, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Peter Browne, HDR (by email) R. Timothy Weston, K&L Gates LLP (by email)

Springfield Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Springfield Townships for the following reasons:

Representatives of Springfield Township have informed ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC that the Township will consider the underground electric cable to be installed in the Township to constitute the land use of "essential services" under the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance. Essential services is a permitted land use in every zoning district in Springfield Township. As a result, the Project is consistent with the use provisions of the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance.

Section 515 of Springfield Township's Zoning Ordinance provides generally that in a designated bluff recession hazard area, "no person shall construct, install or engage in substantial improvement to any structure or any utility facility, such as but not limited to...electric...facilities, in violation of the bluff setback requirements" established in that ordinance.

Section 515 E.2 of the ordinance provides that a variance to this restriction may be granted "when the proposed structure or utility facilities require access to the body of water and there is no feasible alternative for obtaining such access." ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC intends to seek a variance from the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board relating to the installation of the cable at the Lake Erie shoreline.

Springfield Township adopted its Comprehensive Plan effective on January 1, 2004. The Project is consistent with the efforts described in the plan to preserve prime agricultural land because the Project will not impact existing prime agricultural land. The Project is also consistent with the efforts described in the plan to preserve natural resources. All construction disturbances to natural resources associated with the Project are heavily regulated by federal and state laws, and the Project will comply fully with all such applicable laws.

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	I ON DELIVERY
 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits. Article Addressed to: 	Agent Addressee
Springfield Township Supervisors 1330 Ridge Road West Springfield, PA 16443	
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105 Meadville Street, Edinboro PA 16412

Ph. 814.734.3640 Fax 814.734.3643

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7015 1520 0000 8026 8328 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 23, 2015

Girard Township Supervisors 10140 Ridge Road Girard, PA 16417

Re: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC, Lake Erie Connector Project Acts 14, 67, 68 and 167 Municipal Notification

Dear Supervisors:

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC ("ITC") intends to submit the following permit applications to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") in relation to the proposed construction and operation of the Lake Erie Connector Project (the "Project"). This notification is a follow up to a similar notification that we provided by letter dated April 10, 2015. Because these permit applications have not yet been submitted, we wanted to again provide this notice and opportunity to provide comments as ITC intends to submit these applications soon:

- A Joint Permit Application for a Water Obstructions and Encroachments Permit for the installation of an electric transmission line in the bed of Lake Erie and certain stream and wetland work in relation to the installation of an underground electric line in Springfield, Girard and Conneaut Townships, and a converter station in Conneaut Township.
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Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 which amended the Municipalities Planning Code to support sound land use practices and planning efforts, direct state agencies to consider comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances when reviewing applications for permitting of facilities or infrastructure, and specify that state agencies may rely upon comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances under certain conditions as described in Sections 619.2 and 1105 of the Municipalities Planning Code. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Policy for Consideration of Local Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances in DEP Review of Permits for Facilities and Infrastructure (DEP Land Use Policy) provides direction and guidance to DEP staff, permit applicants, and local and county governments for the

implementation of Acts 67, 68 and 127 of 2000. This policy can be found at the following link: http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/ dsweb/Get/Document-76213/.

In accordance with the DEP Land Use Policy, enclosed is the proposed General Information Form (GIF) for this Project, including maps showing the location of proposed Project features. We have also prepared for your reference a short description of our understanding of how this Project complies with applicable municipal and county land use plans and zoning ordinances. Enclosed is the suggested form of a County Land Use Letter.

If you wish to submit comments to DEP to consider in a land use review of this project, you must respond within 30 days to the DEP regional office listed below. If there are no land use comments received by the end of the comment period, DEP will assume that there are no substantive land use conflicts and proceed with the normal application review process.

Please submit any comments concerning this Project within 30 days from date of receipt of this letter to both of the following:

Regional Waterways and Wetlands Manager Northwest Regional Office Pa. Department of Environmental Protection 203 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335

Steven R. Halmi, P.E. Deiss & Halmi Engineering, Inc. 105 Meadville Street Edinboro, PA 16412

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (814)734-3640 and/or shalmi@deisshalmi.com.

Very truly yours, DEISS & HALMI ENGINEERING, INC.

Steven R. Halmi, P.E.

Enclosures: General Information Form Location Maps Analysis of Land Use Consistency Sample County Land Use Letter

cc: Erie County Council c/o Kathy Dahlkemper, Erie County Executive Andrew Jamieson, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Gretchen Railling, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Peter Browne, HDR (by email) R. Timothy Weston, K&L Gates LLP (by email)

Girard Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Girard Township for the following reasons:

Representatives of Girard Township have informed ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC that the Township will consider the underground electric cable to be installed in the Township to constitute the land use of "essential services" under the Girard Township Zoning Ordinance. Essential services is a permitted land use in every zoning district in Girard Township. As a result, the Project is consistent with the Girard Township Zoning Ordinance.

The Project is also consistent with the Girard Township Comprehensive Plan adopted by the township in July 2001. The Project's impact will be limited to the construction and operation of the underground electric line located primarily in the right-of-way of public streets. That use does not conflict with the community development goals and objectives in the Comprehensive Plan which aim to preserve the predominantly rural character of the township by concentrating intensive growth and development in the five areas identified in the Comprehensive Plan as areas in which the infrastructure can support that growth in a high-quality setting. Moreover, the Project is consistent with the Plan's goal that future growth should not detract from the rural nature of the township.

SENDER: COMPLE	TE THIS SECTION		
 Complete items 1, Print your name ar so that we can reting Attach this card to or on the front if sp Article Addressed to: Girard Township 10140 Ridge Roa Girard, PA 1641 	2, and 3. 1d address on the reverse urn the card to you. the back of the mailpiece, bace permits. Supervisors ad 7	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON A. Signature A. DUCLAL BUCK B. Received by (Printed Name) RCDCCCAL HoSacl D. Is delivery address different from If YES, enter delivery address	DELIVERY
9590 9401 00 2. Article Number (Transf. 7015 152 PS Form 3811, April 2	178 5168 0138 17 er from service label) 0 0000 8026 8328 015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053	3. Service Type Adult Signature Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Certified Mail⊗ Certified Mail⊗ Certified Mail⊗ Certified Mail⊗ Certified Mail⊗ Collect on Delivery Mail Mail Restricted Delivery D0)	 □ Priority Mall ExpressS □ Registered Mail™ □ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery □ Return Receipt for Merchandise □ Signature Confirmation™ □ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery
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70.15 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10 2.10	Sent To Girard Township S Street and Apt. 10140 Ridge Road Sily, State, 210 Girard, PA-16417 SiForm SECO, April 2015 ISN 7550-0200	89 Supervisors 9997 See Reverse for Instruction	

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105 Meadville Street, Edinboro PA 16412

Ph. 814.734.3640 Fax 814.734.3643

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7015 1520 0000 8026 8304 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

November 23, 2015

Conneaut Township Supervisors 12500 U.S. Rt. 6N Albion, PA 16401

Re: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC, Lake Erie Connector Project Acts 14, 67, 68 and 167 Municipal Notification

Dear Supervisors:

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC ("ITC") intends to submit the following permit applications to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") in relation to the proposed construction and operation of the Lake Erie Connector Project (the "Project"). This notification is a follow up to a similar notification that we provided by letter dated April 10, 2015. Because these permit applications have not yet been submitted, we wanted to again provide this notice and opportunity to provide comments as ITC intends to submit these applications soon:

- A Joint Permit Application for a Water Obstructions and Encroachments Permit for the installation of an electric transmission line in the bed of Lake Erie and certain stream and wetland work in relation to the installation of an underground electric line in Springfield, Girard and Conneaut Townships, and a converter station in Conneaut Township.
- An application for an NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities.

Section 1905-A of the Administrative Code, as amended by Act 14, requires that each applicant for a DEP permit must give written notice to the municipality and the county in which the permitted activity is located. The written notice shall be received by the municipality and county at least 30 days before the Department may issue or deny the permit.

Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 which amended the Municipalities Planning Code to support sound land use practices and planning efforts, direct state agencies to consider comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances when reviewing applications for permitting of facilities or infrastructure, and specify that state agencies may rely upon comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances under certain conditions as described in Sections 619.2 and 1105 of the Municipalities Planning Code. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Policy for Consideration of Local Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Ordinances in DEP Review of Permits for Facilities and Infrastructure (DEP Land Use Policy) provides direction and guidance to DEP staff, permit applicants, and local and county governments for the

implementation of Acts 67, 68 and 127 of 2000. This policy can be found at the following link: http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/ dsweb/Get/Document-76213/.

In accordance with the DEP Land Use Policy, enclosed is the proposed General Information Form (GIF) for this Project, including maps showing the location of proposed Project features. We have also prepared for your reference a short description of our understanding of how this Project complies with applicable municipal and county land use plans and zoning ordinances. Enclosed is the suggested form of a County Land Use Letter.

If you wish to submit comments to DEP to consider in a land use review of this project, you must respond within 30 days to the DEP regional office listed below. If there are no land use comments received by the end of the comment period, DEP will assume that there are no substantive land use conflicts and proceed with the normal application review process.

Please submit any comments concerning this Project within 30 days from date of receipt of this letter to both of the following:

Regional Waterways and Wetlands Manager Northwest Regional Office Pa. Department of Environmental Protection 203 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335

Steven R. Halmi, P.E. Deiss & Halmi Engineering, Inc. 105 Meadville Street Edinboro, PA 16412

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (814)734-3640 and/or shalmi@deisshalmi.com.

Very truly yours, DEISS & HALMI ENGINEERING, INC.

2 Aart

Steven R. Halmi, P.E.

Enclosures: General Information Form Location Maps Analysis of Land Use Consistency Sample County Land Use Letter

 cc: Erie County Council c/o Kathy Dahlkemper, Erie County Executive Andrew Jamieson, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Gretchen Railling, ITC Holdings Corp. (by email) Peter Browne, HDR (by email) R. Timothy Weston, K&L Gates LLP (by email)

Conneaut Township

The Lake Erie Connector Project, as described in the General Information Form to which this narrative is attached, is consistent with the zoning and land development ordinances and comprehensive plans in the Conneaut Township for the following reasons:

Conneaut Township has no zoning ordinance. As a result, the proposed uses of an underground electric line and the construction and operation of the converter station in Conneaut Township are permitted on the properties on which such uses are proposed.

Conneaut Township adopted its Comprehensive Plan in 1980. The site of the proposed converter station is in the northeast corner of the township near the boundary line with Girard Township. That location is in an area identified as future agricultural use in the plan. One of the community goals set forth in the plan is to provide for future development, in an orderly fashion, in those areas of the township where such development is suitable and compatible with other uses. While located in a generally rural and agricultural area, the converter station would be adjacent to the existing Penelec Erie West Substation and is compatible and consistent with that use. The converter station does not conflict with any of the community objectives of the plan, which focus on land use, housing, transportation, community facilities and public facilities. The land use objective is the only objective impacted in any material way by the converter station project, and the fact that the converter station use is compatible and consistent with the adjacent substation use addresses concerns regarding the land use community objective.

Complete items 1, 2, and 3	A. Signature
 Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. 	X Denise Manumele Agent Addressed
Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.	DENISE M, SHUMAKE 11-2.7-15
1. Article Addressed to:	D. Is delivery address different from item 1? Yes
Conneaut Township Supervisors	If YES, enter delivery address below:
12500 US Rt. 6N	
Albion, PA 16401	
1.2	
D. 1	
	3. Service Type Priority Mail Express®
	Adult Signature Adult Signature Restricted Delivery Acertified Mail® Delivery
9590 9401 0078 5168 0138 24	Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)	Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery Signature Confirmation
7012 1250 0000 8026 8304	d Mail Restricted Delivery Restricted Delivery \$500)
DO F 2011 A 11 0015	

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Sent To Sent To Conneaut Township Supervisors Street and Ap12500 US Rt ¹⁰ 6N City, State, ZiAlbion, PA 16401 PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-8047 See Reverse for Instructions	



COUNTY OF ERIE

Department of Planning

Erie County Courthouse 140 West Sixth Street - Room 111 Erie, Pennsylvania 16501 Phone: (814) 451-6336 www.eriecountyplanning.org

Katherine S.Wyrosdick Director

ECDP File # 15-153

December 9, 2015

Mr. Steven R. Halmi, P.E. Deiss & Halmi Engineering, Inc. 105 Meadville Street Edinboro, PA 16412

RE: Act 14 Notification -

Water Obstruction, Encroachment & Stormwater Permits ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC Springfield, Girard and Conneaut Townships, Erie County

Dear Mr. Halmi:

Kathy Dahlkemper

County Executive

The Erie County Department of Planning has reviewed the above-referenced information for consistency with County plans and planning policies, pursuant to Pennsylvania Act 247 of 1968 (as amended), the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). The following comments are provided in conformance with the Acts 67, 68 and 127 amendments to the MPC, which support sound land use practices and planning efforts.

Based on our review, it appears that the permit applications noted above are generally consistent with the Erie County Comprehensive Plan, as adopted. Our office does not anticipate any land use conflicts resulting from the issuance of these permits in support of the proposed Lake Erie Connector project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 814-451-6020 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Link Planner II

pjl

3150-PM-BWEW0035 Rev. 1/2015 Checklist

APPENDIX C SAMPLE MUNICIPAL LAND USE LETTER

	Date:	12-7-15
8	To:	(Name of Applicant)
I	From:	Carry Township/Borough/City
J	Re:	(Name of DEP Permittee)
ī	The mu L f yes, p	nicipality of <u>Com</u> states that it: Thas adopted a municipal or multi-municipal comprehensive plan. lease provide date of adoption: 1960
T -	The mu	nicipality of <u>Carra. Par</u> states that it: has adopted a county zoning ordinance, or a municipal or joint-municipal zoning ordinance. has not adopted a county zoning ordinance, or a municipal or joint-municipal zoning ordinance.
<u> 1</u>	fapplica	able:
T c	he mur ompreł	nicipality of states that its zoning ordinance is generally consistent with its municipal nensive plan and the county comprehensive plan.
T 	he abo	ve referenced proposed project meets the provisions of the local zoning ordinance
lf 	zoning	approval is required for the project to proceed, the above referenced project: has received zoning approval. has not received zoning approval.
lf	the pro	posed project has not received zoning approval:
W He	/hat is t earing l	he status of the zoning request for the proposed project? (e.g., Special Exception Approval from the Zoning Board required, Conditional Use approval from the Governing Body required)

3150-PM-BWEW0035 Rev. 1/2015 Checklist

Is there a legal challenge by the applicant with regard to zoning for the proposed project?

No

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Name and Contact Information for Municipal Zoning Officer:

Additional Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary):

3

Submitted By:

Name

Title

Contact Information
(Address & Phone)

Signature

Date

- 14 -

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SECTION D: CULTURAL RESOURCES NOTICE FORM

DEPARTMENT OF ERVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CULTURAL RESOURCE NOTICE

Read the instructions before completing this form.

SECTION A. APPLICANT	IDENTIFIER						
Applicant Name IT	ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC						
Street Address 27	175 Energy Way						
City No	ovi	State	MI	-	Zip 4	18377	
Telephone Number (24	18) 946-3000						
Project Title Lake Er	ie Connector Project						
SECTION B. LOCATION C	OF PROJECT						
<u>Conneaut,</u> Municipality <u>Springfield</u>	Girard, and Townships	County Nam	e <u>Eric</u>	;		DEP County Code	<u>25</u>
SECTION C. PERMITS OF	RAPPROVALS						
Name of Specific DEP Pern	nit or Approval Reques	Ch. 10 NPDI ted: Const	05 Water ES Permit ruction A	Obstructior for Stormv ctivities	n and l vater 7	Encroachments Pe Associated with	ermit;
Anticipated federal permits:							
Surface Mining] 404 Wate	er Quality F	Permit			
Army Corps of Engir	Army Corps of Engineers Erederal Energy Regulatory Commission						
401 Water Quality C	ertification] Other:	····				
SECTION D. GOVERNME	NT FUNDING SOURC	ES					
State: (Name)			Local:	(Name)			
Federal: (Name)		🛛	Other:	(Name)	<u>Priv</u>	vate	
SECTION E. RESPONSIB	LE DEP REGIONAL, C	CENTRAL, DIS	TRICT MI	NING or OII	L & G/	AS MGMT OFFICE	······
DEP Regional Office Respo	onsible for Heview of Pe	ermit Applicatio)n Maaileaaat		Cen	tral Office (Harrisbu	urg)
	Office (Harrisburg)		Northcent	Regional Of		(Williamsport)	
Southwest Regional C	Office (Pittsburgh)		Northwest	Regional Of	ffice (N	(windhibport) /eadville)	
District Mining Office:			Oil & Gas	Office:		,	
SECTION F. RESPONSIBLE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT, if applicable.							
County Conservation District Telephone Number, if known							
Erie County Conservation District (814) 825-6403							
SECTION G. CONSULTA	NT						
Consultant, if applicable	Consultant, if applicable Robert Quiggle, HDR Engineering, Inc						
Street Address	1304 Buckley Road	l, Suite 202					
City	Syracuse	State	NY		Zip	13212	
Telephone Number	(315) 414-2216		,,		_	r	

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SECTION H. PROJECT BOUNDARIES AND DESCRIPTION					
REQUIRED					
Indicate the total acres in the property under review. for the proposed activity.	Indicate the total acres in the property under review. Of this acreage, indicate the total acres of earth disturbance for the proposed activity.				
Attach a 7.5' U.S.G.S. Map indicating the defined bo	undary of the proposed activity.				
Attach photographs of any building over 50 years of area.	d. Indicate what is to be done to all buildings in the project				
Attach a narrative description of the proposed activity	/.				
Attach the return receipt of delivery of this notice to the	ne Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.				
REQUESTED					
Attach photographs of any building over 40 years old	l.				
Attach site map, if available.					
SECTION I. SIGNATURE BLOCK					
Applicant's Signature Permit Policy Specialist November 24, 2015 Date of Submission of Notice to PHMC					
989-671-0616 x 226 (direct)					

ATTACHMENT A

SECTION H. PROJECT BOUNDARIES AND DESCRIPTION

H.1 REQUIRED

H.1.1 Indicate the total acres in the property under review. Of this acreage, indicate the total acres of earth disturbance for the proposed activity.

The project involves (1) installation of an HVDC electric transmission line in the bed of Lake Erie, (2) installation of an underground HVDC electric transmission line from near the shore to Lake Erie to a converter station in Conneaut Township; (3) installation of the converter station; (4) installation of an AC transmission line from the converter station to the nearby Penelec Erie West Substation; and (5) associated laydown areas.

Total disturbance of all activities in Lake Erie would result in a temporary disturbance of approximately 51 acres and a negligible permanent disturbance (consisting primarily of the footprint of the cables themselves under the lakebed). The disturbance on land includes temporary work spaces such as laydown yards (18.2 acres), converter station property (16.4 acres), and work spaces required for installation of the electric transmission line within the right-of-way (much of which is within existing road right-of-way) (42.5 acres).

H.1.2 Attach a 7.5' U.S.G.S. map indicating the defined boundary of the proposed activity.

See Attachment B.

H.1.3 Attach photographs of any building over 50 years old. Indicate what is to be done to all buildings in the project area.

There are no buildings in the project area.

H.1.4 Attach a narrative description of the proposed activity.

See Attachment C.

H.1.5 Attach the return receipt of delivery of this notice to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

See Attachment D.

H.2 REQUESTED

H.2.1 Attach photographs of any building over 40 years old.

There are no buildings in the project area.

H.2.2 Attach site map, if available.

A site map is not currently available for the project.

ATTACHMENT B

PROJECT BOUNDARY MAP

PROJECT BOUNDARY MAP



ATTACHMENT C

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC (the Applicant) is proposing to construct and operate the Lake Erie Connector Project (Lake Erie Connector or the Project), an approximately 72.4-mile (116.5 km), 1,000-megawatt (MW), +/-320-kilovolt (kV), high-voltage direct current (HVDC), bi-directional electric transmission interconnection to transfer electricity between Canada and the United States (U.S.). For purposes of permits being issued in the U.S., the Project consists of an approximately 42.5-mile (68.4 km) HVDC transmission line that would be buried in the lakebed of Lake Erie from the U.S.- Canada border and be installed underground in Pennsylvania to a new converter station, called the Erie Converter Station, as well as approximately 1,900 ft to 3,000 ft (579 m to 914 m) of underground 345-kV, alternating current (AC) cable between the Erie Converter Station and the nearby existing Penelec Erie West Substation. The converter station will include equipment to change the AC of the existing aboveground transmission network to the direct current (DC) transmitted by the proposed Project, and vice versa.

The HVDC transmission line consists of two transmission cables, one positively charged and the other negatively charged, along with a fiber optic cable for communications between the converter stations located in Ontario, Canada, and Erie County, Pennsylvania. The majority of the on-land U.S. cable route uses existing roadway right-of-way (ROWs) to minimize impacts and additional land disturbance. The cable system will be buried on land using conventional open trenching methods, with trenchless techniques used in situations where conventional trenching is less appropriate because of the potential for adverse environmental impacts or other constraints. The interconnection to the existing PJM grid¹ will be by a 345-kV, AC, underground transmission line connecting the Erie Convertor Station to the existing Penelec Erie West Substation.

¹ PJM Interconnection is the regional transmission organization that coordinates electricity movement in 13 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

ATTACHMENT D

RETURN RECEIPT OF DELIVERY OF THIS NOTICE TO THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION.





+ 3020 m SECTION E: PASPGP-4 CUMULATIVE IMPACT PROJECT SCREENING FORM

3150-PM-BWEW0050 9/2012



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU OF WATERWAYS ENGINEERING AND WETLANDS DEP USE ONLY
Category I
Category II
Category II
Category III

Applicant / Project Name: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC County(s): Erie

PASPGP-4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS PROJECT SCREENING FORM

The following questionnaire must be completed and submitted to determine the appropriate Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit-4 (PASPGP-4) review procedure. Incomplete submissions will be returned. An "Overall Project," as defined for this form, includes all regulated activities that are reasonably related and necessary to accomplish the "Overall Project" purpose. An "Overall Project" must have a clear purpose, be able to function, and have independent utility. All regulated activities, including the direct and indirect impacts occurring as a result of the regulated activities, which are associated with the "Overall Project", should be considered cumulatively when completing this form. For linear projects, all impacts to waters and wetlands associated with the "Overall Project" should be added together and cumulatively viewed as impacts associated with the "Overall Project", which must have a defined beginning and end point. For linear projects, the application shall include a plan that depicts the location of the beginning and end points of the overall project, and all proposed crossings. See the PASPGP-4 permit document at: www.nab.usace.army.mil/Wetlands%20Permits and Part II, for the definition of Independent Utility and Single and Complete Project (discussion of "Overall Project").

The PASPGP-4authorizes the discharge of dredged or fill materials and/or the placement of structures, for a single and complete project, including all attendant features, both temporary and/or permanent, which individually or cumulatively results in impacts to 1.0 acre or less of waters of the United States including jurisdictional wetlands. These discharges and placement of structures must comply with all the terms, conditions, and processing procedures identified in this PASPGP-4. Refer to the definitions and sketches in PASPGP-4, Part II for calculating the 1.0-acre eligibility threshold for linear projects.

Determination of PASPGP-4 eligibility – For Category I and II Activities, PADEP/County Conservation Districts will review the applications, if applicable, and verify if work is authorized by PASPGP-4. For Category III Activities, the Corps reviews applications and makes a case by case determination that work is eligible for authorization under PASPGP-4.

Applications for activities that individually or cumulatively impact more than 1.0 acre of waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, including all attendant features, both temporary and permanent, for a single and complete project; or that impact greater than 250 linear feet of streams, rivers, or other watercourses, except fish habitat enhancement structures authorized under PADEP GP-1 and bank rehabilitation and protection, authorized under PADEP GP-3 that affect 500 linear feet or less, are sent to the Corps as a Category III Activity, under PASPGP-4, Part IV, C, 2. The 1.0 acre area measurement includes the sum total of all waters of the United States including both jurisdictional wetlands and streams, rivers, other watercourses.

- For linear projects, the 250 linear foot Category III Activity threshold for stream impacts is applied to the total cumulative impacts of all crossings associated with the overall linear project, regardless of the type of PADEP authorization or combination of authorizations used to approve the overall project.
- Overall linear projects that have cumulative permanent and temporary impacts to waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, which exceed 1.0 acre, may still be eligible for PASPGP-4 authorization through a Category III review, provided no single and complete project exceeds the 1 acre threshold (see PASPGP-4, Part II for definition of single and complete project and acreage calculations). This verification of eligibility will be made by the Corps of Engineers.
- For phased projects, including phased linear projects, an overall project plan depicting all previously authorized or proposed impacts to waters and/or wetland is required as part of the application. A plan depicting phase I of the overall project would be submitted with any applications associated with phase I. At a later date, when applications associated with phase II are submitted, an overall plan that depicts the impacts for phase I and phase II is required. For example, if a utility line was previously authorized to run from point A to point B, and the permittee now wants to expand the utility line to point C, the plan will depict from point A to point C. In such a case, the overall project has been expanded to extend from point A to point C; the portion from point A to point B is needed for the section from point B to point C to function and meet the overall project purpose. If plan is not submitted as part of application, the application for the purposes of PASPG-4 will be considered incomplete and the application may be sent to the Corps as a Category III Activity.

SECTION A: PROPOSED IMPACTS

Provide the size of impacts to waters and/or wetlands associated with your application, including temporary and/or permanent impacts, and direct and indirect impacts.

Included in this calculation are the areas directly and indirectly affected by the regulated activities, including the area of waters and/or wetlands filled, drained and/or flooded as a result of the regulated activities. See PASPGP-4, Part II, Definitions, for calculation of linear footage of stream impact, and Part IV, C, 2 for thresholds which require a Corps review of application (Category III Activity).

3150-PM-BWEW0050 9/2012

PADEP GP-11 allows for the registration of multiple overall projects at one time through submission of a project/work site table that identifies each of the separate overall projects. For work associated with PADEP GP-11 registrations, impacts associated with each project/work site should be list separately. This can be done through a separate PASPGP-4 Project Screening Form for each project/work site, or submission of a separate document/table that identifies each separate project/work site, the proposed work and impact information, as required by this section.

		square feet	linear feet
	to waters:	On Land: 155	On Land: 117
		In Lake: 86,994	In Lake: 186,434
Permanent Impacts	to wetlands:	44,231 (includes 851 sq.ft. of cable footprint below HDD installation wetlands)	
	to waters:	On Land: 7,475	On Land: 1,933
Temporary Impacts		In Lake: 641,583	In Lake: 186,434
	to wetlands:	35,279	

SECTION B: OTHER CHAPTER 105/SECTION 10/404 AUTHORIZATIONS

YES NO

I. If known, has any work associated with the Overall Project been previously authorized by the Corps or DEP? If YES, please complete the table below. If additional space is needed, please attach the applicable information. Include the type of authorization or permit, permit or authorization number(s), date(s) of issuance, and permitted impacts (including square feet and/or linear footage), if applicable, with your application/registration form(s). Types of authorizations or permits may be abbreviated and include: Corps Nationwide Permit, Corps Individual Permit, Corps PASPGP, DEP General Permit, DEP Individual Permit (Dam and/or Encroachment) or DEP Environmental Assessment. See PASPGP-4, Part IV, C, 3 for applications which require a Corps review (Category III Activity).

EXAMPLES:

- a. If application is associated with the expansion of a residential development, i.e., construction of phase II, the authorizations and impacts, if applicable, associated with construction of phase I are to be identified and listed.
- b. If application is associated with a linear project, i.e., sewer line, waterline, utility line, etc., and the proposed work is an extension or additional phase being added to a previous segment, the authorizations, and impacts, if applicable, associated with construction of the previous segment(s) are to be identified and listed. For example, if a utility line is constructed from point A to point B, and a year later an extension of the line to point C is proposed, the authorizations and impacts associated with construction of point A to point A to point C as the portion from point A to point A to point C as the portion from point A to point B is needed for the section from point B to point C to function and meet the overall project purpose.

Authorization	Authorization	Date	Date Permitted Impacts		
Туре	Number	(mm/dd/yyyy)	wetlands	waters	

YES NO

□ ⊠ 2. Are additional Corps and/or DEP authorizations required for your proposed work to function and have independent utility? If YES, please complete the table below. If additional space is needed, please attach the applicable information.

EXAMPLES:

- a. Development of a residential subdivision may require the filling of waters and/or wetlands for the construction of access roads, utility line crossings, and/or lot development. In such a case, if application is only for the utility lines, the work and impacts associated with the road crossings and lot development need to be identified. For the overall development to function, the road crossings and lot development are needed, not just utilities.
- b. If widening of a road for construction of a turn lane is needed to facilitate an industrial development, applications associated for the industrial development to construct utility lines and lot development need to

include the work and impacts associated with the construction of the turn lane. The construction of the turn lane is needed for the industrial development to function; the two projects are not separate independent projects.

3150-PM-BWEW0050 9/2012

c. If the application is associated with a linear project, such as an underground electric line or waterline, and additional permits are needed for the utility lines to function, i.e., convey electricity or water from source to user, the additional work and impacts need to be identified. For the overall utility line to function the entire line needs to be constructed; a segment that will not function does not have independent utility.

Authorization	Date	Anticipated Impacts		
Гуре	(if known)	wetlands	waters	

SECTION C: ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The term "Subdivision", for the purposes of this form, is defined as the division or redivision of a lot, tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, tracts, parcels or other divisions of land including changes to existing lot lines.

YES NO

- 1. Does the Overall Project involve the construction or expansion of a residential, commercial or institutional subdivision or development? If YES, proceed to question 2. If NO, leave questions 2 and 3 blank.
- 2. Does greater than 0.25 acres of wetlands exist within the property boundary (not including those being directly impacted as part of this application)? If YES, provide wetland acreage: _____ acres. If NO, leave question 3 blank.
- 3. Are you proposing to protect the wetland area(s) through a deed restriction or conservation easement that follows the Corps' Model Conservation Instruments? If YES, attach a copy of the proposed deed restriction or conservation easement to this form and submit with your application/registration form. Model Conservation Instruments are available at <u>www.nab.usace.army.mil/Wetlands%20Permits/</u>. Failure to submit a proposed deed restriction or conservation easement with permit application/registration form requires a Category III review under PASPGP-4, Part IV, C, 24.

SECTION D: CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and information. If any of the information and/or plans is found to be in error, falsified, and/or incomplete, your Chapter 105/PASPGP-4 authorization/verification may be subject to modification, suspension, or revocation in accordance with applicable regulations.

Signature of Applicant

1.26.16

Christine Mason Soneral

Name Typed or Printed

SECTION F: BOG TURTLE HABITAT SCREENING

Bog Turtle Habitat Screening

Bog turtle habitat screening is not applicable for projects in Erie County.

SECTION G: PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL DIVERSITY INVENTORY (PNDI) SEARCH AND CONSULTATION

- G-1: Agency Coordination Summary
- G-2: United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- G-3: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- G-4: Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- G-5: Pennsylvania Game Commission

G-1: Agency Coordination Summary

Agency Coordination Summary

The Applicant and its consultants have engaged appropriate federal and state agencies during the planning and siting phase of the Project, including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PADCNR), Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), and Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC).

Each of the agencies were informed of the initial Project layout on May 5, 2014 and an updated alignment with more detailed Project information was submitted to each agency on January 23, 2015. A summary of the consultations with each agency is provided below.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

In a letter dated April 6, 2015 the USFWS stated that the proposed Project is within the range of the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). To avoid killing or injuring a listed bat, the Applicant will remove trees when bats are likely not present within the Project area, between November 15 and March 31. If this seasonal restriction on tree cutting is implemented to avoid the take of listed bats, the USFWS has determined that the effects of the Project are not likely to adversely affect the Indiana bat or the northern long-eared bat.

In a letter dated September 22, 2014, the USFWS provided an assessment of risk to migratory birds and eagles. Due to the Project's location adjacent to the Erie Bluffs State Park, the USFWS has concerns regarding the bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*). The 90-foot bluffs overlooking Lake Erie are home to the largest documented colony of bank swallows in Pennsylvania.

The available research on bank swallows in the Erie area states that bank swallow high priority sites would be sites used by colonies of greater than 50 pairs and priority implementation action would include nest holes evenly spaced within a bank surface, so larger banks have the potential to support larger colonies and should be afforded the highest conservation priority (PGC and PFBC 2008). One of the largest colonies of bank swallows in the State of Pennsylvania is near the mouth of Duck Run, along the shoreline of Lake Erie (Knopf 2015). The seasonal abundance and occurrence of bank swallows recorded in Erie County is from early May to late August (McWilliams 2014).

A study conducted in Saskatchewan by Hjertaas (1984) found bank swallows prefer high, vertical banks with overhanging sod or soil for nesting. Erskine (1979) found approximately 40% of bank swallow colonies were in natural sites, mainly along sea coasts, rivers, and lake shores with erosion and exposed slopes, while the remaining 60% were found in cut banks of sand and gravel pits, road and railway cuttings and various excavation locations created by human. Overall nest-site selection and availability showed the bank swallow to be more abundant in habitats created by manmade activities than natural sites (Erskine 1979; Hjertaas 1984).

The Project's horizontal directional drill (HDD) disturbance area is located 320 ft from the bluff and over 1,000 ft to the west of the mouth of Duck Run.
On March 26, 2015, the Applicant and its consultant met with the USFWS to discuss the ways in which the Project development has incorporated construction details to minimize and avoid impacts to migratory birds. Through the use of HDD and work space location and design, the Applicant has satisfied the USFWS requirements to avoid impacts to the bluffs and consequently, nesting bank swallows. The USFWS does not believe a seasonal restriction on Project activities is necessary, and the USFWS does not believe the anticipated Project impacts are high enough to warrant the development of a habitat restoration plan for birds.

USFWS is not aware of any bald eagle nests in the vicinity of the Project; however, USFWS requested the Applicant review the *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* for additional recommendations for avoiding disturbance of eagles at foraging areas and communal roost sites.

The Applicant will adhere to the construction timing restrictions for tree clearing. The plans that will be provided to the contractor will state the restriction. Such plans are included in Section H.

In addition, the *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* will be reviewed and additional recommendations will be implemented if necessary.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

In a letter dated February 17, 2015 the PADCNR responded to an update to the ITC Connector Project. The PADCNR requested surveys of protected plant species that might potentially be encountered along the Underground Segment. Plant surveys along the proposed Underground Segment were performed by a qualified botanist in spring and summer 2015 to identify the occurrence of state-listed species. PADCNR requested surveys be conducted for the following sensitive species: northern water-plantain (Alisma triviale), small begger-ticks (Bidens discoidea), large toothwort (Cardamine maxima), soft-leaved sedge (Carex disperma), log fern (Dryopteris celsa), variegated horsetail (Equisetum variegatum), pumpkin ash (Fraxinus profunda), umbellate hawkweed (Hieracium umbellatum), larger Canadian St. John's-wort (Hypericum majus), Virginia blue flag (Iris virginica), Richardson's rush (Juncus alpinoarticulatus ssp. nodulosus), small-headed rush (Juncus brachycephalus), lupine (Lupinus perennis), common hop-tree (Ptelea trifoliata), Shumard's oak (Quercus shumardii), pineland pimpernel (Samolus parviflous), and great-spurred violet (Viola selkirkii). The survey indicated that no species listed by the PADCNR were identified. The results of these surveys were provided to the PADCNR on October 26, 2015. The PADCNR provided three questions on November 3, 2015. Responses were provided to the PADCNR. The PADCNR provided PNDI clearance on December 4, 2015. The response letter included recommendations to prevent the spread of invasive species that will be followed. The recommendations included:

- The area of disturbance should be minimized to the fullest extent that would allow for construction. This will help to lessen the area of soil and vegetation disturbance associated with this project;
- If possible, please clean all construction equipment and vehicles thoroughly (especially the undercarriage and wheels) before they are brought on site. This will remove invasive plant seeds from the equipment and undercarriages of the vehicles that may have been picked up at other sites; and
- Avoid using seed mixes that include invasive plant species (e.g. crown vetch) to revegetate the area. Please also attempt to use weed-free straw or hay mixes when possible.

More information about Pennsylvania invasive plants can be found here: http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/conservationscience/invasivespecies/index.htm.

The above recommendations from PADCNR will be followed during construction of the Project. Details of the recommendations will be provided to the contractor as reflected in the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plans provided as part of Section H.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

Consultation between the Applicant and the PFBC is ongoing. In a letter dated September 16, 2014, the PFBC noted the following species of concern may be present within the Lake Segment of the Project: cisco (*Coregonus artedi*), eastern sand darter (*Etheostoma pellucida*), and lake sturgeon (Acipenser *fulvescens*), all of which are state listed endangered species. Consultation with the PFBC is ongoing to address the potential impacts to these species.

Via an email dated March 24, 2015, the PFBC requested additional information regarding the impact of HVDC electromagnetic fields on salmonid (steelhead) migration. The PFBC also asked if the HDVC technology interferes with hydro acoustic telemetry tags and receivers. The PFBC requested that this information be provided as a part of the application. The Applicant's consultant provided this information to PFBC on June 4, 2015 in an Environmental Report, which was submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy on May 29, 2015, as part of the Presidential Permit Application. This information is also included in the attached Environmental Assessment (Attachment 3).

During a conference call between the applicant, its consultants, and PFBC representatives on August 28, 2015, PFBC staff stated that they were not concerned about Project construction effects on lake sturgeon and cisco, given PFBC's review of additional information received regarding Project construction activities. However, PFBC asked if in-lake project construction on the U.S. side in water depths less than 20 m could be conducted outside of June and July to protect potentially spawning eastern sand darter. The Applicant explained the need to conduct construction during those months because construction will take about six months during each of two years, such construction work needs to occur during good weather months on the Lake, and given Lake weather patterns, June and July were critical parts of the period when suitable construction conditions were available. In response, PFBC indicated that if construction activities need to occur in waters less than 20 m deep in June and July, then the Applicant should develop and submit a Biological Assessment. The assessment would investigate steps to avoid adverse effects, minimize damage, and then mitigate effects to potential eastern sand darter habitat and individuals. The assessment would use the best available science to estimate the potential area of impact and numbers of darters that that might be lethally taken. After review of such an assessment, PFBC would then issue a special take permit with respect to the eastern sand HDR, on behalf of the Applicant, completed an eastern sand darter Biological darter. Assessment in consultation with PFBC and submitted it to PFBC, copying Jim Grazio, PADEP, for review on December 30, 2015. This assessment is included as an attachment to the Environmental Assessment found in Attachment 3 of this permit application package.

Pennsylvania Game Commission

In a letter dated March 23, 2015, the PGC screened the Project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only. The PGC records indicate that no known occurrences of species or resources of concern under PGC jurisdiction occur in the vicinity of the Project.

Literature Cited

A detailed list of literature reviewed in relation to responses to PNDI issues is provided in Section 7 of the Environmental Assessment report (Attachment 3 to the application package).

AGENCY COORDINATION LETTERS

G-2: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- USFWS Response Letter Dated April 6, 2015
 USFWS Email Dated May 7, 2015



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Pennsylvania Field Office 315 South Allen Street, Suite 322 State College, Pennsylvania 16801-4850



April 6, 2015

Kristen Schawalder HDR, Inc. 11 Stanwix Street, Suite 800 Pittsburgh, PA 15222-1357

RE: USFWS Project 2014-0986; CPA-2014-0005 Lake Erie Connector, Erie County, Pennsylvania

Dear Ms. Schawalder:

Thank you for meeting with us on March 26, 2015, to discuss the proposed ITC Lake Erie Connector, LLC, Lake Erie Connector project located in Erie County, Pennsylvania. We previously commented on this project in letters dated September 22, 2014, and February, 11, 2015. The following comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened species, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712; Ch. 128; July 13, 1918; 40 Stat. 755, as amended), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act, 54 Stat. 250, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 668-668d), to ensure the protection of migratory bird species.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The proposed project is within the range of the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). According to ITC, approximately eleven acres of trees will be cleared for the project. To avoid killing or injuring listed bats, ITC has committed to removing trees when bats are likely not present within the project area, between November 15 and March 31. If this seasonal restriction on tree cutting is implemented to avoid the take of listed bats, we have determined that the effects of the project are not likely to adversely affect the Indiana bat or the northern long-eared bat.

Assessment of Risks to Migratory Birds and Eagles

In our September 22, 2014, letter, we provided several recommendations to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds, specifically, bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*). You and ITC provided the following details during our March 26, 2015, meeting: 1) horizontal directional drilling (HDD) will be imployed to avoid impacts to the bluff, 2) the drill rig will be located approximately 328 feet away from the top of the bluff, and 3) off-shore activities will be

approximately 750 feet from the shoreline. The project has been designed to avoid all impacts to the bluff and consequently, nesting bank swallows. Therefore, we do not believe a seasonal restriction on project activities is necessary, and we do not believe that anticipated project impacts are high enough to warrant the development of a habitat restoration plan for birds.

Lastly, please review our previous comments regarding Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Currently the Service is not aware of any bald eagle nests in the vicinity of the project; however, please review the *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* for additional recommendations for avoiding disturbance of eagles at foraging areas and communal roost sites. Additional information, including a bald eagle project screening and online mapping tool, can also be found on our website at http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/bald_eagle.html.

Thank you for contacting us. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Melinda Turner of my staff at 814-234-4090, extension 7449.

To avoid potential delays in reviewing your project, please use the above-referenced USFWS project tracking number in any future correspondence regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Ina J. E

Lora L. Zimmerman Field Office Supervisor

Schawalder, Kristen

From:	Turner, Melinda <melinda_turner@fws.gov></melinda_turner@fws.gov>
Sent:	Thursday, May 07, 2015 9:37 AM
То:	Schawalder, Kristen
Subject:	Re: Consultation Discussion for USFWS Project #CPA-2014-0005

Hi Kristen,

Our letter from April 6, 2014, is accurate.

Thanks, Melinda

Melinda Turner U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pennsylvania Field Office 110 Radnor Road, Suite 101 State College, PA 16801 814-234-4090 x7449 melinda turner@fws.gov

On Thu, May 7, 2015 at 9:26 AM, Schawalder, Kristen <<u>Kristen.Schawalder@hdrinc.com</u>> wrote:

Hi Melinda,

Thanks for getting in touch. My previous question was answered, but I have a new one. Does the listing of the NLEB result in a change to the ITC consultation? I recently became aware of the issue that the conservation district and PADEP will not accept consultation letters that are dated prior to May 4. Can you confirm that our letter regarding USFWS Project 2014-0986; CPA-2014-005, which addresses NLEB, is still accurate?

Thank you,

Kristen Schawalder

D 412.497.6247

hdrinc.com/follow-us

Hi Kristen,

We have been having phone issues and I discovered a number of phone messages yesterday that I never received, including a call from you on April 2. Do you still have a question for me?

Thanks,

Melinda

--

Melinda Turner

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Pennsylvania Field Office

110 Radnor Road, Suite 101

State College, PA 16801

814-234-4090 x7449

melinda turner@fws.gov

On Mon, Mar 30, 2015 at 9:44 AM, Schawalder, Kristen <<u>Kristen.Schawalder@hdrinc.com</u>> wrote:

Hi Melinda,

It was a pleasure to meet you and discuss the ITC Connector Project last week. Hopefully we addressed any concerns the USFWS had with the Project and we look forward to an updated response letter. Please let me know if you had additional questions or comments.

Thanks,

Kristen

Kristen Schawalder

D 412.497.6247

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From: Schawalder, Kristen
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 5:12 PM
To: 'Turner, Melinda'
Subject: RE: Consultation Discussion for USFWS Project #CPA-2014-0005

Hi Melinda,

ACOE and DOE are the only federal permitting agencies involved in the US. I apologize for a delay in response. I look forward to meeting you tomorrow.

Kristen

Kristen Schawalder

D 412.497.6247

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From: Turner, Melinda [mailto:melinda turner@fws.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 1:35 PM
To: Schawalder, Kristen
Subject: Re: Consultation Discussion for USFWS Project #CPA-2014-0005

Thanks, Kristen. Could you remind me what Federal permitting Agencies are involved? I have in my notes ACOE and DOE. Any others (e.g., FERC)?

Thanks,

Melinda

--

Melinda Turner

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Pennsylvania Field Office

110 Radnor Road, Suite 101

State College, PA 16801

814-234-4090 x7449

melinda turner@fws.gov

On Tue, Mar 17, 2015 at 1:18 PM, Schawalder, Kristen <<u>Kristen.Schawalder@hdrinc.com</u>> wrote:

Hi Melinda,

Thank you for agreeing to meet with us regarding the USFWS response letter for the Lake Erie Connector Project. I've attached a copy of the letter as well as a Project Location map. Please let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Thank you,

Kristen Schawalder

Environmental Scientist

HDR

11 Stanwix Street, Suite 800 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 D 412.497.6247 kristen.schawalder@hdrinc.com

G-3: PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

- PADCNR Response Letter Dated February 17, 2015
- Botanical Surveys for Rare Plants and Habitat Assessment Report Cover Submitted October 26, 2015
- PADCNR Email Response Dated November 3, 2015
- Response to PADCNR Dated December 1, 2015
- PADCNR Concurrence Dated December 4, 2015

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

February 17, 2015

PNDI Number: 22406

Kristen Schawalder HDR Engineering, Inc. 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Email: kristen.schawalder@hdrinc.com (hard copy will not follow)

Re: UPDATE: Lake Erie CleanPower Connector Transmission Project Conneaut, Springfield & Girard Townships, Erie County, PA

Dear Ms. Schawalder,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Large Project Number 22406 for review (formerly PNDI 20140521451998). PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

Potential Impact Anticipated

PNDI records indicate species or resources under DCNR's jurisdiction are located in the project vicinity. Based on a detailed PNDI review, DCNR determined potential impacts to the following threatened or endangered species or species of special concern (**please see attached table for a list of species required for survey**).

Survey Request

- ✓ A survey for the above species should be conducted by a qualified botanist *at the appropriate time of year and then submitted to our office for review*. Your botanist should carefully review the new DCNR Botanical Survey Protocols available at <u>http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx</u>. These protocols are recommended to ensure that the all necessary information is collected and that survey reports are prepared properly. It is the expectation of DCNR that these protocols will be followed when conducting surveys for species under our jurisdiction.
- ✓ Your botanist should *fill out the field survey form while performing their survey:* <u>http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/hgis/2012%20DCNR%20Field%20Survey%20Form.pdf</u>. Contact our office prior to the survey for detailed information about the species, or for a list of qualified surveyors.
- ✓ Any target and non-target state-listed species found during the site visit should be reported to our office. Mitigation measures and monitoring may be requested if species or communities of special concern are found on or adjacent to site.
- ✓ If the land type(s) does not exist on site, a survey may not be necessary; <u>please submit a habitat assessment</u> report which describes the current land cover, habitat types, and species found on site.

This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (2) years only. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter, please resubmit the project to this agency as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map). As a reminder, this finding applies to potential impacts under DCNR's jurisdiction only. Visit the PNHP website for directions on contacting the Commonwealth's other resource agencies for environmental review.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jason Ryndock, Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-705-2822) or via email (c-jryndock@pa.gov).

Sincerely,

ebecca H.

Rebecca H. Bowen, Section Chief Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Current Status	Proposed Status	Survey Date	Preferred Habitat	Locally Documented Habitat
	Northern Water-				shallow water of ditches, lake margins and stream	
Alisma triviale	plantain	PE	PE	flowers late July-late Aug	edges	open vernal pools
Ridans discoidaa	Small Boggar ticks	N	DD	flowers August - October	swamps, vernal pools,	buttophush swamp
Bluens discolded	Siliali Deggal-ticks		FIX	Howers August - October	swampy ground	buttonbusit swamp
Cardamine maxima	Large Toothwort	N	PT	flowers April – May	low, wet woods	rich sugar maple – red oak – hemlock – beech forest on creek slope
Caroy dianarma	Soft looved Seden	DD	DD	fruits lung lub.	calcareous or neutral wet meadows, moist sand	222
Carex aisperma	Soft-leaved Sedge	PK	PK	truits June - July	flats, and shores	
Dryopteris celsa	Log Fern	N	PE	deciduous; survey summer – fall	seepage slopes, hummocks, and logs in swamps	swampy lakeplain forest
Equisetum variegatum	Variegated Horsetail	PE	PE	evergreen; sporulates July - October	damp soil of stream banks and sandy flats, in circumneutral to alkaline soil	Poa compressa seepage meadow, base of lake bluff
Fraxinus profunda	Pumpkin Ash	N	PE	flowers Late April – early May	shallow woodland ponds and wet, wooded flats	lakeplain palustrine forest
Hieracium umbellatum	Umbellate Hawkweed	N	PE	flowers June - September	thickets, clearings and roadside banks	eroding ravine, <i>Ostrya</i> <i>virginiana</i> – red oak – sugar maple broken canopy
Hypericum majus	Larger Canadian St. John's-wort	РТ	PT	flowers July-Sept	swampy ground and sand plains along Lake Erie	low swale
Iris virginica	Virginia Blue Flag	N	PE	flowers May-July	shallow water of pond margins	moist terrace flats, sugar maple and beech canopy
Juncus alpinoarticulatus ssp. nodulosus	Richardson's Rush	РТ	PT	flowers/fruits Summer	moist, sandy, calcareous shores and seeps	seepage wetland on bluff face
Juncus brachycephalus	Small-headed Rush	РТ	PT	flowers/fruits. Summer	muddy or sandy calcareous shores, clayey seeps and springy or boggy fields	seepage wetland on bluff face
l uninus perennis	Lupine	PR	PR	flowers April - July	stream banks, open fields, woods edges, and roadsides in sandy, acidic soils	222
Eupinus pereiniis	Lupine			помета Арти - зиту	5013	
Ptelea trifoliata	Common Hop- tree	PT	PT	flowers Late May-early June, fruits July - September	old fields, stream banks and alluvial thickets	eroding hogback
Quercus shumardii	Shumard's Oak	PE	PE	fruits September - October	moist to wet woods	sugar maple – hemlock – ash forest on bluff rim

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Samolus parviflorus	Pineland Pimpernel	TU	PR	flowers June – October	muddy stream banks and shores, especially on diabase	open steep clayey embankment along creek
Viola selkirkii	Great-spurred Violet	N	PR	flowers May – July	dry cool woods and rock crevices, especially on limestone	tributary floodplain forest

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P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17015-8552 717-787-3444 (fax) 717-772-0271

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Pesi 583.03

BOTANICAL SURVEYS FOR RARE PLANTS AND HABITAT ASSESSMENT ALONG THE LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT IN ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PNDI Receipt: 22406

30 September 2015

Prepared for K&L Gates LLP and ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC





Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc.

4525 Este Ave Cincinnati, OH 45232 Phone: (513) 451-1777 Fax: (513) 451-3321

Syracuse, NY . Kent, OH . Indianapolis, IN . Orlando, FL . Springfield, MO

CONTENTS OF REPORT NOT INCLUDED

Schawalder, Kristen

From:	Ryndock, Jason <c-jryndock@pa.gov></c-jryndock@pa.gov>
Sent:	Tuesday, November 03, 2015 9:23 AM
To:	Schawalder, Kristen
Cc:	dsparks@envsi.com
Subject:	ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged
Categories:	Blue Category

Hi Kristen,

Thank you for submitting a botanical report for the ITC Lake Erie Connector Project. I have a few questions concerning some of the species found on site.

- 1. *Carex lupuliformis* (proposed PA Endangered) was reported in the full species list. This species is very similar to the common *Carex lupulina*. Could this have been a typo?
- 2. *Viburnum opulus* was reported as well. It is often confused with the native *Viburnum trilobum* (proposed PA Threatened), which has been documented extensively in Erie County. I'm curious about the confidence of this identification and whether it can be validated.
- 3. The Watchlist species (*Carya lacinosa, Castanea dentata, Taxis canadensis*) reported in close proximity to the proposed LOD do we know whether these will be impacted by the project? No mitigation would be required of course, but if they could be avoided easily, that would be ideal. Also, thank you for taking the time to document these locations.

If you would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Thanks!

Jason Ryndock | Ecological Information Specialist PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry | Natural Heritage Section 400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone: 717.705.2822 | Fax: 717.772.0271 E-mail: <u>c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>

Schawalder, Kristen

From:	Schawalder, Kristen
Sent:	Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:17 PM
То:	'Ryndock, Jason'
Cc:	dsparks@envsi.com; Browne, Peter
Subject:	RE: ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions

Hi Jason,

Please see our responses below in blue. Let me know if you have additional questions or comments.

Thank you,

Kristen Schawalder D 412.497.6247 C 412.559.6012

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From: Ryndock, Jason [<u>mailto:c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>] Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 9:23 AM To: Schawalder, Kristen Cc: <u>dsparks@envsi.com</u> Subject: ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions

Hi Kristen,

Thank you for submitting a botanical report for the ITC Lake Erie Connector Project. I have a few questions concerning some of the species found on site.

1. *Carex lupuliformis* (proposed PA Endangered) was reported in the full species list. This species is very similar to the common *Carex lupulina*. Could this have been a typo?

As requested, the ESI botanist (Mr. Larry Brewer) identified the species in question to be *Carex lupulina* not *Carex lupuliformis*. The two species are very similar and he had made a comment on his draft list noting that he had examined the fruits (perigynium) of the plants using a hand lens to ensure the correct identification. That annotation was mis-interpreted when the list was compiled.

2. *Viburnum opulus* was reported as well. It is often confused with the native *Viburnum trilobum* (proposed PA Threatened), which has been documented extensively in Erie County. I'm curious about the confidence of this identification and whether it can be validated.

The botanist is confident in the identification. He recorded all of his data as *Viburnum opulus var. opulus* as opposed to *Viburnum opulus var. americanum* (which is a synonym of *Virburnum trilobum*). He checked the IDs by examining glands on the petioles on numerous specimens during all three field trips. None were *Virburnum trilobum*.

3. The Watchlist species (*Carya lacinosa, Castanea dentata, Taxis canadensis*) reported in close proximity to the proposed LOD – do we know whether these will be impacted by the project? No mitigation would be required of course, but if they could be avoided easily, that would be ideal. Also, thank you for taking the time to document these locations.

Some refinements to the right of way and centerline are currently under review, with efforts being made to minimize impacts.

Taxus canadensis- The individual of this species is located in an area that will not be impacted by the project due to its location and ownership. The plant is located within a riparian stream buffer and no tree clearing will occur in that vicinity. Further, the plant in question is also located on a property that is not going to be impacted by the project.

Carya lacinosa and *Castanea dentata* – Multiple individuals of these species were located within ESI's survey boundary. The northern most identified individuals are located in the same area as the American Yew (Taxus candadensis) that will not be impacted by the project. As noted above, this is within a riparian stream buffer and no tree clearing will occur in that vicinity. Some shellbark hickories located along Lexington Road will be impacted by the project due to the constraints associated with an HVDC cable. In order for the cable to function properly, a certain amount of moisture must be in the soil for thermal conductivity and dissipation, and deep tree roots tend to remove the required moisture. Soil analysis was conducted over the summer to evaluate ways to minimize the amount of tree clearing that would be necessary.

Along Lexington Road, ITC's intent is to seek PennDOT concurrence to place the transmission line under the pavement of Lexington Road. If PennDOT is agreeable to placement of the line under the road pavement, the goal of minimizing tree impacts would be accomplished by keeping the Project LOD within the pre-existing road right of way, with the duct bank being approximately 25 feet from the edge of the existing ROW edge. This step would allow ITC to avoid some of the shellbarks, but the soil borings and engineering studies have confirmed that those shellbarks within the Road ROW and hence the LOD will need to be removed. However, if PennDOT is not agreeable to transmission line placement under the pavement, the line would need to be placed within the currently unpaved portion of the road right of way, which would necessitate tree clearing to extend 10 ft to 20 ft beyond the Lexington Road right of way (and perhaps even further near the intersection with Springfield Road).

If you would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Thanks!

Jason Ryndock | Ecological Information Specialist PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry | Natural Heritage Section 400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone: 717.705.2822 | Fax: 717.772.0271 E-mail: <u>c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>

Schawalder, Kristen

From:	Ryndock, Jason <c-jryndock@pa.gov></c-jryndock@pa.gov>
Sent:	Friday, December 04, 2015 2:53 PM
То:	Schawalder, Kristen
Cc:	dsparks@envsi.com; Browne, Peter
Subject:	RE: ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions
Attachments:	20140521451998_Erie_NI_perSurvey_jar.pdf
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Hi Kristen,

Thanks for investigating my questions and providing a detailed response. Based on what you've reported, I'm comfortable with providing PNDI clearance for this project. Attached is a DCNR determination letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Have a nice weekend,

Jason Ryndock | Ecological Information Specialist PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry | Natural Heritage Section 400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone: 717.705.2822 | Fax: 717.772.0271 E-mail: <u>c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>

From: Schawalder, Kristen [mailto:Kristen.Schawalder@hdrinc.com] Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:17 PM To: Ryndock, Jason Cc: dsparks@envsi.com; Browne, Peter Subject: RE: ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions

Hi Jason,

Please see our responses below in blue. Let me know if you have additional questions or comments.

Thank you,

Kristen Schawalder D 412.497.6247 C 412.559.6012

hdrinc.com/follow-us

From: Ryndock, Jason [<u>mailto:c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>] Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2015 9:23 AM To: Schawalder, Kristen Cc: <u>dsparks@envsi.com</u> Subject: ITC Lake Erie Connector Project - botanical report questions

Hi Kristen,

Thank you for submitting a botanical report for the ITC Lake Erie Connector Project. I have a few questions concerning some of the species found on site.

1. *Carex lupuliformis* (proposed PA Endangered) was reported in the full species list. This species is very similar to the common *Carex lupulina*. Could this have been a typo?

As requested, the ESI botanist (Mr. Larry Brewer) identified the species in question to be *Carex lupulina* not *Carex lupuliformis*. The two species are very similar and he had made a comment on his draft list noting that he had examined the fruits (perigynium) of the plants using a hand lens to ensure the correct identification. That annotation was mis-interpreted when the list was compiled.

2. *Viburnum opulus* was reported as well. It is often confused with the native *Viburnum trilobum* (proposed PA Threatened), which has been documented extensively in Erie County. I'm curious about the confidence of this identification and whether it can be validated.

The botanist is confident in the identification. He recorded all of his data as *Viburnum opulus var. opulus* as opposed to *Viburnum opulus var. americanum* (which is a synonym of *Virburnum trilobum*). He checked the IDs by examining glands on the petioles on numerous specimens during all three field trips. None were *Virburnum trilobum*.

3. The Watchlist species (*Carya lacinosa, Castanea dentata, Taxis canadensis*) reported in close proximity to the proposed LOD – do we know whether these will be impacted by the project? No mitigation would be required of course, but if they could be avoided easily, that would be ideal. Also, thank you for taking the time to document these locations.

Some refinements to the right of way and centerline are currently under review, with efforts being made to minimize impacts.

Taxus canadensis- The individual of this species is located in an area that will not be impacted by the project due to its location and ownership. The plant is located within a riparian stream buffer and no tree clearing will occur in that vicinity. Further, the plant in question is also located on a property that is not going to be impacted by the project.

Carya lacinosa and *Castanea dentata* – Multiple individuals of these species were located within ESI's survey boundary. The northern most identified individuals are located in the same area as the American Yew (Taxus candadensis) that will not be impacted by the project. As noted above, this is within a riparian stream buffer and no tree clearing will occur in that vicinity. Some shellbark hickories located along Lexington Road will be impacted by the project due to the constraints associated with an HVDC cable. In order for the cable to function properly, a certain amount of moisture must be in the soil for thermal conductivity and dissipation, and deep tree roots tend to remove the required moisture. Soil analysis was conducted over the summer to evaluate ways to minimize the amount of tree clearing that would be necessary.

Along Lexington Road, ITC's intent is to seek PennDOT concurrence to place the transmission line under the pavement of Lexington Road. If PennDOT is agreeable to placement of the line under the road pavement, the goal of minimizing tree impacts would be accomplished by keeping the Project LOD within the pre-existing road right of way, with the duct bank being approximately 25 feet from the edge of the existing ROW edge. This step would allow ITC to avoid some of the shellbarks, but the soil borings and engineering studies have confirmed that those shellbarks within the Road ROW and hence the LOD will need to be removed. However, if PennDOT is not agreeable to transmission line placement under the pavement, the line would need to be placed within the currently unpaved portion of the road right of way, which would necessitate tree clearing to extend 10 ft to 20 ft beyond the Lexington Road right of way (and perhaps even further near the intersection with Springfield Road).

If you would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Thanks!

Jason Ryndock | Ecological Information Specialist PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry | Natural Heritage Section 400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone: 717.705.2822 | Fax: 717.772.0271 E-mail: <u>c-jryndock@pa.gov</u>



BUREAU OF FORESTRY

December 4, 2015

PNDI Number: 20140521451998

Kristen Schawalder HDR Engineering, Inc. 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Email: kristen.schawalder@hdrinc.com (hard copy will not follow)

Re: Lake Erie CleanPower Connector Transmission Project – Botanical Report Conneaut, Springfield & Girard Townships, Erie County, PA

Dear Ms. Schawalder,

Thank you for the submission of your field survey for Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Receipt Number 20140521451998 for review. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

No Impact Anticipated per Survey (with Conservation Measure)

PNDI records indicate species or resources under DCNR's jurisdiction are located in the vicinity of the project. DCNR requested a botanical survey on June 19, 2014. Surveys were conducted by Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc. in May and July of 2015. No state-listed species were found on the project site. Therefore, DCNR has determined that no impact is likely. No further coordination with our agency is needed for this project.

Conservation Measure – Voluntary Action

Two PA Watchlist species were identified within or adjacent to the project area: shellbark hickory (*Carya laciniosa*) and Canada yew (*Taxis canadensis*). These species do not currently receive formal protection but are being closely monitored in Pennsylvania. The Canada yew population and an associated large and healthy American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) will be avoided. Impacts to shellbark hickory will be minimized where possible.

DCNR recommends the following steps to help prevent the spread of invasive species:

- The area of disturbance should be minimized to the fullest extent that would allow for construction. This will help to lessen the area of soil and vegetation disturbance associated with this project.

- If possible, please clean all construction equipment and vehicles thoroughly (especially the undercarriage and wheels) before they are brought on site. This will remove invasive plant seeds from the equipment and undercarriages of the vehicles that may have been picked up at other sites.

- Avoid using seed mixes that include invasive plant species (e.g. crown vetch) to re-vegetate the area. Please also attempt to use weed-free straw or hay mixes when possible. More information about Pennsylvania invasive plants can be found here: *http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/conservationscience/invasivespecies/index.htm*

This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (2) years only. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter, please resubmit the project to this agency as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map). As a reminder, this finding applies to potential impacts under DCNR's jurisdiction only. Visit the PNHP website for directions on contacting the Commonwealth's other resource agencies for environmental review.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jason Ryndock, Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-705-2822) or via email (c-jryndock@pa.gov).

Sincerely

Bry Portinisinshi

Greg Podniesinski, Section Chief Natural Heritage Section

G-4: PA Fish and Boat Commission

- PFBC Response Letter dated August 26, 2014, September 16, 2014, and April 22, 2015
- PFBC Response Letter dated August 3, 2015 regarding threatened and endangered species impact review
- Subsequent consultation summary
- Lake Erie Connector Project Biological Assessment Eastern Sand Darter Report December 30, 2015 submission cover letter and title page.



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services Natural Diversity Section 450 Robinson Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-359-5237

August 26, 2014

IN REPLY REFER TO SIR# 42988

HDR Inc. Kristen Schawalder 11 Stanwix Street PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222

RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species PNDI Search No. 20140521451998 Lake Erie Clean Power Transmission Project. ERIE County: Conneaut Township, Girard Township, Springfield Township

Dear Ms. Schawalder:

This responds to your inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search "potential conflict" or a threatened and endangered species impact review. These projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files. These species of special concern are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Code (Chapter 75), or the Wildlife Code.

Rare or protected fish species are known from the vicinity of the project site. Fish species are especially vulnerable to physical (dredging, substrate modification, etc.) and chemical (turbidity, pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, heavy metals and organic contaminants) changes to their aquatic environment. Although the mobile adults of these protected fish species may be capable of moving from the project area, their spawning grounds (including eggs, fry, and immature fish) are vulnerable to burial, crushing by equipment, and siltation from in-stream construction projects. We are concerned about potential impacts to the fish, eggs and the hatching fry from any instream work. Therefore, we request no in-stream activity be conducted from **May 1 to July 31** in order to avoid adverse impacts during the spawning season for these species. Likewise, all work should be done during low flow periods, and strict erosion and sedimentation control measures need to be employed. Provided that these recommendations are followed, as well as best management practices and an approved erosion and sedimentation control plan is maintained, then I do not anticipate the proposed activity to have any significant adverse impacts to the species of special concern.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data and our files and is valid for two (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded species information does not necessarily imply species absence. Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered, and consultation shall be reinitiated.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Kelly Malloy at 814-359-5239 and refer to the SIR # 42988. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

Churtophen Cl. Culum

Christopher A. Urban, Chief Natural Diversity Section

CAU/khm/dn



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services Natural Diversity Section 450 Robinson Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-359-5237

September 16, 2014

IN REPLY REFER TO SIR# 43134

HDR Inc. Kristen Schawalder 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species PNDI Search No. Lake Erie Cleanpower Connector. ERIE County:

Dear Kristen Schawalder:

This responds to your inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search "potential conflict" or a threatened and endangered species impact review. These projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files. These species of special concern are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Code (Chapter 75), or the Wildlife Code.

Cisco (*Coregonus artedi*, Endangered) Eastern Sand Darter (*Etheostoma pellucida*, Endangered) Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*, Endangered)

Rare or protected fish species are known from the vicinity of the project site. Given the status and sensitivity of the species of concern, we will need more information to allow for a more thorough evaluation of potential adverse impacts from the proposed project. Items such as a detailed narrative accurately describing the project including possible instream work, **stream crossings**, sequence and types of activities, **basic site plans and map**, aerial maps of the general area, project alternatives, stream characterizations, wetlands/waterways and acreage to be impacted, general habitat descriptions or onsite color photographs (keyed to a site map) would expedite our review process. Pending the review of this information a survey for the species of concern may be warranted.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data and our files and is valid for two (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded species information does not necessarily imply species absence. Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered, and consultation shall be reinitiated.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Doug Fischer at 814-359-5195 and refer to the SIR # 43134. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

Churton Cl. Culum

Christopher A. Urban, Chief Natural Diversity Section

CAU/DF/dn



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services Natural Diversity Section 450 Robinson Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-359-5237

April 22, 2015

IN REPLY REFER TO SIR# 44026

HDR Inc. Kristen Schawalder 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species PNDI Search No. Lake Erie Connector Geotechnical Sampling Project. ERIE County: Springfield Township

Dear Kristen Schawalder:

This responds to your inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search "potential conflict" or a threatened and endangered species impact review. These projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files. These species of special concern are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Code (Chapter 75), or the Wildlife Code.

An element occurrence of a rare, candidate, threatened, or endangered species under our jurisdiction is known from the vicinity of the proposed project. However, given the nature of the proposed project, the immediate location, or the current status of the nearby element occurrence(s), no adverse impacts are expected to the species of special concern.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data and our files and is valid for two (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded species information does not necessarily imply species absence. Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered, and consultation shall be reinitiated.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Doug Fischer at 814-359-5195 and refer to the SIR # 44026. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

Chinter Cl. Culum

Christopher A. Urban, Chief Natural Diversity Section

CAU/DF/dn



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services Natural Diversity Section 450 Robinson Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-359-5237

August 3, 2015

IN REPLY REFER TO SIR# 43134

HDR Inc. Kristen Schawalder 11 Stanwix Street Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species PNDI Search No. Lake Erie Cleanpower Connector. ERIE County:

Dear Kristen Schawalder:

This responds to your inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search "potential conflict" or a threatened and endangered species impact review. These projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files. These species of special concern are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Code (Chapter 75), or the Wildlife Code.

Cisco (*Coregonus artedi*, Endangered) Eastern Sand Darter (*Etheostoma pellucida*, Endangered) Lake Sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*, Endangered)

Rare or protected fish species are known from the vicinity of the project site. Fish species are especially vulnerable to physical (dredging, substrate modification, etc.) and chemical (turbidity, pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, heavy metals and organic contaminants) changes to their aquatic environment. Although the mobile adults of these protected fish species may be capable of moving from the project area, their spawning grounds (including eggs, fry, and immature fish) are vulnerable to burial, crushing by equipment, and siltation from in-stream construction projects. We are concerned about potential impacts to the fish, eggs and the hatching fry. Therefore, we request no work involving the lake bottom (substrate) be conducted in waters 60 meters or less from **April 1 to August 31 and October 15 to January 15** in order to avoid adverse impacts during the spawning seasons.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

Provided that these recommendations are followed, as well as best management practices and an approved erosion and sedimentation control plan is maintained, then I do not anticipate the proposed activity to have any significant adverse impacts to the species of special concern.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data and our files and is valid for two (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded species information does not necessarily imply species absence. Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered, and consultation shall be reinitiated.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Doug Fischer at 814-359-5195 and refer to the SIR # 43134. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

Churton Ce. Culum

Christopher A. Urban, Chief Natural Diversity Section

CAU/DF/dn

Subsequent consultation with PFBC

During a conference call between ITC and PFBC representatives on August 28, 2015, PFBC staff stated that they were not concerned about Project construction effects on lake sturgeon and cisco, given PFBC's review of additional information received regarding Project construction activities. However, PFBC asked if in-lake project construction on the U.S. side in water depths less than 20 m could be conducted outside of June and July to protect potentially spawning eastern sand darter. ITC explained that it needed to conduct construction during those months because construction will take about six months during each of two years, that such construction work needs to occur during good weather months on the Lake, and that given Lake weather patterns, June and July were critical parts of the period when suitable construction conditions were available. In response, PFBC indicated that if construction activities need to occur in waters less than 20 m deep in June and July, then ITC should develop and submit a Biological Assessment. The assessment would investigate steps to avoid adverse effects, minimize damage, and then mitigate effects to potential eastern sand darter habitat and individuals. The assessment would use the best available science to estimate the potential area of impact and numbers of darters that that might be lethally taken. After review of such an assessment, PFBC would then issue a special take permit with respect to the eastern sand darter. ITC has completed an eastern sand darter Biological Assessment in consultation with PFBC and submitted it to PFBC, copying Jim Grazio, PADEP, for review on December 30, 2015. This assessment is included as an attachment to the Environmental Assessment found in Section L of this permit application package.
Doody, Andrew

From:	Browne, Peter
Sent:	Wednesday, December 30, 2015 6:37 PM
То:	'Urban, Chris'; 'Fischer, Douglas'
Cc:	'jagrazio@pa.gov'; daniryan@pa.gov; Schawalder, Kristen; Jamieson, Andrew (AJAMIESON@Itctransco.com)
Subject:	Lake Erie Connector - Eastern Sand Darter BA
Attachments:	Slingshot.txt

<u>Download Slingshot file(s)</u> | New User? Click <u>here</u>. 20151230_LEC_Eastern_Sand_Darter_BA.pdf;

Access <u>Slingshot.hdrinc.com</u> home page

Hi Chris and Doug,

In follow up to our discussions related to the Lake Erie Connector Project and for your review, please find a draft Biological Assessment for the eastern sand darter. Please don't hesitate to call with any questions.

Best regards,

Peter

Peter Browne Senior Consultant, Renewable Energy Services

HDR 970 Baxter Boulevard, Suite 301 Portland, ME 04103 207.239.3863 peter.browne@hdrinc.com

hdrinc.com/follow-us

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT EASTERN SAND DARTER



Prepared for: ITC Lake Erie Connector LLC Novi, Michigan

> Prepared by: HDR Engineering, Inc. Portland, Maine

> > December 2015

FC

CONTENTS OF REPORT NOT INCLUDED

G-5: PA Game Commission

• PGC Response Letter Dated March 23, 2015



Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection 717-783-5957

March 23, 2015

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Game Commission 2001 ELMERTON AVENUE HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9797

"To manage all wild birds, mammals and their habitats for current and future generations."

ADMINISTRATION	.717-787-5670
HUMAN RESOURCES	.717-787-7836
FISCAL MANAGEMENT	717-787-7314
CONTRACTS AND	
PROCUREMENT	.717-787-6594
LICENSING	.717-787-2084
OFFICE SERVICES	.717-787-2116
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT	.717-787-5529
INFORMATION & EDUCATION	717-787-6286
WILDLIFE PROTECTION	.717-783-6526
WILDLIFE HABITAT	
MANAGEMENT	717-787-6818
REAL ESTATE DIVISION	717-787-6568
AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY	
SERVICES	717-787-4076

ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:

www.pgc.state.pa.us

Large Project PNDI Review

Kristen Schawalder HDR 11 Stanwix Steet, Suite 800 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Kristen.Schawalder@hdrinc.com

Re: ITC Lake Erie Connector Update – Transmission Springfield, Girard, & Conneaut Townships, Erie County, PA

Dear Ms Schawalder,

Thank you for submitting your Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Large Project Environmental Review request. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only.

No Impact Anticipated

PNDI records indicate that no known occurrences of species or resources of concern under PGC jurisdiction occur in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, the above-referenced project is not expected to impact any birds or mammals of concern, and no further coordination with the PGC is necessary for this project at this time.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is <u>valid for two</u> (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on site. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered.

Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter, please resubmit the project to this agency as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map). If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements under this agency for two additional years.

This finding applies to impacts to birds and mammals only. To complete your review of state and federally-listed threatened and endangered species and species of special concern, please be sure that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and/or the PA Fish and Boat Commission have been contacted regarding this project as directed by the online PNDI ER Tool found at <u>www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Im Tauchy

John Taucher Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3632 Fax: 717-787-6957 E-mail:jotaucher@pa.gov

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

cc: File

SECTION H: PLANS

- Project PlansSite Plans, Cross Sectional Drawings, and Profiles

H-1: Project Plans



ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

See Page



Wetland

Pond

River | Stream





(1)

See Page





ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

See Page 1



PUB

PSS

PFO

PEM

Wetland Shovel Test

Upland

Wetland

Pond

River | Stream

US Route

State Route

Local Road

Contour (10ft.)

Railroad

Document Path: N.\GIS2\Projects\Lake_Erie_Power_Corporation\211948_SubseaCable_SM_Task1\Map_Docs\Final\Environmental_Reports\Wetland_Waterbodies\LEPC_Appendix_A_EA_Alignment_Map_20160114.mxd

Proposed AC Cable Route

Construction Laydown LOD

Proposed Converter Station Site

Map information was compiled from the best available public sources. No warranty is made for its accuracy and completeness.

Cable Route LOD

Proposed Underwater Cable Route







x(3)+

(4) - (5) - (6)

LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA





PSS

PFO

PEM

Upland

Wetland

Pond

River | Stream

State Route

Local Road

Contour (10ft.)

→ Railroad

Proposed Underwater Cable Route

Proposed Converter Station Site

Map information was compiled from the best available public sources. No warranty is made for its accuracy and completeness.

Construction Laydown LOD

Cable Route LOD





Page



LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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LAKE ERIE CONNECTOR PROJECT ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA







ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



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ERIE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA





See Page







LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY













LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY







REVISION	DATE	REMARKS		INTERPRETED BY	COMPILED BY	CHECKED BY
0	2015-11-26	Draft		AD, GK, MS, MW	MK	CT & MW
1	2015-12-16	First Revision		AD, GK, MS, MW	MK	CT
2	2016-01-13	Final		AD, GK, MS, MW	MK	CT & MW
SCALE: 1:10,000			PROJECTION: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N			
PROJECT #: 1408			FILE: 1408_LakeErie_2015PanelMap			



SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND LAKEBED FEATURES



LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY













LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY









SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND LAKEBED FEATURES



LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY







ty Chief: Colin Toole and Matt Savelle					
2014	2015	2015-Nearshore			
VAC (19.81 m Tug) Hemisphere R100 DGPS Hypack 2010 0DOM CV3 (200 kHz & 50 kHz) SV Plus V1 Sound TSS HPR Sensor Klein 3000 (100 kHz & 500 kHz) Applied Acoustics Boomer CSPLP 350, I Prover Source	VAC (19.81 m Tug) Hemisphere VS330 DGPS Hypack 2013 ODOM MB1 (220 kHz) Odom Digbar & SV Plus DMS-05 Klein 3000 (100 kHz & 500 kHz) Klein 3200 Chirp	RF-18 Seabed Hemisphere R100 DGPS Hypack 2013 ODOM CV100 (200 kHz & 33 kHz) SV Plus TSS HPR Sensor Klein 3000 (100 kHz & 500 kHz)			
Marine Magnetics Seaspy	Marine Magnetics Seaspy	Marine Magnetics Seaspy			
Universal Transverse 81" West of Greenwic Equator 500,000m East Nil m North	Mercator (Zone 17 N) th				
	and Matt Savelle 2014 VAC (19.81 m Tug) Hamisphere R 100 DDPS Hours State Control (200 Hirz & 50 HHz) Show C V Control (200 Hirz & 50 HHz) Applied Acoustics Booster Kein 3000 miser Vall Acoustics Booster Kein 3000 miser Kein 3000 miser Kein 3000 miser Kein Sono Hitz Marine Magnetics Seasiey Universal Transverse B1* West Greenwit Estoor Estoor Estoor Estoor Show North	and Matt Sevelet 2014 2015 2014 2015 Manufacture 100 0000 Manufacture 2000 0000 Manufacture			







LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY







AD, GK, MS, MW MK 2015-11-26 AD, GK, MS, MW MK CALE: 1:10,000 PROJECTION: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N ROJECT #: 1408 FILE: 1408_LakeErie_2015Par



SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND LAKEBED FEATURES



LEC PROPOSED ROUTE PROFILE AND SUB-BOTTOM GEOLOGY

	KP 93	KP 94	KP 95	KP 96	KP 97	KP 98	KP 99	KP 100	K
0 m		VC71 VC71A Top Fine Sand w Fine Gravel 4 m offline Top Fine Sand w Fine Gravel Middle - Top Fine Sand Bottom: Medium/Staff Sit		VC72 10 m offline Top: Fine to Medium Sand w. Middie: Mokum/Stiff Clay w. Bottom: Fine Sand	Ciay/Sit Ine Sand	VC73 31 m office Top Fine Sand w. ClaySit Motio: Fine Sand w. ClaySit Bottom: Modul@E Clayw. Trace Fine 5 Bottom: Modul@E Clayw. Trace Fine 5	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	VC74 VC 2 motiline 9 Tops Soft Clay/Slit w. Fine Sald To Middle: Stift Clay w. Trace Fills for Med Sand Md Botom: Multimit Clay w. Trac Grant Bio	.C75 Im offline Top: Fine Sand Middle: Medium/Stiff Clay/Siff Bottom: Medium/Stiff Clay
15 m-		Middle: Fine Sand Bottom: Solt Silt W. Clay		Unit 1					Unit 3
20 m-				Unit 3	4				
30 m-									
35 m-									
45 m-									
50 m-									
60 m									
65 m-									
75 m	KD 03					·····			<u> </u>

NOTES





80°25'30"W





SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND LAKEBED FEATURES





NOTES

42"0'0"N 4650000mN



H-2: Site Plans, Cross Sectional Drawings, and Profiles



SHEET INDEX

TITLE SHEET 2-14 ROUTE PLAN SHEETS

	PROPOSED CABLES
	PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	FLOODPLAIN BOUNDARY
	NPDES PERMIT BOUNDRY
	LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE
	EXISTING CONTOURS
	STREAMS (FIELD DELINEATED BY HDR, PER SHAPEFILE DATED 1/7/2016)
)	PONDS (FIELD DELINEATED BY HDR, PER SHAPEFILE DATED 10/5/2015)
₩	WETLANDS (FIELD DELINEATED BY HDR, PER SHAPEFILE DATED 1/7/2016)

1. PROPERTY AND RIGHT-OF-WAY LINES PLOTTED FROM SURVEY BY DAVID A. LAIRD ASSOCIATES, DRAWING REVISED 10/7/2015. 2. AERIAL IMAGERY AND CONTOURS FROM PA SPATIAL DATA ACCESS, CONTOUR INTERVAL 2 FEET.

FLOODPLAINS PLOTTED FROM FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS 42049C0330D, 42049C0309D, 42049C0307D, 42049C0144D.

CONSTRUCTION TIMING RESTRICTION

TREE CLEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 16 AND MARCH 31 AS THE USFWS REQUESTED TO AVOID IMPACTS TO BAT SPECIES. THIS CLEARING WINDOW WILL ALSO MINIMIZE

DEISS & HALMI ENGINEERING, INC. EDINBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 22, 2016


















				SHEET	9 OF 14
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16 FAIRVIEW	LANL EVER	DS N/F GREEN NURSERIES	/-		
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		SITE PLA	NS AND CROSS	S SECTIONAL	DRAWINGS
		LAKE E SCALE: AS SHOWN	APPROVED BY:	LCIOR	PROJECT
eet		1/22/2016	SPRINGFIELD TWP	P., GIRARD TWP COUNTY, PENNS	L, CONNEAUT TWP., YLVANIA
•	•		SS & Halmi E		Inc.
evisions	By	105 Meadville Street, Edinbo	ro PA 16412 PH. 814-734	1-3640 Fax 814-734-3643	drawing no.: 2080815-9















ENGINEERING												
ADE BY	DATE											
BOYES	9/18/14	UNDERGROUND CABLES										
AYOUT BY	DATE	CRASS SECTIONS										
ONTRERAS	9/18/14		00000-	-SEC	2110112							
ECKED BY	DATE											
DESIGN/ELECT	DATE											
ARDWELL	9/18/14											
T DESIGN/ACT	DATE	LOCATION NAME			SERVICE CENTER		SCALE					
							AS	NOTED				
ED FOR ISSUE	DATE	DRAWING NUMBER		REQUEST FOR WORK/WO		PROJECT DOCUMEN		NT LIST				
			SKDWG-001		,							
		1		1								

























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NOTES:

- 1. ROCK TRENCH WILL SLOPE TO MEET HDD SUMP.
- 2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE PENDING FINAL DESIGN.

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