

## **Appendix H**

### **Agency Consultation Letters**



## **National Marine Fisheries Service Correspondence**





August 12, 2014

Ms. Mary Colligan  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Protected Resources Division  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01931-2298

**Re: Project Review  
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC - PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania  
Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey**

Dear Ms. Colligan:

The PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), is a partnership with UGI Energy Services (UGIES), AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, and South Jersey Industries. The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

PennEast intends to file its certificate application for the PennEast Pipeline Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in mid-2015, and anticipates receiving authorization and starting construction in 2017. Permit applications with other federal, state, and local agencies will be submitted within similar timeframes as the certificate application. The permit proceedings conducted by these agencies will provide additional opportunities for public input and involvement. FERC's determination of public convenience and necessity includes a thorough, comprehensive environmental review of proposed projects, working closely with federal, state, and local agencies and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On behalf of PennEast, URS Corporation (URS) is requesting a Project Review for rare, candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for the PennEast Pipeline Project. A critical issues analysis was conducted for multiple routes using readily available secondary source data to select the **Least**



**Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)** route. Mapping depicting the environmental features evaluated for the preferred alternative is enclosed. We are asking for your review prior to the initiation of wetland and watercourse field surveys to be conducted this fall. We hope to concurrently identify any habitat for species under your agencies' jurisdiction at this time. The environmental study area will be a 400-foot corridor centered on the approximately 100-mile alignment. The anticipated permanent right-of-way (ROW) and temporary construction work area will be approximately 100-feet. The study area is wider than the disturbance area to allow for minor alignment shifts to avoid any sensitive resources that may be identified during the environmental field investigations.

The following are enclosed to facilitate your review:

- PennEast Project Fact Sheet; and
- CD containing:
  - shapefiles of the alignment;
  - USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps with project alignment; and
  - detailed maps depicting the project areas and known secondary source resources

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this request, please contact me at 610.832.1810 or [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com).

Sincerely,

Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
Enclosures (2)

cc: Mr. Anthony Cox (UGI)  
Mr. Dante D'Alessandro (UGI)

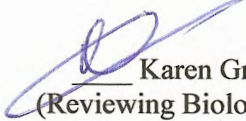


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Northeast Fisheries Science Center  
James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory  
74 Magruder Road  
Highlands, New Jersey 07732

September 18, 2014

TO: Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
URS Corporation  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428

SUBJECT: PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties, PA  
Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey

  
Karen Greene  
(Reviewing Biologist)

We have reviewed the information provided to us regarding the above subject project. We offer the following preliminary comments pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act:

#### **Endangered Species Act**

No threatened or endangered species under the jurisdiction of the NMFS are known to occur in the project area. As a result, further consultation by the federal action agency will not be necessary as part of the federal permit process. However, if project plans change that would alter the basis for this determination, or if new species or critical habitat is designated, consultation should be reinitiated.

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#### **Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act**

The Delaware River and its tributaries are a migratory pathways and a spawning, nursery and forage habitat for anadromous fishes including striped bass, alewife, blueback herring and American shad. Because landing statistics and the number of fish observed on annual spawning runs indicate a drastic decline in alewife and blueback herring populations throughout much of their range since the mid-1960's they have designated as a Species of Concern by NOAA. Any in-water work in these waterways should be avoided from March 1 to June 30 of each year to minimize adverse effects on migrating and spawning anadromous fishes. Wetland impacts should be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable and compensatory mitigation should be provided for unavoidable wetland impacts. Any wetlands impacted temporarily should be restored. If project plans change that would alter the basis for this determination, consultation should be reinitiated.

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#### **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act** **Essential Fish Habitat**

No essential fish habitat (EFH) has been designated in the project area. As a result, further EFH consultation by the federal action agency will not be necessary as part of the federal permit process. If project plans change that would alter the basis for this determination, or if new species or EFH is designated, consultation should be reinitiated. For a listing of EFH and further information, please go to our website at: [www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/habitat). If you wish to discuss this further, please call me at (732) 872-3023 or e-mail [karen.greene@noaa.gov](mailto:karen.greene@noaa.gov).









January 14, 2015

Ms. Karen Greene  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
74 Magruder Road  
Highlands, NJ 07732

Dear Ms. Greene:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



March 30, 2015

Ms. Karen Greene  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
74 Magruder Road  
Highlands, NJ 07732

Dear Ms. Greene:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has again been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on January 14, 2015.

Following feedback from FERC's scoping meetings and numerous conversations with landowners, state and local agencies, and other various stakeholders, PennEast has revised and refined various portions of the preferred alternative route. The largest variations to the previously released route are related to the location of the crossing of the Bethlehem Authority water supply mainline (MP 44 and MP 45), Appalachian Trail crossing (between MP 46 and MP 55), and accommodating future subdivision and housing development plans. Additional field data gained over the last month has helped make smaller adjustments related to environmental surveys and individual discussions with landowners.

In addition to the route variations noted above, an additional interconnect was needed for the Gilbert Power Generation facility in Holland Township, New Jersey, which is fed by a small lateral (12 inches) to supply natural gas to the facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.

A summary of the significant route variations is provided below:

- In Towamensing Township in Carbon County, PA, less than one mile of the alignment has been re-routed ¼-mile to the east as a result of consultations with the Bethlehem Authority (Authority). The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 44 and 45 to cross the Authority's water supply mainline in a location where it is deeper in an effort to maximize protection of the Authority's resources.
- Straddling the Carbon – Northampton County line in PA, approximately 8 miles of the alignment between mileposts 46 and 55 has been re-routed up to 1 mile to the west of the previous route in an effort to refine the crossing location of the Appalachian Trail.



- In Northampton County, PA, approximately 2.5 miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the north of the previous route as a result of consultations with private landowners and local officials. The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 59 and 62 to accommodate current and future land use plans in the area.
- In Holland Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, a new 12-inch lateral is needed to run from milepost 76.6 on the mainline pipeline route approximately ½-mile south to an interconnect with Elizabethtown Gas and the Gilbert Power Generation facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.
- In Holland Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, approximately two miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the south of the previous route to accommodate a future private development planned for the area.
- In West Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, approximately 1 mile of the alignment has been re-routed up to 1,000 feet east of the previous route to avoid a newly constructed home that was identified by a landowner.

Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100; Conshohocken, PA 19428

Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:44 AM  
**To:** 'karen.greene@noaa.gov'  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
D 1-610-832-3597 C 1-215-833-0566  
[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

AECOM

## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:15 AM  
**To:** 'karen.greene@noaa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.zip

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
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## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:15 PM  
**To:** 'karen.greene@noaa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:53 PM  
**To:** 'karen.greene@noaa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz; PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.zip

**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PennEast filed its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC September 24, 2015. PennEast filed route modifications with FERC February 22, 2016, and FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project July 22, 2016. Since the February 22, 2016 route update and issuance of the draft EIS, PennEast has studied an additional 33 minor route deviations to reduce impacts on endangered species and wetlands, increase co-location with existing utilities, and address feedback from collaborative discussions with landowners and regulatory agencies.

On September 23, 2016, PennEast filed with FERC the 33 route modifications and an updated project route, which is provided in the attached Google Earth kmz file and shapefiles for your review. A narrative describing each modification and the explanation for the proposed changes is available on the FERC eLibrary ([http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)) under Docket Number CP15-558-000.

*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**

Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

**AECOM**

625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428  
Telephone: 610-832-3500 Fax: 610-832-3501  
[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)



**Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and  
Natural Resources Correspondence**





August 12, 2014

Ms. Rebecca Bowen  
Chief, Ecological Services Section

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

**Re: Large Project PNDI Review  
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC - PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania**

Dear Ms. Bowen:

The PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), is a partnership with UGI Energy Services (UGIES), AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, and South Jersey Industries. The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

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On behalf of PennEast, URS Corporation (URS) is requesting a Large Project Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review update for rare, candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the PennEast Pipeline Project. A critical issues analysis was conducted for multiple routes using readily available secondary source data to select the **Least**

Page | 1



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  - USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps with project alignment; and
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Sincerely,

Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Anthony Cox (UGI)  
Mr. Dante D'Alessandro (UGI)

### How to Use the PNDI Large Project Form

***If your Project is a “Large Project”***— too large/long to search on the online system  
Projects are considered “Large Projects” when the ENTIRE project is:

- Linear/Large Projects that exceed the PNDI online project size limits of 10 miles in length or 5165 acres
- Township-wide, Countywide or Statewide Projects. Examples: Act 537 Sewage Plans, Wind Farms, Roadway Improvements exceeding map limits above.

Due to system limitations and agency requirements, projects should not be submitted piecemeal. The entire project area including roads and infrastructure should be submitted as a single unit.

### What to Send to Jurisdictional Agencies

Send the following information to all of the agencies listed on the Large Project Form.

#### **Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:**

- \_\_\_ Completed Large Project Form
- \_\_\_ Supplemental project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristics of the site and acreage to be impacted.
- \_\_\_ USGS 7.5-minute Quadrangle with project boundary clearly indicated, and quad name on the map

#### **The inclusion of the following information may expedite the review process.**

- \_\_\_ GIS shapefiles depicting the project extent
- \_\_\_ A basic site plan (particularly showing the relationship of the project to the physical features such as wetlands, streams, ponds, rock outcrops, etc.)
- \_\_\_ Color photos keyed to the basic site plan (i.e. showing on the site plan where and in what direction each photo was taken and the date of the photos)
- \_\_\_ Information about the presence and location of wetlands in the project area, and how this was determined (e.g., by a qualified wetlands biologist), if wetlands are present in the project area, provide project plans showing the location of all project features, as well as wetlands and streams

### PNDI Large Project Form Definitions

***Applicant:*** Person that owns the property or is proposing the project or activity

***Contact Person:*** Person to receive response if different than applicant (e.g. Consultant)

***Project Name:*** Descriptive title of project (e.g. Twin Pines Subdivision, Miller Bridge Replacement)

***Proposed Activity:*** Include ALL earth disturbance activities for project (e.g. for a timber sale—include stream crossings, cutting areas and new roadway accesses). Also include Current Conditions (e.g. housing, farmland, current land cover), and how Construction/Maintenance Activity is to be accomplished

***Total Acres of Property:*** Entire site acreage (e.g. timber sale property—including road access (200 acres))

***Acreage to be Impacted:*** Disturbance acreage (e.g. timber sale—if the property is 200 acres, but only 100 acres will be disturbed, for example: cutting on 90 acres, a road impacting 10 acres); include all temporary and permanent activities



# Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

## LARGE PROJECT FORM

This form provides site information necessary to perform an Environmental Review for special concern species and resources listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code or the Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code.

### Applicant Information

Name: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC  
Address: One Meridian Blvd., Suite 2c01 Wyomissing, PA 19610

Phone Number: 844-347-7119 Fax Number:

### Contact Person Information - if different from applicant

Name: Bernie Holcomb  
Address: 625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pa 19428  
Phone Number: 610-832-1810 Fax Number: 610-832-3501  
Email: bernard.holcom

### Project Information

Project Name: Penneast Pipeline Project  
Project Reference Point (center point of project): Latitude: Longitude: Datum:  
Municipality: Multiple County: Luzerne -- Bucks  
 Attach a copy of a U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map with Project Boundaries clearly marked.  
U.S.G.S. Quad Name: Multiple  
Provide GIS shapefiles showing the project boundary (strongly recommended)

### Project Description

#### Proposed Project Activity (including ALL earth disturbance areas and current conditions)

The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

Total Acres of Property: 5118 Acreage to be Impacted: 1283

1. Will the entire project occur in or on an existing building, parking lot, driveway, road, maintained road shoulder, street, runway, paved area, railroad bed, or maintained lawn? Yes  No
2. Are there any waterways or waterbodies (intermittent or perennial rivers, streams, creeks, tributaries, lakes or ponds) in or near the project area, or on the land parcel? If so, how many feet away is the project? Yes  Within Feet No
3. Are wetlands located in or within 300 feet of the project area? Yes  No  If No, is this the result of a wetland delineation? Tbd
4. How many acres of tree removal, tree cutting or forest clearing will be necessary to implement all aspects of this project? Tbd

#### Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market St., PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
fax: 717-772-0271

#### PA Game Commission

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

#### PA Fish and Boat Commission

Natural Diversity Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

#### US Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Biologist  
315 South Allen St., Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801  
no faxes please



September 17, 2014

**PNDI Number: 22372**

**Deboran Poppel**  
**URS Corporation**

Email: Deborah.poppel@urs.com (hard copy will NOT follow)

**Re: PennEast Pipeline**  
**New 100-mile 30-inch Pipeline**  
**Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA**

Dear Ms. Poppel,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Receipt Number **22372** 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.

The current proposed alignment will affect State Park Lands. If you have not already done so please contact Stephanie Livelsberger at [slivelsberger@pa.gov](mailto:slivelsberger@pa.gov) or 717.783.3308 to facilitate coordination with DCNR Bureau of State Parks. This letter applies to PNDI impacts only and does not authorize the initiation of any work on State Park Land.

### **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.

### **Survey Request**

There are species known nearby that use habitat type may be present on the site; therefore, we are requesting a qualified botanist conduct a survey for the species in the attached chart at *the appropriate time of year and then submitted to our office for review*. In the attached excel file "22372\_PennEast\_ResourceLists" the worksheet tab "Species Targets by Municipality" lists all resources in project vicinity and can be sorted by resource or township. The "Plant and Lepidoptera Info" tab provides habitat and flowering time information from *The Plants of Pennsylvania, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, by Rhoads and Block and information about Lepidoptera gathered from the internet. Plant community information can be found under the "Community Info" worksheet tab.

Please note that the Lepidoptera species and communities noted are listed for informational purposes and are not targets for a survey. If these resources are observed onsite DCNR suggests voluntary avoidance and minimization, except on DCNR land where it may be required.

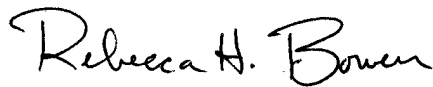
**Your botanist should carefully review the new DCNR Botanical Survey Protocols available at <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx>. These protocols are recommended to ensure that the all necessary information is collected and that survey reports are prepared properly. It is the expectation of DCNR that these protocols will be followed when conducting surveys for species under our jurisdiction.** 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 onsite a survey may not be necessary; please submit a habitat assessment report which describes the current land cover, habitat types and species found onsite.

This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two years. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. For PNDI project updates, please see the PNHP website at [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us) for guidance. 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 Emilee Boyer Euker, Ecological Information Specialist at 717.787.7067 or [c-eboyer@pa.gov](mailto:c-eboyer@pa.gov).

Sincerely,



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

## Resources in the vicinity of the PennEast Pipeline project, PNDI # 22372.

Species Name	Common Name	Species Name	Common Name
<i>Ageratina aromatica</i>	Small White-snakeroot	<i>Lycaena epixanthe</i> *	Bog Copper
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Western Hairy Rock-cress	<i>Myrica gale</i>	Sweet-gale
<i>Bartonia paniculata</i>	Screw-stem	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	Broad-leaved Water-milfoil
<i>Carex brevior</i>	A Sedge	<i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i>	Northern Water-milfoil
<i>Carex disperma</i>	Soft-leaved Sedge	<i>Papaipema sp. 1</i> *	Flypoison Borer Moth
<i>Carex longii</i>	Long's Sedge	<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	Downy Phlox
<i>Carex paupercula</i>	Bog Sedge	<i>Piptatherum pungens</i>	Slender Mountain-ricegrass
<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	Variable Sedge	Pitch pine - rhodora - scrub oak woodland *	
<i>Carex sprengelii</i>	Sedge	<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	White Fringed-orchid
<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i>	Button-bush Dodder	<i>Poa languida</i>	Drooping Bluegrass
<i>Cuscuta compacta</i>	Dodder	<i>Poa paludigena</i>	Bog Bluegrass
<i>Cyperus schweinitzii</i>	Schweinitz's Flatsedge	<i>Polygonum careyi</i>	Carey's Smartweed
<i>Cystopteris tennesseensis</i>	Bladder Fern	<i>Potamogeton confervoides</i>	Tuckerman's Pondweed
<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	Wild Bleeding-hearts	<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i>	Spotted Pondweed
<i>Eleocharis intermedia</i>	Matted Spike-rush	<i>Prunus pumila</i> var. <i>depressa</i>	
<i>Ellisia nyctelea</i>	Ellisia	<i>Prunus pumila</i> var. <i>susquehanae</i>	
Ephemeral/fluctuating natural pool *		<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i> var. <i>diffusus</i>	White Water-crowfoot
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Marsh Willow-herb	Red spruce palustrine woodland *	
<i>Eurybia radula</i>	Rough-leaved Aster	<i>Rosa virginiana</i>	Virginia Rose
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping Snowberry	<i>Schoenoplectus subterminalis</i>	Water Bulrush
<i>Hemipachnobia monochromatea</i> *	Sundew Cutworm Moth	<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	Northeastern Bulrush
Herbaceous vernal pond *		<i>Sedum rosea</i>	Roseroot Stonecrop
<i>Iris cristata</i>	Crested Dwarf Iris	<i>Solidago speciosa</i> var. <i>speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod
<i>Juncus dichotomus</i>	Forked Rush	<i>Sparganium angustifolium</i>	Bur-reed
Leatherleaf - cranberry peatland *		<i>Symphotrichum ericoides</i>	White Heath Aster
<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Lupine	<i>Utricularia cornuta</i>	Horned Bladderwort

\* Please note that the Lepidoptera species and plant communities noted are listed for informational purposes and are not targets for a survey. If these resources are observed onsite DCNR suggests voluntary avoidance and minimization, except on DCNR land where it may be required.

conserve

sustain

enjoy

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

Species Name	Common Name	West					
		Dallas Twp.	Kingston Twp.	Wyoming Boro.	Wyoming Boro.	Jenkins Twp.	Plains Twp.
<i>Ageratina aromatica</i>	Small White-snakeroot						
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Western Hairy Rock-cress						
<i>Bartonia paniculata</i>	Screw-stem						
<i>Carex brevior</i>	A Sedge						
<i>Carex disperma</i>	Soft-leaved Sedge	x	x	x			
<i>Carex longii</i>	Long's Sedge						x
<i>Carex paupercula</i>	Bog Sedge						
<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	Variable Sedge						
<i>Carex sprengei</i>	Sedge						
<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i>	Button-bush Dodder						
<i>Cuscuta compacta</i>	Dodder						
<i>Cyperus schweinitzii</i>	Schweinitz's Flatsedge						
<i>Cystopteris tennesseensis</i>	Bladder Fern						
<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	Wild Bleeding-hearts						
<i>Eleocharis intermedia</i>	Matted Spike-rush						
<i>Ellisia nyctelea</i>	Ellisia						
Ephemeral/fluctuating natural pool *							
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Marsh Willow-herb						
<i>Eurybia radula</i>	Rough-leaved Aster						
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping Snowberry						
<i>Hemipachnobia monochromatea</i> *	Sundew Cutworm Moth						
Herbaceous vernal pond *							
<i>Iris cristata</i>	Crested Dwarf Iris						
<i>Juncus dichotomus</i>	Forked Rush						
Leatherleaf - cranberry peatland *							
<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Lupine						x
<i>Lycaena epixanthe</i> *	Bog Copper						
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Sweet-gale						
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	Broad-leaved Water-milfoil						
<i>Myriophyllum sibiricum</i>	Northern Water-milfoil						
<i>Papaipema sp. 1</i> *	Flypoison Borer Moth						
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	Downy Phlox						
<i>Piptatherum pungens</i>	Slender Mountain-ricegrass						
Pitch pine - rhodora - scrub oak woodland *							
<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	White Fringed-orchid						

<i>Poa languida</i>	Drooping Bluegrass	
<i>Poa paludigena</i>	Bog Bluegrass	
<i>Polygonum careyi</i>	Carey's Smartweed	
<i>Potamogeton confervoides</i>	Tuckerman's Pondweed	
<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i>	Spotted Pondweed	
<i>Prunus pumila var. depressa</i>		
<i>Prunus pumila var. susquehanae</i>		x
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis var. diffusus</i>	White Water-crowfoot	
Red spruce palustrine woodland *		
<i>Rosa virginiana</i>	Virginia Rose	
<i>Schoenoplectus subterminalis</i>	Water Bulrush	
<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	Northeastern Bulrush	
<i>Sedum rosea</i>	Roseroot Stonecrop	
<i>Solidago speciosa var. speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod	
<i>Sparganium angustifolium</i>	Bur-reed	
<i>Symphotrichum ericoides</i>	White Heath Aster	
<i>Utricularia cornuta</i>	Horned Bladderwort	x

\* Please note that the Lepidoptera species and communities noted are listed for informational purposes and are not required.

Bear Creek Twp.	Kidder Twp.	Penn Forest Twp.	Towamensing Twp.	Lower Towamensing Twp.	Moore Twp.	East Allen Twp.	Upper Nazareth Twp.	Lower Nazareth Twp.	Bethlehem Twp.
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not targets for a survey. If these resources are observed onsite DCNR suggests voluntary avoidance and minimi

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ization, except on DCNR land where it may



October 24, 2014

Ms. Emilee Boyer Euker  
Pennsylvania DCNR  
400 Market Street, P.O. Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Ms. Euker:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC approved PennEast for the pre-filing review process on October 8. The pre-filing process creates the framework for the environmental analysis and a formal structure for stakeholders along the proposed route to provide input and opinions regarding the project. The pre-filing application is available online at <http://elibrabry.ferc.gov>, docket PF15-1-000.

At this time we would like to invite the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to become a cooperating agency in the FERC process, and to actively engage with FERC's designated Environmental Project Manager for the PennEast Pipeline Project, Medha Kochhar. Ms. Kochhar can be contacted at (202) 502-8964. As a cooperating agency, FERC and/or PennEast may request your participation in bi-weekly project status calls and direct or interagency coordination meetings, as appropriate.

Only in the second month of a comprehensive, approximately three-year process, PennEast still is working to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we initially provided your agency with detailed project information. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been shifted approximately three-to-four miles to the northeast between mileposts 11 and 35 in Luzerne and Carbon counties. Other route adjustments have also been made in an effort to maximize co-location with existing utility easements. Overall, approximately 41 miles have been re-routed in Pennsylvania. Please note, however, that the current preferred alternative route remains in the same counties and townships as identified in our initial notification. Shapefiles for the adjusted preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Holcomb".

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

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**From:** Boyer, Emilee <c-eboyer@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 03, 2014 9:09 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** Livelsberger, Stephanie; Mong, David E (DCNR)  
**Subject:** FW: large project review (PennEast Pipeline Project)  
**Attachments:** dcnr\_003513-Guidelines for ROW.pdf; dcnr\_003516 - Siting Criteria.pdf; dcnr\_003528 - How To Apply.pdf; dcnr\_003527 - Illustration of Project Review.pdf

Hi Deborah, I'm sharing information on behalf on the Right-of-Way project team here in DCNR. Because the proposed pipeline will cross multiple State Parks, the PennEast project will be required by DCNR to follow the same process as any ROW on State Forest as outlined in our Application for Right of Way Review Process at <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/rightofways/index.htm>. The information at this link outlines the steps the applicant will need to take to have the project reviewed by the Large Projects Committee. Please be aware that our meeting tomorrow is intended to be an project introduction meeting and not the meeting to initiate the ROW review process. The meeting will also not grant approval to survey any DCNR lands; that comes after the project is approved by the ROW/Large Projects Committee.

If you have a proposed agenda to pass along for tomorrow's meeting, that would be helpful for us to prepare.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to the meeting tomorrow.

Regards,

**Emilee C. Boyer** | Ecological Information Specialist  
Bureau of Forestry | PA Natural Heritage Program  
Phone: 717.787.7067 | Fax: 717.772.0271  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us) | [www.iConservePA.org](http://www.iConservePA.org)



PennEast Pipeline Project

MEETING MINUTES

PA State Interagency Meeting

November 4, 2014

Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA

Date: November 4, 2014

**Attendees:**

Gregory Lech, PA Fish and Boat Commission  
Emilee Boyer, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Natural Heritage  
Stephanie Livelsberger, DCNR Bureau of State Parks  
Dave Mong, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, State Forests  
Rachel Wagner, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, State Parks  
John Coughlin, Western Land Services  
Chris Montanye, WLS  
Deborah Poppel, URS  
Jonathan West, URS

**Summary**

DCNR was provided with a folder including project maps. A project overview was provided (see agenda) which included a purpose and need for the project, a description of the proposed facilities, the FERC review process, and the status of environmental surveys and other activities. It was noted that biweekly update calls are held with FERC and the agencies were invited to become cooperating agencies during the pre-filing process.

During the meeting it was confirmed that PFBC did receive the shapefiles for the updated alignment; DCNR did not because of their internet security blocking certain files. (Subsequent to the meeting, the shapefiles were re-sent and confirmation was obtained for their receipt).

The DCNR representatives discussed the fact that they have a formalized process for PennEast or its contractors to obtain ROW permission. This includes all surveys (such as wetlands, civil, archeology, geotechnical) which must wait until the project application is submitted. The forms were provided to URS and WLS prior to the meeting via email. A pre-survey meeting is held and field surveys can commence if a certificate is granted. This includes additional surveys that the State Parks or State Forest may require (including botanical surveys).



The ROW application review process can take a few months from proposal to meeting plus 21 days to the survey permission. There are 4 main components to the application: 1) Application for ROW (form); 2) GIS shapefiles of the final route; 3) A project description and alternatives analysis (can be RR1 and RR10), and 4) PNDI review results (does not need to have the clearance letters).

Because these are public lands, we are free to access the lands to become familiar with the areas but they will not grant formal permission to survey; there is a form for "preliminary survey" work which can be processed fairly quickly. Chris Montanye said that he would complete and submit the one-page preliminary survey form ASAP.

It was noted that 85% of state parks are open to hunting. Currently it is archery season; rifle season starts December 1.

Ms. Boyer expressed concern over the draft Resource Reports being submitted May 1 (missing field seasons) when surveys may not be completed. It was explained that final reports would not be submitted until July and that it was expected that most, if not all, field work would be completed by that time. She noted that DCNR review may not be completed before the late summer or early fall of 2015 (and therefore clearance letters for permit applications will be pending). If habitat assessments rule out areas for survey, she requested that we let her know early. She prefers one report document for the whole alignment rather than "piecemeal" reports.

Mr. Lech from PFBC asked about the major river crossing techniques, for which it was noted that HDD is proposed.

Mr. Mong provided a powerpoint presentation of the DCNR ROW application process (printout included) at the conclusion of the meeting. It was agreed that URS Deputy PM Jon West would be the single point-of-contact for DCNR for the project.

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation

**REGULATORY AGENCY MEETING AGENDA**  
**PENNEAST PIPELINE PROJECT INTRODUCTION**

**PA Natural Resources Agencies**

**Attendance**

DCNR:

GC:

FBC:

URS: Deb Poppel; Jon West

**Introductions**

**Project Description**

- PennEast Pipeline LLC
- Designed to bring lower cost natural gas produced in the Marcellus Shale region in eastern Pennsylvania to homes and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- Planned capacity to transport approximately 1 Bcf of natural gas per day (“Bcf/d”)
- Facilities include a 36-inch diameter, 108-mile pipeline, extending from Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, to Mercer County, New Jersey. The system would be rated for a maximum allowable operating pressure (“MAOP”) of 1,480 psig.
- The mainline route includes construction of the new pipeline that originates near Dallas, Luzerne County, PA, and terminates near Pennington, Mercer County, NJ.
- Newly proposed 2.1 mile 24” lateral near Hellertown, Northampton County, PA to transport gas to an interconnection with UGI Utilities.
- Approximately 29 percent of the pipeline is co-located with other utilities.
- Major water crossings include the Susquehanna, Lehigh, and Delaware rivers and Beltzville Lake.

**Project Map Presentation - Pipeline**

**Compressor Stations**

- The project would include one compressor station located near Blakeslee in Kidder Township, Carbon County, PA (MP 25.5).
- 3 Taurus 70 units rated at 10,915 horsepower each under ISO conditions for a total of 26,733 available horsepower.

**FERC Filing & Process**

- EIS Pre-Filing Environmental Review Process
- Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

**Project Schedule; Open Houses**

Milestone	Date
Pre-Filing Request Accepted	October 10, 2014
Draft of all Resource Reports	May 1, 2015
Certificate Application	July 1, 2015
Final Environmental Document issued by FERC	August 1, 2016
Certificate Order	December 1, 2016
Mobilization and initial tree clearing	Winter, 2016
Construction (7 months)	Spring, 2017

Open Houses Schedule		
Wilkes-Barre, PA	<b>Monday, November 10 (Luzerne County)</b>	Coughlin High School 80 North Washington Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Bethlehem, PA	<b>Wednesday, November 12 (Northampton County)</b>	Hanover Township Community Center 3660 Jacksonville Road Bethlehem, PA 18017
New Jersey	<b>Thursday, November 13 (Mercer County)</b>	South Hunterdon Regional High School 301 Mt. Airy-Harbourton Road Lambertville, NJ 0853
Palmerton, PA	<b>Tuesday, November 18 (Carbon County)</b>	Aquashicola Volunteer Fire Company 270 Little Gap Road Palmerton, PA 18071

**Consultations & Permitting**

USFWS  
 USACE – Philly and Baltimore  
 PADEP – NE and SE  
 PADCNR  
 PFBC  
 NJSHPD  
 DRBC  
 CCD's

NMFS  
 NPS  
 NJDEP  
 PAGC  
 PAHMC  
 NJSADC  
 SRBC  
 Watersheds

**Status of Environmental Studies**

Survey Status - Completed					Documented Features	
As of: 10/30/2014					As of: 10/24/2014	
	Total Tracts	Centerline	Centerline (miles)	Centerline (%)	Archaeology	
Archaeological	134	90,083.61	17.06	16.13	Historical	
Historical	79	35,720.64	6.77	6.40	Wetlands	38
Wetlands	185	119,738.97	22.68	21.44	Waterbodies/Streams	63
T&E	0	0	0	0		





January 14, 2015

Ms. Deb Fisler  
Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Ms. Fisler:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a new preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments in Pennsylvania and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

February 20, 2015

**PNDI Large Project Number: 022407**

Bernie Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Email: [Bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:Bernard.holcomb@urs.com) (hard copy not to follow)

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Multiple Municipalities, Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Large Project # **022407** for review. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern 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 note our new survey protocols are available at <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx>.

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Current Status	PA Proposed Status	Township, County-GIS Area of concern (AOC), Approximate but not exact GPS Coordinates
<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	White-fringed orchid	Not listed	Endangered and <i>sensitive species</i>	<b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, west of Mud Swamp-several occurrences documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	Variable sedge	Endangered	Threatened	<b>Area 3:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Keipers Run, Hickory Run SP-75.612, 40.000- <b>Area 6 :</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest,

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				-75.631, 40.957, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Bartonia paniculata</i>	Screw-stem	Rare	Rare	<b>Area 3:</b> SGL 129 and just south: -75.627, 41.075-2 occurrences documented within proposed pipeline corridor- <b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Mud Swamp, Hickory Run SP- -75.620, 40.983- occurrence documented within proposed pipeline- <b>Area 6-</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest, -75.631, 40.952, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Carex collinsii</i>	Collin's sedge	Endangered	Threatened	<b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, west of Mud Swamp- -75.620, 40.983- potential habitat
<i>Eurybia radula</i>	Rough-leaved aster	Not listed	Threatened	<b>Area 6:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest, -75.631, 40.952, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping snowberry	Rare	Rare	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Wood Pond, Kidder Township, Carbon County- -75.655, 41.075- suitable habitat <b>Area 2:</b> West of SGL 129, -75.629, 41.051- suitable habitat
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Sweet gale	Threatened	Threatened	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Pond,

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				Kidder Township, Carbon County-75.657, 41.077-suitable habitat
<i>Carex paupercula</i>	Bog sedge	Threatened	Rare	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Pond, Kidder Township, Carbon County-75.657, 41.077-suitable habitat
<i>Dicentra exima</i>	Wild-bleeding hearts	Endangered	Endangered	<b>Area 7:</b> Towamensing Township, Carbon County, Beltzville State Park-75.559, 40.886-suitable habitat

**Survey Request**

DCNR requests a **survey** for the following species only if timber harvest/shrub/herbaceous cutting will occur within the next two years from this letter:

- *Platanthera blephariglottis* (white-fringed orchid)—habitat is bogs, peaty wetlands and swamps, particularly on floating sphagnum moss mats surrounding bog pools—locally documented at the bottom of an open slope in saturated to wet mesic soil—just outside the boundary of Hickory Run SP- flowers in June-August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15445.pdf>.
- *Carex polymorpha* (Variable sedge)—habitat is typically moist, peaty acidic areas where the forest is dominated by *Quercus alba* or *Acer rubrum* and the canopy is 70-90%.—locally documented along a small stream in a forested valley—also documented in a mixed red-maple-red oak-hemlock open woods along Pinoak Run with seepy sphagnum areas—flowering stems first appear in May and remain intact through the summer with the fruits persisting in place—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15108.pdf>.
- *Bartonia paniculata* (screw-stem)—habitat is bogs and peaty bog margins—locally documented as a small population on the border of Hickory Run SP and SGL # 129 and found within two small areas along the pipeline ROW, mostly in the ruts of the access road—locally documented in a forested valley along a small stream—also documented within a pipeline ROW with well-drained and poorly drained sections as well as sandy soil, Yellow Run area of Hickory Run SP area—flowers in August–October-
- *Carex collinsi* (Collin’s sedge)—habitat is sphagnum moss in acidic swamps and wet woods, often where conifers are a prominent part of the canopy—locally documented in a red maple-hemlock-highbush blueberry sphagnum peat forest of Mud Swamp—locally documented from late June – mid August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15018.pdf>.
- *Carex collinsi* (Collin’s sedge)—habitat is sphagnum moss in acidic swamps and wet woods, often where conifers are a prominent part of the canopy—locally documented in a red maple-hemlock-highbush blueberry sphagnum peat forest of Mud Swamp—locally documented from late June – mid August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15018.pdf>.
- *Eurybia radula* (rough-leaved aster)—habitat is wet woods, swamps, seeps, bogs, and along streams—locally documented along a pipeline right-of-way with well drained and poorly drained sections as well as sandy soil—flowers in July-September—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/13027.pdf>.
- *Gaultheria hispidula* (creeping snowberry)—habitat is sphagnum dominated areas on decaying logs, stumps, moss hummocks in bogs, peaty wetlands, and swamps—locally documented in a moist palustrine hemlock forest in a sphagnum hummock substrate—flowers in June, fruits in September, but evergreen foliage is identifiable all times of the year without significant snow cover—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/13724.pdf>.

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- *Myrica gale* (sweet gale)–habitat is boggy wetlands and along shorelines of lakes and streams–locally documented on a narrow fringe of bog mat in a small acidic glacial lake–flowers in May before leaves emerge but can be identified throughout the growing season–for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/14167.pdf>.
- *Carex paupercula* (bog sedge)–habitat is bogs and peaty wetlands–locally documented within boggy wetlands along Fourth Run in a forest matrix–flowers in May-July, fruits in June-August– for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15160.pdf>.
- *Dicentra eximina* (wild bleeding-hearts)–habitat is rich woods and cliffs–locally documented in open woods on fairly level land 2 miles of Forest Inn in Beltsville State Park-has not been seen since 1967 but suitable habitat still exists-flowers in June-July–
- 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 <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx>. 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*: [http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/hgis/Internet%20Field%20Survey%20Form\\_2007.pdf](http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/hgis/Internet%20Field%20Survey%20Form_2007.pdf). 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 more information becomes available and/or a habitat assessment is conducted, and potential suitable habitat for the above species is not present in the project site or will not be impacted, then contact me at [c-frsechle@pa.gov](mailto:c-frsechle@pa.gov) or 717-705-2819 and I can reissue a no impact letter.
- If the land type(s) does not exist onsite a survey may not be necessary; please submit a habitat assessment report which describes the current land cover, habitat types and species found onsite.
- If vegetation disturbance will not occur as the result of the proposed forest stewardship plan within the next two years of this letter, please contact me at the above email address or phone number and I can reissue a no impact letter.

**IMPORTANT:** To assist with your botanical survey efforts, we are providing ArcMAP shapefiles of GIS Areas of Concern (AOCs). These polygons are based on known locations or potential habitat of DCNR-regulated species or natural communities. Required surveys may be restricted to these AOCs. The survey may be further refined to suitable habitat within areas of anticipated disturbance. For example, if work is restricted to an existing open right-of-way, a survey for a forest-dwelling species would be unnecessary.

#### **PROJECTS ON STATE FOREST LANDS:**

A portion of this project takes place on the Weiser State Forest (District 18). The DCNR Bureau of Forestry's *State Forest Resource Management Plan* sets forth guidelines for ecologically-sound management of State Forest Lands and resources including protection of wetlands, wildlife, native wild plants and invasive species management. As such, the DCNR Bureau of Forestry may request additional surveys in association with this project. **This letter applies to PNDI impacts only and does not authorize the initiation of any work on State Forest Lands. Further coordination with the Bureau of Forestry is required.** If you have not already done so, please contact Tim Ladner, District Forester for Weiser State Forest, at 570-875-6450 for additional information.

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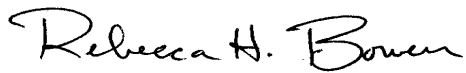
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This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (2) years only. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. Should 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 Frederick Sechler, Jr., Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-705-2819) or via email ([c-frsechle@pa.gov](mailto:c-frsechle@pa.gov)).**

Sincerely,



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

PennEast Pipeline Company LLC (PennEast)  
PennEast Pipeline Project

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)

*Summary of Initial Concerns*

*For a Pre-Survey Meeting March 18, 2015*

*Weiser State Forest – Forest District Office*

1) *Justification of Need*

DCNR - Bureau of Forestry

The Conservation and Natural Resources Act (act of June 28, 1995, P.L. 89, No. 18) provides DCNR with the authority to grant rights-of-way for pipelines or transmission corridors "... when it shall appear to the department that the grant of a right-of-way will not so adversely affect the land as to interfere with its usual and orderly administration, and when it shall appear that the interests of the Commonwealth and its citizens will be promoted by such grant."

*Please indicate how the right of way request addresses both of the above conditions.*

DCNR - Bureau of State Parks

The Administrative Code of 1929, Section 514 (AC 1929) provides DCNR with the authority to grant rights-of-way for pipelines or transmission corridors across State Park boundaries for public service utility lines regulated by PA Public Utility Commission (PUC).

*Please indicate how the right of way request would meet the above condition.*

Pursuant to the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, part of the Bureau's primary mission is to maintain, improve and preserve State parks as public natural resources. In managing State parks, the Bureau is to make available natural areas of unusual scenic beauty to promote healthful outdoor recreation and education and to provide facilities necessary for such purposes, while attempting to conceal the hand of man.

*Please indicate how the right of way request would address the mission of the state parks system as outlined above.*

As outlined in the *Departments Guidelines for Right of Way Development on PA State Forest and State Park Lands*, DCNR considers all State Parks, Natural and Wild Areas undesirable sites for ROW.

*What efforts would PennEast be willing to undertake to minimize impacts or to enhance the unique values that state parks systems provide?*

## 2) *Route Planning*

### **FRANCES SLOCUM, HICKORY RUN, BELTZVILLE, DELAWARE BUREAU OF STATE PARKS (BUREAU)**

To preserve the natural setting, soundscapes and viewsheds of state parks, the Bureaus goal is to limit the impacts to State Park natural, historical, cultural, educational, and recreational resources from the extraction of oil and gas resources, pipeline right-of-ways and seismic surveys. While the Bureau respects the extraction and development of oil and gas resources and the rights of mineral holders, all alternative pipeline routes that circumvent Pennsylvania State Parks should be considered.

#### a) Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) requires the land be retained for public outdoor recreation. Conversions are prohibited, EXCEPT for “underground utility easements that do not have significant impacts upon the recreational utility of the park” (LWCF Grants Manual, ch, 675.9, Par 3(A)(5)(a)). Generally, LWCF has considered utilities construction periods of less than 12 months as not constituting any sort of conversion. **Therefore, provided PennEast’s construction timeline is under 12 months, and there are no permanent surface structures, LWCF restrictions would not be applicable.**

- i) *PennEast would need to provide detailed construction plans to the Bureau of State Parks to include time line.*
- ii) *LWCF would apply to Frances Slocum, Hickory Run and Beltzville State Parks.*

Frances Slocum State Park - The proposed preferred alignment does not fall within an existing right of way (ROW). The proposed pipeline would require a new greenfield corridor further fragmenting and segmenting these areas of the park. The Bureau will seek land of equivalent value to the park to replace the land utilized for the pipeline project unless PennEast utilizes a ROW that was in existence when the park land was acquired.

*What other alternate route(s) have been considered in terms of new greenfield corridor off of DCNR lands; collocation within or in paralleling existing right of way corridors?*

Hickory Run State Park - The proposed preferred alignment collocates within or parallels an existing ROW. If PennEast would require an expansion of the ROW or create a new greenfield ROW (further fragmenting and segmenting these areas of the park), the Bureau will seek land of equivalent value to the park to replace the land utilized for the pipeline project unless PennEast utilizes a ROW that was in existence when the park land was acquired.



Beltzville State Park - The Bureau of State Parks is a lessee of the land from ACOE and does not have the authority to grant a ROW.

- a. *What alternate route(s) have been considered in terms of collocating with existing right of way facilities?*
- b. *What alternate route(s) have been considered in Beltzville in terms of parallel existing corridors?*
- c. *What major or minor reroutes is PennEast willing to consider in terms of in or outside of the 400 ft. study corridor?*

b) WEISER STATE FOREST - PENN FOREST TRACT (PFT)

- i) Assessments of disturbance acreage have been identified for the preferred route of 4.33 acres (50ft.) and 8.85 acres (100 ft.) for the PFT.
  - a. *What alternate route(s) have been considered in terms of collocating with existing right of way facilities?*
  - b. *What alternate route(s) have been considered on the PFT in terms of parallel existing corridors?*
  - c. *What major or minor reroutes is PennEast willing to consider in terms of in or outside of the 400 ft. study corridor?*
- ii) *Are there any currently known influences that may cause route deviations, whether major or minor, from the preferred alignment of the PFT? If so, what influence(s) would it have on the PFT portions or nearby private lands?*

3) ***Design and Construction***

Please present a brief description or overview of the PennEast pipeline construction process.

- a) PennEast is encouraged to employ long-term planning and consider pipeline installation which will accommodate current and future needs. PennEast identifies having executed long-term binding precedent agreements with eight (8) shippers for 78% of firm transportation as a result of this project. As indicated many of the shippers have provided rationale in terms of committing to Project capacity, thank you for supplying this detail.
  - i) *Have additional shippers, electricity generators or local distribution companies signed binding agreements since the last August Open Season?*
  - ii) *Please provide the current status of the proposed pipeline facilities full capacity subscription.*
  - iii) *In the longer term, if a need arises to increase capacity transport (“Future Expansion”), what pipeline infrastructure design or siting options would PennEast consider or be willing to explore?*

- b) The minimization of the right-of-way project footprint, temporary construction workspace and legal “operational or maintained” corridor widths are of importance to DCNR. DCNR needs more clarity on the proposed footprint.
- i) *How close is PennEast willing to site the proposed pipe near existing utility lines (pipelines, overhead electric lines, etc.)?*
  - ii) *In reference to 100 feet of total workspace requested, how much of an existing right of way corridor space will PennEast be willing to use as workspace?*
  - iii) *What is the projected acreage amount of new forest clearing necessary to achieve the 50 ft. operational width?*
  - iv) *What relationships with other operators have been established by PennEast in terms of siting infrastructure adjacent to other existing utility right of way corridors or specific utility facilities?*
  - v) *What would be the burial depth and fill material depth above the pipeline for the open trench segments and, the planned burial depth for Directional Drilling Areas?*
- c) The use of additional temporary workspace associated with stream crossings, wetland crossings or in negotiating other sensitive features in conjunction with right of way construction must be justified and minimized to the extent where safety and workability are not jeopardized.
- d) Above ground infrastructure
- i) Compressor stations are predominately incompatible with State Forest or State Park resources, uses and values; and as such, are preferred to be located off of State Forest and State Park land. The sole Compression Station serving the pipeline is currently planned to be located off of DCNR lands. The proposed site for the UGI HAZ Delivery Point-Compressor Station is approximately 9,000 feet from the Hickory Run State Park. Additionally it is in very close proximity to state game lands for in which unique public land uses and values also exist. There is a reasonable expectation that state of the art measures will be employed to not alter the park user experience and retain the wild character of the rural forested area:
    - (1) *What noise sensitive methods, technologies or state of the art measures will be utilized to minimize noise or keep noise levels low?*
    - (2) *Reference is made to alternate Compressor Station sites between MP 25.2 and 27; this would be much closer to the nearby Hickory Run SP. What is the status of the one sole compressor station siting location?*
  - ii) Pipeline facility siting can be intrusive to the ecosystem, natural wild character, aesthetic value and potentially impacts the recreational park or forest users, etc., their siting remains important to DCNR:
    - (1) *Are there any known location changes of the proposed facilities?*

*(2) Although associated valve, launcher and receivers are planned to site within the as-built pipeline corridor itself, are any of these facilities planned to site on the DCNR segments of the pipeline corridor?*

*(3) Pipe yards have not yet been identified in terms of their location to DCNR property. Would the pipe yards site in relation to the right of way corridor or access roads on DCNR lands, and if so, are there any updates available of their planned locations?*

*(4) If the expressed cathodic protection system is planned for DCNR land segments, we desire to be informed of the anode bed and test station locations perhaps coincident with the Draft Filing to FERC.*

- e) *How will industrial wastes and toxic substances be managed?*
- f) *Are there any updates to the overall project acreage impacts in regards to total area disturbance and an as built operational acreage footprint?*
- g) *If blasting is anticipated during construction state and federal safety standards are expected to be followed; State Park Managers and/or the District Forester must receive 14 days advance notice.*

#### **4) Recreational Impacts**

- a) *The following roads, trails or unique areas appear to be impacted by the proposal.*

##### **FRANCES SLOCUM STATE PARK**

- i) The proposed pipeline impacts Moconaquah Trail, a highly used mountain bike trail.*
- ii) Construction activities should not restrict visitor access.*

##### **HICKORY RUN STATE PARK**

Hickory Run State Park and the Boulder Field are highly used recreational areas. The Boulder Field is a National Natural Landmark.

- i) An aesthetic buffer, limiting tree removal, should be maintained at 300 feet from the Boulder Field.*
- ii) Construction activities should not restrict visitor access.*

##### **BELTZVILLE STATE PARK**

The proposed route crosses Christman Trail, Cove Ridge Trail, Falls Trail, the Waterfall Area and Wild Creek Cove, all are highly used recreational areas.

- i) A 300 ft recreational and aesthetic buffer should be maintained at the trail.*
- ii) All tops, brush and debris shall be pulled back on either side of the trail corridor.*
- iii) Seasonal restrictions are a consideration.*
- iv) Construction activities should not restrict visitor access.*

**DELAWARE CANAL STATE PARK**

The Delaware Canal, established as the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, is a Registered National Historic Landmark and its towpath is a National Recreation Trail. BMPs for trail crossings must be employed.

*i) The best options for crossing must be explored. Whether open cut, directional drilling or a boring method is chosen, the method must be discussed with the State Park Manager prior to commencing construction for this crossing.*

*ii) If the HDD method is utilized, equipment staging areas, entrance and exit pit locations or surface drilling rig footprint areas must be presented to and first discussed with DCNR State Park Manager prior to permitting and construction.*

**WEISER STATE FOREST** – Penn Forest Tract

- (1) Stoney Mountain Road (Township paved road)
- (2) Sawmill Trail Road (Z3 administrative road)
- (3) Penn Forest Trail Road (Z3 administrative road)
- (4) Rebold Trail Haul Road (Z3 administrative road)

The operator must notify the Department in writing when work is expected to begin in these areas and the anticipated operational period. The operator will provide notices of temporary changes and closures to the Department who will notify trail associations and local media.

- b) Aesthetics management zones are applied to State Forest or State Park lands where connectivity and aesthetics are among primary values. As such, the following setbacks apply wherein all woody debris (ex. stumps, brush, slash, tree tops, etc.) must be pulled back from each side of the identified resource:

<b>FEATURE</b>	<b>SETBACK DISTANCE WOODY DEBRIS</b>	<b>SPECIAL CONDITION (in addition to setback distance)</b>
District Trail	25 Feet	
Boundary Line (State Forest/Park)	25 Feet	No tree tops or slash-woody debris shall be left in, on, or within a DCNR boundary line.
State Park Trail	50 Feet	No tree tops or slash-woody debris shall be left in, on, or within a state park trail or its corridor ( <i>hiking, biking, etc.</i> ).
Public Use Road (Z1)	(a) 50 Feet - setback (b) 100 Feet - lopping	Tree tops, brush, slash or woody debris within 100 feet of the resource feature must be lopped to three inches in diameter and scattered evenly over the ground.

- c) Unauthorized use of ROW corridors by off-road vehicles is a constant struggle to enforce. *What measures would PennEast undertake to minimize this problem?*

- d) PennEast should be aware that the resulting pipeline corridor may be utilized for approved recreational trails to include motorized recreation such as snowmobiles.

**5) Operational Impacts**

- a) Please identify all State Forest/State Park Roads which are anticipated to be utilized during construction and any potential access routes for future operational maintenance.
  - i) State Forest Road Use Agreements must be secured for this activity.
  - ii) State Forest Roads utilized during construction may require improvements/upgrade.
    - (1) The District Forester/State Park Manager typically develops specifications regarding necessary improvements (culverts, grading, road material, gates/barricades, etc.); such details are communicated in a License exhibit, and/or a Road Use Agreement, provided by the District Forester or State Park Manager and further addressed during a Pre-Construction Work Meeting with DCNR.

**FRANCES SLOCUM STATE PARK:**

*The proposed pipeline would cross Green Road at the park boundary, allowing for an increased potential for illegal access to the park by ATV traffic. DCNR would require closure of any access points to the park.*

- (2) Road access within the pending right-of-way or in any existing right of way being collocated may also require improvements and acceptable Revegetation or site restoration efforts.
- iii) State Parks are high recreational use areas, and pipeline construction work schedule(s) may incur seasonal restrictions based on recreational use. Construction activities should not restrict public access to the park. Written approval must be obtained from the Park Manager prior to conducting operations in the park. It is also important to maintain the aesthetic value of trails and other use areas.
- b) Please identify all proposed access roads requiring new construction.
  - i) Roads must be constructed according to State Forest road building specifications.
  - ii) Gates, barricades or a combination of both may need to be installed and according to State Forest specifications at the discretion of the District Forester/Park Manager.
  - iii) It is recommended to consult with the District Forester/Park Manager regarding potential locations of available road building materials.
- c) DCNR Road – Right-of-Way Pipeline Crossings:
  - i) PennEast must notify the DCNR in writing prior to commencing work in those areas where pipeline construction involves crossing a state forest/park road.

- ii) The operational period must be expressed and a willingness to work together to reduce associated forest/park user conflicts is expected.
  - iii) PennEast must provide notices of temporary changes and closures to the DCNR who will notify forest or park user groups such as the *Pocono Whitewater, Keystone Trail Association, PA Snowmobile Association, etc.* and other impacted lessees, licensees and local media.
  - iv) The operator must provide the necessary security, safety, and signage measures during these operations at its own expense.
  - v) The following guidance would apply:
    - (1) State Forest Public Roads (Z1):  
A trenchless method for crossing Public Use Roads should be considered; written permission from the District Forester/Park Manager must be obtained prior to utilizing an open cut method.
    - (2) State Forest Drivable Trails (Z2) or Administrative Roads (Z3):  
Crossings of Drivable Trails and Administrative Roads may be made by open trench method unless otherwise specified in writing by the District Forester/Park Manager or designee.
- d) DCNR Road Closures:  
Appropriate safety measures must be utilized wherever possible to protect the usage of the forest/park roadways (Z1 and Z2) by recreation-based user groups (hiking, biking, horseback riding, hunters, etc.).
- i) PennEast must provide the necessary security, safety, and signage measures during these operations at its own expense.
  - ii) PennEast must notify DCNR in writing when work is expected to begin and identify the intended operational period.
  - iii) PennEast must provide notices of temporary changes or closures to DCNR, who will notify user groups such as the *Pocono Whitewater Keystone Trail Association, PA Snowmobile Assoc., etc.* and other impacted lessees, licensees and local media.
- e) PennEast must provide padded pipeline crossings at locations identified by the District Forester/Park Manager.
- f) Routine or periodic entry on to DCNR administered lands for operational maintenance purposes is anticipated during the life of the right of way corridor.
- i) *What on-the-ground markers are anticipated in terms of aircraft flight inspections?*
  - ii) *What would be the anticipated mowing schedule for the proposed pipeline?*
  - iii) *A 30 ft. cleared area over the pipe is planned for non-wetland areas; the District Forester or Park Manager may request that a narrower clearing be maintained in sensitive areas, special species of concern areas or to retain a particular habitat component.*
  - iv) *The DCNR District Forester and/or State Park Manager will require notification in writing well in advance of scheduled ground entry for routine facility or vegetative right of way maintenance.*

**6) *Silvicultural Impacts***

- a) The limits of disturbance need to be clearly identified in the field to facilitate valuation of timber damages.
- b) Timber damages will be assessed at double stumpage value or on a flat per-acre rate basis; final determination will be made by the District Forester/Park Manager.
  - i) Upon payment of the timber invoice, timber rights would be vested in the applicant.
  - ii) If the timber is not removed from the site within 60 days, timber rights would then revert to the Commonwealth. The 60-day reversion period may be extended at the discretion of the District Forester/Park Manager.
  - iii) Timber must be decked/landed at a location approved by the District Forester/Park Manager.
    - (1) The engagement utilization of local wood producers and consumers is highly encouraged.
    - (2) It is also recommended that forest products removed during construction are completely utilized.
- c) *Please identify an anticipated stump/slash/debris management plan.*
- d) Invasive species plant management is expected to be addressed by PennEast and meet the DCNR's administrative protocol and guidelines.

**7) *Water Quality Impacts***

- a) DCNR has adopted aquatic habitat buffers to assure water resources receive adequate protection. While the DCNR is cognizant that complete avoidance of aquatic resources is sometimes impractical, encroachment upon these resources will require mitigation and a waiver request. Avoidance or mitigation measures should be discussed during the planning phase of the project. The waiver, if necessary, is addressed and justified as part of the State Forest Environmental Review. Future pipeline maintenance will be expected to adhere to our buffer guidance.
- b) The following streams may be impacted by the project:
  - i) **WEISER STATE FOREST**
    - (1) The small tributary, Yellow Run, originating from the Yellow Run Barrens portion of the Penn Forest Tract is a part of the Stoney Creek basin – an Exceptional Value (EV) water.
    - (2) The small tributary, Engler Run, originating from the south-south eastern portion of the Penn Forest Tract is a part of the Wild Creek basin – an Exceptional Value (EV) water.

*The Bureau of Forestry requires a 135-foot buffer between disturbance and EV streams. DCNR expects that the width of the ROW be reduced to the greatest extent possible within 135 feet of the stream crossing. Special riparian restoration would be required within 135 feet of the stream crossing.*

(3) The Penn Forest Tract contains portions of two County Natural Heritage Areas as defined in the Carbon County Comprehensive and Greenway Plan – the *Yellow Run Barrens* and a portion of the *Penn Forest/Wild Creek Reservoir*.

*Further consultation would be expected by PennEast with the Carbon County - Office of Planning and Development in relation to the Carbon County Comprehensive and Greenway Plan.*

**ii) HICKORY RUN STATE PARK**

The proposed route crosses Mud Run and Stony Creek.

(1) Mud Run is a designated HQ-CWF (High Quality Cold Water Fishery) stream.

*DCNR requires a 30-foot no disturbance buffer and an additional 105-foot minimal-disturbance buffer on HQ streams. The DCNR expects that the width of the ROW be reduced to the greatest extent possible within 135 feet of the stream crossing. Special riparian restoration would be required within 135 feet of the stream crossing.*

(2) The Stony Creek is designated EV (Exceptional Value).

*DCNR requires a 135-foot buffer between disturbance and EV streams. The DCNR expects that the width of the ROW be reduced to the greatest extent possible within 135 feet of the stream crossing. Special riparian restoration would be required within 135 feet of the stream crossing.*

**iii) BELTZVILLE STATE PARK**

The proposed route crosses one special protection Exceptional Value (EV), Pohopoco Creek. The crossing at Pohopoco Creek and Beltzville Lake are inside the park boundaries.

*DCNR requires a 135-foot buffer between disturbance and EV streams. The DCNR expects that the width of the ROW be reduced to the greatest extent possible within 135 feet of the stream crossing. Special riparian restoration would be required within 135 feet of the stream crossing.*

**iv) DELAWARE CANAL STATE PARK**

(1) *Both pre-boring and post-boring canal and canal structure condition reports will be required for 1 mile north and 1 mile south of the crossing site. These condition reports are to be completed by a qualified*



*independent company approved by DCNR. DCNR must be notified of the approved depth of the bore prior to construction.*

- (2) PennEast is required to present a plan, timelines and project details to the *Delaware Canal Advisory Committee*.
- c) DCNR should be involved and informed in the planning process for all stream crossings, including a discussion of the most appropriate method for the crossing (e.g., whether by open cut trenching or the directional boring method (HDD), etc., share findings of geotechnical survey results). This consultation should occur - before necessary stream crossing permits are submitted to the appropriate jurisdictional authority and prior to construction commencement.
  - i) *PennEast should provide the Department with their BMPs on stream crossing practices and planned crossing methodology.*
  - ii) *If the HDD method is utilized, equipment staging areas, entrance and exit pit locations or surface drilling rig footprint areas must be presented to and first discussed with DCNR prior to permitting and construction.*
- d) Wetlands are a critical resource and should be avoided. DCNR expects every effort to be made to avoid impacting wetlands, including riparian wetlands and vernal ponds. However, in cases when complete avoidance is not possible, DCNR requests a summary of anticipated wetland impacts along with a description of any avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures that were considered in the planning process or as identified during pending survey work. This information should be incorporated in the responses to the SFER
  - (1) The DCNR expects a 200-foot no-disturbance buffer from any wetland, vernal pool, spring seep, other wet areas or any other body of water. In addition, DCNR expects a 300-foot no-disturbance buffer from a wetland, vernal pool, spring seep or other wet areas with threatened and endangered species and species of special concern. These buffers are as described in DCNR's Guidelines for Administering Oil and Gas Activity on State Forest Lands.
  - (2) The results of wetland delineations should be provided to the DCNR as part of the SFER submittal (ArcGIS shapefile preferred).
    - (a) Wetland delineations are typically required for the limits of disturbance by the jurisdictional authority. In order to be protective of established buffers, DCNR requests additional delineations extending 200-feet beyond the limit of disturbance given the presence of either hydric soils or soils with hydric components (NRCS Soil Survey) or National Wetland Inventory (NWI) classified wetlands (USFWS). Due to potential inaccuracy in the mapping of hydric soils or NWI wetlands, delineations should extend 100 feet beyond the hydric

soils/NWI wetland boundaries or where any other wetland indicators are revealed through a desktop review or field investigation. Wetland delineations should be conducted using the Army Corp of Engineers protocol by qualified individuals.

- (3) Anticipated wetland crossing construction methods should be identified for each wetland and discussed with DCNR before necessary wetland crossing permits are submitted to the appropriate jurisdictional authority and prior to construction commencement.
- (4) In addition to addressing jurisdictional wetland impacts for the appropriate jurisdictional authority, DCNR may require PennEast to conduct additional mitigation in association with any temporary wetland impacts that would occur on DCNR lands. Specific mitigation measures would be at the discretion of the Department.

#### 8) *Other Ecological Concerns*

- a) Please provide updates regarding correspondence with the following PNDI jurisdictional authorities and describe requested surveys/actions:
  - i) US FWS
  - ii) DCNR
  - iii) PGC
  - iv) PF&BC
- b) As the land manager for State Forest and Park lands, DCNR may request surveys for species and/or their associated habitats which exceed those required by the jurisdictional agency. DCNR may have concerns for species under the jurisdictional authority of other agencies in regards to this proposal. Depending on the updates provided by PennEast on PNDI correspondence, DCNR may request additional surveys.

#### **FRANCES SLOCUM; BELTZVILLE; AND DELAWARE CANAL STATE PARKS**

- *The proposed pipeline would cross an ecological buffer for PNDI species of concern. DCNR may require additional surveys.*

#### **HICKORY RUN STATE PARK**

- *The proposed pipeline will cross Mud Run, Boulder Field and Mud Swamp Natural Areas, additional surveys may be required.*
- *The proposed pipeline would cross an ecological buffer for PNDI species of concern. DCNR may require additional surveys.*
- Hickory Run State Park is one of the largest tracts of un-fragmented or contiguous forested areas in the Pocono Plateau. Hickory Run State Park

is designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA's) for its significance to migratory birds and birds requiring deep forest habitat. IBA's are the most critical regions in the Commonwealth for conserving bird diversity and abundance, and are the primary focus of Audubon Pennsylvania's conservation efforts. Construction and maintenance of the ROW should minimize effects on birds and bird habitat.

○

#### **DELAWARE CANAL STATE PARK**

- *The DELAWARE CANAL - As a national Historic Landmark, DCNR requires PennEast to submit and review the project with federal and state historic and archeological agencies and include DCNR on all correspondence.*
- *DCNR may require additional surveys.*

#### **WEISER STATE FOREST**

- *The proposed pipeline will cross the Penn Forest Tract, which includes a Public Wild Plant Sanctuary and crosses several ecological buffers for PNDI species of concern as well as Appalachian climbing fern. This is a species of some conservation concern but is not a PNDI species.*
  - *DCNR may require additional surveys.*
  - *The Yellow Run Barrens is a unique wild plant sanctuary; DCNR may have additional restoration and reclamation requirements, for instance, such as the application of a specific native seed mix during a specific time of year - April/May.*
  - *Golden winged warblers occur on the Penn Forest Tract in the Yellow Run Barrens. The DCNR and its sister agency the PA Game Commission desire to improve habitat for the Golden winged warbler.*
    - *If awarded a license agreement, PennEast should anticipate conducting Golden wing warbler habitat enhancement and/or perform measures to protect its habitat during pipeline construction or in performing future right of way maintenance activities.*
- c) Invasive species are of high concern to DCNR during construction and for the long-term usage of right of way corridors. PennEast should conduct BMPs to limit the introduction of invasive species, such as:
- i) Washing equipment prior to bringing on state forest land,
  - ii) Planning work sequence such that areas known to be infested with invasive species are worked in after non-infested areas,
  - iii) Using certified weed-free seed,
  - iv) Using certified weed-free mulch, gravel, and fill.
  - v) *Japanese Stilt Grass is an invasive species expected to be encountered on the Weiser State Forest, how does PennEast typically treat invasive species?*
  - vi) The ROW agreement would include special provisions for the post-construction monitoring and control of invasive species which will be PennEast's responsibility.

- vii) DCNR has final approval of invasive species management plans, vegetation management, and restoration/rehabilitation efforts. DCNR uses vegetation that is native to the park/forest or immediate surrounding area. Any exceptions require explanation and approval by DCNR.
- d) Several species of bats utilize state forests and parks as habitat. Due to white-nose syndrome, many bat species have experienced over 90% mortality. The northern long-eared bat is under consideration by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Federally-listing.
  - i) *In addition to tracking Indiana bats, DCNR requests that any northern long-eared bats that are captured on DCNR land be radio-tracked to locate roosts, as is typically requested for Federally-listed species.*
  - ii) *DCNR requests that any state-listed bat species be radio-tracked as well. These would include the silver-haired bat (candidate-rare), evening bat (candidate-rare) and the eastern small-footed bat (PA-threatened).*
  - iii) *At least one emergence count should be conducted at identified roosts.*
  - iv) *Data should be collected in accordance with FWS and PGC guidelines.*
- f) The DCNR may request additional habitat enhancement for the *Snowshoe Hare, Northern Flying Squirrel, etc.*

**9) Other**

- a) All right-of-way applicants must provide DCNR with electronic ArcGIS shape files of all data collected, including but not limited to:
  - i) wetland delineations
  - ii) aquatic resources
  - iii) species/natural community surveys
  - iv) potential habitat for species of concern
  - v) invasive plant species inventories
  - vi) pipeline centerline, permanent legal right of way width(s), temporary workspace, and additional temporary workspace.

This information would need to be submitted prior to, and is a requirement for, the drafting of a pending *License for ROW Agreement*.

- b) Project status updates are requested on other areas of the project off of DCNR lands so that DCNR may be aware of the project's timeline and other issues affecting the project.

## Meeting Agenda

Pre-Survey Meeting - PA DCNR and PennEast Pipeline Company LLC  
PennEast Pipeline Project

Proposed Gas Pipeline Project - State Forest & State Park lands

March 18, 2015 10:00 am

Weiser State Forest – Forest District Office

## Meeting Agenda

- I. Introductions
- II. General Discussion – meeting purpose
- III. PennEast’s presentation of the proposed project to DCNR - PennEast
- IV. DCNR’s Summary of Initial Concerns – DCNR facilitated (begin)  
  
LUNCH BREAK – 30 to 45 minutes – tentative on the time  
  
DCNR’s Summary of Initial Concerns – DCNR facilitated (finish)
- V. Summary – questions, next steps, etc.



Stephanie Liveberg	DCNR, BSP	slivelsber@pa.gov
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DEVIN BUZARD	DCNR, BSP	dbuzard@PA.GOV
Brian Taylor	DCNR, BSP	briantaylor@pa.gov
Alex Stout	DCNR, BSP	alstout@pa.gov
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Alisa Harris	Penn East	aharris@ugies.com
Dante D'Allessandro	Penn East	ddallessandro@ugies.com







## PennEast Pipeline Project

### MEETING MINUTES

PA DCNR Meeting

March 18, 2015

Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA

Date: March 18, 2015

#### **Attendees:**

Stephanie Livelsberger, DCNR Bureau of State Parks

Dave Mong, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, State Forests

Dan Murphy, WLS

John Spencer, WLS

Deborah Poppel, URS

Dante D'Allesandro, PennEast

Alisa Harris, PennEast

#### **Summary**

DCNR was provided a project overview (see agenda) which included a purpose and need for the project, a description of the proposed facilities, and the status of environmental surveys and other activities. It was mentioned by Mr. Mong that "Certificates of Survey" will be issued within 21 business days of this Pre-Survey Meeting.

The Bureau of State Parks and Forestry representatives noted that it is "undesirable to have right-of-way easements on the State Parks" and they are concerned with the recreational and social impacts due to construction, even if temporary. The highest concentrations of visitors to the Parks are concurrent to when the proposed construction phase would take place (beginning spring 2017) and the Bureau would like to maintain the visitor's experience.

The Bureau expressed specific issues of concern for each of the State Parks. In regards to Frances Slocum State Park, the relevance of Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act on the conversion of federally funded lands to other than public outdoor recreation uses was noted. The adaptation will not be considered an official "conversion" if the construction phase lasts for less than 12 months. The Park contains 3 adjacent pipeline and utility right-of-way easements that they would prefer we attempt to co-locate with.

In regards to Hickory Run State Park, the Bureau is satisfied with our current co-location within existing right-of-way easements through the Park. The Park is home to a Boulder



Field that is a National Natural Landmark and they request that the compressor station be located as far from this features as possible.

In regards to Beltzville State Park, the Bureau would like to suggest alternatives that utilize the existing utility line corridor. Mr. Azeles, the Park Manager at Beltzville, would like to be put in contact with our point of contact at USACE.

In regards to Delaware Canal State Park, no concerns were raised.

In regards to Weiser State Forest, the Bureau requests PennEast keeps the right-of-way easement corridors as narrow as possible.

Ms. Harris noted that PennEast is willing to consider specific areas that DCNR identifies to be avoided, but those discussions need to take place immediately. A teleconference can be orchestrated with DCNR in order to review alternatives throughout the Parks on Google Earth.

DCNR representatives were provided with hard copies of the USGS maps illustrating alternatives. They have requested a more detailed alternative analysis for the State Park and Bureau of Forestry lands in the July filing of Resource Report 10 – Alternatives.

DCNR requires equal compensation for the value of timber that is lost, and consequently, PennEast will be receiving a “timber invoice”.

New shapefiles are anticipated by the DCNR in 3 weeks (4/27) and are expected to include reroutes on federal lands and the new lateral. Finally, it is requested that PennEast attends an advisory committee meeting that convenes once a quarter (including March 2015).

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation



March 30, 2015

Mr. Frederick Sechler, Jr.  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
400 Market Street  
P.O. Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Mr. Sechler:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has again been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on January 14, 2015.

Following feedback from FERC's scoping meetings and numerous conversations with landowners, state and local agencies, and other various stakeholders, PennEast has revised and refined various portions of the preferred alternative route. The largest variations to the previously released route are related to the location of the crossing of the Bethlehem Authority water supply mainline (MP 44 and MP 45), Appalachian Trail crossing (between MP 46 and MP 55), and accommodating future subdivision and housing development plans. Additional field data gained over the last month has helped make smaller adjustments related to environmental surveys and individual discussions with landowners.

In addition to the route variations noted above, an additional interconnect was needed for the Gilbert Power Generation facility in Holland Township, New Jersey, which is fed by a small lateral (12 inches) to supply natural gas to the facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.

A summary of the significant route variations in Pennsylvania is provided below:

- In Towamensing Township in Carbon County, PA, less than one mile of the alignment has been re-routed ¼-mile to the east as a result of consultations with the Bethlehem Authority (Authority). The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 44 and 45 to cross the Authority's water supply mainline in a location where it is deeper in an effort to maximize protection of the Authority's resources.
- Straddling the Carbon – Northampton County line in PA, approximately 8 miles of the alignment between mileposts 46 and 55 has been re-routed up to 1 mile to the west of the previous route in an effort to refine the crossing location of the Appalachian Trail.



- In Northampton County, PA, approximately 2.5 miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the north of the previous route as a result of consultations with private landowners and local officials. The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 59 and 62 to accommodate current and future land use plans in the area.

Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Holcomb".

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



March 30, 2015

Mr. David Mong  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street  
P.O. Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Mr. Mong:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

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Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



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BUREAU OF FORESTRY

April 6, 2015

**PNDI Large Project Number: 022426**

Bernie Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Email: [Bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:Bernard.holcomb@urs.com) (hard copy not to follow)

Re: PennEast Pipeline Reroute (update)  
Multiple Municipalities, Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Large Project # **022426** for review. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern 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 note our new survey protocols are available at <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx>.

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Current Status	PA Proposed Status	Township, County-GIS Area of concern (AOC), Approximate but not exact GPS Coordinates
<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	White-fringed orchid	Not listed	Endangered and <i>sensitive species</i>	<b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, west of Mud Swamp-several occurrences documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	Variable sedge	Endangered	Threatened	<b>Area 3:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Keipers Run, Hickory Run SP-75.612, 40.000- <b>Area 6 :</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest,

conserve

sustain

enjoy

				-75.631, 40.957, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Bartonia paniculata</i>	Screw-stem	Rare	Rare	<b>Area 3:</b> SGL 129 and just south: -75.627, 41.075-2 occurrences documented within proposed pipeline corridor- <b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Mud Swamp, Hickory Run SP- -75.620, 40.983- occurrence documented within proposed pipeline- <b>Area 6-</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest, -75.631, 40.952, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Carex collinsii</i>	Collin's sedge	Endangered	Threatened	<b>Area 5:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, west of Mud Swamp- -75.620, 40.983- potential habitat
<i>Eurybia radula</i>	Rough-leaved aster	Not listed	Threatened	<b>Area 6:</b> Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, Weiser State Forest, -75.631, 40.952, documented within proposed pipeline
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping snowberry	Rare	Rare	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Wood Pond, Kidder Township, Carbon County- -75.655, 41.075- suitable habitat <b>Area 2:</b> West of SGL 129, -75.629, 41.051- suitable habitat
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Sweet gale	Threatened	Threatened	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Pond,

conserve

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				Kidder Township, Carbon County- -75.657, 41.077- suitable habitat
<i>Carex paupercula</i>	Bog sedge	Threatened	Rare	<b>Area 1:</b> Mud Pond-Mosey Pond, Kidder Township, Carbon County- -75.657, 41.077- suitable habitat
<i>Dicentra exima</i>	Wild-bleeding hearts	Endangered	Endangered	<b>Area 7:</b> Towamensing Township, Carbon County, Beltzville State Park- -75.559, 40.886- suitable habitat
<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i>	Spotted pondweed	Endangered	Endangered	<b>Area 8:</b> Moore Township, Northampton County, SGL 168- -75.491, 40.886- suitable habitat

**Survey Request**

DCNR requests a **survey** for the following species only if timber harvest/shrub/herbaceous cutting will occur within the next two years from this letter:

- *Platanthera blephariglottis* (white-fringed orchid)—habitat is bogs, peaty wetlands and swamps, particularly on floating sphagnum moss mats surrounding bog pools—locally documented at the bottom of an open slope in saturated to wet mesic soil—just outside the boundary of Hickory Run SP- flowers in June-August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15445.pdf>.
- *Carex polymorpha* (Variable sedge)—habitat is typically moist, peaty acidic areas where the forest is dominated by *Quercus alba* or *Acer rubrum* and the canopy is 70-90%.—locally documented along a small stream in a forested valley—also documented in a mixed red-maple-red oak-hemlock open woods along Pinoak Run with seepy sphagnum areas—flowering stems first appear in May and remain intact through the summer with the fruits persisting in place—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15108.pdf>.
- *Bartonia paniculata* (screw-stem)—habitat is bogs and peaty bog margins—locally documented as a small population on the border of Hickory Run SP and SGL # 129 and found within two small areas along the pipeline ROW, mostly in the ruts of the access road—locally documented in a forested valley along a small stream—also documented within a pipeline ROW with well-drained and poorly drained sections as well as sandy soil, Yellow Run area of Hickory Run SP area—flowers in August–October-
- *Carex collinsi* (Collin’s sedge)—habitat is sphagnum moss in acidic swamps and wet woods, often where conifers are a prominent part of the canopy—locally documented in a red maple-hemlock-highbush blueberry sphagnum peat forest of Mud Swamp—locally documented from late June – mid August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15018.pdf>.
- *Carex collinsi* (Collin’s sedge)—habitat is sphagnum moss in acidic swamps and wet woods, often where conifers are a prominent part of the canopy—locally documented in a red maple-hemlock-highbush blueberry sphagnum peat forest of Mud Swamp—locally documented from late June – mid August—for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15018.pdf>.
- *Eurybia radula* (rough-leaved aster)—habitat is wet woods, swamps, seeps, bogs, and along streams—locally documented along a pipeline right-of-way with well drained and poorly drained sections as well as sandy

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soil–flowers in July-September–for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/13027.pdf>.

- *Gaultheria hispidula* (creeping snowberry)–habitat is sphagnum dominated areas on decaying logs, stumps, moss hummocks in bogs, peaty wetlands, and swamps–locally documented in a moist palustrine hemlock forest in a sphagnum hummock substrate–flowers in June, fruits in September, but evergreen foliage is identifiable all times of the year without significant snow cover–for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/13724.pdf>.
- *Myrica gale* (sweet gale)–habitat is boggy wetlands and along shorelines of lakes and streams–locally documented on a narrow fringe of bog mat in a small acidic glacial lake–flowers in May before leaves emerge but can be identified throughout the growing season–for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/14167.pdf>.
- *Carex paupercula* (bog sedge)–habitat is bogs and peaty wetlands–locally documented within boggy wetlands along Fourth Run in a forest matrix–flowers in May-July, fruits in June-August– for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15160.pdf>.
- *Dicentra eximiana* (wild bleeding-hearts)–habitat is rich woods and cliffs–locally documented in open woods on fairly level land 2 miles of Forest Inn in Beltsville State Park–has not been seen since 1967 but suitable habitat still exists–flowers in June-July–
- *Potamogeton pulcher* (spotted pondweed)–habitat is shallow, acidic streams, vernal ponds, in swamps, and on muddy shores–locally documented in a vernal pond–flowers from June – September, Fruits from August–October–for more information, please see <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/15786.pdf>.
- 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 <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/Login.aspx>. 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: [http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/hgis/Internet%20Field%20Survey%20Form\\_2007.pdf](http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/hgis/Internet%20Field%20Survey%20Form_2007.pdf). 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 more information becomes available and/or a habitat assessment is conducted, and potential suitable habitat for the above species is not present in the project site or will not be impacted, then contact me at [cfrsechle@pa.gov](mailto:cfrsechle@pa.gov) or 717-705-2819 and I can reissue a no impact letter.
- If the land type(s) does not exist onsite a survey may not be necessary; please submit a habitat assessment report which describes the current land cover, habitat types and species found onsite.
- If vegetation disturbance will not occur as the result of the proposed forest stewardship plan within the next two years of this letter, please contact me at the above email address or phone number and I can reissue a no impact letter.

**IMPORTANT:** To assist with your botanical survey efforts, we are providing ArcMAP shapefiles of GIS Areas of Concern (AOCs). These polygons are based on known locations or potential habitat of DCNR-regulated species or natural communities. Required surveys may be restricted to these AOCs. The survey may be further refined to suitable habitat within areas of anticipated disturbance. For example, if work is restricted to an existing open right-of-way, a survey for a forest-dwelling species would be unnecessary.

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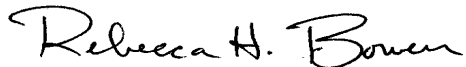
**PROJECTS ON STATE FOREST LANDS:**

A portion of this project takes place on the Weiser State Forest (District 18). The DCNR Bureau of Forestry's *State Forest Resource Management Plan* sets forth guidelines for ecologically-sound management of State Forest Lands and resources including protection of wetlands, wildlife, native wild plants and invasive species management. As such, the DCNR Bureau of Forestry may request additional surveys in association with this project. **This letter applies to PNDI impacts only and does not authorize the initiation of any work on State Forest Lands. Further coordination with the Bureau of Forestry is required.** If you have not already done so, please contact Tim Ladner, District Forester for Weiser State Forest, at 570-875-6450 for additional information.

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 Frederick Sechler, Jr., Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-705-2819) or via email ([c-frsechle@pa.gov](mailto:c-frsechle@pa.gov)).**

Sincerely,



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



# pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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April 8, 2015

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast)  
c/o URS Corporation  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite 100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428

ATTN: Jon West

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project  
*Certificate to Survey*

Dear Mr. West:

Thank you and your staff for attending the Pre-Survey Meeting for the *PennEast Pipeline Project* on March 18, 2015. PennEast has demonstrated acceptable project planning and has satisfactorily justified project need and expressed a willingness to consider alternatives and minimize disturbances to reduce project footprint on both State Parks and State Forest lands and sufficiently adhered to established siting guidelines and criteria.

As such, PennEast is hereby provided this *Certificate to Survey* and is authorized to conduct the necessary civil, environmental, cultural resource and geotechnical surveys associated with the proposed project on the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) State Forest and State Park lands.

As PennEast conducts the necessary surveys, DCNR encourages PennEast to explore all alternatives that avoid State Parks. If surveys determine that avoidance is not possible, PennEast is encouraged to consider all options that minimize the impacts to these highly utilized recreational resources and ecologically sensitive areas, including Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD). Specific areas of consideration include:

- **Hickory Run State Park:** The proposed pipeline will cross Mud Run, Boulder Field and Mud Swamp Natural Areas. The Bureau of State Parks encourages PennEast to evaluate all available routes to avoid impact to Natural Areas.
  - Pa. Code Chapter 17. State Parks Natural Areas- Statement of Policy  
17.3 General management guideline- The protection of Natural Areas will be guided by the need to maintain their significant ecologic values. Generally, physical and biological processes will not be subject to direct human intervention. Activities which interfere with these processes or threaten to degrade the inherent values of these areas will be

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6<sup>th</sup> Floor RCSOB, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552, ph. 717-783-4647



prohibited. Management of surrounding lands may not adversely impact these areas.  
17.4 (e) Mineral leases and development will be prohibited.

- **Beltzville State Park:** The proposed pipeline would cross Beltzville at Christman Trail, Cove Ridge Trail, Falls Trail, the Waterfall Area and Wild Creek Cove. This area is the most highly used recreational area of the park that provides a natural setting with unusual scenic beauty. The mission Bureau of State Parks is to promote healthful outdoor recreation and education and to provide facilities necessary for such purposes, while attempting to conceal the hand of man. The Bureau encourages PennEast to survey the existing right-of-ways through Beltzville.

DCNR grants PennEast permission to conduct surveys for all plant and wildlife species of concern identified in PNDI coordination with DCNR, PA Game Commission, PA Fish & Boat Commission and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Survey. Also for the DCNR administered lands, PennEast also agrees to adhere to the following special survey requirements for the following species of concern:

- **Wetland Delineation** - PennEast has requested and been granted permission for a 400-foot study corridor. Wetland delineations are typically required for the limits of disturbance by the jurisdictional authority. In order to be protective of the established buffers, DCNR requests additional delineations extending 200-feet beyond the limit of disturbance given the presence of either hydric soils or soils with hydric components (NRCS Soil Survey) or National Wetland Inventory (NWI) classified wetlands (USFWS).
- **Weiser State Forest:** In addition to screw-stem (*Bartonia paniculata*), rough-leaved aster (*Eurybia radula*), and variable sedge (*Carex polymorpha*) which were target species for PNDI surveys in Weiser State Forest (known onsite of the proposed ROW), DCNR requests a survey for Appalachian climbing fern (*Lygodium palmatum*), a local species of conservation interest (but was not listed as a target for a PNDI species survey). Appalachian climbing fern is a species which is uncommon on Weiser State Forest and the forest district desires to protect its population. Appalachian climbing fern is found in moist thickets, barrens, and edges of swampy, open woods in acidic, peaty soil (FACW).
- **Beltzville State Park:** In addition to surveys for wild bleeding hearts (*Dicentra eximia*) requested by DCNR through the PNDI process, there is also a historic occurrence of matted spike rush (*Eleocharis intermedia*), a wetland species. As a historic occurrence, it was not a target for a PNDI species survey, however, if this species is identified during wetland delineations or other surveys, please report this information to DCNR as well.
- **Hickory Run State Park:** Targeted survey areas of concern were provided through the PNDI process for creeping snowberry (*Gaultheria hispidula*, found in wet woods and bogs), screw-stem (*Bartonia paniculata*, an obligate aquatic species found in bogs, known onsite of proposed ROW), variable sedge (*Carex polymorpha*, a more upland species), white-fringed orchid (*Platanthera blephariglottis*, known onsite of proposed ROW), and Collin's sedge (*Carex collinsii*). If these species are observed in potential habitat during wetland delineations or other surveys, in areas outside of the targeted areas of concern, please report this information to DCNR. Several of these species are known within the proposed ROW.
- **Frances Slocum State Park:** No specific survey is requested for soft-leaved sedge (*Carex disperma*); however it is a bog species nearby within the park. It is unlikely that potential habitat is present within the ROW in the park, however please be aware that nearby is a species which utilizes sensitive bog habitat.

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- **Delaware Canal State Park:** The Delaware Canal, established as the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, is a Registered National Historic Landmark and its towpath is a National Recreational Trail. PennEast should provide all historical and archeological reviews to DCNR.
- **Bat species:** In addition to federally-listed bat species, all state-listed bat species captured on all DCNR lands during mist net and acoustic surveys should be radio tracked to locate roosts. This includes federally-endangered Indiana bat and the newly listed federally-threatened northern long-eared bat, as well as state listed silver-haired bat (candidate-rare), evening bat (candidate-rare) and the eastern small-footed bat (PA-threatened). At least one emergence count should be conducted at identified roosts. Data should be collected in accordance with USFWS and PGC guidelines and submitted to DCNR as well.

The facts and data collected through such surveys will be used, in part, to influence on-the-ground decision making and will serve as the basis for PennEast's completion of the *State Forest Environmental Review* (SFER); a copy of the SFER is attached.

When submitting responses to the SFER to DCNR, PennEast is reminded to also submit copies of PNDI clearance letters, permits obtained to-date and survey reports. The submittal of this data is request as one package; piecemeal data submission is discouraged.

Please avoid conducting surveys during the *Saturdays of Spring Gobbler Hunting Season*, the *traditional rifle Bear Hunting Season* and from *Thanksgiving Day thru the first two week days and the two Saturdays of the traditional deer rifle hunting seasons*, or other special events as identified by the District Forester or Park Manager(s).

[Reference: <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=968783&mode=2>]

Survey activity on state forest lands and state park lands must be coordinated with the applicable District Forester or State Park Managers; a five (5) day advance notice prior to survey commencement is requested.

**Weiser State Forest**

Tim Ladner, District Forester  
 Weiser State Forest District  
 P.O. Box 315  
 Aristes, PA 17920  
 Phone: 570-875-6450

**Bureau of State Park Managers**

Mr. Brian Taylor, Park Manager  
 Frances Slocum State Park  
 565 Mount Olivet Rd.  
 Wyoming, PA 18644  
 Phone: 570-696-3525

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Mr. Dave Madl, Park Manager  
Hickory Run State Park  
RR 1 Box 81  
White Haven, PA 18661  
Phone: 570-443-0400

Mr. Devin Buzard, Park Manager  
Beltzville State Park  
2950 Pohopoco Dr.  
Leighton, PA 18235  
Phone: 610-377-0045

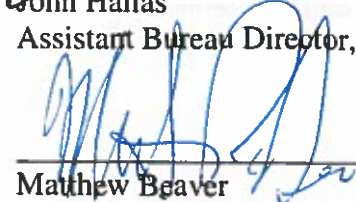
Mr. Rick Dalton, Park Manager  
Delaware Canal State Park  
11 Lodi Hill Road  
Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972  
Phone: 610-982-5560

The DCNR will continue its due diligence regarding the project to assure consistency with state forest and state park management and the resources, uses and values associated with these lands as the project progresses through the formal DCNR Application for Right of Way Review Process.

Sincerely,



John Hallas  
Assistant Bureau Director, Bureau of State Parks



Matthew Beaver  
Chief, Division of Operations and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry

Cc: File  
Weiser State Forest District  
Hickory Run State Park  
Delaware Canal State Park  
Beltzville State Park  
Frances Slocum State Park  
Park Region 4  
Park Region 5  
BSP, RMPD  
BSP, POMD  
BOF, Division of Operations and Recreation

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## SUMMARY OF PENNSYLVANIA STATE PARKS RULES AND REGULATIONS

WELCOME—ENJOY YOUR VISIT. Please be considerate of those who will use the facilities in this state park after you. To help ensure your safety and pleasure, please observe state park rules and regulations.

- I. This is a summary of the official Pennsylvania Rules and Regulations pertaining to State Parks. The official text is found in its entirety at 17 Pa. Code Chapter 11. This summary is therefore not complete and does not reproduce or represent the full official Code text. We have included here a number of provisions that are of more general or immediate importance to state park visitors. The complete rules and regulations are posted at the park office and an official copy of the Pa. Code Pamphlet is available for inspection at any state park office.
- II. All day-use areas are open to the public between sunrise and sunset throughout the year, unless otherwise posted.
- III. In the event of hazardous conditions endangering life or property, a state park or facility may be closed to public use at the discretion of the Park Manager.
- IV. The laws, rules, and regulations of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission apply to fishing, hunting, and boating except where modification of such laws, rules and regulations is determined necessary by the Department for the use and protection of resources under its jurisdiction.

### V. GENERAL

- A. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted except with written permission of the Department.
- B. Trash, garbage, and all other litter shall be placed in containers provided for this purpose and are limited to litter accumulated during use of the state park.
- C. Edible fruits, nuts, berries, and fungi may only be gathered in reasonable amounts for personal or family consumption. Exceptions include native wild plants listed as threatened, endangered, rare or vulnerable. Gathering dead and down wood is permitted for use in a fireplace or grill in the state park.
- D. Open fires are permitted only in fireplaces, grills, stoves or other facilities designated by the Department for campfires. Disposal of hot charcoal from grills is permitted only in facilities designated by the Department. Leaving a fire unattended is prohibited.
- E. Soliciting for any purpose or posting of signs is not permitted. The distribution, sale, servicing, or rental of any supplies, equipment, material, or commodity is restricted to authorized concessions.
- F. Operators of licensed motor vehicles shall obey posted official traffic-control devices and use only roads and parking areas open to public traffic unless otherwise designated by the park manager. The operation of other motorized vehicles is not permitted on state park roads, lanes, trails, and areas unless otherwise designated. Excessive speed or noise and reckless, careless, or negligent operation are prohibited. Commercial traffic is allowed on state park roads only when authorized by the Department.
- G. Horseback riding is permitted on the right (side) berm of roads open to public vehicles and designated trails and areas. This activity is not permitted on camping or cabin area roads or picnic, swimming, or cooking areas.
- H. Use or discharge of an airgun, slingshot, or explosive is prohibited. Target shooting with such devices is prohibited, except in areas designated by the Department for this purpose and in accordance with posted requirements and restrictions.
- I. Firearms and archery equipment may be uncased and ready for use by licensed hunters only in authorized hunting areas and during seasons state parks are open to hunting or under special conditions which may be established by the Department.
- J. Wildlife shall not be hunted, pursued, molested, or intentionally disturbed except that hunting and trapping are permitted within authorized hunting areas during the established Pennsylvania Game Commission seasons. Groundhog hunting is prohibited. The training of dogs is permitted from the day following Labor Day through March 31 in authorized hunting areas.
- K. Outdoor recreational activity in state parks is restricted to locations where physical improvement or posting designates the appropriate purpose and use. Swimming is only permitted in designated swimming areas.
- L. Pets are permitted in state parks if they are on a leash not exceeding the posted maximum length or in a cage or crate. Pets must be attended and under physical control at all times. Pets are not permitted in swimming areas. Pets are prohibited in overnight areas unless that area is designated for pets by the Department.
- M. The use of an electric generator causing unreasonable or excessive noise and the use of a chainsaw are prohibited without a permit from the Department.
- N. Unorganized or organized instruction, exhibition, competition, demonstration, or special events require written application and approval from the Department.



## VI. SWIMMING AREAS

- A. Swimming is permitted between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. (unless otherwise posted) from Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Certain areas may be available for open swimming during posted hours. Swimming at other than posted hours or outside of designated swimming areas is prohibited.
- B. Use of underwater breathing apparatus or a snorkel is prohibited. With permission of the Department, this equipment may be used by an emergency or rescue unit conducting a rescue operation or training or by a diver certified by an organization approved by the Department.
- C. Beach and pool areas are provided for swimming and sunbathing. For the safety and enjoyment of all park visitors, other activities may be prohibited.
- D. Possessing or using a glass or breakable container or utensil in a designated swimming area is prohibited.
- E. Only appropriate swimming attire is permitted in state park swimming pools. The following are prohibited: Cut-off pants and attire which may damage the filtration system or pool surface or may otherwise cause damage or endanger the facility or visitors, clothing that is not leak-proof on an infant or on a child who is not toilet-trained, and clothing that displays lifeguard lettering or insignia.
- F. All children under 10 years of age must be accompanied and supervised competently and effectively in state park swimming areas by a responsible person at least 14 years of age. One responsible person shall supervise no more than five children.

## STATE PARK WATERCRAFT REGULATIONS

1. The launching or mooring of watercraft on Department waters requires that the appropriate valid DCNR watercraft permit be properly displayed. However, a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission number and current certificate of watercraft registration permits daily launching only. Launching of trailered watercraft is permitted at designated launching areas only.
2. Storage of watercraft during the winter season may be permitted at approved locations for a fee. Contact the park office for information on facilities offered at specific parks.
3. (A) In state parks having a horsepower limitation of 20 or less, larger internal combustion engines may be mounted on the boat but not used.  
(B) In state parks designated as electric motors only, internal combustion engines may be mounted on the boat but not used.
4. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and U.S. Coast Guard regulations apply to boating on state park waters.
5. The following types of watercraft are PROHIBITED on state park waters including frozen water:
  - (A) Watercraft propelled by air propellers.
  - (B) Seaplanes. Seaplanes may be taxied at a slow minimum-height-swell speed in the waters of Presque Isle State Park for the purpose of access to and egress from the park.
  - (C) Non-seaworthy watercraft.
  - (D) Inflatable devices, except those that are seven feet in length and have more than one separate buoyancy chamber.
  - (E) Equipment which is not constructed for the primary purpose of transportation on the water.
6. (A) The use of inner tubes, body boards, surfboards, air mattresses and other similar non-watercraft devices is permitted in creeks, streams and rivers. Children 12 years of age and under shall wear United States Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices while engaged in this activity.  
(B) The use of body boards and surfboards at Presque Isle State Park is permitted only at locations where posting states that this activity is permitted. Personal flotation devices are not required.
7. Swimming or diving from watercraft is not permitted.
8. Operation of watercraft is not permitted within 100 feet of swimming areas or within areas marked by buoys.
9. Requests for watercraft races, regattas, tournaments, and exhibitions held on state park waters require 30 days prior approval of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and must be submitted on Form PFBC 500 "Application for Permit-Special Activities."
10. The following are PROHIBITED:
  - a. Operation of a watercraft which endangers a person, watercraft, property, or unnecessarily interferes with the use of the water by other persons.
  - b. Operation of a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
  - c. Overnight sleeping aboard watercraft except where authorized by the Department.

## VII. A COMPLETE SET OF RULES AND REGULATIONS IS POSTED AT THE STATE PARK OFFICE AND AN OFFICIAL COPY OF THE PA CODE PAMPHLET IS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Violation of state park rules and regulations could result in cancellation of a camping permit, removal from the state park, as well as criminal prosecution.

**1-888-PA-PARKS**

**[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us)**

## West, Jonathan

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**From:** Livelsberger, Stephanie <slivelsber@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1:51 PM  
**To:** West, Jonathan; Alisa Harris (aharris@ugies.com) (aharris@ugies.com)  
**Subject:** FW: PA DCNR - PennEast Project - Certificate to Survey  
**Attachments:** PA DCNR - Certificate To Survey -PennEast.pdf

Jon,  
The State Parks Natural Areas Pa Code language included in the Certificate to Survey was incomplete. (pages 1-2 of the attached)  
Please see the complete language as below. (yellow highlighted text)

### **Pa. Code Chapter 17. State Parks Natural Areas- Statement of Policy**

17.3 General management guideline- The protection of Natural Areas will be guided by the need to maintain their significant ecologic values. Generally, physical and biological processes will not be subject to direct human intervention. Activities which interfere with these processes or threaten to degrade the inherent values of these areas will be prohibited. Management of surrounding lands may not adversely impact these areas.

17.4 (e) Mineral leases and development will be prohibited. **New rights-of-way will also be prohibited.**

Thank you,  
Stephanie

**Stephanie Livelsberger** | Resources Management  
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Bureau of State Parks  
**Phone:** (717)783-3308 | **Fax:** (717)787-8817  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us) | [www.iConservePA.org](http://www.iConservePA.org)

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**From:** Mong, David E (DCNR)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 08, 2015 2:38 PM  
**To:** 'jonathan.west@urs.com'; 'aharris@ugies.com'  
**Cc:** Bowen, Rebecca; Beaver, Matthew; Szuch, Ryan; Maul, Karl; Livelsberger, Stephanie; Lord, Rex; Ladner, Timothy; Zulli, Nicola R; Wagoner, Rachel  
**Subject:** PA DCNR - PennEast Project - Certificate to Survey

Jon,  
We appreciate PennEast meeting with us at the Pre-Survey Meeting held this past March; the dialogue and cooperative spirit is greatly appreciated.  
Please find attached the DCNR Certificate to Survey for the subject project.  
State Forest and State Park Rules and Regulations are attached too; hardcopies will be sent in the mail.  
Please feel free to contact us any time.

Sincerely,

Dave Mong, Forest Program Specialist - Right of Way Administration  
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry/Central Office  
Office Phone: 717-783-7947  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us)

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**From:** Livelsberger, Stephanie <slivelsber@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 05, 2015 1:10 PM  
**To:** West, Jonathan; 'Alisa Harris (aharris@ugies.com) (aharris@ugies.com)'  
**Subject:** DCNR- PennEast Environmental Review  
**Attachments:** State Forest Environmental Review.pdf; PA DCNR - Certificate To Survey -PennEast.pdf

Hello Jon and Alisa,

As previously stated in the Certificate to Survey (attached), PennEast will use the data collected through surveys for completion of the State Forest Environmental Review (SFER) (attached). As the PennEast ROW request includes four State Parks, I wanted to provide further clarification for the completion of the Environmental Review. The Environmental Review should cover all DCNR lands.

As explained in the State Forest Environmental Review Policy (SFER), the narrative consideration must include an assessment of the project's impact and an explanation of corrective measures or justification why none are planned. Due to high public use of PA State Parks, it is our expectation to receive a communication strategy for addressing items of social consideration, such as item #11 Recreation Sites and Opportunities. Social considerations are important for projects highly visible to the public, likely to impact large numbers of people or user groups, or likely to engage significant opposition from one or more constituencies. Depending on the scope of the social impacts possible, project planning may require the use of public stakeholder meetings, news releases or public survey instruments to address social impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of our park users. Please contact me with questions.

Thank you ,  
Stephanie

**Stephanie Livelsberger** | Resources Management  
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Bureau of State Parks  
Phone: (717)783-3308 | Fax: (717)787-8817  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us) | [www.iConservePA.org](http://www.iConservePA.org)

## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:42 AM  
**To:** 'damong@pa.gov'; 'c-frsechle@pa.gov'  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Deviation MP 22.4 to 23.2\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 48.9 to 53.5\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 61.7 to 62.7\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 70.1 to 70.6\_072315.pdf; PennEast Reroute MP 6.5 to 11.8\_072315.pdf; PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. **(To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)**

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**PA agencies- We have also attached PNDIs of the primary deviations and reroutes for your information purposes, although we understand these are not to be used for permitting as this is a large project.**

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
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[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

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AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.



October 7, 2015

Ms. Rebecca H. Bowen  
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market St, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
(PNDI) Environmental Large Project # 022426  
Rare Plant Survey results

Dear Ms. Bowen:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with qualified botanist Janet Ebert to conduct surveys for the rare plant species identified by Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). These surveys were conducted in those locations identified by your office, most recently in correspondence dated April 6, 2015. Janet Ebert conducted the required surveys in accordance with state-specified guidelines. The Botanical Survey Report and associated Data Forms documenting the results of these surveys are enclosed for your review. Several protected species were identified during the botanical surveys, and a table that summarizes the locations of these species and proposed mitigation measures is provided below.. In addition to the mitigation measures suggested in the table below, these habitat areas the topsoil containing seeds, roots and rhizomes will be carefully segregated from subsoils and restored to the same topography following construction. No herbicides will be used during the operation and maintenance of the pipeline right-of-way (ROW). There are no above ground facilities proposed in these areas.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Milepost(s)	State Status	Impact Minimization Recommendation
Variable sedge	<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36.2</li> <li>• 36.45</li> <li>• 36.75</li> <li>• 36.85</li> <li>• 36.9</li> </ul>	PA Endangered	The population is dispersed and cannot be avoided completely. Seed collection and replanting may be feasible.
Northern panic grass	<i>Dichanthelium boreale</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 34.55</li> <li>• 37.5</li> </ul>	Tentatively Undetermined	This species can come back after a disturbance if native seed is used for restoration.



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



Common Name	Scientific Name	Milepost(s)	State Status	Impact Minimization Recommendation
Rough-leaved aster	<i>Eurybia radula</i>	• 36.8	PA Endangered	A sensitive species that will likely be lost if ROW is disturbed. Seed collection and replanting may be feasible, if pipeline shift cannot be made.
Thread rush	<i>Juncus filiformis</i>	• 26.98	PA Rare	If impacts to existing wetland are limited this plant will not be adversely affected. Additional disturbance may actually create new habitat.
Appalachian climbing fern	<i>Lygodium palmatum</i>	• 36.7	PA Rare	Mitigation to be developed with DCNR during permitting. Avoidance and/or transplantation may be options.
White-fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	• 27 • 27.2 • 34.55 • 34.6	PA Endangered	Habitat for plants is dependent upon existing hydrologic patterns on existing ROW.
Torrey's bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus torreyi</i>	• 26.52	PA Endangered	Mitigation to be developed with DCNR during permitting. Seed collection may be feasible.

Please advise if the mitigation suggestions PennEast proposes are acceptable to DCNR. We look forward to our continuing consultation with you on this important Project. Please contact Deb Poppel or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

cc: Dave Mong, DCNR



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Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



---

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

October 22, 2015

**PNDI Large Project Number: 022426**

**Bernie Holcomb**  
**URS Corporation**  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Email: [Bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:Bernard.holcomb@urs.com) (hard copy not to follow)

**Re: PennEast Pipeline Reroute (update)**  
**Multiple Municipalities, Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties**

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Large Project # **022426** for review. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

**No Impact Anticipated per avoidance, minimization of impacts, mitigation measures**

PNDI records indicate species or resources under DCNR's jurisdiction are located in the vicinity of the project. A botanical survey was requested by DCNR for ten PA Threatened and Endangered plant species and PA plant species of concern on April 6, 2015. Janet Ebert and Jack Holt conducted botanical surveys in June/July of 2015 for the ten plant species within the seven polygons delineated by DCNR. Five PA T & E and PA plant species of concern, *Juncus filiformis* (thread rush), *Platanthera blephariglottis* (white-fringed orchid), *Carex polymorpha* (variable sedge), *Eurybia radula* (rough-leaved aster), *Dicanthelium boreale* (panic-grass), were found within the seven delineated polygons. A sixth PA plant species of concern, *Lygodium palmatum* (Hartford fern), was found within 2 polygons, but this species status has been downgraded to SP (special population protected).

**Below is a summary of DCNR's recommendations (by species) for avoidance and/or mitigation measures for this project:**

1—*Juncus filiformis* (thread rush)—This Pennsylvania Rare plant species of concern was found in a large open bog with patches of wet scrub-shrub thickets. Due to the ecological significance of this large open bog and its sensitivity to disturbance, it is strongly recommended that PennEast Pipeline avoid significant impacts to this wetland. If minimal disturbances will not impact the population of *J. filiformis*, then DCNR will determine that no impact is likely to *J. filiformis*.

2—*Platanthera blephariglottis* (white-fringed orchid)—This Pennsylvania proposed Endangered plant species was found within the right-of-way. The existing hydrological conditions of this part of the ROW should be avoided of impacts, as the habitat is dependent on a hydrological configuration that probably would not be recreated by a new disturbance. DCNR recommends shifting the proposed pipeline on the west side of the road, which may lessen impacts to the *P. blephariglottis* population and the hydrologically sensitive habitat. However, if shifting is not an option, then mitigation would be strongly recommended. However, mitigation by transplanting of *P. blephariglottis* individuals is not recommended, as success rates are probably extremely low.

3—*Carex polymorpha* (variable sedge)—This Pennsylvania Endangered plant species was found to be widespread within "Polygon 6", within, and outside Weiser State Forest, growing in moist edges of the ROW, in oak-maple woods with various ferns and ericaceous shrubs, usually in ground "openings where ferns-woody vegetation is not too dense. The population of *C. polymorpha* can't be entirely avoided with this project, but the population is large enough that it will probably be able to stay viable and potentially repopulate a new disturbance if there is suitable habitat. DCNR recommends assessing the potentially impacted population and compare the impacted numbers to the individuals of the population that will not be impacted. This assessment will determine if the impacts from the project will potentially negatively affect this *C. polymorpha* population. If the population is large enough to sustain itself despite the impacts, DCNR will determine that no impact is likely if the population is avoided of impacts as much as feasibly possible. It should be mentioned that *C. polymorpha* is globally ranked as G3 (vulnerable). And Pennsylvania contains a large percentage of the global population of this species, and Pennsylvania

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Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Correspondence

regarded as the center of the species range. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that PennEast Pipeline avoids impacts to this population as feasibly possible.

4—*Eurybia radula* (*rough-leaved aster*)—This Pennsylvania proposed Threatened plant species was found in a ROW on relatively high ground between wet ruts. If the existing ROW is disturbed, then this population is vulnerable and would probably be lost. Shifting the pipeline to the west could save the *E. radula* population, but would also sacrifice a portion of the *C. polymorpha* population. DCNR recommends assessing the potential loss of the *C. polymorpha* population if the pipeline is shifted west to save the *E. radula* population. If the *C. polymorpha* population is not negatively affected overall, then DCNR recommends shifting the new pipeline to the west to protect *E. radula* from direct impacts. If this mitigation measure is implemented, then DCNR also recommends collecting seeds from the impacted *E. radula* individuals that would be lost due to shifting the pipeline to the west, and re-planting these plants to suitable habitat.

DCNR also recommends that the above mentioned ecologically sensitive areas are flagged along the right-of-way to alert PPL personnel. Based on this information and if above recommendations are implemented upon satisfaction, DCNR has determined that no impact is likely. No further coordination with our agency will be needed for this project.

DCNR recommends the following steps to help prevent the spread of invasive plant species and to encourage the use of native plants:

- 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 if the project requires re-vegetating the area. Please also attempt to use weed-free straw or hay mixes when possible. A complete list of all Pennsylvania invasive plant species can be found here: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/wildplant/invasivelist.aspx>.
- The area of disturbance should be minimized to the fullest extent that would allow for the PPL project; this will help to lessen the area of indirect disturbance to adjacent wetland and forested areas.

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 Frederick Sechler, Jr., Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-705-2819) or via email ([c-frsechle@pa.gov](mailto:c-frsechle@pa.gov)).**

Sincerely,



Greg Podnieszinski, Section Chief  
Natural Heritage Section, DCNR Bureau of Forestry

**From:** [Mong, David E \(DCNR\)](#)  
**To:** [West, Jonathan](#)  
**Cc:** [Poppel, Deborah](#); [Wagoner, Rachel](#)  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast Project SFER  
**Date:** Friday, October 23, 2015 1:06:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Jon,

Thanks for your patience. Below is an outline of what should work and a reminder to provide an analysis of various crossing methodologies at sensitive areas. I will follow up with a phone call as well. Thank you.

## State Forest Environmental Review (SFER) (**one SFER for the DCNR submission**)

### **Part A (all four parks – one hardcopy binder to be submitted)**

All items: 1 thru 23

For example:

Item 1 – PROMOTION OF GOALS:

[Hickory Creek SP](#)

[Frances Slocum SP](#)

[Beltzville SP](#)

[Delaware Canal SP](#)

-

Item 2 – EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION:

---The same 4 parks and so on for the next 21 items thereafter.

Item 3: etc...

### **Part B (two state forests – one hardcopy binder to be submitted)**

All items: 1 thru 23

For example:

Item 1:

[Pinchot SF](#)

[Weiser SF](#)

-

Item 2: EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION:

---The same state forests and so on for the next 21 items

Item 3: etc...

OTHER:

- Optional crossing method(s) analysis should be expressed in the responses to the SFER - in terms of both trenchless and trenching crossing methodologies where there are multiple

methods that could be utilized. In other words, for the proposed crossings of certain sensitive areas, such as: the proposed crossing at Frances Slocum S.P., parts or spans of Hickory Run S. P., the crossing of the Beltzville State Park, or even alignment options at Weiser State Forest, just as we expressed in the *Summary of Initial Concerns and Pre-Survey Meeting* on March 18, 2015, etc.)

- For comparison purposes we should see an analysis of differing crossing methodologies and their associated impacts, optional footprint sizes, acreage impacts, forest/park resource value impacts and etc...a full land impact analysis per crossing method.
  - This serves as a reminder to address sensitive crossing areas that have already been identified and where additional concern has been expressed (i.e. Beltzville SP; Frances Slocum, etc.).
  - In summary, as part of reviewing the SFER responses, DCNR is looking for how PennEast plans to avoid impacts to DCNR parcels, minimize impacts and what optional methods are being considered.
- Place all shape files on one CD (but place one cd per binder - so two total CD's to be submitted)

Dave Mong, Forest Program Specialist - Right of Way Administration  
Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry/Central Office  
Office Phone: 717-783-7947  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us)

---

**From:** West, Jonathan [mailto:[jonathan.west@aecom.com](mailto:jonathan.west@aecom.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2015 10:28 AM  
**To:** Mong, David E (DCNR)  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Wagoner, Rachel  
**Subject:** PennEast Project SFER

Hi Dave,

Hope you are well. I just left you a voicemail and figured I'd follow up with an email. We are working on preparing the SFER for the PennEast Project and was wondering if/how you would want things broken up; i.e. can we roll the review for all state parks and forests (six in all) in one SFER or break them up by state park vs. forest? Or is there another approach that you would prefer? Any guidance you could provide in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

**Jon West**  
Environmental Scientist  
Direct: 610-832-3653  
[jonathan.west@aecom.com](mailto:jonathan.west@aecom.com)



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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Sechler, Frederick <c-frsechle@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 05, 2015 10:23 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast- survey report from Rick Mellon

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Deborah,

Thanks for the report. I had already sent a letter regarding Janet Ebert's recommendations on the state listed plants that she encountered for the PennEast Project.

Will *Schoenoplectus torreyi* (Torrey's bulrush) be impacted by this project? I see there were 51-100 plants found within the area. This species is currently listed as endangered, so if there will be impacts to the population, mitigation will likely be required. Perhaps Rick Mellon could suggest potential recommendations for this plant's population if impacts are to occur.

Thanks so much,

Frederick

Frederick C. Sechler Jr| Ecological Information Specialist  
PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry | Natural Heritage Section  
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17105  
Phone: 717.705.2819 | Fax: 717.772.0271  
E-mail: [c-frsechle@pa.gov](mailto:c-frsechle@pa.gov)

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah [<mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 04, 2015 2:00 PM  
**To:** Sechler, Frederick  
**Subject:** PennEast- survey report from Rick Mellon

Hi there- I am not sure if you received a copy of this report that was completed by Rick Mellon. Rick conducted surveys for Northeastern bulrush on the PennEast project, and also supplemental rare plant surveys in these areas, additional to those conducted by Janet Ebert.

Rick identified one plant not included in Janet' report, which was Torrey's bulrush (*Schoenoplectus torreyi*). This was located in the vicinity of MP 26.5. Please advise if additional coordination or mitigation will be required for this plant.

Thank you for your continued assistance with this project.

**Deborah Poppel**, CWB  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting  
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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:27 AM  
**To:** 'damong@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.piz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
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## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:27 AM  
**To:** 'rebbowen@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.piz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

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Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
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## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Bowen, Rebecca <rebbowen@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2016 3:35 PM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast Pipeline- T&E info privileged & confidential?

Hi Deborah,

I'm checking with our legal on what guidance to give you. I'll get back to you shortly.

### Rebecca H. Bowen

DCNR Bureau of Forestry  
717-772-0258, [rebbowen@pa.gov](mailto:rebbowen@pa.gov)

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah [<mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2016 2:42 PM  
**To:** Bowen, Rebecca <[rebbowen@pa.gov](mailto:rebbowen@pa.gov)>  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- T&E info privileged & confidential?

Hi Rebecca- as per my voice mail to you today, FERC is questioning our classification of threatened and endangered species studies as Privileged and Confidential information, and wants the reports re-filed as public information. We have typically followed the standard practice of not releasing specific location data for listed species to the general public.

What is DCNR's policy or guidance in this regard? How does this relate to the scientific collection permits held by qualified botanists/biologists and the standards of ethics to which they are held?

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# pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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January 14, 2016

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast)  
One Meridian Blvd., Suite 2C01  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

ATTN: Jeff England, Project Manager

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project – 12/17/2015 emailed data  
*Beltzville State Park and Pinchot State Forest proposed alignment changes*

Dear Mr. England:

This letter is in reference to the correspondence of the PennEast email of December 17, 2015, and acts as follow up to the DCNR emailed response of December 17, 2015.

Luzerne County, PA – Pinchot State Forest

From the December 17, 2015 email, it appears that the proposed crossing of the Pinchot State Forest would return to the same alignment as originally proposed on the June 18, 2015 application for right of way filing to DCNR. That proposal entailed 2,477.90 feet in length (the sum distance total of two spans) by 100 foot width of corridor crossing. Unless the distance, width or location to be crossed is different from the June 18, 2015 original application, there is no need to provide an updated application at this time. At a minimum, include the December 17, 2015 emailed information or explanations within the responses being prepared for *the State Forest Environmental Review* (DCNR SFER).

The DCNR is seeking for PennEast to establish viable long-term access into the portion of the Pinchot State Forest between mile posts 11.6 thru 12.6 as this is recently acquired state forest land. The access desired includes securing public access from the north and southeast to the state forest land parcels and access across the existing railroad grade. Establishing access for DCNR would enhance land administration and public recreational opportunities.

As a reminder, the local contact of the Pinchot State Forest is:

Pinchot State Forest  
Nicholas Lylo, District Forester  
Pinchot State Forest District Office  
1839 Abington Rd., North Abington Twp., PA 18414  
Phone: 570-945-7133

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6<sup>th</sup> Floor RCSOB, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552, ph. 717-783-4647

Carbon County, PA - Beltzville State Park

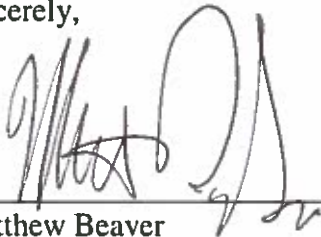
In reference to the December 17, 2015 email, it appears that one HDD crossing would be proposed or that core bore samples are being taken for evaluation as a potential viable option; this potential option is being considered along with the original proposed option of two HDD segments through the state park. As a part of PennEast's responses to the DCNR SFER, please be sure to include the intended distance of the one HDD span, staging area locations, entrance and exit pit locations - submission of this data via GIS shape files as included in the SFER mailing packet would be appreciated. Include the December 17, 2015 emailed information or explanations within the responses being prepared for the DCNR SFER.

In reference to the mentioned current core bore sampling at the Beltzville State Park, please be sure that further correspondence is achieved with the local park manager in terms of warranting site restoration as a result of the disturbances associated with the boring activity.

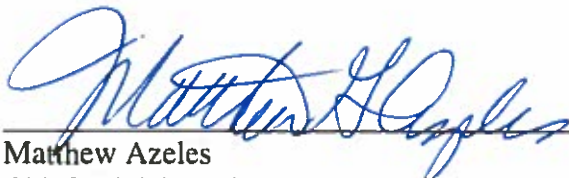
As a reminder, the local contact of the Beltzville State Park is:

Beltzville State Park  
Devin Buzzard, Park Manager  
2950 Pohopoco Drive  
Leighton, PA 18235-8905  
Phone: 610-377-0045

Sincerely,



Matthew Beaver  
Chief, Division of Operations and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry



Matthew Azeles  
Chief, Division of Conservation Resource Management Planning, Bureau of State Parks

Cc: File

Jon West, AECOM  
Nicholas Lylo, District Forester, Pinchot State Forest  
John Maza, Assistant District Forester, Pinchot State Forest  
Rachel Reese, Chief, Resource Management and Field Services Section, Bureau of State Parks  
Devin Buzzard, Park Manger, Beltzville State Park  
BOF, Division of Operations and Recreation

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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:14 PM  
**To:** 'rebbowen@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:14 PM  
**To:** 'damong@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 3:00 PM  
**To:** 'rebbowen@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.piz

**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PennEast filed its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC September 24, 2015. PennEast filed route modifications with FERC February 22, 2016, and FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project July 22, 2016. Since the February 22, 2016 route update and issuance of the draft EIS, PennEast has studied an additional 33 minor route deviations to reduce impacts on endangered species and wetlands, increase co-location with existing utilities, and address feedback from collaborative discussions with landowners and regulatory agencies.

On September 23, 2016, PennEast filed with FERC the 33 route modifications and an updated project route, which is provided in the attached Google Earth kmz file and shapefiles for your review (**rename as “zip” file before opening**). A narrative describing each modification and the explanation for the proposed changes is available on the FERC eLibrary ([http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)) under Docket Number CP15-558-000.

*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:57 PM  
**To:** 'damong@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.piz

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*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

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October 31, 2016

Ms. Rebecca Bowen  
Pennsylvania DCNR  
400 Market Street, P.O. Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Ms. Bowen:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

On September 26, 2016, your office received a Project Update email with shapefiles of the most recent route centerline filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). With this letter, we would like to request an endangered species consultation with your agency on project workspace associated with the September 2016 route, which includes access roads, staging areas, and the Kidder Compressor Station. We have enclosed a CD with Project workspace shapefiles and rare plant survey location data.

Areas crossed by the September 2016 route which were not part of prior study corridors in Pennsylvania are represented by the following mileposts. The specific locations of access roads, staging areas, and the compressor station were not part of prior consultation requests. Please advise if any additional surveys for rare plants will be required in these or the following areas:

- 4.2R2-4.8R2
- 6.3R2-6.6R2
- 9R2-9.4 R2
- 11R2-11.3R2
- 39.5R2-40.8
- 42.1R2-42.5R2
- 48.7R2-49.6R2
- 50R2-50.3R2
- 51.1R2-52.1R2
- 53.1R2-53.2R2
- 57.8R2-58.4R2
- 61.9R2-62.2R2
- 73.3R2-74R2

Additionally, we are including a copy of a botanical survey report completed by Janet Ebert. This report documents additional surveys that were conducted in the summer of 2016 upon request for further information by your office (letter from Frederick Sechler, DCNR, October 22, 2015). A summary of the plant survey results and anticipated Project impacts is provided below:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Milepost(s)	RR3 Impact Minimization Recommendation	DCNR Required Mitigation (10/22/15)	Impact Assessment per September 2016 Route
Thread rush	<i>Juncus filiformis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27.1R2 (former 26.98)</li> </ul>	If impacts to existing wetlands are prevented, this plant will not be adversely affected. Additional disturbance may actually create new habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flag site location.</li> <li>- Avoid wetland where this plant exists.</li> </ul>	Plants are avoided (outside of workspace limits). No impacts anticipated.
White-fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera blephariglottis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27.15R2</li> <li>27.35R2</li> <li>34.6R2-34.8R2</li> </ul>	Habitat for plants is dependent upon existing hydrologic patterns on existing ROW.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flag site location.</li> <li>- Shift pipeline to west side of existing ROW, if feasible, to minimize impacts to existing population.</li> <li>- Transplantation not likely to succeed; if shift cannot be accomplished, another mitigation measure will need to be negotiated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plants at 27.15R2 and 27.35R2 are avoided.</li> <li>Plants between 34.6 R2 and 34.8R2 are within workspace. Wetland contours will be restored post-construction, and native seed mix will be used for stabilization.</li> </ul>
Variable sedge	<i>Carex polymorpha</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36.2</li> <li>36.45</li> <li>36.75</li> <li>36.85</li> </ul>	The population is dispersed and cannot be avoided completely. Seed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Further assessment of the population by qualified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36.2 site avoided.</li> <li>Plants at 36.45</li> </ul>

Common Name	Scientific Name	Milepost(s)	RR3 Impact Minimization Recommendation	DCNR Required Mitigation (10/22/15)	Impact Assessment per September 2016 Route
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36.9</li> </ul>	collection and replanting may be feasible.	botanist is required by DCNR ( <a href="#">see enclosed report</a> ). If population deemed large enough and sustainable, then “no impact” may be determined. - Flag location.	and 36.75 on edge of workspace, will be flagged to accommodate impact minimization. Plants at 36.85 in workspace. Other plants widely scattered between 36.85 and 36.95, some within workspace and some outside workspace.
Rough-leaved aster	<i>Eurybia radula</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36.8</li> </ul>	A sensitive species that will likely be lost if ROW is disturbed. Seed collection and replanting may be feasible.	- Flag location. - Shift pipeline to west to avoid this plant.	Plant within workspace. Will be flagged to accommodate impact minimization.
Appalachian climbing fern	<i>Lygodium palmatum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36.7</li> </ul>	Mitigation to be developed with DCNR during permitting.	- Flag location. - Consultation with Weiser State Forest ongoing.	
Northern panic grass	<i>Dichanthelium boreale</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34.55</li> <li>37.5</li> </ul>	This species can come back after a disturbance if native seed is used for	- Use native seed for restoration. - No further	No impact-outside work space. No further action.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Milepost(s)	RR3 Impact Minimization Recommendation	DCNR Required Mitigation (10/22/15)	Impact Assessment per September 2016 Route
Torrey's bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus torreyi</i>	• 26.52	restoration. Mitigation to be developed with DCNR during permitting. Seed collection may be feasible.	action required. - Flag location. - This plant was identified by Rick Mellon.	Plant is avoided (outside of workspace).

We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Deborah K. Poppel, CWB  
Senior Ecologist





**Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
Correspondence**





August 12, 2014

Mr. Chris Urban  
Chief, Natural Diversity Section

PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION  
Division of Environmental Services  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

**Re: Large Project PNDI Review  
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC - PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania**

Dear Mr. Urban:

The PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), is a partnership with UGI Energy Services (UGIES), AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, and South Jersey Industries. The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

PennEast intends to file its certificate application for the PennEast Pipeline Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in mid-2015, and anticipates receiving authorization and starting construction in 2017. Permit applications with other federal, state, and local agencies will be submitted within similar timeframes as the certificate application. The permit proceedings conducted by these agencies will provide additional opportunities for public input and involvement. FERC's determination of public convenience and necessity includes a thorough, comprehensive environmental review of proposed projects, working closely with federal, state, and local agencies and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On behalf of PennEast, URS Corporation (URS) is requesting a Large Project Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review update for rare, candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for the PennEast Pipeline Project. A critical issues analysis was conducted for multiple routes using readily available secondary source data to select the **Least Environmentally Damaging**

Page | 1



**Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)** route. Mapping depicting the environmental features evaluated for the preferred alternative is enclosed. We are asking for your review prior to the initiation of wetland and watercourse field surveys to be conducted this fall. We hope to concurrently identify any habitat for species under your agencies' jurisdiction at this time. The environmental study area will be a 400-foot corridor centered on the approximately 100-mile alignment. The anticipated permanent right-of-way (ROW) and temporary construction work area will be approximately 100-feet. The study area is wider than the disturbance area to allow for minor alignment shifts to avoid any sensitive resources that may be identified during the environmental field investigations.

The following are enclosed to facilitate your review:

- Large Project PNDI Form;
- PennEast Project Fact Sheet; and
- CD containing:
  - shapefiles of the alignment;
  - USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps with project alignment; and
  - detailed maps depicting the project areas and known secondary source resources

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this request, please contact me at 610.832.1810 or [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com).

Sincerely,

Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Anthony Cox (UGI)  
Mr. Dante D'Alessandro (UGI)

### How to Use the PNDI Large Project Form

***If your Project is a “Large Project”***— too large/long to search on the online system  
Projects are considered “Large Projects” when the ENTIRE project is:

- Linear/Large Projects that exceed the PNDI online project size limits of 10 miles in length or 5165 acres
- Township-wide, Countywide or Statewide Projects. Examples: Act 537 Sewage Plans, Wind Farms, Roadway Improvements exceeding map limits above.

Due to system limitations and agency requirements, projects should not be submitted piecemeal. The entire project area including roads and infrastructure should be submitted as a single unit.

### What to Send to Jurisdictional Agencies

Send the following information to all of the agencies listed on the Large Project Form.

#### **Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:**

- \_\_\_ Completed Large Project Form
- \_\_\_ Supplemental project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristics of the site and acreage to be impacted.
- \_\_\_ USGS 7.5-minute Quadrangle with project boundary clearly indicated, and quad name on the map

#### **The inclusion of the following information may expedite the review process.**

- \_\_\_ GIS shapefiles depicting the project extent
- \_\_\_ A basic site plan (particularly showing the relationship of the project to the physical features such as wetlands, streams, ponds, rock outcrops, etc.)
- \_\_\_ Color photos keyed to the basic site plan (i.e. showing on the site plan where and in what direction each photo was taken and the date of the photos)
- \_\_\_ Information about the presence and location of wetlands in the project area, and how this was determined (e.g., by a qualified wetlands biologist), if wetlands are present in the project area, provide project plans showing the location of all project features, as well as wetlands and streams

### PNDI Large Project Form Definitions

***Applicant:*** Person that owns the property or is proposing the project or activity

***Contact Person:*** Person to receive response if different than applicant (e.g. Consultant)

***Project Name:*** Descriptive title of project (e.g. Twin Pines Subdivision, Miller Bridge Replacement)

***Proposed Activity:*** Include ALL earth disturbance activities for project (e.g. for a timber sale—include stream crossings, cutting areas and new roadway accesses). Also include Current Conditions (e.g. housing, farmland, current land cover), and how Construction/Maintenance Activity is to be accomplished

***Total Acres of Property:*** Entire site acreage (e.g. timber sale property—including road access (200 acres))

***Acreage to be Impacted:*** Disturbance acreage (e.g. timber sale—if the property is 200 acres, but only 100 acres will be disturbed, for example: cutting on 90 acres, a road impacting 10 acres); include all temporary and permanent activities



# Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

## LARGE PROJECT FORM

This form provides site information necessary to perform an Environmental Review for special concern species and resources listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code or the Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code.

### Applicant Information

Name: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC

Address: One Meridian Blvd., Suite 2c01 Wyomissing, PA 19610

Phone Number: 844-347-7119

Fax Number:

### Contact Person Information - if different from applicant

Name: Bernie Holcomb

Address: 625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pa 19428

Phone Number: 610-832-1810

Fax Number: 610-832-3501

Email: bernard.holcom

### Project Information

Project Name: Penneast Pipeline Project

Project Reference Point (center point of project): Latitude:                      Longitude:                      Datum:

Municipality: Multiple    County: Luzerne -- Bucks

Attach a copy of a U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 Minute Quadrangle Map with Project Boundaries clearly marked.

U.S.G.S. Quad Name: Multiple

Provide GIS shapefiles showing the project boundary (strongly recommended)

### Project Description

#### Proposed Project Activity (including ALL earth disturbance areas and current conditions)

The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

Total Acres of Property: 5118

Acreage to be Impacted: 1283

1. Will the entire project occur in or on an existing building, parking lot, driveway, road, maintained road shoulder, street, runway, paved area, railroad bed, or maintained lawn?    Yes     No
2. Are there any waterways or waterbodies (intermittent or perennial rivers, streams, creeks, tributaries, lakes or ponds) in or near the project area, or on the land parcel? If so, how many feet away is the project?  
Yes     Within Feet    No
3. Are wetlands located in or within 300 feet of the project area?    Yes     No     If No, is this the result of a wetland delineation?    Tbd
4. How many acres of tree removal, tree cutting or forest clearing will be necessary to implement all aspects of this project?    Tbd

#### Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market St., PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
fax: 717-772-0271

#### PA Game Commission

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

#### PA Fish and Boat Commission

Natural Diversity Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

#### US Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Biologist  
315 South Allen St., Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801  
no faxes please



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

September 8, 2014

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 43063

URS CORPORATION  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project.  
BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - LUZERNE County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

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 (PFBC) jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the 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.

Based on review, the PFBC is concerned the project will have an impact on the following species of special concern:

#### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

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Timber rattlesnakes occur in the forested, mountainous regions of the Commonwealth. They prefer forested areas to forage for small mammals (e.g., mice and chipmunks) and southerly-facing slopes for hibernating and other thermoregulatory activities. The timber rattlesnake is threatened by habitat loss/alteration, wanton killing, and poaching.

Given the proximity of the project to known critical timber rattlesnake habitat, we recommend that a timber rattlesnake habitat assessment be conducted in three areas (Table 1) by a qualified timber rattlesnake surveyor. We have included a list of qualified surveyors and habitat assessment protocol for your convenience. This list is not an exhaustive list of qualified rattlesnake surveyors in Pennsylvania as

#### **Our Mission:**

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

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

there may be qualified surveyors who have not asked to be placed on this list. It is not mandatory that you use someone on this list. Upon completion of the habitat survey, the qualified rattlesnake biologist is to submit a report to this office for review and comment. The habitat survey report should include color photographs of the project area (keyed to a site map or diagram) and a description of habitats occurring within the immediate area to be developed (including access roads), as well as the surrounding area. Potential timber rattlesnake critical habitat (denning/gestating areas) should be photographed and mapped accordingly. In addition, the report should also include detailed project plans and maps with a description of the proposed work (including access roads), project impacts and alternatives. Pending the review of this information, a survey targeting the presence of the timber rattlesnake in the project area and/or other project modifications may be requested.

Table 1. Timber Rattlesnake habitat assessment areas.

Area	Mile Post	
	Northern Edge	Southern Edge
1	18.6	19.3
2	21.4	23.6
3	48.9	50.2

#### **Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**

The Northern cricket frog is a small (less than 2") frog species found in a wide variety of habitats including permanent bodies of water such as slow-moving streams, ponds, lakes, marshes, bogs, and swamps, but also semi-permanent ponds and seasonal forest pools. Breeding occurs from May to August with metamorphosed froglets emerging July to September. The Northern cricket frog occurs in small, isolated populations in eastern Pennsylvania. These small populations are threatened by pollution, and filling/clearing of wetlands and breeding habitat.

**If wetlands, vernal pools, open water areas, streams, or ponds or the area within 300ft of these water features are to be disturbed from the project activity**, additional evaluations are necessary to confirm whether or not the project site contains habitat and to determine the potential for adverse impacts to this species. Therefore, we request completion of a **habitat assessment** of the project buffer area located in Hickory Run State Park between **Mile Post 26.1 and Mile Post 29.8** to characterize and determine if potential habitat exists within the vicinity of the proposed project area.

A qualified biologist, who possesses the necessary Scientific Collector's Permit issued by the PFBC, must conduct this habitat assessment. A list of biologists recognized as qualified by the PFBC to perform this assessment is enclosed. Items **such as**: basic project plans, project narrative, general habitat descriptions, and color photographs keyed to a site map or diagram of the project area, wetlands identification and delineation, stream characterization (flow velocity, width, depth, substrate type, pools and riffles, identification of basking areas, logs, woody debris, presence of aquatic vegetation) would expedite our review process. Pending the review of information, a survey targeting the presence of the species of concern may be warranted.

**If, however, wetlands, vernal pools, or water bodies or the area within 300ft of these water features are not to be disturbed in any way by the proposed activity**, and provided that best management practices are employed and strict erosion and sedimentation measures are maintained, I do not foresee any adverse impacts to the Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*) from the proposed project.



## Freshwater Mussels

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Rare or protected freshwater mussel species are known from the vicinity of the North Branch Susquehanna River crossing. Freshwater mussels are the most imperiled taxonomic group in North America. Nearly 20% of the species historically known to occur in the Commonwealth are now extirpated (locally extinct). Additionally 60% of Pennsylvania's remaining species are of conservation concern. We are concerned about direct and indirect (i.e., runoff) effects that the proposed project may have on the species of concern. The freshwater mussel species known from the project area are especially vulnerable to physical (dredging, rip-rap, etc.) and chemical (pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, heavy metals and organic contaminants) changes to their aquatic environment. Therefore, **we recommend using directional boring** rather than open cutting for the **North Branch Susquehanna River crossing**. Open cutting will most likely adversely impact the species of concern. Work should be conducted from the bank (e.g., no in-stream disturbance). Likewise, no erosion or sediment should be allowed to enter into the river (e.g., strict erosion and sedimentation control measures need to be employed).

**Provided that directional boring methodology is used, in-stream work is avoided, strict E&S control measures are maintained, and best management practices are employed**, we do not foresee any significant adverse impacts from the proposed activity to the mussel species of special concern or any other rare or protected species under PFBC jurisdiction **provided that the applicant implement the following contingencies to prevent impacts to water quality from drilling/boring operations:**

- Have a designated environmental inspector on site for the duration of the entire crossing operation.
- Stop the bore/drill immediately if anyone on site observes an Inadvertent Return.
- Have a Vac Truck on site or on call (within three hours) to begin clean-up of the release in the stream channel to prevent downstream migration of drilling fluids.

Additionally, any release of sediment to the stream should be reason to initiate contact with the PFBC Bureau of Law Enforcement to address these issues (NE 570-477-5717). Any unauthorized disturbance, unpermitted discharge, or release of sediment(s) that is determined to be a pollution event (generally described <http://www.fish.state.pa.us/fishpub/summary/reporting.html>) per the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code will be subject to the appropriate legal enforcement action.

**If, however, the work will necessitate any direct (e.g. equipment intrusion) or indirect impacts (e.g. runoff) to the North Branch Susquehanna River, a mussel survey & relocation should be conducted** to avoid potential impacts to these rare mussel species. It is recommended that a qualified malacologist complete a mussel survey to identify any mussel species present and determine their abundance. Additionally, if mussels are encountered it is recommended that the mussels in the area of direct impact be relocated to suitable habitat outside of the disturbance area.

A list of qualified malacologists and a PFBC approved mussel survey protocol is enclosed for your convenience when arranging for a mussel survey. Prior to conducting a survey, qualified malacologist should submit a proposed survey and relocation plan to this office. Upon completion of the mussel survey and relocation, please send a copy of the final report to this office for further evaluation.

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**  
**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**  
**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**  
**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

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Rare or protected freshwater mussel, fish, and turtle species are known in the vicinity of the Delaware River crossing. The fish species known from the project area 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 in-stream work. Therefore, **we recommend using directional boring** rather than open cutting for the **Delaware River crossing**. Open cutting will most likely adversely impact the species of concern. Work should be conducted from the bank (e.g., no in-stream disturbance). Likewise, no erosion or sediment should be allowed to enter into the river (e.g., strict erosion and sedimentation control measures need to be employed).

**If, however, the Delaware River work will necessitate any direct impacts such as in-stream work or open cut stream crossings, 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 crossing including possible in-stream work, sequence of activities, basic site plans and map, aerial maps of the general area, project alternatives, 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.

**Bog Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, PA Endangered, Federal Threatened)**

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In an effort to streamline our threatened and endangered species environmental review process, reduce the redundancy in project reviews and ease our staff workload, the PFBC has delegated coordination/consultation of joint state/federally listed species impact reviews to the PA Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Please send your project materials if you have not already done so to them at:

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Section,  
315 South Allen St., Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801-4851**

The PFBC appreciates the detailed information (maps and GIS shapefiles) provided for this review. Please note that the review was based on the 400-ft corridor. Any modification to this corridor could cause the review to change and contact should be initiated to determine the impact(s).

All habitat assessments should include the entire 400-ft corridor between the above referenced Mile Posts to account for minor pipeline realignments. Mile Posts were referenced for habitat assessments since GPS coordinates were not provided. In future correspondence, please provide GPS coordinates with habitat assessments to clarify mile posts and confirm survey locations.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 43063.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Smiles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn



October 24, 2014

Ms. Heather Smiles  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Dear Ms. Smiles:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC approved PennEast for the pre-filing review process on October 8. The pre-filing process creates the framework for the environmental analysis and a formal structure for stakeholders along the proposed route to provide input and opinions regarding the project. The pre-filing application is available online at <http://elibrabry.ferc.gov>, docket PF15-1-000.

At this time we would like to invite the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to become a cooperating agency in the FERC process, and to actively engage with FERC's designated Environmental Project Manager for the PennEast Pipeline Project, Medha Kochhar. Ms. Kochhar can be contacted at (202) 502-8964. As a cooperating agency, FERC and/or PennEast may request your participation in bi-weekly project status calls and direct or interagency coordination meetings, as appropriate.

Only in the second month of a comprehensive, approximately three-year process, PennEast still is working to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we initially provided your agency with detailed project information. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been shifted approximately three-to-four miles to the northeast between mileposts 11 and 35 in Luzerne and Carbon counties. Other route adjustments have also been made in an effort to maximize co-location with existing utility easements. Overall, approximately 41 miles have been re-routed in Pennsylvania. Please note, however, that the current preferred alternative route remains in the same counties and townships as identified in our initial notification. Shapefiles for the adjusted preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Holcomb".

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



PennEast Pipeline Project

MEETING MINUTES

PA State Interagency Meeting

November 4, 2014

Rachel Carson State Office Building, Harrisburg, PA

Date: November 4, 2014

**Attendees:**

Gregory Lech, PA Fish and Boat Commission  
Emilee Boyer, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Natural Heritage  
Stephanie Livelsberger, DCNR Bureau of State Parks  
Dave Mong, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, State Forests  
Rachel Wagner, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, State Parks  
John Coughlin, Western Land Services  
Chris Montanye, WLS  
Deborah Poppel, URS  
Jonathan West, URS

**Summary**

DCNR was provided with a folder including project maps. A project overview was provided (see agenda) which included a purpose and need for the project, a description of the proposed facilities, the FERC review process, and the status of environmental surveys and other activities. It was noted that biweekly update calls are held with FERC and the agencies were invited to become cooperating agencies during the pre-filing process.

During the meeting it was confirmed that PFBC did receive the shapefiles for the updated alignment; DCNR did not because of their internet security blocking certain files. (Subsequent to the meeting, the shapefiles were re-sent and confirmation was obtained for their receipt).

The DCNR representatives discussed the fact that they have a formalized process for PennEast or its contractors to obtain ROW permission. This includes all surveys (such as wetlands, civil, archeology, geotechnical) which must wait until the project application is submitted. The forms were provided to URS and WLS prior to the meeting via email. A pre-survey meeting is held and field surveys can commence if a certificate is granted. This includes additional surveys that the State Parks or State Forest may require (including botanical surveys).



The ROW application review process can take a few months from proposal to meeting plus 21 days to the survey permission. There are 4 main components to the application: 1) Application for ROW (form); 2) GIS shapefiles of the final route; 3) A project description and alternatives analysis (can be RR1 and RR10), and 4) PNDI review results (does not need to have the clearance letters).

Because these are public lands, we are free to access the lands to become familiar with the areas but they will not grant formal permission to survey; there is a form for "preliminary survey" work which can be processed fairly quickly. Chris Montanye said that he would complete and submit the one-page preliminary survey form ASAP.

It was noted that 85% of state parks are open to hunting. Currently it is archery season; rifle season starts December 1.

Ms. Boyer expressed concern over the draft Resource Reports being submitted May 1 (missing field seasons) when surveys may not be completed. It was explained that final reports would not be submitted until July and that it was expected that most, if not all, field work would be completed by that time. She noted that DCNR review may not be completed before the late summer or early fall of 2015 (and therefore clearance letters for permit applications will be pending). If habitat assessments rule out areas for survey, she requested that we let her know early. She prefers one report document for the whole alignment rather than "piecemeal" reports.

Mr. Lech from PFBC asked about the major river crossing techniques, for which it was noted that HDD is proposed.

Mr. Mong provided a powerpoint presentation of the DCNR ROW application process (printout included) at the conclusion of the meeting. It was agreed that URS Deputy PM Jon West would be the single point-of-contact for DCNR for the project.

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

November 10, 2014

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 43063

URS CORPORATION  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project.  
BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - LUZERNE County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This is a response to your updated submission for the PennEast Pipeline Project, received on October 24, 2014. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) sent an initial response letter dated September 8, 2014. Since that time your project has changed and you initiated further contact with PFBC. Furthermore, the PFBC attended a meeting on November 4, 2014 in Harrisburg, PA, with project representatives and PA DCNR to discuss the project.

Based on the updated pipeline route and discussions from the meeting the PFBC is concerned the project will have an impact on the following species of special concern:

#### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

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The September 8, 2014 letter requested habitat assessments for three areas along the pipeline route. The alternate route removed these three areas from impact. With the new route, the PFBC recommends that a timber rattlesnake habitat assessment be conducted in SEVEN areas (Table 2) by a qualified rattlesnake surveyor (a list of qualified surveyors and survey protocol was previously provided).

**Our Mission:**

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

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence



Table 2. Timber Rattlesnake habitat assessment areas.<sup>1</sup>

Area	Mile Post Northern Edge	Mile Post Southern Edge
1-3	Removed	Removed
4	10.3	10.6
5	12.3	12.5
6	21.9	22.5
7	23.2	23.6
8	28.8	29.0
9	29.6	30.2
10	50.4	50.7

<sup>1</sup>Updated for 10/24/2014 Route.

### **Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**

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The September 8, 2014 letter requested a habitat assessment of the project buffer area located in Hickory Run State Park. The alternate route modified this area. With the new route, the PFBC recommends a habitat assessment be conducted of the project buffer located in the **Hickory Run watershed (between Mile Post 28.1 to 29.6)** to characterize and determine if potential habitat exists (a list of qualified surveyors was previously provided).

### **Freshwater Mussels**

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In the September 8, 2014 letter the PFBC recommended **using directional boring** rather than open cutting for the **North Branch Susquehanna River crossing**. At the November 4, 2014 meeting, it was discussed that the North Branch Susquehanna River crossing will be crossed via HDD. Therefore the PFBC concurs with the crossing method provided the following conditions are implemented:

- Have a designated environmental inspector on site for the duration of the entire crossing.
- Stop the bore/drill immediately if anyone on site observes an Inadvertent Return.
- Have a Vac Truck on site or on call (within three hours) to begin clean-up of the release in the stream channel to prevent downstream migration of drilling fluids.
- Conduct a geotechnical investigation near the proposed bore crossing to adequately identify operating parameters (e.g., depth, pressure) to minimize the probability of an Inadvertent Return.

### **Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**

### **Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**

### **Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**

### **Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

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In the September 8, 2014 letter the PFBC recommended **using directional boring** rather than open cutting for the **Delaware River crossing**. In the November 4, 2014 meeting, it was discussed that the Delaware River crossing will be crossed via HDD. Therefore the PFBC concurs with the crossing method provided the conditions listed above are implemented.

Additionally, any release of sediment to the stream should be reason to initiate contact with the PFBC Bureau of Law Enforcement (NE 570-477-5717; SE 717-626-0228) to address these issues. Any

unauthorized disturbance, unpermitted discharge, or release of sediment(s) that is determined to be a pollution event (generally described <http://www.fish.state.pa.us/fishpub/summary/reporting.html>) per the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code will be subject to the appropriate legal enforcement action.

**If, however, the work will necessitate any direct (e.g., equipment intrusion) or indirect impacts (e.g., runoff) to the waterway, this SIR must be resubmitted to this office for further review before work commences.** With the resubmission, please include items such as detailed project plans, a description of the proposed work, aerial photographs of the general area, mapped areas that are to be impacted, stream characterizations and descriptions, and color photographs would expedite our review process. A mussel survey to assess areas of direct and indirect effects may be warranted.

### **NEW PROPOSED 24" HELLERTOWN LATERAL**

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During the November 4, 2014 meeting, URS provided information on a new section of pipeline, known as the Hellertown Lateral. This project was reviewed and **no impacts to species of special concern** are anticipated in the vicinity of the new proposed Hellertown Lateral.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 43063.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn



January 14, 2015

Mr. Gregory Lech  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, Oil and Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Dear Mr. Lech,

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a new preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments in Pennsylvania and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

January 23, 2015

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 43063

URS CORPORATION  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project – January 14, 2015 Re-route  
NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This is a response to your updated submission for the PennEast Pipeline Project, received on January 14, 2015. This update was described by you as: In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA.

A review concluded, except for occasional transient species, rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under our jurisdiction are not known to exist in the vicinity of the re-routed area. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

This response only regards the above referenced re-route. The PFBC is still concerned with potential impacts to the following species, as outlined in previous consultation letters:

**Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**  
**Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**  
**Freshwater Mussels**  
**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**  
**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**  
**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**  
**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (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

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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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 43063.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Smiles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn



March 30, 2015

Mr. Greg Lech  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission; Oil and Gas Section  
450 Robinson Land  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Dear Mr. Lech:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has again been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on January 14, 2015.

Following feedback from FERC's scoping meetings and numerous conversations with landowners, state and local agencies, and other various stakeholders, PennEast has revised and refined various portions of the preferred alternative route. The largest variations to the previously released route are related to the location of the crossing of the Bethlehem Authority water supply mainline (MP 44 and MP 45), Appalachian Trail crossing (between MP 46 and MP 55), and accommodating future subdivision and housing development plans. Additional field data gained over the last month has helped make smaller adjustments related to environmental surveys and individual discussions with landowners.

In addition to the route variations noted above, an additional interconnect was needed for the Gilbert Power Generation facility in Holland Township, New Jersey, which is fed by a small lateral (12 inches) to supply natural gas to the facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.

A summary of the significant route variations in Pennsylvania is provided below:

- In Towamensing Township in Carbon County, PA, less than one mile of the alignment has been re-routed ¼-mile to the east as a result of consultations with the Bethlehem Authority (Authority). The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 44 and 45 to cross the Authority's water supply mainline in a location where it is deeper in an effort to maximize protection of the Authority's resources.
- Straddling the Carbon – Northampton County line in PA, approximately 8 miles of the alignment between mileposts 46 and 55 has been re-routed up to 1 mile to the west of the previous route in an effort to refine the crossing location of the Appalachian Trail.



- In Northampton County, PA, approximately 2.5 miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the north of the previous route as a result of consultations with private landowners and local officials. The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 59 and 62 to accommodate current and future land use plans in the area.

Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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**Division of Environmental Services**  
Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

April 22, 2015

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 43063

URS CORPORATION  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project.  
BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - LUZERNE County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This is a response to your updated submission for the PennEast Pipeline Project, received on March 31, 2015. This update was described by you as:

1) In Towamensing Township in Carbon County, PA, less than one mile of the alignment has been re-routed ¼-mile to the east as a result of consultations with the Bethlehem Authority (Authority). The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 44 and 45 to cross the Authority's water supply mainline in a location where it is deeper in an effort to maximize protection of the Authority's resources.

2) Straddling the Carbon – Northampton County line in PA, approximately 8 miles of the alignment between mileposts 46 and 55 has been re-routed up to 1 mile to the west of the previous route in an effort to refine the crossing location of the Appalachian Trail.

3) In Northampton County, PA, approximately 2.5 miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½- mile to the north of the previous route as a result of consultations with private landowners and local officials. The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 59 and 62 to accommodate current and future land use plans in the area.

Based on the updated pipeline route the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) will **ONLY** modify our previous recommendation related to the **Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)**. In a letter dated November 10, 2015, Table 2 was provided to summarize areas where habitat assessments were requested. **As a result of the update see Table 3 below.**

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Table 3. Timber Rattlesnake habitat assessment areas.<sup>1,2</sup>

Area	Mile Post Northern Edge	Mile Post Southern Edge
1-3	Removed	Removed
4	10.3	10.6
5	12.3	12.5
6	21.9	22.5
7	23.2	23.6
8	28.8	29.0
9	29.6	30.2
10	Removed	Removed
11	49.6	50.4

<sup>1</sup>Updated for 10/24/2014 Route.

<sup>2</sup>Updated for 3/31/2015 Route.

In addition, the PFBC is still concerned with potential impacts to the following species, as outlined in previous consultation letters:

**Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**

**Freshwater Mussels**

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**

**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**

**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**

**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 43063.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn



625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
 Conshohocken, PA 19428

(610) 832-3500 – (610) 832-3501 (fax)

URS CORPORATION  
 RECORD OF CONVERSATION

<b>Spoke With</b>	
<b>Name:</b> Greg Lech	<b>Phone Number:</b> (570) 477-3985
<b>Company:</b> PA Fish & Boat commission	<b>Date:</b> July 15, 2015
<b>Client:</b> PennEast Pipeline	<b>Recorded By:</b> Deborah Poppel
<b>Project Information &amp; Routing</b>	
Incoming:	Outgoing: X
Project Name: PennEast	
Billable to Project: 60414094.20000363.00029	
<b>Item Discussed</b>	T&E Species Surveys

I returned the call of Gregory Lech of PFBC who requested an update on the PFBC-requested special status species surveys. I provided the following update:

- Timber rattlesnake habitat surveys have been completed by Wildlife Specialists. Some potential denning and gestation habitat identified. Awaiting final technical report. One sighting of timber rattlesnake in a different location during wetland delineation surveys. Subsequently sent him email with the locational information and a photograph.
- Cricket frog habitat was identified in Hickory Run State Park, presence/absence surveys are currently taking place for this species by Marlin Corn who coordinated survey requirements with his office.
- No redbelly turtle surveys are planned because impacts will be avoided with seasonal timing restrictions on in-water work and/or construction methodology.

Greg said that the new timber rattler location (from sighting during wetland delineation) will require additional surveys because it is an uncharted area for them; he will send the specifics of this request in an email so that I can efficiently get the info out to Wildlife Specialists.

Greg seemed aware that update may be coming on AT reroute, I confirmed this. He therefore will hold off on a formal update letter until he gets our request.

Greg noted that state listed mussel species in Susquehanna River have “dropped off” list and therefore if we propose open cut of river no mussel surveys will be needed.

Lastly, Greg wanted clarification on the URS/AECOM relationship and who is working for PennEast; which I explained.

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2015 1:52 PM  
**To:** Chris@wildlife-specialists.com; stan@wildlife-specialists.com; West, Jonathan; Holcomb, Bernard  
**Subject:** FW: PAFBC Species Update for PennEast Pipeline project SIR 43063

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From: Lech, Gregory [glech@pa.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2015 10:07 AM  
To: Poppel, Deborah  
Cc: Smiles, Heather A  
Subject: PAFBC Species Update for PennEast Pipeline project SIR 43063

Ms. Poppel,

Thank you for the additional information you provided.

As discussed on July 15, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PAFBC) would like to update information related to species of special concern review related to the PennEast Pipeline project (Project). Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. As such, the following updates are recommended and will be formally outlined in the next consultation letter.

Susquehanna River crossing – Previous letters recommended, depending on crossing methodology, a survey and possible relocation due to RARE freshwater mussel species in the vicinity of the project. This recommendation will be omitted in future correspondence.

Timber rattlesnake – Previous letters recommended habitat assessments along various sections of the Project. The PAFBC recommends additional sections be surveyed for habitat assessment, following previously outlined guidelines. These sections include:

Mile Post 13.5 to 16.3  
Mile Post 32.4 to 32.8  
Mile Post 37.4 to 40.1

Please let me know if you need additional information or have any questions.

Regards,

Gregory Lech | Fisheries Biologist  
PA Fish & Boat Commission | Division of Environmental Services  
5566 Main Road | Sweet Valley, PA 18656  
Phone: 570.477.3985 | Fax: 570.477.2621  
[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)<<http://www.fishandboat.com/>>

## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:41 AM  
**To:** 'Lech, Gregory'  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Deviation MP 22.4 to 23.2\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 48.9 to 53.5\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 61.7 to 62.7\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 70.1 to 70.6\_072315.pdf; PennEast Reroute MP 6.5 to 11.8\_072315.pdf; PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. **(To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)**

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**PA agencies- We have also attached PNDIs of the primary deviations and reroutes for your information purposes, although we understand these are not to be used for permitting as this is a large project.**

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

---

**From:** Lech, Gregory <glech@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 3:50 PM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: followup PennEast question

Deborah,

There is not a take permit similar to what the USFWS implements that I am aware of. If an active den is proposed to be impacted, we will ask for a re-route and request a 300-ft buffer from the project's Limit-of-Disturbance. Additionally, we may request a biologist be on-site during construction and that construction near an active den take place during the active season.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Regards,

**Gregory Lech** | Fisheries Biologist  
PA Fish & Boat Commission | Division of Environmental Services  
5566 Main Road | Sweet Valley, PA 18656  
Phone: 570.477.3985 | Fax: 570.477.2621  
[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah [<mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 3:09 PM  
**To:** Lech, Gregory  
**Subject:** followup PennEast question

Greg- Thanks for the information in our call. Just one more question; if we were to assume presence of a timber rattlesnake den (e.g. if occupied rattlesnake dens were within the project corridor) and it were to be impacted, what is the typical mitigation strategy? Or is there a take permit similar to what USFWS has?

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
D 1-610-832-3597 C 1-215-833-0566  
[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, PA 19428  
T 1-610-832-3500 F 1-610-832-3501  
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AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 12, 2015

#### IN REPLY REFER TO

SIR# 44756

AECOM

Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100

Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your updated inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search “potential conflict” or a threatened and endangered species impact review.

On July 24, 2015, an updated route was submitted for the PennEast Pipeline project (Project). Previous correspondence from this office, SIR#43063, revealed species of special concern exist within the Project area. The updated route has been reviewed under a new SIR #, **please reference SIR#44756** in future correspondence related to the Project.

Based on the latest review and previous correspondence, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is concerned the project will have an impact on the following species of special concern:

#### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

---

Given the proximity of the Project to known critical timber rattlesnake habitat, we recommend that a timber rattlesnake habitat assessment be conducted in the project area by a qualified timber rattlesnake surveyor. Previous correspondence outlined areas by listing Mile Post (see previous Tables 1-3). Due to the July 24, 2015 reroute, these areas have been modified. Please use **Table 4** to identify areas in which a habitat assessment is requested.

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

Table 4. Timber Rattlesnake habitat assessment areas.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Area	Mile Post Northern Edge	Mile Post Southern Edge	Comments
1-3	Previously	Removed	Outside Project corridor
4	-	Removed	Outside Project corridor
5	12.9	13.1	Mile Posts updated
6	22.4	23.0	Mile Posts updated
7	23.7	24.1	Mile Posts updated
8	29.3	29.5	Mile Posts updated
9	30.1	30.7	Mile Posts updated
10	Previously	Removed	Outside Project corridor
11	-	Removed	Outside Project corridor
12	11.1	11.6	New area
13	14.1	16.9	New area <sup>4</sup>
14	32.9	33.3	New area <sup>4</sup>
15	37.9	40.6	New area <sup>4</sup>
16	51.1	51.6	New area

<sup>1</sup>Updated for 10/24/2014 Route.

<sup>2</sup>Updated for 3/31/2015 Route.

<sup>3</sup>Updated for 7/24/2015 Route.

<sup>4</sup>Previously listed in email to D. Poppel on 7/16/2015; Mile Posts reflect new alignment.

### Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)

Previous correspondence dated, September 8, 2014, requested a habitat assessment of the project buffer area located in Hickory Run State Park. With the July 24, 2015 reroute, the correct Mile Posts for this survey area are between Mile Post 28.6 to 30.1.

### Freshwater Mussels

Previous letters recommended the **North Branch Susquehanna River** be crossed via Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) as a result of freshwater mussel species in the vicinity. Additionally, should the crossing method be open-cut, a freshwater mussel survey and potential relocation should be conducted. Due to the PNDI continually being updated with species information, these additional measures will not be recommended if open-cut is the proposed method. However, the PFBC still supports HDD as a method to minimize impacts to aquatic resources and avoid recreational conflicts.

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**  
**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**  
**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**  
**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

---

Previous letters listed rare or protected freshwater mussel, turtle, and fish species are known in the vicinity of the **Delaware River** crossing. Therefore we recommended using HDD rather than open-cutting. Through conversations with the applicant, HDD is proposed for the Delaware River crossing. Therefore previous recommendations should be implemented.

**Bog Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, PA Endangered, Federal Threatened)**


---

The Project occurs within counties known to contain bog turtles. As previously outlined, please continue to coordinate with the USFWS.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

cc: D. Poppel, AECOM





## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 20, 2015

#### IN REPLY REFER TO

SIR# 44756

AECOM

Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100

Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your updated inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search “potential conflict” or a threatened and endangered species impact review.

On July 24, 2015, an updated route was submitted for the PennEast Pipeline project (Project). Previous correspondence from this office, SIR#43063, revealed species of special concern exist within the Project area. The updated route has been reviewed under a new SIR #, **please reference SIR#44756** in future correspondence related to the Project.

Based on the latest review and previous correspondence, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is concerned the project will have an impact on the following species of special concern:

#### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

---

Given the proximity of the Project to known critical timber rattlesnake habitat, we recommend that a timber rattlesnake habitat assessment be conducted in the project area by a qualified timber rattlesnake surveyor. Previous correspondence outlined areas by listing Mile Post (see previous Tables 1-3). Due to the July 24, 2015 reroute, these areas have been modified. Please use **Table 4** to identify areas in which a habitat assessment is requested.

#### **Our Mission:**

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

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

Table 4. Timber Rattlesnake habitat assessment areas.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Area	Mile Post Northern Edge	Mile Post Southern Edge	Comments
1-3	Previously	Removed	Outside Project corridor
4	-	Removed	Outside Project corridor
5	12.9	13.1	Mile Posts updated
6	22.4	23.0	Mile Posts updated
7	23.7	24.1	Mile Posts updated
8	29.3	29.5	Mile Posts updated
9	30.1	30.7	Mile Posts updated
10	Previously	Removed	Outside Project corridor
11	-	Removed	Outside Project corridor
12	11.1	11.6	New area
13	14.1	16.9	New area <sup>4</sup>
14	32.9	33.3	New area <sup>4</sup>
15	37.9	40.6	New area <sup>4</sup>
16	51.1	51.6	New area

<sup>1</sup>Updated for 10/24/2014 Route.

<sup>2</sup>Updated for 3/31/2015 Route.

<sup>3</sup>Updated for 7/24/2015 Route.

<sup>4</sup>Previously listed in email to D. Poppel on 7/16/2015; Mile Posts reflect new alignment.

### Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)

Previous correspondence dated, September 8, 2014, requested a habitat assessment of the project buffer area located in Hickory Run State Park. With the July 24, 2015 reroute, the correct Mile Posts for this survey area are between Mile Post 28.6 to 30.1.

### Freshwater Mussels

Previous letters recommended the **North Branch Susquehanna River** be crossed via Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) as a result of freshwater mussel species, in particular the yellow lampmussel, in the vicinity. Due to the PNDI continually being updated with species information, this recommendation is no longer recommended. Currently, there are no known occurrences of special concern species in the vicinity of the currently proposed **North Branch Susquehanna River** crossing.

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**  
**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**  
**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**  
**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

---

Previous letters listed rare or protected freshwater mussel, turtle, and fish species are known in the vicinity of the **Delaware River** crossing. Therefore we recommended using HDD rather than open-cutting. Through conversations with the applicant, HDD is proposed for the Delaware River crossing. Therefore previous recommendations should be implemented.

**Bog Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, PA Endangered, Federal Threatened)**

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The Project occurs within counties known to contain bog turtles. As previously outlined, please continue to coordinate with the USFWS.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

cc: D. Poppel, AECOM



October 7, 2015

Mr. Gregory Lech  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
Division of Environmental Services, Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
PFBC SIR Number: SIR# 44756  
Timber Rattlesnake and Northern Cricket Frog survey results

Dear Mr. Lech:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat surveys for Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*), and with Ecological Associates to conduct habitat and presence/absence surveys for Northern cricket frog (*Acris crepitans*). These surveys were conducted in those locations identified by your office, most recently in correspondence dated August 20, 2015. Wildlife Specialists and Ecological Associates employ qualified biologists who conducted the required surveys in accordance with state-specified guidelines. Reports documenting the results of these surveys are enclosed for your review. For Timber Rattlesnake, the report only covers surveys completed as of early August; however additional areas from your most recent consultation have been surveyed aside from Area 12. The results of the additional surveys are noted within this letter, within Resource Report 3 as filed with FERC, and also on the enclosed Figure. A supplemental report from Wildlife Specialists will be provided as soon as it is completed.

As noted within, no cricket frogs were identified within the potential habitat in the Project area. Therefore, no adverse impacts to cricket frog are anticipated from the Project.

One timber rattlesnake observed during field surveys at milepost (MP) 39.2. Suitable denning and gestation habitat for timber rattlesnake was identified in certain areas (discussed below), therefore PennEast plans to conduct presence/absence surveys within those areas of potential denning habitat that may be impacted by the Project in the spring of 2016. Gestation habitat that is impacted by the Project will be re-created following Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) guidelines. Mitigation measures will include minor alignment shifts to avoid potential denning habitat in Survey areas 7, 8, 9 and 13. Potential denning habitat in Survey Areas 5, 6, 15 and 16 cannot be avoided by construction; therefore, spring presence/absence surveys for timber rattlesnake occurrence will be conducted in the Spring of 2016. Potential gestating habitat in Survey Areas 8, 9, 13, 15 and 16 may be disturbed by construction and should be rebuilt. Survey results for Area 12 is pending access permission. A summary table below provides the survey results for all areas identified as of concern by PFBC.



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



PFBC Survey Site ID #	Old MP	New MP	Results	Recommendations
4	10.3-10.6	July route avoids	Potential gestation habitat 100' away from centerline; Potential den habitat crossed	Area Removed
5	12.3-12.5	12.9-13.1	Potential den habitat crossed	Spring presence surveys
6	21.9-22.5	22.5-23.1	Potential gestation habitat 60' away from centerline, Potential den habitat crossed	Spring presence surveys
7	23.2-23.6	23.7- 24.1	Potential gestation habitat 100' away from centerline, Potential den habitat 150' away from centerline	Avoid habitat during construction
8	28.8-29.0	29.3- 29.5	Potential den habitat 100' from centerline, Potential gestation habitat 30' from centerline away on existing right-of-way (ROW)	Avoid denning habitat during construction, recreate gestation habitat following PFBC guidelines
9	29.6-30.2	30.1- 30.7	Potential den habitat 50'-100' away from centerline, Potential gestation 30' away from centerline on existing ROW	Avoid denning habitat during construction, recreate gestation habitat following PFBC guidelines
11	49.6-50.4	July Route Avoids	Potential den habitat crossed	Area Removed
12	N/A	11.1-11.6	pending	Access needed
13	N/A	14.1-16.9	Potential den habitat 50'-100' away, potential gestation 30' away	Avoid denning habitat during construction, recreate gestation habitat following



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 Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



PFBC Survey Site ID #	Old MP	New MP	Results	Recommendations
				PFBC guidelines
14	N/A	32.9 – 33.3	No potential critical TR habitat	
15	N/A	37.9- 40.6	Potential den habitat crossed, Potential gestation crossed	Spring presence surveys, recreate gestation habitat following PFBC guidelines
16	N/A	51.1-51.6	Potential den habitat crossed, potential gestation crossed	Spring presence surveys, recreate gestation habitat following PFBC guidelines

Note: "Old MP" refers to the mileposts that are included within PFBC consultation correspondence through the end of July 2015. "New MP" refers to the current mileposting of the proposed route, in the same location unless a reroute is indicated.

Please advise if PFBC is in concurrence with the recommended mitigation measures and additional necessary surveys.

We look forward to our continuing consultation with you on this important Project. Please contact Deb Poppel or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

cc: Dave Mong, DCNR



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

November 5, 2015

#### IN REPLY REFER TO

SIR# 44756

AECOM  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100  
CONSHOHOCKEN, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your recent correspondence related to the PennEast pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review.

On October 1, 2015, an updated route was submitted which outlined minor adjustments within the proposed 400-ft survey corridor. A review of this updated route revealed no new impacts to species of special concern under Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) jurisdiction.

On October 9, 2015, this office received species reports related to previously requested habitat assessments for species of special concern. The submitted reports were:

**Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) Habitat Assessment Report, PennEast Pipeline Project, dated August 2015. Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, LLC. Prepared for URS Corporation. (Report 1)**

**Habitat Assessment & Presence/Inferred Absence Survey Report For Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*), PennEast Pipeline Project, dated September 16, 2015. Prepared by Marlin Corn, Ecological Associates, LLC. Prepared for Deborah Poppel, AECOM. (Report 2)**

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

Furthermore, you discussed recommendations for continued consultation to avoid and/or minimize impacts as a result of the Project. Based on the latest review and previous correspondence, the PFBC is concerned the project will have an impact on the following species of special concern:

### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

---

The PFBC consultation letter dated, August 20, 2015 recommended 10 areas for habitat assessment. The above referenced survey report (Report 1) provides results for Area 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, while, a supplemental report being prepared for Areas 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16. Report 1 revealed potential denning and/or gestation habitat was identified throughout the survey areas.

Based on the findings, the PFBC concurs with PennEast's general recommendations: 1) conduct presence/absence surveys, in the spring 2016, within those areas of potential denning habitat that may be impacted by the Project; 2) re-create gestation habitat, following PFBC guidelines, that is impacted by the Project; 3) conduct minor alignment shifts to avoid potential denning habitat. The PFBC recommends a 300-foot buffer be established from the edge of the Project disturbance and the denning habitat that was identified in the habitat assessment.

For presence/absence surveys, it is important that biologists conducting the surveys have demonstrated experience in detecting timber rattlesnakes and their habitat, possess the skills necessary to handle this venomous species and possess the proper PFBC Scientific Collecting Permit. The surveyor will follow the Rattlesnake Presence-Absence Survey Guidelines (revised 2-27-2015) utilizing the procedures, survey times, and reporting criteria as contained therein. Because the target habitat type is potential hibernacula/den, the survey window is April 15-May 15. For your convenience, enclosed is a list of qualified rattlesnake surveyors. This list is not an exhaustive list of qualified surveyors in Pennsylvania as there may be qualified surveyors who have not asked to be placed on this list. It is not mandatory that you use someone on this list.

The PFBC looks forward to continued consultation with PennEast to avoid impacts to timber rattlesnakes as a result of the Project. Additional information such as: an official report for Areas: 12,13,14,15, and 16; presence/absence surveys (where appropriate); and a defined area of disturbance will allow us to formulate more detailed recommendations.

### **Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**

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The PFBC consultation letter dated, August 20, 2015 recommended one area for habitat assessment. The above referenced survey report (Report 2) provided results of the habitat assessment and subsequent phase II Presence/Inferred-Absence survey. A phase II survey was conducted based on the presence of potential critical habitat identified in the Project area during the habitat assessment. According to Report 2, no species of concern were found and the site likely is not occupied by the Northern Cricket Frog. **We concur with the results of this evaluation; therefore, we do not foresee the proposed project resulting in adverse impacts to the Northern Cricket Frog.**

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**

**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**

**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**

**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

**Bog Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, PA Endangered, Federal Threatened)**

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The PFBC appreciates PennEast's concise and clear reports. Specifically, the ability to maintain PFBC specific survey site IDs and current/past Mile Post markers allows for better understanding of critical areas identified during this dynamic project.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Heather Smiles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

cc: D. Poppel, AECOM



November 10, 2015

Mr. Gregory Lech  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
Division of Environmental Services, Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
PFBC SIR Number: SIR# 44756  
**Supplemental** Timber Rattlesnake survey results

Dear Mr. Lech:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

We are in receipt of PFBC's response letter dated November 5, 2015. PennEast acknowledges the habitat mitigation, additional survey requests, and impact assessments noted in the letter for timber rattlesnake and northern cricket frog. PennEast also requests clarification on the response for Atlantic Sturgeon, Shortnose Sturgeon, Eastern Redbelly Turtle, Dwarf Wedgemussel, and Bog Turtle as there was not relevant text associated with these species.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat surveys for Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*). These surveys were conducted in those locations identified by your office, most recently in correspondence dated August 20, 2015. Wildlife Specialists employs qualified biologists who conducted the required surveys in accordance with state-specified guidelines. A report documenting the results of these surveys was sent to your office in October. The results of the additional surveys as described in previous correspondence are provided within the enclosed supplemental report from Wildlife Specialists.

We look forward to our continuing consultation with you on this important Project. Please contact Deborah Poppel or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

December 10, 2015

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 44756

AECOM  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your recent correspondence, dated November 10, 2015, related to the PennEast pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review.

### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA candidate)**

---

On November 13, 2015, this office received a supplemental survey related to previously requested habitat assessments for species of special concern. The submitted report was:

**Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) Habitat Assessment Report, PennEast Pipeline Project, dated October 2015. Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, LLC. Prepared for URS Corporation.** (Report 3).

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) consultation letter dated, August 20, 2015 recommended 10 areas for habitat assessment (Areas: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16). The PFBC has received habitat assessments for 9 of 10 recommended areas, Area 12 is pending access.

The above referenced survey report (Report 3) provides results for Area 13, 14, 15, and 16, along with findings for Areas 5-9. Report 3 revealed potential denning and/or gestation habitat was identified throughout survey areas 13, 15, and 16, while Area 14 did not contain critical habitat.

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

Based on the findings, the PFBC reiterates the recommendations listed in the November 5, 2015 letter: 1) conduct presence/absence surveys, in the spring 2016, within those areas of potential denning habitat that may be impacted by the Project; 2) re-create gestation habitat, following PFBC guidelines, that is impacted by the Project; 3) conduct minor alignment shifts to avoid potential denning habitat. The PFBC recommends a 300-foot buffer be established from the edge of the Project disturbance and the denning habitat that was identified in the habitat assessment. A list of qualified surveyors was previously provided along with Rattlesnake Presence-Absence Survey Guidelines.

#### **Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, Endangered)**

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According to previously submitted Report 2, **we do not foresee the proposed Project resulting in adverse impacts to the Northern Cricket Frog.**

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, Endangered)**  
**Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, Endangered)**  
**Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, Threatened)**  
**Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered, Federal Endangered)**

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Previous letters listed rare or protected freshwater mussel, turtle, and fish species are known in the vicinity of the **Delaware River crossing**. Provided horizontal directional drilling is the crossing method for the Delaware River, we do not foresee the proposed Project resulting in adverse impacts.

#### **Bog Turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*, PA Endangered, Federal Threatened)**


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The Project occurs within counties known to contain bog turtles. As previously outlined, please continue to coordinate with the USFWS.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:28 AM  
**To:** 'glech@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.piz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
D +1-610-832-3597  
M +1-215-833-0566  
[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**

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## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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**Division of Environmental Services**  
Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

January 5, 2016

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 44756

AECOM  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100  
CONSHOHOCKEN, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
Deviation No. 1005 and No. 1400  
LUZERNE County: - CARBON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your recent correspondence related to the PennEast pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review.

On December 17, 2015, an updated route was submitted, by e-mail, which outlined minor deviations to the proposed Project corridor. A review of this updated route revealed minor modifications to previous recommendations related to Timber Rattlesnake was warranted. However the review revealed no new impacts to species of special concern under Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) jurisdiction.

You discuss two deviations within Pennsylvania:

**1) Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts (“MP”) 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.**

This deviation affects two areas previously identified for habitat assessments for Timber Rattlesnakes (Area 4 and Area 12). Area 4 was removed due to a July 2015 re-route but will be impacted with the latest re-route. Area 4 was surveyed for potential critical habitat and the results are available in Report 1 (Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, August 2015). Potential critical habitat was found within Area 4. The PFBC recommends Area 4 be added to sites which contain potential critical habitat. Please follow guidance provided in the November 5, 2015 letter: 1) conduct presence/absence surveys, in the spring

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2016, within those areas of potential denning habitat that may be impacted by the Project; 2) re-create gestation habitat, following PFBC guidelines, that is impacted by the Project; 3) conduct minor alignment shifts to avoid potential denning habitat. The PFBC recommends a 300-foot buffer be established from the edge of the Project disturbance and the denning habitat that was identified in the habitat assessment. A list of qualified surveyors was previously provided along with Rattlesnake Presence-Absence Survey Guidelines.

Area 12 is no longer proposed for impact. With the removal of Area 12, all survey areas have been assessed for potential critical habitat for the Timber Rattlesnake in the Project area. Presence/Absence surveys conducted in spring 2016 will determine future recommendations.

**2) Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania.**

This deviation does not occur near any known species of special concern occurrences under PFBC jurisdiction, therefore no recommendations result from Deviation No. 1400.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 570-477-3985 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

cc: D. Poppel, AECOM



## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:25 PM  
**To:** 'glech@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
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**From:** [Poppel, Deborah](mailto:Poppel, Deborah)  
**To:** "[glech@pa.gov](mailto:glech@pa.gov)"  
**Cc:** [Binckley, Sarah](#); [Holcomb, Bernard](#)  
**Subject:** PennEast SIR #44756  
**Date:** Monday, June 13, 2016 8:59:00 AM

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Greg-

PADEP has requested a letter that summarizes the issues related to Threatened and Endangered Species by regulatory agency and county. This letter would be used for PNDI purposes in the Chapter 105 applications for the PennEast project.

For your convenience, the following is a summary of the status of consultations and surveys for species under PFBC jurisdiction, broken down by county. I have not included bog turtle, a federal species, for which your agency has deferred to USFWS for consultation:

Luzerne County- *timber rattlesnake*. Phase I surveys completed in August 2015 and report submitted to PFBC in October 2015. Survey Area 12 inaccessible but no longer on Route (Feb 2016). Mitigation recommendations from PFBC for gestation habitat, avoidance for denning habitat or Phase 2 surveys. (letter dated 11/5/2015 ). Phase 2 surveys completed in June 2016; report pending.

Carbon County- *timber rattlesnake and northern cricket frog*. Phase I and Phase II surveys for cricket frog completed in 2015. No cricket frogs found; no impact indicated from PFBC (letter dated 11/5/2015). Phase I surveys completed for timber rattlesnake in August 2015 and report submitted in October 2015. Mitigation recommendations from PFBC for gestation habitat, avoidance for denning habitat or Phase 2 surveys (letter dated 11/5/2015). Phase 2 surveys completed in June 2016; report pending. One rattlesnake observation during 2015 wetland delineations at MP 39.2 One den confirmed at MP 39.2.

Northampton County- *timber rattlesnake*. Phase I surveys completed for timber rattlesnake in August 2015 and report submitted in October 2015. Mitigation recommendations from PFBC for gestation habitat, avoidance for denning habitat or Phase 2 surveys (letter dated 11/5/2015). Phase 2 surveys completed in June 2016; report pending.

Bucks County- *eastern redbelly turtle; dwarf wedge mussel; Atlantic Sturgeon; Shortnose Sturgeon*. These species may occur in the Delaware River; HDD crossing will avoid impacts (PFBC letter dated 8/20/2015).

This represents our understanding of the status of consultation for each of the species of concern under PFBC jurisdiction by county, to date for the PennEast project. Thank you for your continued assistance with this project.

Deborah Poppel  
(610) 832-3597 (office)  
(215) 833-0566 (cell)

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**From:** Lech, Gregory [<mailto:glech@pa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2016 11:11 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Phone Message PENNEAST

Hello Deborah,

I only recently received your phone message from May 26, as I have been out of the office.

Regarding the issue of DEP's request for a county specific PNDI letter: I do not suggest we start issuing separate county specific letters. I think it would become very difficult to manage with our database. However, to solve the specific request from DEP I can structure a letter to highlight county specific issues.

Please provide a brief letter (can be as simple as an email), outlining the request for an updated letter with county specific issues per DEP request.

PLEASE NOTE: I am in the process of receiving a new phone number. During this time, the best way to reach me is through email: [glech@pa.gov](mailto:glech@pa.gov)

Regards,

**Gregory Lech** | Fisheries Biologist  
PA Fish & Boat Commission | Division of Environmental Services  
[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

June 15, 2016

**IN REPLY REFER TO**  
SIR# 44756

AECOM  
Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100  
CONSHOHOCKEN, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your recent correspondences submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) related to the PennEast pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review of species under the jurisdiction of the PFBC.

On February 23, 2016 representatives of the Project submitted, by e-mail, seven deviations of the Project. As all seven of the deviations were within the New Jersey portion of the Project, a formal response letter was not provided by the PFBC.

On June 13, 2016 representatives of the Project submitted a request, by e-mail, to update the status of the Project and to specifically identify impacts by county. Below is a summary of the most up-to-date status of review related to the Project:

### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, PA Candidate)**

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The Project possibly impacts multiple identified potential critical habitat locations and further evaluation is on-going. The PFBC has previously outlined recommendations to avoid impacts to timber rattlesnakes and potential critical habitat. On April 27, 2016, Gregory Lech (PFBC) accompanied biologists, contracted by representatives of the Project, conducting presence/absence surveys near a potential timber rattlesnake den. During the den visit one rattlesnake, was observed by contracted biologists, and was heard by Gregory Lech. Review is pending submittal of formal presence/absence survey report results.

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

**Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans*, PA Endangered)**

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According to previously submitted Report 2, **we do not foresee the proposed Project resulting in adverse impacts to the Northern Cricket Frog.**

**Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*, PA Endangered)  
Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*, PA Endangered)  
Eastern Redbelly Turtle (*Pseudemys rubriventris*, PA Threatened)  
Dwarf Wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*, PA Endangered)**

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Previous letters listed rare or protected freshwater mussel, turtle, and fish species are known in the vicinity of the **Delaware River crossing**. Provided horizontal directional drilling (HDD) is the crossing method for the Delaware River, we do not foresee the proposed Project resulting in adverse impacts to the above species.

**LUZERNE COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **Timber Rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species are **PENDING** the results of presence/absence surveys.

**CARBON COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **Timber Rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species are **PENDING** the results of presence/absence surveys.

Potential impacts relate to the **Northern Cricket Frog**. Potential impacts to this species have been **RESOLVED** for this Project.

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **Timber Rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species are **PENDING** the results of presence/absence surveys.

**BUCKS COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **Atlantic Sturgeon, Shortnose Sturgeon, Eastern Redbelly Turtle, and the Dwarf Wedgemussel**. Potential impacts to these species are **RESOLVED if the Delaware River is crossed via HDD**.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at [glech@pa.gov](mailto:glech@pa.gov) and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Smiles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

cc?: D. Poppel (AECOM)

## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2016 2:06 PM  
**To:** 'glech@pa.gov'  
**Cc:** 'Stan Boder'; Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Timber Rattlesnake Phase 2 Survey Report  
**Attachments:** PennEast TR Phase II Report Draft\_7.18.2016\_sjb.pdf

Greg-

Attached for your review and concurrence is the report documenting the results of the Phase 2 Timber Rattlesnake surveys conducted for the PennEast Pipeline project. One active/confirmed den site was identified within the project area. Our understanding is that PFBC will expect PennEast to apply a 300' buffer between the edge of project work space and the outermost edge of the den in order to avoid impacts to the timber rattlesnake. Please advise if PFBC concurs with the impact avoidance measures recommended in the conclusions of the Wildlife Specialists report.

Let me know if you have any questions about the information provided. If you need hardcopies, please let me know how many to send.

Thank you for your continued assistance and coordination on this project.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
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## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 31, 2016

#### IN REPLY REFER TO

SIR# 44756

AECOM

Bernie Holcomb  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100

CONSHOHOCKEN, Pennsylvania 19428

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No. LARGE PROJECT REVIEW  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Bernie Holcomb:

This responds to your recent correspondence submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) related to the PennEast pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review of species under the jurisdiction of the PFBC.

On August 1, 2016, representatives of the Project submitted a report, by e-mail, to PFBC. The report was:

**Timber Rattlesnake Phase II Presence/Absence Survey Report, PennEast Pipeline Project, dated July 2016. Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, LLC. Prepared for AECOM. (Report 4)**

#### **Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, Species of Concern)**

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Previous consultation identified multiple areas of potential impact to timber rattlesnakes and/or their critical habitat. **Prior to submission of Report 4, nine areas (Area 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, and 16) were Pending Survey Results.** Based on Report 4, as well as previously submitted Reports 1, and 3, the PFBC provides the following summary of impacts/recommendations related to the timber rattlesnake:

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

**Area 4 – Luzerne County:**

Potential denning and gestation habitat was identified in Area 4 and a presence/absence survey was conducted (Report 4). No denning habitats were confirmed and no timber rattlesnakes were observed. A portion of Area 4 was not surveyed due to “No Access” and was described as an existing powerline right-of-way. After consideration, the PFBC will not recommend further investigation in Area 4 and no impact to timber rattlesnakes is anticipated in Area 4.

**Area 5 – Luzerne County:**

Potential denning habitat was identified in Area 5 and a presence/absence survey was conducted (Report 4). No denning habitats were confirmed and no timber rattlesnakes were observed. The PFBC will not recommend further investigation in Area 5 and no impact to timber rattlesnakes is anticipated in Area 5.

**Area 6 – Luzerne County (State Game Land 091):**

Potential denning and gestation habitat was identified in Area 6 and a presence/absence survey was conducted (Report 4). Within the survey area, no denning habitats were confirmed and no timber rattlesnakes were observed. However one timber rattlesnake was observed traveling on a State Game Land road in vicinity of the Project buffer. Based on review of the report, PNDI data, and personal communication with PA Game Commission – Northeast Regional Office, timber rattlesnakes are known within the Project’s Area 6 vicinity. Therefore this area could be used as foraging habitat for timber rattlesnakes and this warrants some concern about rattlesnake-human conflicts. Although the nature of the timber rattlesnake is rather docile, it can be dangerous if cornered or handled. Workers should be mindful of the presence of the snakes in the area. Rattlesnakes are attracted to open, rocky, log-strewn areas for basking and forested areas with thick deciduous leaf litter that tend to support high populations of rodents. We recommend that the workers responsible for implementing this Project be advised that timber rattlesnakes may be encountered and that avoidance is the best means of minimizing risks to personal safety. These workers should also be advised that the timber rattlesnake is a state protected species and is not to be harmed. Killing of timber rattlesnakes without a proper permit is prohibited by the Commission pursuant to 58 Pa. Code Section 79.6. If any timber rattlesnakes are observed on-site, please notify this office and contact a PFBC approved timber rattlesnake biologist to clear the area of timber rattlesnakes and to capture and remove any rattlesnakes that may interfere with work activities.

**Area 7, 8, 9 – Carbon County (Area 8 – Hickory Run State Park; Area 9 Hickory Run State Park and State Game Land 128); and****Area 13 – Luzerne County:**

Potential denning and gestation habitat was identified in Areas 7, 8, 9, and 13 **however presence/absence surveys were not conducted.** Therefore the PFBC requests clarification:

- acknowledgement that remaining presence/absence surveys will be conducted in Spring 2017;
- acknowledgement of Wildlife Specialists’ Conclusions and Recommendations of “assumed presence” with the anticipation of having PFBC approved timber rattlesnake construction monitors on-site during the active season in Areas 7, 8, 9, and 13;
- provide detailed construction plans which depict avoidance of all potential critical habitat.

**Area 15 – Carbon County:**

Potential denning and gestation habitat was identified in Area 15 and a presence/absence survey was conducted (Report 4). One denning habitat was confirmed and 27 timber rattlesnake observations were made. Based on the current alignment the Project will not impact the confirmed den, **however, if work is to be conducted from April 15-October 15, then I recommend that you take the following precautions to safeguard workers and rattlesnakes:**

1. A PFBC approved timber rattlesnake biologist who has the proper permits (Scientific Collector's Permit), and the proper skills to handle this venomous species will be on-site prior to and during construction.
2. The PFBC approved timber rattlesnake biologist will be on-site prior to and during construction activities, during the above time frame, to inspect and clear the area (including staging areas and access roads) of timber rattlesnakes and to capture and remove any rattlesnakes that may interfere with work activities.
3. Timber rattlesnakes observed on-site are to be measured, sexed, and the habitat characterized where the snake was found. All captured snakes should be released within close proximity (under 100 meters) of the capture site if possible. Rattlesnake captures and relocations are to be documented by photographs, habitat descriptions, in addition to being mapped and labeled accordingly. The biologist is to submit a report to this office (Natural Diversity Section) following the completion of the project documenting all of the activity and herpetofauna encountered.
4. If erosion control fabric is to be used at this site, materials that are known to reduce the risk of snake entrapment should be selected, such as loosely woven natural fiber ECM. Use of monofilament/plastic netting should be avoided.
5. Workers responsible for implementing this project should be advised that timber rattlesnakes may be encountered and that avoidance is the best means of minimizing risks to personal safety. It is suggested a procedure be implemented for timber rattlesnake encounters and workers are to be advised that the timber rattlesnake is a state protected species and is not to be harmed. Killing of timber rattlesnakes is prohibited by the Commission pursuant to 58 Pa. Code Section 79.6.
6. During the construction period, PFBC personnel may communicate with the on-site biologist and may visit the site area periodically to view the progression of the project and answer any questions or concerns that may arise. For safety purposes, PFBC personnel will register with the on-site manager upon entering the construction area.
7. Reconstruct potential gestating habitat affected by construction according to PFBC guidelines (enclosed).

Enclosed is the list of PFBC approved rattlesnake biologists for your convenience. It is not an exhaustive list of qualified rattlesnake biologists in Pennsylvania as there may be qualified surveyors who have not asked to be placed on this list. It is not mandatory that you use someone on this list.

**Furthermore, portions of Area 15 remain in need of presence/absence surveys due to limited access permission. The remaining portion of Area 15 should follow the steps outlined in Areas 7, 8, 9, and 13 listed above.**

**Area 16 – Carbon County and Northampton County:**

Potential denning and gestation habitat was identified in Area 16 and a presence/absence survey was conducted (Report 4). No denning habitats were confirmed and no timber rattlesnakes were observed. The PFBC will not recommend further investigation in Area 16 and no impact to timber rattlesnakes is anticipated in Area 16.

**LUZERNE COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **timber rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species are **PENDING** presence/absence surveys at potential den locations, or additional information provided.

**CARBON COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **timber rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species are **PENDING** the results of presence/absence surveys, or additional information provided.

Potential impacts relate to the **Northern Cricket Frog**. Potential impacts to this species have been **RESOLVED** for this Project.

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **timber rattlesnake**. Habitat assessments were requested by the PFBC and have been completed and reviewed, resulting in the recommendation of presence/absence surveys at potential den locations. Potential impacts to this species in **Northampton County are RESOLVED**.

**BUCKS COUNTY:**

Potential impacts relate to the **Atlantic Sturgeon, Shortnose Sturgeon, Eastern Redbelly Turtle, and the Dwarf Wedgemussel**. Potential impacts to these species are **RESOLVED if the Delaware River is crossed via HDD**.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 610-847-8772 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn

Cc: D. Poppel (AECOM)  
R. Bowen (PA DCNR)  
N. Reagle (PA DCNR)

**REFERENCED REPORTS:**

**Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) Habitat Assessment Report, PennEast Pipeline Project, dated August 2015. Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, LLC. Prepared for URS Corporation. (Report 1)**

**Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) Habitat Assessment Report, PennEast Pipeline Project, dated October 2015. Prepared by Wildlife Specialists, LLC. Prepared for URS Corporation. (Report 3).**

## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 3:00 PM  
**To:** 'glech@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.piz

**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PennEast filed its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC September 24, 2015. PennEast filed route modifications with FERC February 22, 2016, and FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project July 22, 2016. Since the February 22, 2016 route update and issuance of the draft EIS, PennEast has studied an additional 33 minor route deviations to reduce impacts on endangered species and wetlands, increase co-location with existing utilities, and address feedback from collaborative discussions with landowners and regulatory agencies.

On September 23, 2016, PennEast filed with FERC the 33 route modifications and an updated project route, which is provided in the attached Google Earth kmz file and shapefiles for your review (**rename as “zip” file before opening**). A narrative describing each modification and the explanation for the proposed changes is available on the FERC eLibrary ([http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)) under Docket Number CP15-558-000.

*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

**AECOM**  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428  
Telephone: 610-832-3500 Fax: 610-832-3501  
[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)



## Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

---

### Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

October 24, 2016

#### IN REPLY REFER TO

SIR# 44756

AECOM  
Sarah Binckley  
625 W. Ridge Pike  
Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428

**Delivered electronically to: D. Poppel (AECOM)**

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species  
PNDI Search No.  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
LUZERNE County: - BUCKS County: - CARBON County: - NORTHAMPTON County:**

Dear Sarah Binckley:

This responds to your correspondence submitted to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) related to the PennEast Pipeline project (Project) in regards to a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) threatened and endangered species impact review of species under the jurisdiction of the PFBC.

On September 26, 2016 representatives of the Project notified PFBC, by e-mail, of 33-route modifications submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Therefore a review was conducted to determine if the route modifications occurred in the vicinity of PFBC sensitive species.

Two route modifications were determined to result in a change to the most recent correspondence from PFBC (dated August 31, 2016). These two route modifications occur: in previously identified sensitive areas; and occur outside of previously surveyed corridors. The remaining deviations were determined to occur: within previously surveyed corridors; or outside of areas identified to contain PFBC sensitive species, therefore result in no change.

**Deviation No. P-1300: Described as a route optimization beginning at MP 39.3R2 and ending at MP 40.9 Carbon County, PA.**

Deviation No. P-1300 occurs near previously identified Area 15. Area 15 contains a newly identified timber rattlesnake denning location as reported from surveys submitted for the Project.

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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Correspondence

As a result, the route modification extends the Project beyond the original survey corridor, therefore additional habitat assessment to determine the presence of critical timber rattlesnake habitat is recommended in the vicinity of Deviation No. P-1300. Additionally the Project route remains unchanged in the vicinity of the newly identified den. As such, guidelines outlined under Area 15 in PFBC correspondence dated August 31, 2016 remain necessary to avoid impacts to timber rattlesnakes as a result of the Project.

**Deviation No. P-1503: Described as a minor route modification to optimize the route beginning at MP 51R2 and ending at MP 51.8R2 in Carbon and Northampton Counties, PA.**

Deviation No. P-1503 occurs near previously identified Area 16. Area 16 was identified to contain potential critical timber rattlesnake habitat, but was cleared following presence/absence surveys. The route modification extends the Project beyond the original survey corridor, however, no additional surveys are recommended as a result of Deviation No. P-1503.

It should be noted, PFBC correspondence, dated August 31, 2016, misidentified State Game Land No. 129, as 128. State Game Land 129 contains portions of Area 9, Carbon County, while State Game Land 128 is located outside of the Project area in Fulton County, PA.

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 re-initiated.

**If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Greg Lech at 610-847-8772 and refer to the SIR # 44756.** Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,



Heather A. Smiles, Chief  
Natural Gas Section

HAS/GPL/dn





October 31, 2016

Mr. Greg Lech  
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission  
Natural Gas Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Dear Mr. Lech:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

On September 26, 2016, your office received a Project Update email with shapefiles of the most recent route centerline filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). With this letter, we would like to request an endangered species consultation with your agency on Project workspace associated with the September 2016 route, including access roads, staging areas, and the Kidder Compressor Station. We have enclosed a CD with Project workspace shapefiles and timber rattlesnake survey data as of July 2016.

Areas crossed by the September 2016 route which were not part of prior study corridors in Pennsylvania are represented by the following mileposts. The specific locations of access roads, staging areas, and the compressor station were not part of prior consultation requests. Please advise if any additional surveys for reptiles or amphibians will be required in these areas.

We are in receipt of your correspondence dated October 21, 2016 which states that, aside from two route modifications (Deviation P-1300 and Deviation P-1503), other deviations noted in the project update will not require surveys for PFBC species of concern.

Prior correspondence with your office included a response received from PFBC on August 31, 2016 in regards to the submittal of the Timber Rattlesnake Phase 2 survey report (Wildlife Specialists, July 2016). To date, you have received all survey reports related to the timber rattlesnake and protected species under PFBC jurisdiction. We are also in receipt of PFBC's most recent Species Impact Review Letter dated October 24, 2016 and appreciate the information provided.

In answer to questions posed within the PFBC August 31, 2016 letter, we provide the following answers:

- Survey Area 6 (MP 22.6-MP 23.1) - PennEast will comply with the conditions specified in your letter for this area.

- Survey Areas 7 (MP 23.7- MP 24.1), 8 (MP 29.3- MP 29.5), 9 (MP 30.2- MP 31.0), and 13 (MP 15.8- MP 16.8): All critical timber rattlesnake habitat will be avoided by the Project. Some potential gestation habitat within Survey Areas 6, 8, and 9 may be disturbed by construction and will be re-created pursuant to PFBC mitigation guidelines. The shapefiles within the enclosed CD provide the detailed construction workspace requested.

- Survey Area 15 (MP 37.9- MP 40.6) - PennEast will comply with the impact avoidance and minimization measures prescribed within your letter for this area in which denning habitat for timber rattlesnake was confirmed. You noted that that additional Phase 2 surveys are needed within a portion of this survey area where survey access was not granted in 2016. This area has now been routed around and parallels to an existing transmission line (39.4R2- 40.8R2). We understand additional Phase I surveys will be required in this previously unsurveyed section of the Project (as noted in PFBC letter dated 10/24/16). PennEast intends to conduct these surveys in 2017.

Survey Area 16 (old MP 51.1- old MP 51.6) is avoided by the current (September 2016) route, but is near MP 50.9R2- MP 52.1R2. PennEast appreciates that PFBC provided guidance in its letter dated October 24, 2016 and that no additional Phase I and/or Phase 2 timber rattlesnake surveys will be required along this route deviation.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Deborah K. Poppel, CWB  
Senior Ecologist

**Pennsylvania Game Commission  
Correspondence**





August 12, 2014

Mr. Daniel Brauning  
Chief, Wildlife Diversity Section

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION  
Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

**Re: Large Project PNDI Review  
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC - PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania**

Dear Mr. Brauning:

The PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), is a partnership with UGI Energy Services (UGIES), AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, and South Jersey Industries. The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

PennEast intends to file its certificate application for the PennEast Pipeline Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in mid-2015, and anticipates receiving authorization and starting construction in 2017. Permit applications with other federal, state, and local agencies will be submitted within similar timeframes as the certificate application. The permit proceedings conducted by these agencies will provide additional opportunities for public input and involvement. FERC's determination of public convenience and necessity includes a thorough, comprehensive environmental review of proposed projects, working closely with federal, state, and local agencies and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On behalf of PennEast, URS Corporation (URS) is requesting a Large Project Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review update for rare, candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Game Commission for the PennEast Pipeline Project. A critical issues analysis was conducted for multiple routes using readily available secondary source data to select the **Least Environmentally Damaging**

Page | 1



**Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)** route. Mapping depicting the environmental features evaluated for the preferred alternative is enclosed. We are asking for your review prior to the initiation of wetland and watercourse field surveys to be conducted this fall. We hope to concurrently identify any habitat for species under your agencies' jurisdiction at this time. The environmental study area will be a 400-foot corridor centered on the approximately 100-mile alignment. The anticipated permanent right-of-way (ROW) and temporary construction work area will be approximately 100-feet. The study area is wider than the disturbance area to allow for minor alignment shifts to avoid any sensitive resources that may be identified during the environmental field investigations.

The following are enclosed to facilitate your review:

- Large Project PNDI Form;
- PennEast Project Fact Sheet; and
- CD containing:
  - shapefiles of the alignment;
  - USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps with project alignment; and
  - detailed maps depicting the project areas and known secondary source resources

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this request, please contact me at 610.832.1810 or [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com).

Sincerely,

Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Anthony Cox (UGI)  
Mr. Dante D'Alessandro (UGI)

### How to Use the PNDI Large Project Form

***If your Project is a “Large Project”***— too large/long to search on the online system  
Projects are considered “Large Projects” when the ENTIRE project is:

- Linear/Large Projects that exceed the PNDI online project size limits of 10 miles in length or 5165 acres
- Township-wide, Countywide or Statewide Projects. Examples: Act 537 Sewage Plans, Wind Farms, Roadway Improvements exceeding map limits above.

Due to system limitations and agency requirements, projects should not be submitted piecemeal. The entire project area including roads and infrastructure should be submitted as a single unit.

### What to Send to Jurisdictional Agencies

Send the following information to all of the agencies listed on the Large Project Form.

#### **Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:**

- \_\_\_ Completed Large Project Form
- \_\_\_ Supplemental project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristics of the site and acreage to be impacted.
- \_\_\_ USGS 7.5-minute Quadrangle with project boundary clearly indicated, and quad name on the map

#### **The inclusion of the following information may expedite the review process.**

- \_\_\_ GIS shapefiles depicting the project extent
- \_\_\_ A basic site plan (particularly showing the relationship of the project to the physical features such as wetlands, streams, ponds, rock outcrops, etc.)
- \_\_\_ Color photos keyed to the basic site plan (i.e. showing on the site plan where and in what direction each photo was taken and the date of the photos)
- \_\_\_ Information about the presence and location of wetlands in the project area, and how this was determined (e.g., by a qualified wetlands biologist), if wetlands are present in the project area, provide project plans showing the location of all project features, as well as wetlands and streams

### PNDI Large Project Form Definitions

***Applicant:*** Person that owns the property or is proposing the project or activity

***Contact Person:*** Person to receive response if different than applicant (e.g. Consultant)

***Project Name:*** Descriptive title of project (e.g. Twin Pines Subdivision, Miller Bridge Replacement)

***Proposed Activity:*** Include ALL earth disturbance activities for project (e.g. for a timber sale—include stream crossings, cutting areas and new roadway accesses). Also include Current Conditions (e.g. housing, farmland, current land cover), and how Construction/Maintenance Activity is to be accomplished

***Total Acres of Property:*** Entire site acreage (e.g. timber sale property—including road access (200 acres)

***Acreage to be Impacted:*** Disturbance acreage (e.g. timber sale—if the property is 200 acres, but only 100 acres will be disturbed, for example: cutting on 90 acres, a road impacting 10 acres); include all temporary and permanent activities



# Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

## LARGE PROJECT FORM

This form provides site information necessary to perform an Environmental Review for special concern species and resources listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code or the Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code.

### Applicant Information

Name: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC

Address: One Meridian Blvd., Suite 2c01 Wyomissing, PA 19610

Phone Number: 844-347-7119

Fax Number:

### Contact Person Information - if different from applicant

Name: Bernie Holcomb

Address: 625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pa 19428

Phone Number: 610-832-1810

Fax Number: 610-832-3501

Email: bernard.holcom

### Project Information

Project Name: Penneast Pipeline Project

Project Reference Point (center point of project): Latitude:                      Longitude:                      Datum:

Municipality: Multiple

County: Luzerne -- Bucks

Attach a copy of a U.S.G.S. 7 ½ Minute Quadrangle Map with Project Boundaries clearly marked.

U.S.G.S. Quad Name: Multiple

Provide GIS shapefiles showing the project boundary (strongly recommended)

### Project Description

#### Proposed Project Activity (including ALL earth disturbance areas and current conditions)

The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

Total Acres of Property: 5118

Acreage to be Impacted: 1283

1. Will the entire project occur in or on an existing building, parking lot, driveway, road, maintained road shoulder, street, runway, paved area, railroad bed, or maintained lawn?    Yes     No
2. Are there any waterways or waterbodies (intermittent or perennial rivers, streams, creeks, tributaries, lakes or ponds) in or near the project area, or on the land parcel? If so, how many feet away is the project?  
Yes     Within Feet    No
3. Are wetlands located in or within 300 feet of the project area?    Yes     No     If No, is this the result of a wetland delineation?    Tbd
4. How many acres of tree removal, tree cutting or forest clearing will be necessary to implement all aspects of this project?    Tbd

#### Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market St., PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105  
fax: 717-772-0271

#### PA Game Commission

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

#### PA Fish and Boat Commission

Natural Diversity Section  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

#### US Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered Species Biologist  
315 South Allen St., Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801  
no faxes please





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."*

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:**

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

[www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)

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

September 22, 2014

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001**

Bernie Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Bernard.Holcom@urs.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 119, 43, 141, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

Thank you for submitting your Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Large Project Environmental Review request. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) screened this project, including the requested 400-foot buffer (200 feet on each side of proposed centerline), for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	SPECIAL CONCERN

## Next Steps

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the attached *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys
- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a species of special concern and therefore, not target species for additional surveys. However, because of their ecological significance, all trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-ROW work spaces) should be cut between November 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the attached *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 119, 43, 141, and 168. Please contact Mr. Peter Sussenbach, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 119, 43, and 141, and Mr. Bruce Metz, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation

- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

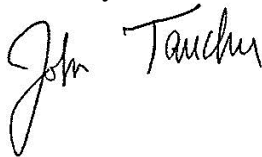
PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
 Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
 2001 Elmerton Avenue  
 Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps  
PGC Allegheny Woodrat Guidance Document  
PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula

cc: Figured  
Trewella  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Sussenbach  
Metz  
Dunn  
Brauning  
Turner  
Gross  
Barber  
DiMatteo

Havens

Librandi Mumma

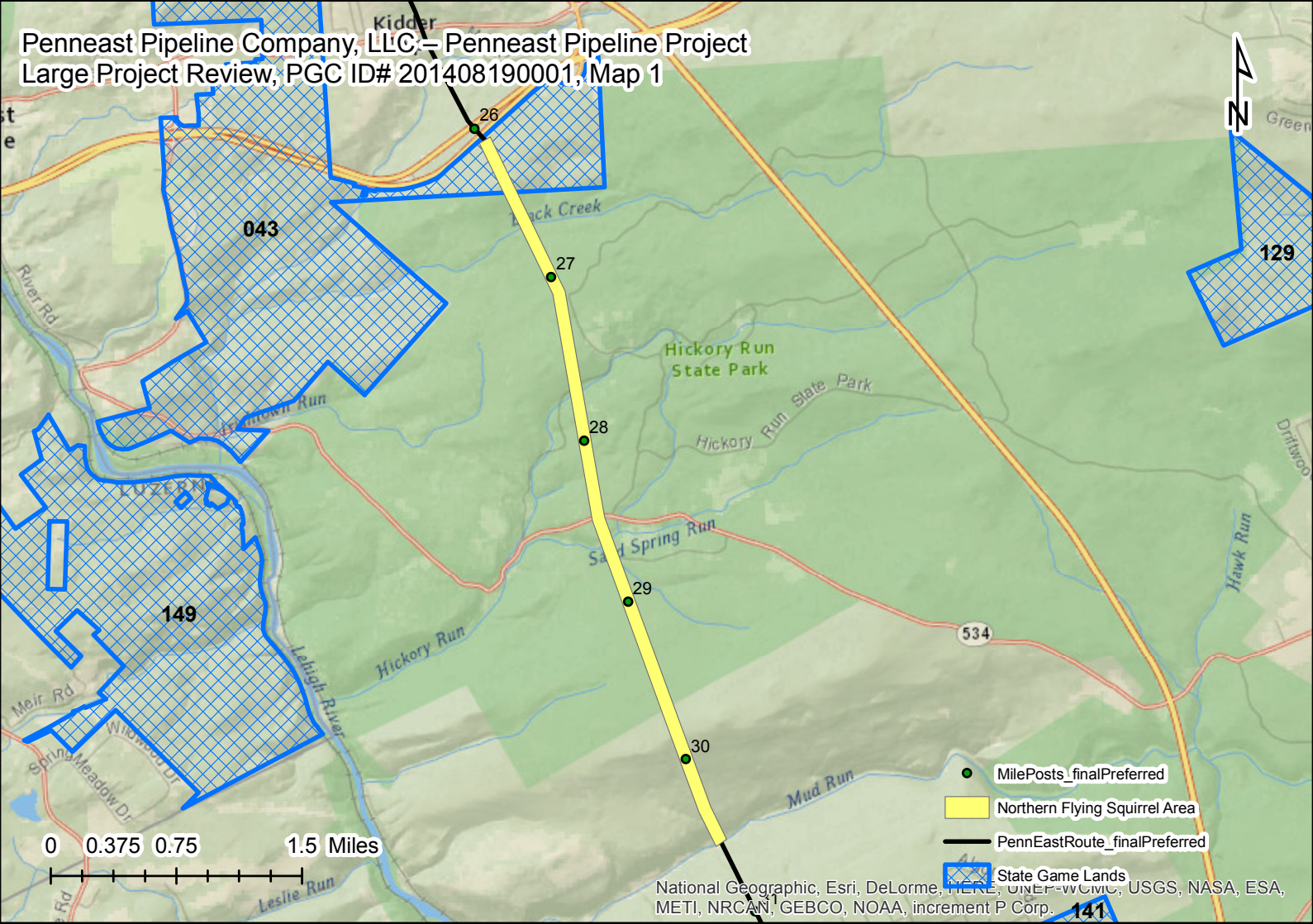
Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources

H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects



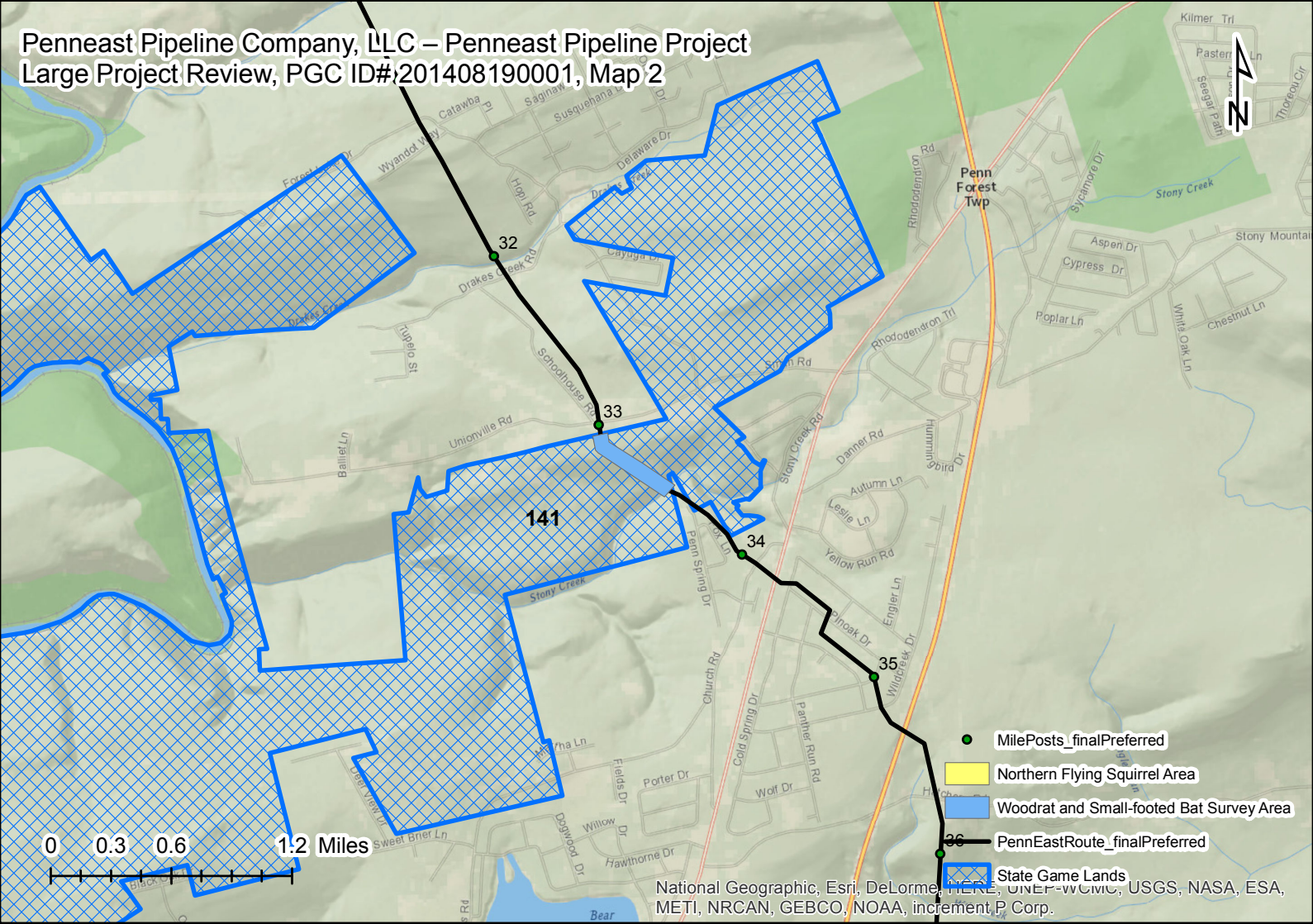


# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project Large Project Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 1



- MilePosts\_finalPreferred
- Northern Flying Squirrel Area
- PennEastRoute\_finalPreferred
- ▨ State Game Lands

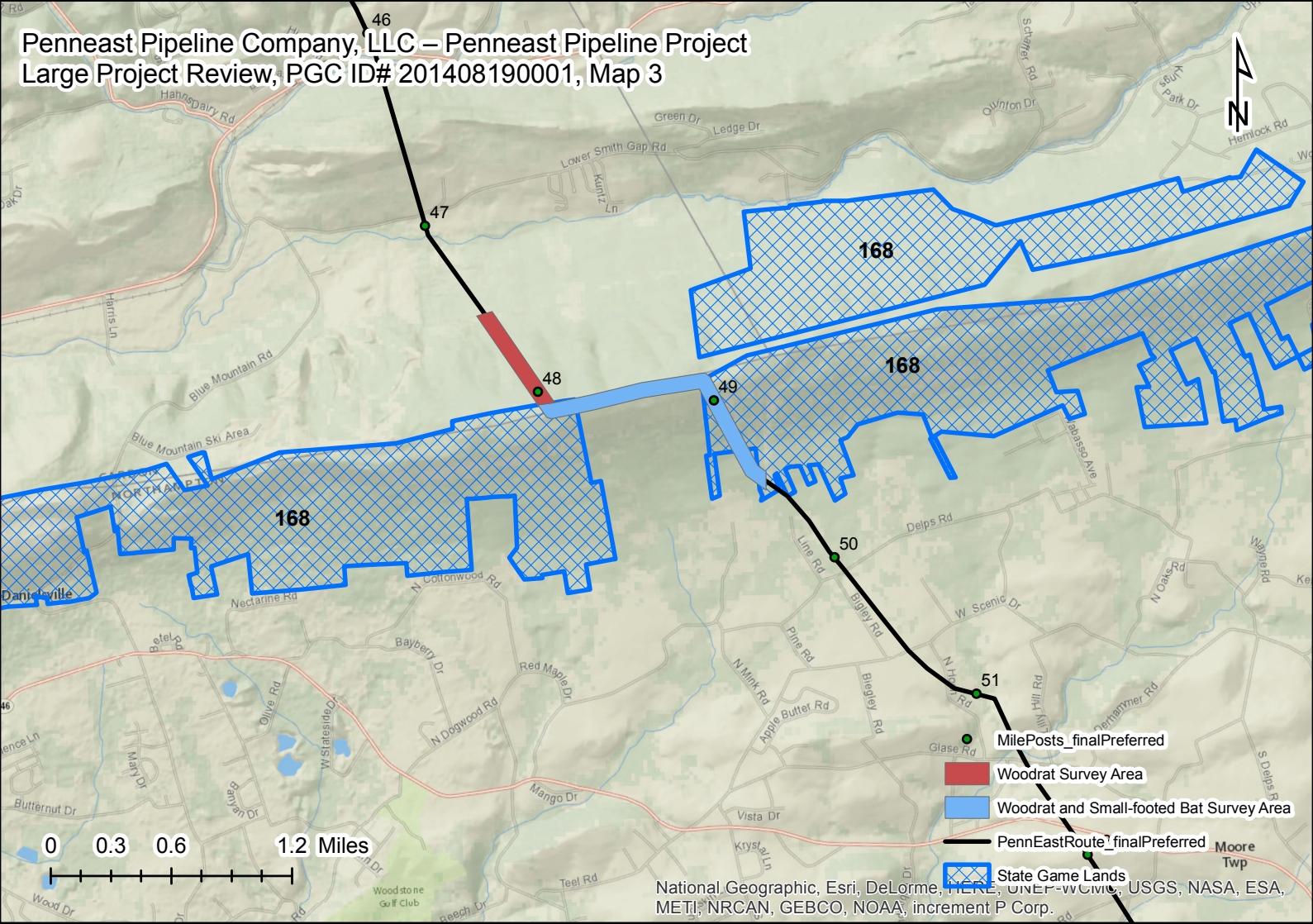
# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project Large Project Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 2



- MilePosts\_finalPreferred
- Northern Flying Squirrel Area
- Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- PennEastRoute\_finalPreferred
- State Game Lands



# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project Large Project Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 3



168

168

168

MilePosts\_finalPreferred

Woodrat Survey Area

Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Survey Area

PennEastRoute1\_finalPreferred

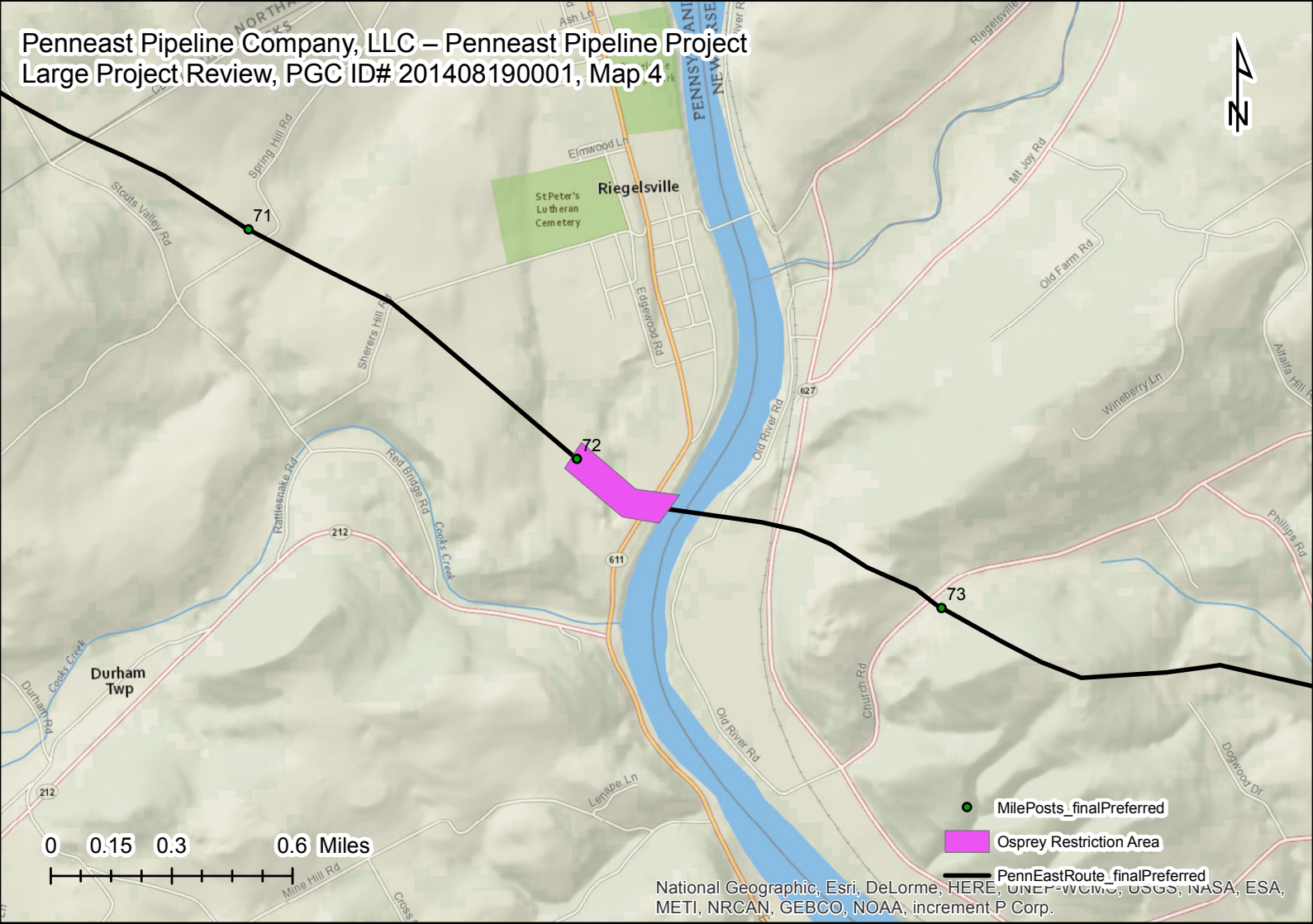
State Game Lands

Moore Twp

National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEF-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Miles

# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project Large Project Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 4



● MilePosts\_finalPreferred

■ Osprey Restriction Area

— PennEastRoute\_finalPreferred

National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

---

**From:** Holcomb, Bernard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2014 5:29 PM  
**To:** West, Jonathan  
**Subject:** FW: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
**Attachments:** 201408190001\_PGCResponse\_092414.pdf

**Bernie Holcomb**  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

\* Please note new address and direct line information that will be effective June 10, 2014

**URS** URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

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**From:** Taucher, John [<mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2014 1:49 PM  
**To:** Holcomb, Bernard  
**Subject:** Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project

Mr. Holcomb,

Please find an updated PNDI response for the Penneast Pipeline Project. It was brought to my attention that one of the impacted state gamelands was misidentified. The original letter stated SGL 43 was potential impacted, when it should have been SGL 40. Please replace the former version with this update. If there are any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

**John Taucher**

**Pennsylvania Game Commission**  
*Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management*  
*Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection*  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
717-787-4250 ext. 3632  
Fax 717-787-6957



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**Pennsylvania Game Commission**

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WILDLIFE PROTECTION.....717-783-6526  
WILDLIFE HABITAT  
MANAGEMENT.....717-787-6818  
REAL ESTATE DIVISION.....717-787-6568  
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SERVICES.....717-787-4076

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

September 24, 2014

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001**

Bernie Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Bernard.Holcomb@urs.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 119, 40, 141, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

Thank you for submitting your Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Large Project Environmental Review request. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) screened this project, including the requested 400-foot buffer (200 feet on each side of proposed centerline), for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	SPECIAL CONCERN

## Next Steps

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the attached *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys
- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a species of special concern and therefore, not target species for additional surveys. However, because of their ecological significance, all trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-ROW work spaces) should be cut between November 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.



### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the attached *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 119, 40, 141, and 168. Please contact Mr. Peter Sussenbach, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 119, 40, and 141, and Mr. Bruce Metz, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation

- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

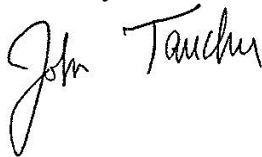
PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
 Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
 2001 Elmerton Avenue  
 Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps  
PGC Allegheny Woodrat Guidance Document  
PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula

cc: Figured  
Trewella  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Sussenbach  
Metz  
Dunn  
Brauning  
Turner  
Gross  
Barber  
DiMatteo

Havens

Librandi Mumma

Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources

H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects



October 24, 2014

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Mr. Taucher:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC approved PennEast for the pre-filing review process on October 8. The pre-filing process creates the framework for the environmental analysis and a formal structure for stakeholders along the proposed route to provide input and opinions regarding the project. The pre-filing application is available online at <http://elibrabry.ferc.gov>, docket PF15-1-000.

At this time we would like to invite the Pennsylvania Game Commission to become a cooperating agency in the FERC process, and to actively engage with FERC's designated Environmental Project Manager for the PennEast Pipeline Project, Medha Kochhar. Ms. Kochhar can be contacted at (202) 502-8964. As a cooperating agency, FERC and/or PennEast may request your participation in bi-weekly project status calls and direct or interagency coordination meetings, as appropriate.

Only in the second month of a comprehensive, approximately three-year process, PennEast still is working to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we initially provided your agency with detailed project information. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been shifted approximately three-to-four miles to the northeast between mileposts 11 and 35 in Luzerne and Carbon counties. Other route adjustments have also been made in an effort to maximize co-location with existing utility easements. Overall, approximately 41 miles have been re-routed in Pennsylvania. Please note, however, that the current preferred alternative route remains in the same counties and townships as identified in our initial notification. Shapefiles for the adjusted preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Holcomb". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



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

December 17, 2014

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revised**

Deborah Poppel  
URS Corporation  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Bernard.Holcomb@urs.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project Revision  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Ms. Poppel,

Thank you for submitting your revised Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Large Project Environmental Review request. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) screened this revised project, including the requested 400-foot buffer (200 feet on each side of proposed centerline), for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	SPECIAL CONCERN

## Next Steps

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the attached *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys
- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.



*Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on Map 3 of the attached PGC Survey Maps during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

### *Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a species of special concern and therefore, not target species for additional surveys. However, because of their ecological significance, all trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-ROW work spaces) should be cut between November 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the attached *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Peter Sussenbach, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

PA Game Commission  
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management

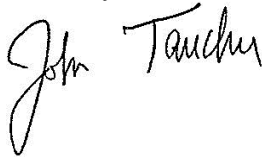
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps  
PGC Allegheny Woodrat Guidance Document  
PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula

cc: Figured  
Metz  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Sussenbach  
Mitchell  
Dunn

Brauning

Turner

Gross

Barber

DiMatteo

Havens

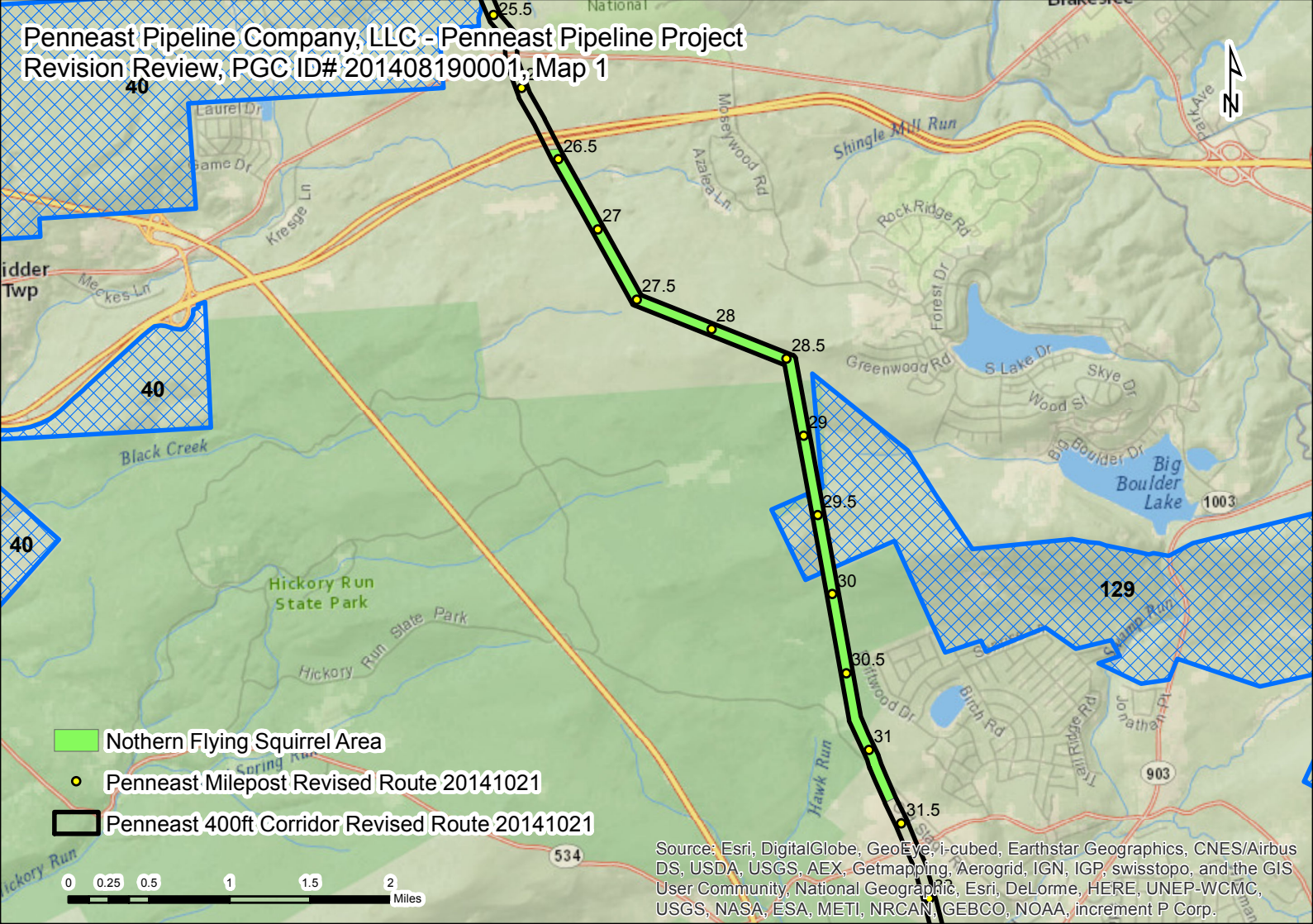
Librandi Mumma




Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources

H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects



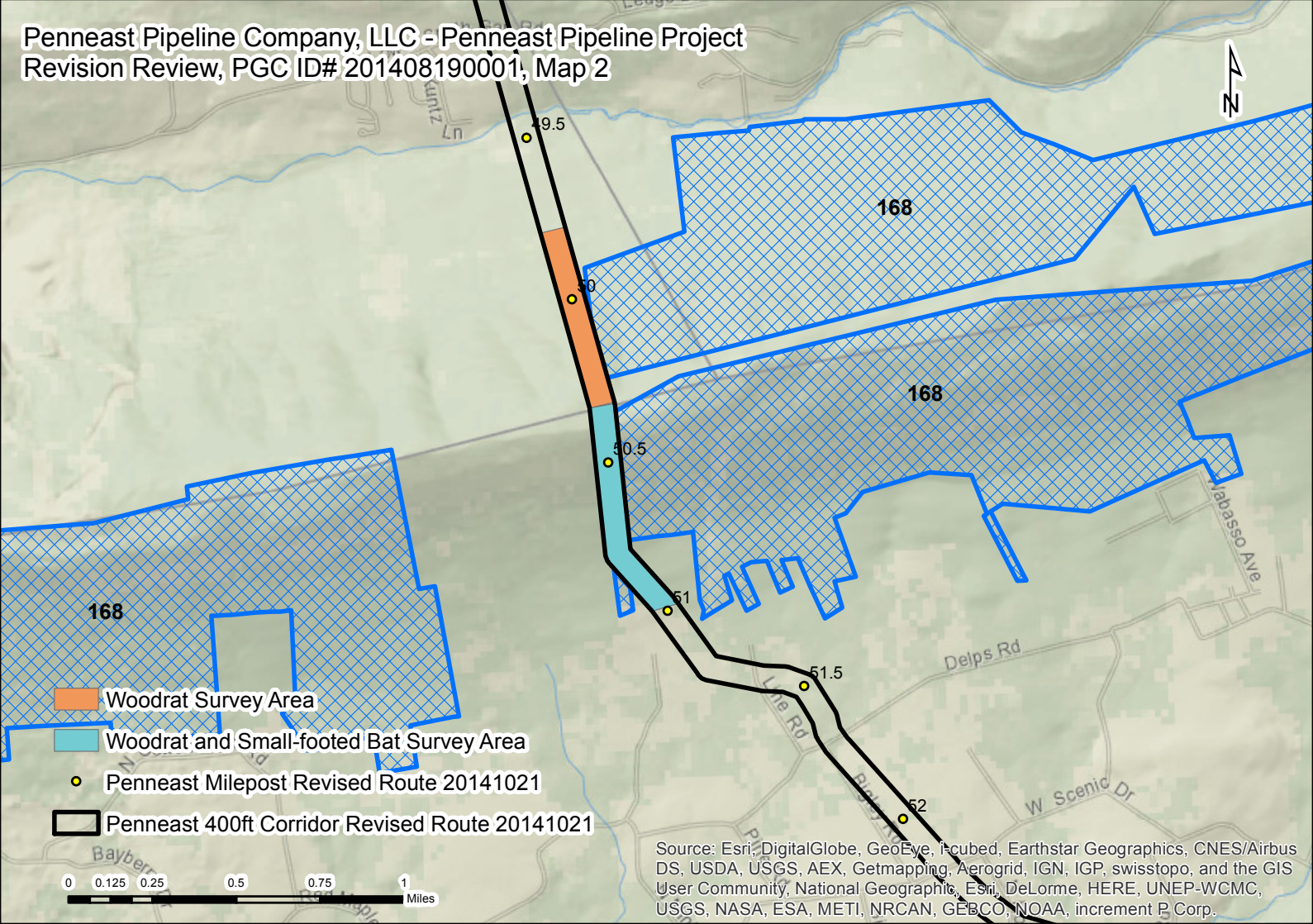
# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 1



-  Nothern Flying Squirrel Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 2



Woodrat Survey Area

Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Survey Area

Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021

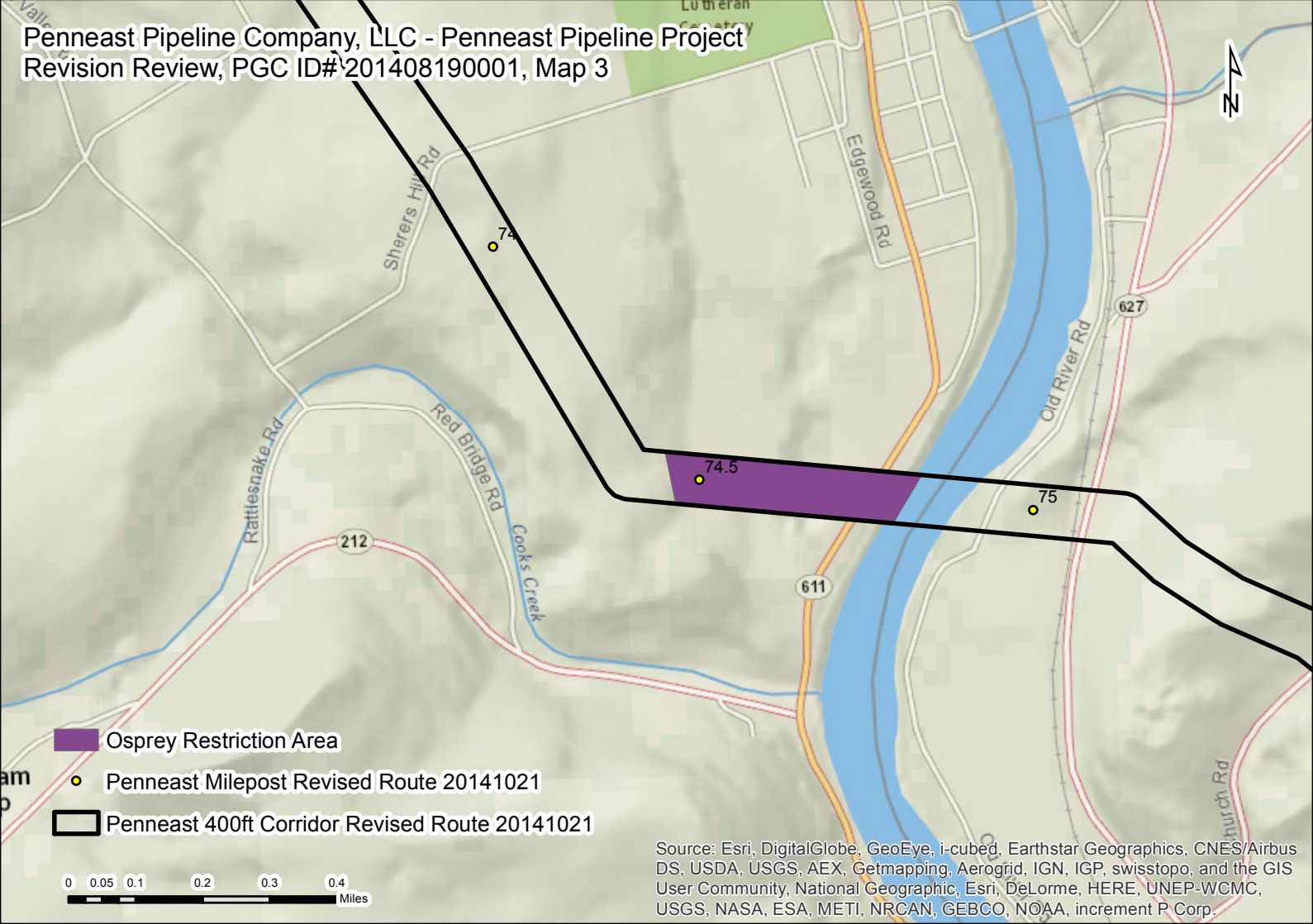
Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021




0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 3



-  Osprey Restriction Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.





January 14, 2015

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

RE: PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revised

Dear Mr. Taucher,

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a new preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments in Pennsylvania and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aid in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



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**Pennsylvania Game Commission**

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WILDLIFE PROTECTION.....	717-783-6526
WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT.....	717-787-6818
REAL ESTATE DIVISION.....	717-787-6568
AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY SERVICES.....	717-787-4076

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

[www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)

January 28, 2015

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision**

Bernard Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Bernard.Holcomb@urs.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project (*Revision*)  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

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. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on December 17, 2014 based on the revised preferred alternative route that was provided to the PGC on January 14, 2015.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	SPECIAL CONCERN

## Next Steps

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys
- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

*Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on Map 3 of the attached PGC Survey Maps during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

*Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a species of special concern and therefore, not target species for additional surveys. However, because of their ecological significance, all trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-ROW work spaces) should be cut between November 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

*State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Peter Sussenbach, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

**Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management



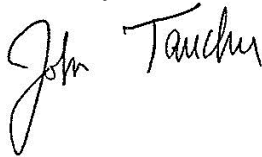
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If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 years.

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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

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JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps

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Metz  
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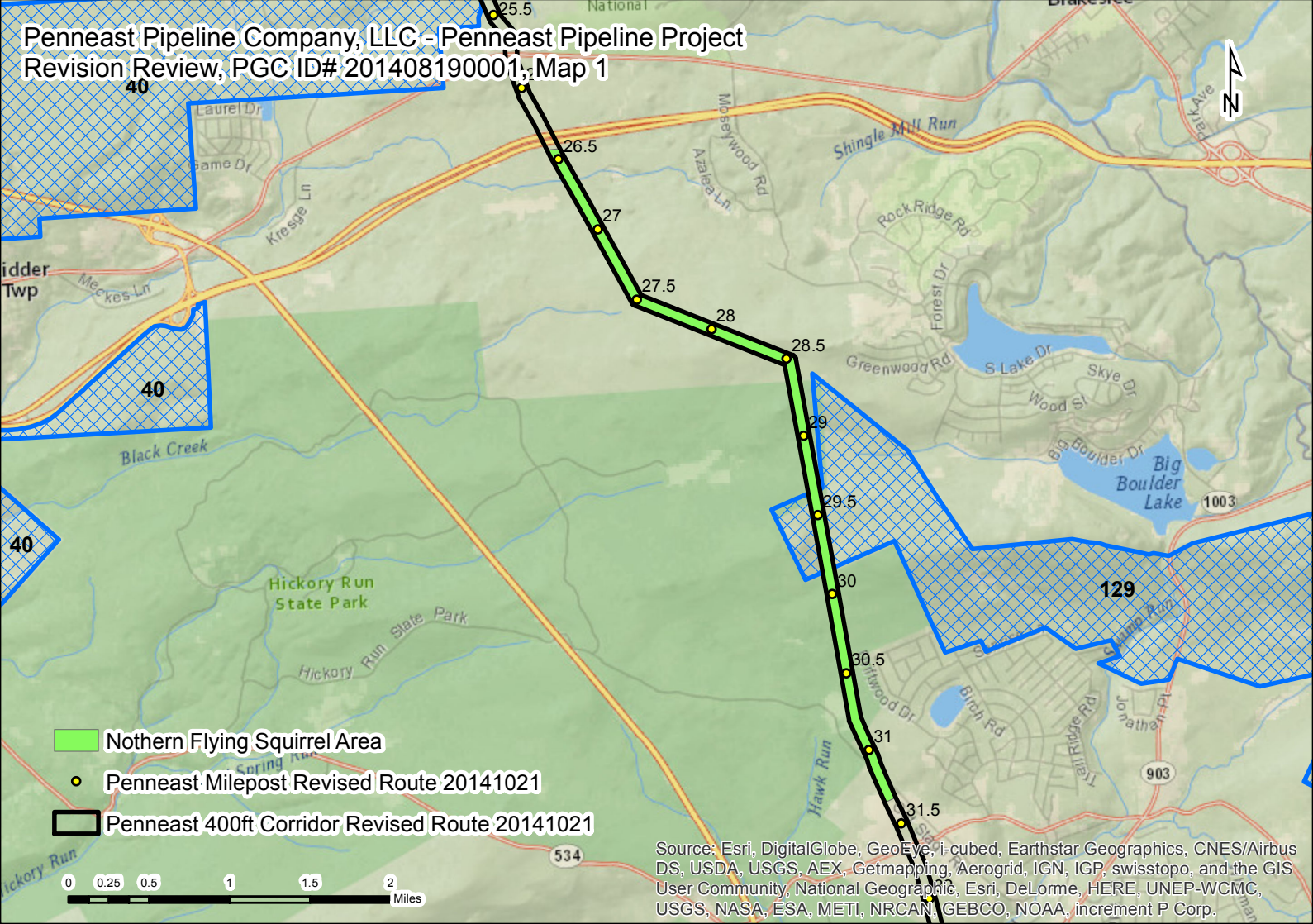
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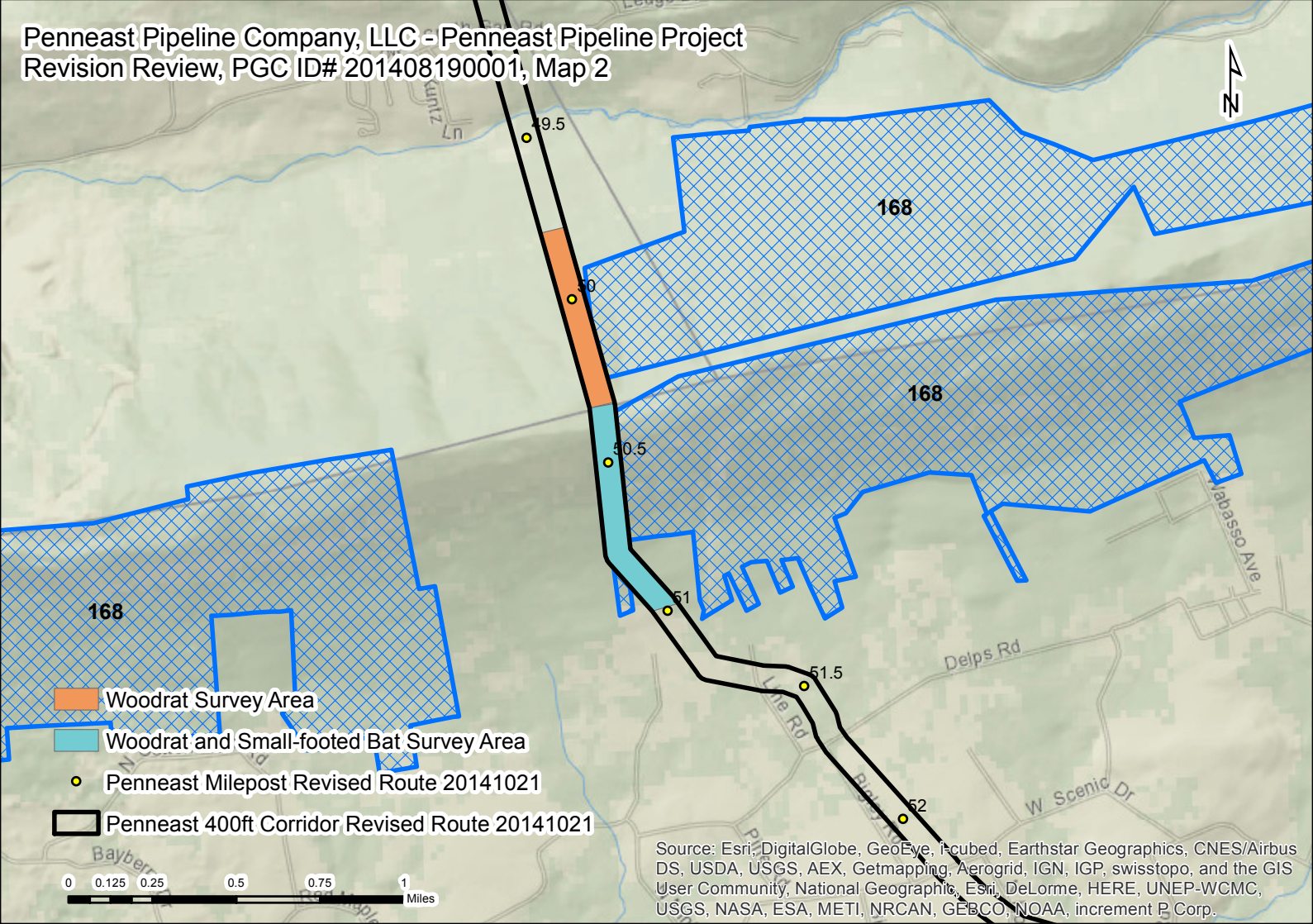
# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 1



-  Nothern Flying Squirrel Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 2



Woodrat Survey Area

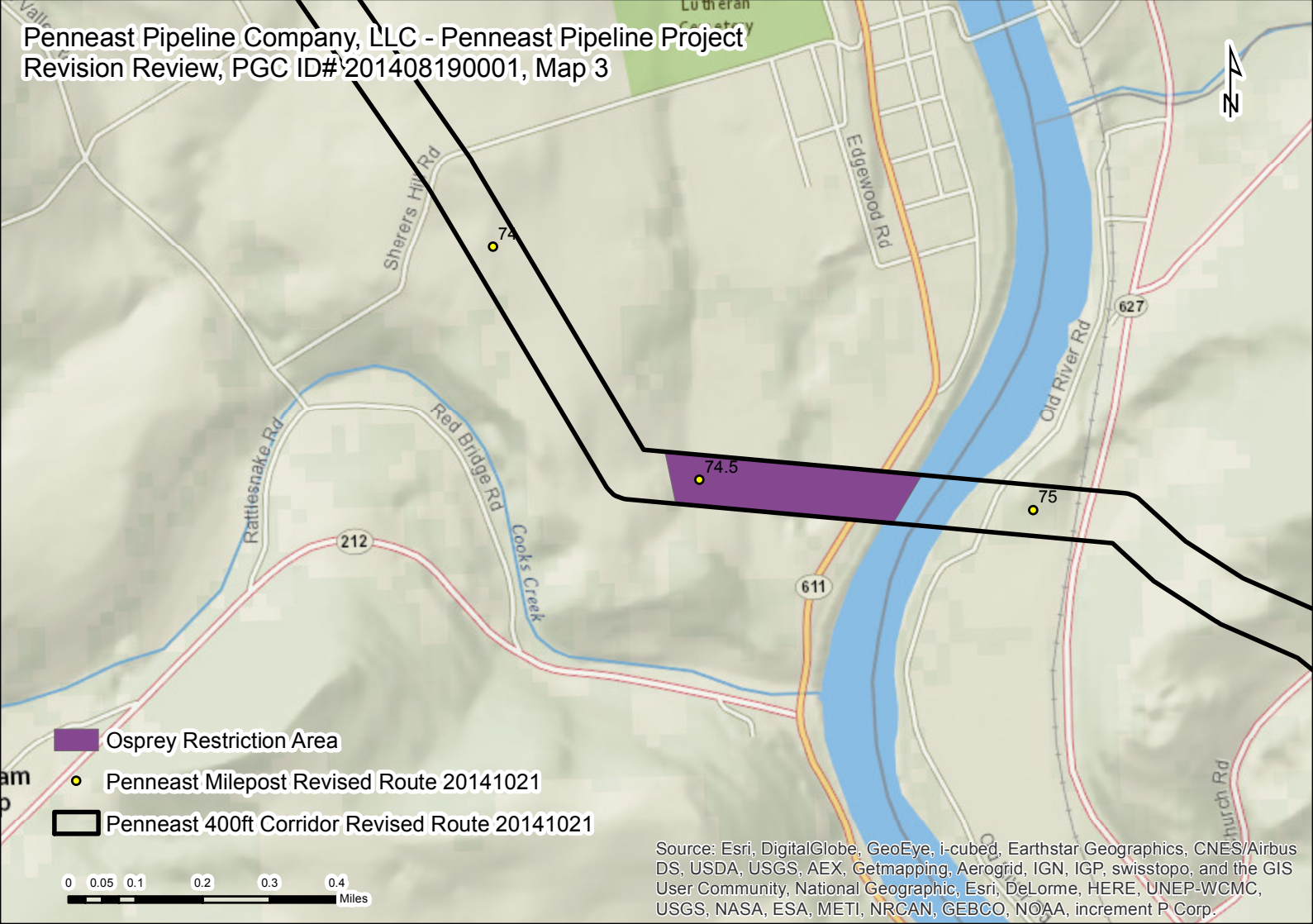
Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Survey Area




Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021

Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 3



-  Osprey Restriction Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.





March 30, 2015

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Mr. Taucher:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has again been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on January 14, 2015.

Following feedback from FERC's scoping meetings and numerous conversations with landowners, state and local agencies, and other various stakeholders, PennEast has revised and refined various portions of the preferred alternative route. The largest variations to the previously released route are related to the location of the crossing of the Bethlehem Authority water supply mainline (MP 44 and MP 45), Appalachian Trail crossing (between MP 46 and MP 55), and accommodating future subdivision and housing development plans. Additional field data gained over the last month has helped make smaller adjustments related to environmental surveys and individual discussions with landowners.

In addition to the route variations noted above, an additional interconnect was needed for the Gilbert Power Generation facility in Holland Township, New Jersey, which is fed by a small lateral (12 inches) to supply natural gas to the facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.

A summary of the significant route variations in Pennsylvania is provided below:

- In Towamensing Township in Carbon County, PA, less than one mile of the alignment has been re-routed ¼-mile to the east as a result of consultations with the Bethlehem Authority (Authority). The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 44 and 45 to cross the Authority's water supply mainline in a location where it is deeper in an effort to maximize protection of the Authority's resources.
- Straddling the Carbon – Northampton County line in PA, approximately 8 miles of the alignment between mileposts 46 and 55 has been re-routed up to 1 mile to the west of the previous route in an effort to refine the crossing location of the Appalachian Trail.



- In Northampton County, PA, approximately 2.5 miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the north of the previous route as a result of consultations with private landowners and local officials. The alignment has been re-routed between mileposts 59 and 62 to accommodate current and future land use plans in the area.

Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)





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[www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)

May 5, 2015

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision**

Bernard Holcomb  
 URS Corporation  
 625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
 Conshohocken, PA 19428  
 Bernard.Holcomb@urs.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project (*Revision*)  
 State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
 Large Project PNDI Review  
 Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

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. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on December 28, 2015 based on the revised proposed route that was provided to the PGC on March 31, 2015.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED	N/A
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED	N/A

## Next Steps

### *Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a federally listed threatened species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Northern long-eared bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys

- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on Map 3 of the attached PGC Survey Maps during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Peter Sussenbach, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>1/4 lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management

Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps

cc: Figured  
Metz  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Sussenbach  
Mitchell  
Dunn  
Brauning  
Turner

Gross

Barber

DiMatteo

Havens

Librandi Mumma

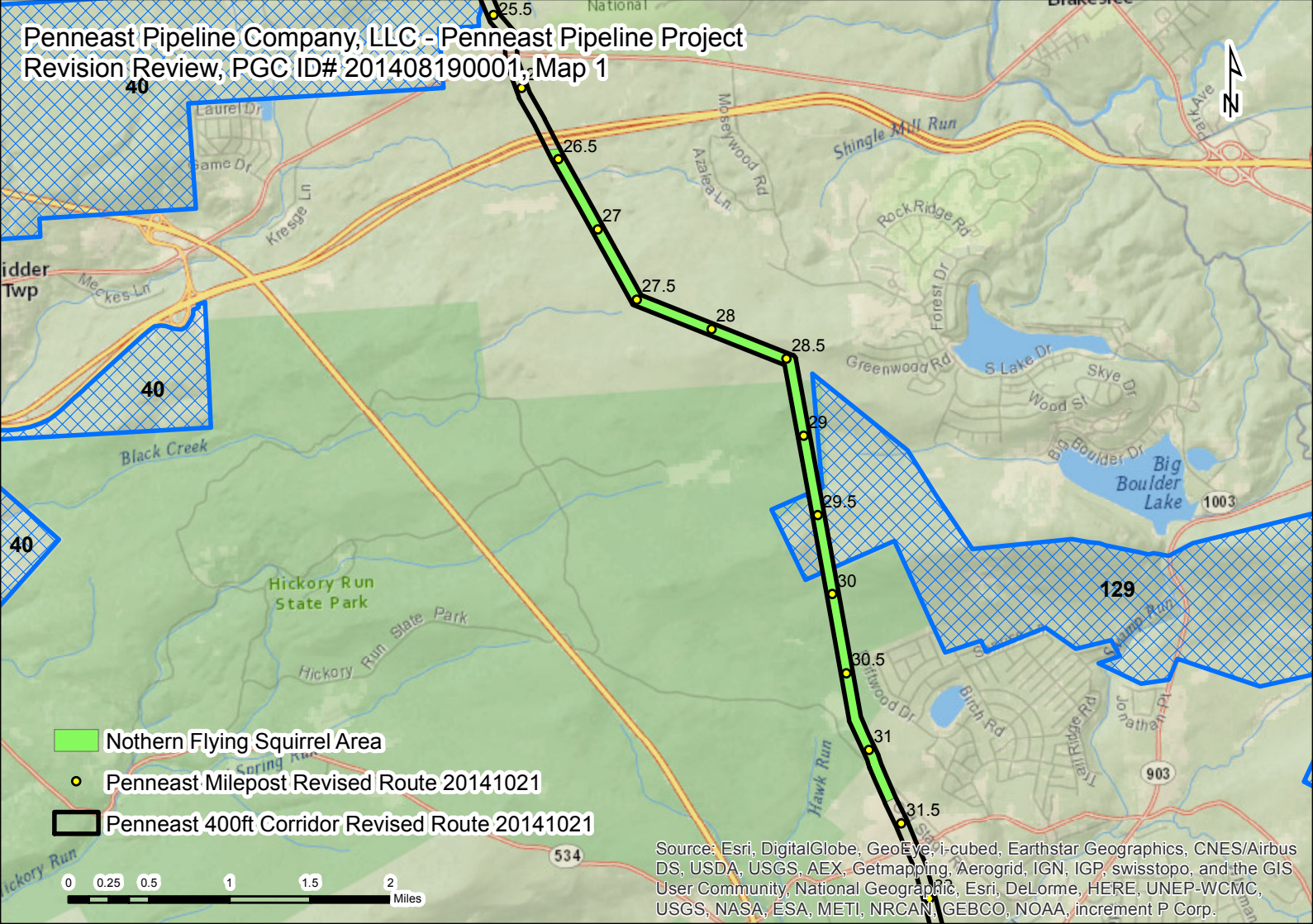
Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources




H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects





# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 1

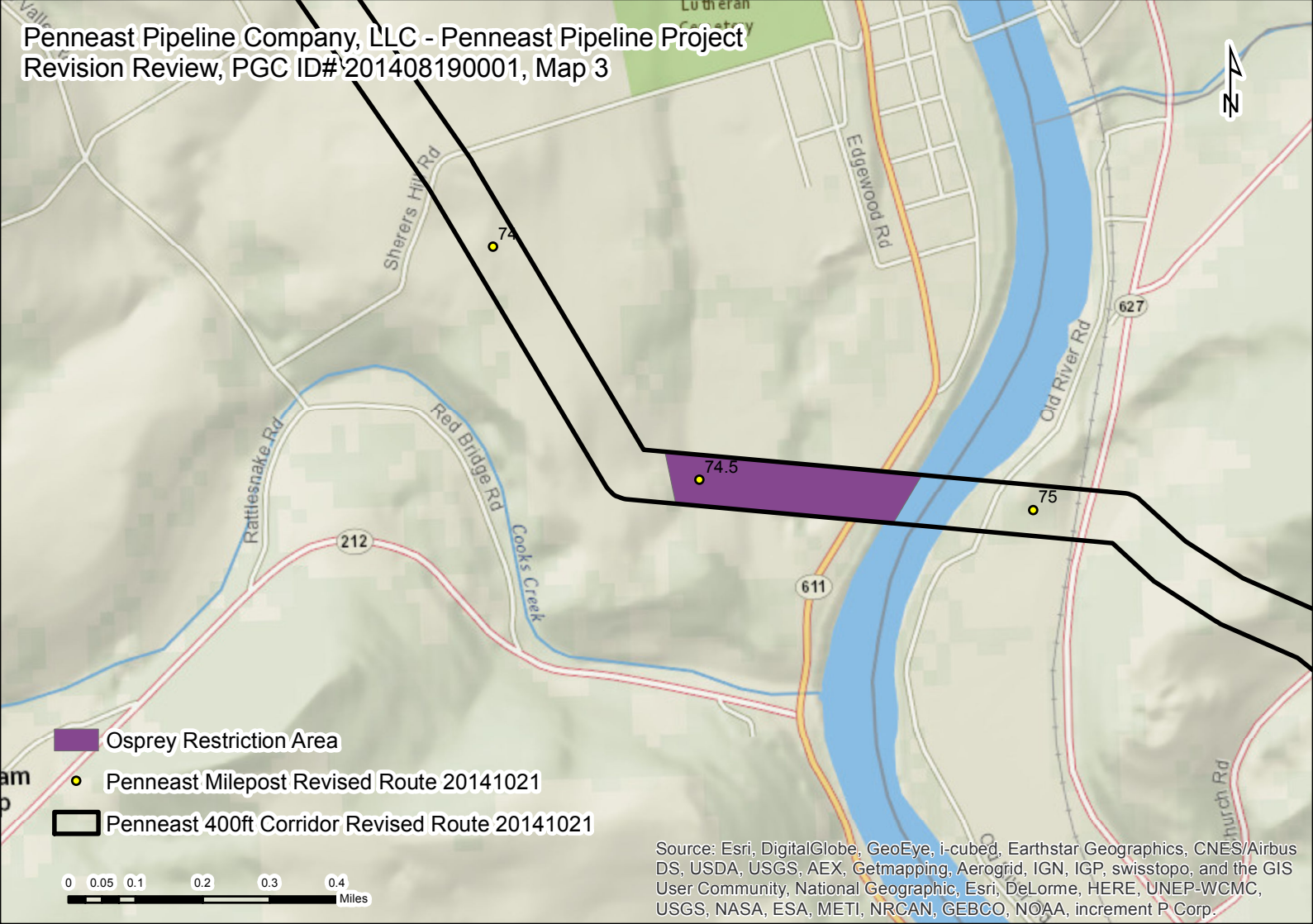





-  Nothern Flying Squirrel Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001, Map 3



-  Osprey Restriction Area
-  Penneast Milepost Revised Route 20141021
-  Penneast 400ft Corridor Revised Route 20141021



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



**In Preparation for the PA Game Lands meeting in Harrisburg, PA on Thursday, May 21, 2015**

**To be attended on behalf of PennEast by: Marco Calderon (UGI), Jon West (AECOM), Dan Murphy (WLS)**

**Route Development History-(please refer to legend on AT Area Overview Map)**

**Current /Preferred Route-**

Reason for route selection- This route was selected to avoid the NPS parcel discovered during 2-2-15 meeting.

**Alternative Routes Considered:**

**Route 2-**

Reason this route was not selected-

**Route 3-**

Reason this route was not selected-

**Route 4-**

Reason this route was not selected-

**Route 5- Buckeye Co-Location Route-**

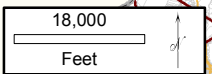
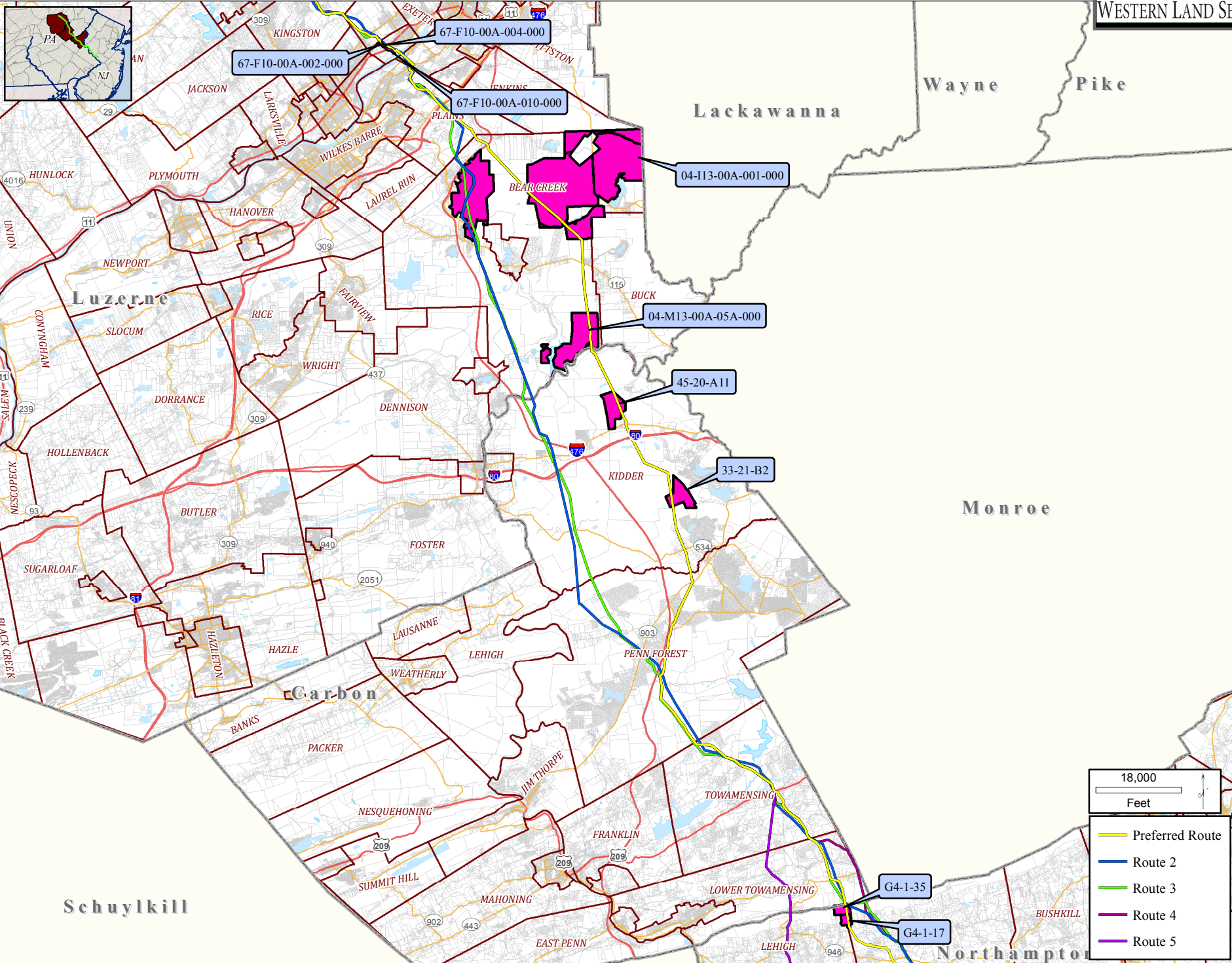
Reason this route was not selected-

**PPL Co-Location route-** This was mentioned on Mondays call but is not reflected on the map at this time.

Reason this route was not selected-



# PennEast Pipeline Project (Pennsylvania Commonwealth)



- Preferred Route
- Route 2
- Route 3
- Route 4
- Route 5

Initials:  
DJA  
Date:  
5/19/2015

This map is the property of Western Land Services Inc. (WLS). A license to use is granted on the condition that reliance on any information contained herein is at the user's own risk as WLS does not make any representations or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of the contents. Accordingly, WLS shall not be held liable for any errors or omissions herein.





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

**APPLICATION FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY LICENSE**  
**STATE GAME LANDS**

**Instructions to applicant:**

Applicant shall submit to the Land Management Group Supervisor (LMGS) in triplicate the following: **Completed Application, Maps, Plans, Drawings and an Alternatives Analysis including a statement of need and the reason why the chosen route is the best option.**

1. **Completed application:** Application shall be typed or printed and be clearly legible. Incomplete or illegible applications will be returned. Applicant shall describe the project in detail and include the items in paragraphs 2 through 4 below.
2. **Maps, plans and drawings:** To expedite the review process, maps, plans and drawings should be included which fully illustrate the facilities to be located and the extents of the uses requested. Maps should show the location of the project and a site plan, including County/Township names, State Game Lands (SGL) number and GPS or latitude/longitude coordinates of the project. The information provided should allow one not familiar with the area to be able to locate the project site and be able to clearly discern the scope of work and be able to formulate an assessment of the proposed impacts to the State Game Lands.
3. **Alternatives considered:** Applicant shall identify what alternatives have been explored, if any, including a statement of need and the reasons for selecting this location or route over other alternatives considered.
4. **Non-refundable application fee:** Applicant shall submit along with the information requested above a non-refundable application fee of \$150.00, made payable to the Pennsylvania Game Commission. This fee is to cover some of the administrative costs of reviewing the application and is due whether the Commission ultimately approves or denies the right-of-way license request.
5. **Laws, Rules, Regulations and Permits:** Applicant shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations applicable to the project. All required permits, PA One Call and Erosion & Sedimentation (E & S) control plans are the sole responsibility of the applicant, copies of permits and E & S Plans shall be provided to the Land Management Group Supervisor upon receipt if required.

THE APPLICANT BY SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THEY HAVE BEEN ADVISED AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS APPLICATION AND NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A GUARANTEE OF THE ISSUANCE OR RECEIPT OF A LICENSE FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY IN, OVER, THROUGH OR ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA STATE GAME LANDS. ALL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED ARE REVIEWED BY THE COMMISSION AND EVALUATED FOR IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE, WILDLIFE HABITATS AND THE OVERALL USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STATE GAME LANDS. APPLICANTS SHOULD ANTICIPATE A MINIMUM OF 120 DAYS FOR THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS ON MINOR PROJECTS WITH MORE COMPLEX PROJECTS BEING ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY. THE COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE APPLICANT TO EVALUATE THIS REQUEST. LICENSES FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY WILL ONLY BE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION, WHEN IN ITS SOLE DETERMINATION, THE GRANTING OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY WILL NOT BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THESE LANDS. APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE A DETERMINATION FROM THE COMMISSION UPON COMPLETION OF ITS REVIEW.

**(This section to be completed by applicant)**

**Date:**

**APPLICANT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Corporation, Partnership or Individual)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organized under the laws of the State/Commonwealth of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fed, ID or Social Security Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal place of business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Billing address

The applicant hereby applies for a License for Right-of-Way over a portion of State Game Lands No. \_\_\_\_\_, Situate in the Township(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, County(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with the right to construct, operate, maintain and remove (or use and maintain in the case of established roads), (See description below).

The proposed right-of-way will be used for (check all that apply):

Personal use     Private use     Public use     Business use   
Non-profit business     Government business     Commercial business

And shall extend for a distance of approximately \_\_\_\_\_ feet in, on, over, across or through State Game Lands, and will require a right-of-way width of \_\_\_\_\_ feet. Also, \_\_\_\_\_ feet of existing Commission administrative road will be required for construction and maintenance of the project.

In addition, \_\_\_\_\_ square feet of temporary construction area and \_\_\_\_\_ feet of temporary road use will be required to construct the project for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months from the start of construction.

All extents of the requested right-of-way, facilities to be located, temporary construction areas, and road uses etc. should be clearly and accurately shown and depicted on the maps and drawings included with this application.

Provide a complete description of the project and the right-of-way requested, including facilities to be located, alternatives considered, statement of need, a construction target date and a timeline for completion. Include maps, plans and drawings which accurately depict the project, the facilities associated with the project and extents of uses requested.

Use additional paper if necessary

Description:

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Alternatives:

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Statement of need:

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Construction timeline:

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Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

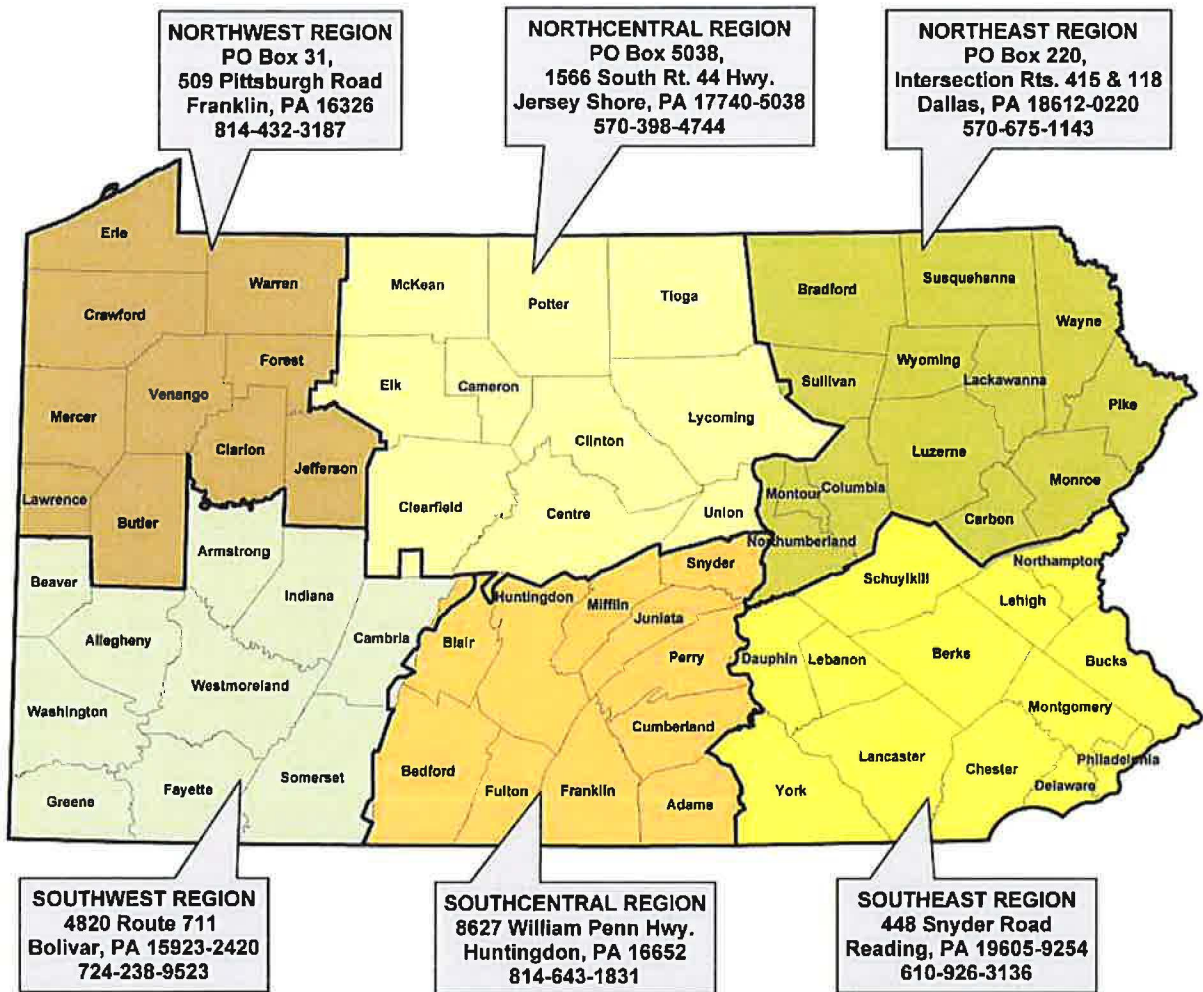
Printed Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

The Land Management Group Supervisor (LMGS) may be contacted through the respective Pennsylvania Game Commission regional headquarters. Note some State Game Lands may be maintained by LMGS's in adjacent regions. Additional information about the Game Commission and its programs is available on the agency's website. <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/>



**If applying for Communications Facilities:**

Completion of form R/W 67 is required and shall be completed as an addendum to this R/W 68, if applying for an antenna site on SGL.

STATE GAME LANDS  
SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUEST-APPLICATION

Fully complete each applicable section below. All information must be printed or typed. Illegible Special Permit Applications will not be processed. Attach any necessary documentation that is required for the Special Permit. Insufficient information, documentation, or payment will delay or prevent the issuance of the Special Permit.

CID (hunting/furtaking license number, if applicable):		<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	
Last Name:		First Name:		Middle Name or Initial:	
Suffix:					
Physical Address (Street address; Apartment #, Suite # or Room; no P.O. Boxes):					
City:		State:		Zip Code/Postal Code:	
County/Province:		Country:			
Mailing Address (Include if different than Physical Address listed in boxes above):					
City:		State:		Zip Code/Postal Code:	
County/Province:		Country:			
Telephone Number:		Fax Number:		E-Mail Address:	
<b>IF APPLYING ON BEHALF OF A BUSINESS, CORPORATION, PUBLIC AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION</b>					
Name:					
Mailing Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code/Postal Code:	
County/Province:		Country:			
Telephone Number:		Fax Number:		E-Mail Address:	

Dates of proposed activity:	
SGL or Area:	County:
Can this activity be conducted on lands other than Game Lands (If no, explain)?	
Anticipated number of people participating in this activity:	
Is there a fee or donation required?	
State Organization Representative Signature: (For Trail Requests)	

Describe the proposed use or activity (Attach additional sheets as necessary to fully explain requested activity- commercial activities are not permitted on SGL)
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Certification: <i>I certify that I have read and understand the laws and regulations as they apply to the Special Permit that I am applying for and that all statements are true, correct and complete.</i>	
Signature of Applicant:	Date of Signature:

**Return to the appropriate office as listed on the back of this form.**

**NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren

P.O. Box 31  
Franklin, PA 16323  
(814) 432-3188

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland

4820 Route 711  
Bolivar, PA 15923  
(724) 238-9523

**NORTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Union

1566 South Route 44 Highway  
P.O. Box 5038  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
(570) 398-4744

**SOUTHCENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Snyder, York

8627 William Penn Highway  
Huntingdon, PA 16652  
(814) 643-1831

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming

3917 Memorial Highway  
Dallas, PA 18612  
(570) 675-1143

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE--Serving the following Counties:** Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill

448 Snyder Road  
Reading, PA 19605  
(610) 926-3136

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION-SPECIAL PERMITS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION:** For questions regarding general Special Permit issues or the Special Use Permits found on the first two yellow pages of this application. 717-783-8164.

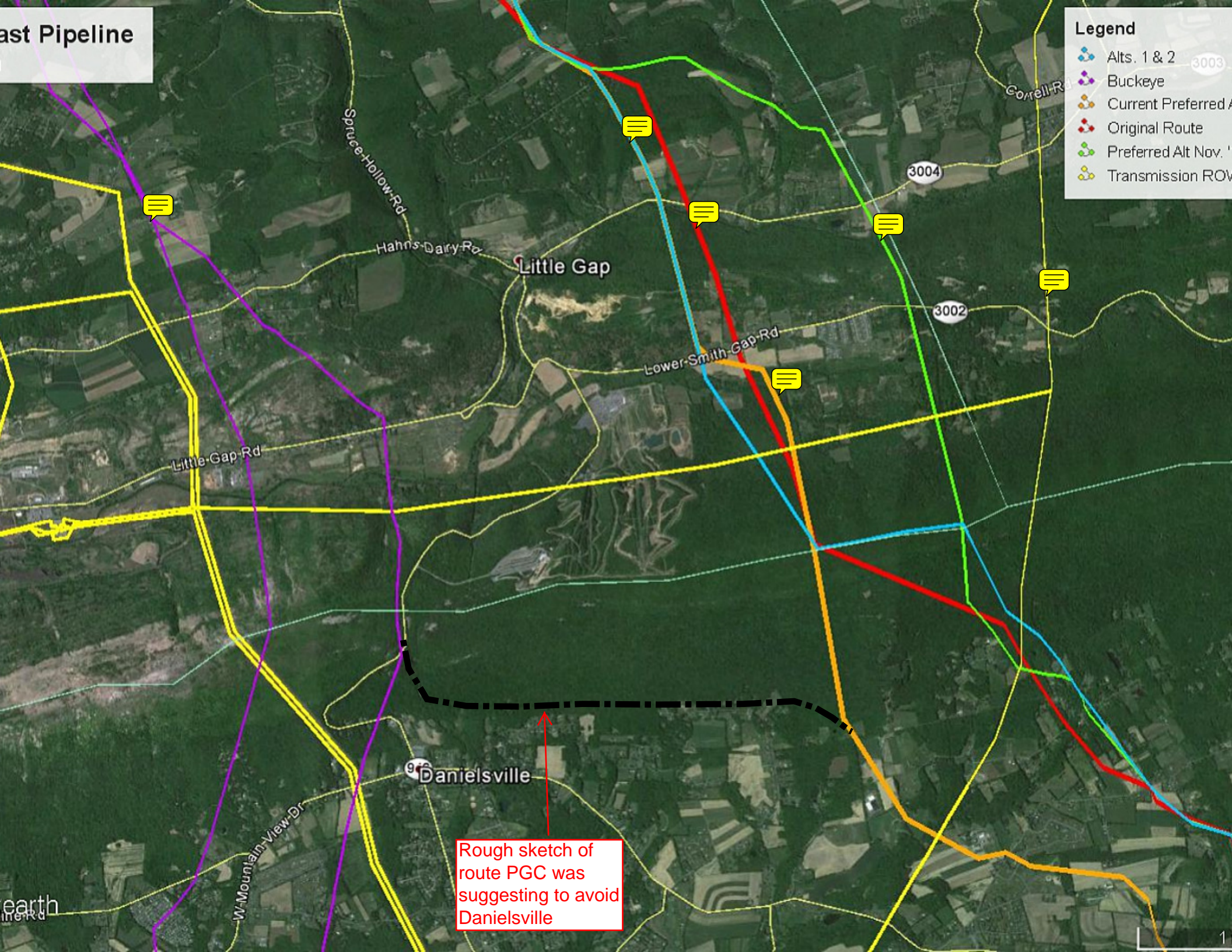
**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT:** For questions regarding Special Permits involving Environmental Review and State Game Lands Impacts. 717-787-6818.

2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

# East Pipeline

**Legend**

- Alts. 1 & 2
- Buckeye
- Current Preferred A
- Original Route
- Preferred Alt Nov.
- Transmission ROW



Rough sketch of route PGC was suggesting to avoid Danielsville







**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION  
BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT  
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY SECTION**

**2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797 Tel: 717.787.5529 Fax: 717.787.3292**

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**DATE:** May 15, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Changes to Bat Survey Protocols in Pennsylvania  
**TO:** Pennsylvania Qualified Bat Surveyors

**FROM:** Greg Turner, Wildlife Biologist  
2001 Elmerton Ave, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Colleagues,

Another survey year is upon us and I thank you for your cooperation in providing the required summary reports in the correct format. Be assured that the data is being reviewed, entered into databases and tracked. As a group you are to be commended for the professionalism and dedication exhibited.

There are always a few items that will need your attention. In this year great change is upon us, with a new federal species listed. Current standards applied by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) treat Indiana bat captures with a 5-mile random capture buffer and 2.5 mile buffer for captures with known roost trees. Similarly for northern long-eared bats, the random capture: identified roost tree buffers are 3.0:1.5 miles, respectively. The smaller buffer in both of these cases is based on scientific evidence suggesting routine travel distance from roost tree. In an effort to align with regional state and USFWS offices, the PGC will incorporate a standardized procedure where a small proportion of reproductive northern long-eared females/juveniles that meet body mass requirements (6%) will have a transmitter attached, and roost trees/emergence counts performed for a single night. The level of effort will be no less than a single female or juvenile every 3 miles (5 km) for linear projects or one per 123 acres for non-linear projects. Efforts above this minimum level are acceptable.

With such greatly reduced captures, we have also initiated a new, mandatory measurement of all bats captured. This is not initiated as a way to scrutinize your work, but because a new species was confirmed in the State last year, an evening bat! Please be vigilant for this species and photograph any individual that fits the forearm and morphological descriptions of this species. Location of the first ever maternity site would be a feather in your cap if possible for you to find.

In this digital age, we are happy to provide digital copies of any forms, and a blank database for data entry. This will be required in 2016. In this way, you can enter the data in the field and by submitting the forms and the database, we can double check and finalize your data more efficiently. Please feel free to ask for these prior to any permit in order to familiarize yourself with them. There will also be changes made to the QBS/BI list next year, with a new method to submit your packet. It will also be focused to become a list of active bat consultants.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

cc: D. Brauning, C. Eyler, T. Librandi-Mumma, M. Scafini, R. Anderson, M. Turner, and P. Shellenberger

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**From:** Taucher, John <jotaucher@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2015 1:40 PM  
**To:** 'Drew Wanke'; pamela\_shellenberger  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: Northern long-eared telemetry question

Drew,

Since the PGC now defers to USFWS on northern long-eared bats, the PGC will not be requesting any foraging telemetry on that species. Rather, the PGC will defer to the USFWS on recommendations for northern long-eared bats.

John

**From:** [wank.a.tonk@gmail.com](mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com) [<mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Drew Wanke  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2015 1:29 PM  
**To:** Taucher, John; pamela\_shellenberger  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Northern long-eared telemetry question

Hi John and Pam,

I'm writing to inquire if any foraging telemetry will be required for northern long-eared bats (MYSE) captured on the proposed PennEast ROW? If so, how long would we need to conduct foraging telemetry for, and are we required to transmitter both males and females?

John, during our meeting on 5/22 at the USFWS-FO, you said we would likely have to do foraging telemetry on 5 or 6 female MYSE, and possibly one male MYSE.

Pam, are we required to transmitter all of the MYSE captured (meeting the 6% rule)? I believe I remember you saying we would need to do telemetry on all of them now, because they are listed and would be treated similar to Indiana bats. Would this also include putting a transmitter on a male?

Our state permit requires we put one transmitter on female/juvenile captures each 5 km of ROW. My 2015 Bat Surveyor Reporting Packet states, additional nights of telemetry may be required depending upon project impacts to species habitat. Consultation with both the PGC Environmental Review staff and the USFWS-PAFO should occur prior to surveys to determine if effort listed here is adequate for the project. I just want to follow up before we got too far along on the project, and make sure we're meeting the required level of effort.

Thanks for your time and help clarifying things for me.

***Drew A. Wanke***  
Wildlife Biologist, QIBS  
Wildlife Specialists, LLC  
2785 Hills Creek Road  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-376-2255 (Office)  
518-569-9999 (Cell)  
[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)

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**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:35 PM  
**To:** Turner, Gregory; Scafini, Michael; Librandi Mumma, Tracey  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Small-footed bat capture

Wildlife Specialists captured a pregnant small-footed bat last night at site PE042, coordinates;  
41° 03' 48.1" North  
75° 38' 30.5" West

A transmitter wasn't attached, because the bat was too small and did not meet the 6% rule, weighing 5.9 grams and our transmitters are 0.36 grams. Let me know if additional information will be required.

Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***  
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570-376-2255 (Office)  
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[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)

---

**From:** Turner, Gregory (PGC) <grturner@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2015 2:08 PM  
**To:** Drew Wanke; Scafini, Michael; Librandi Mumma, Tracey  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: Small-footed bat telemetry question  
**Attachments:** 2015 Bat Surveyor and Reporting Packet.pdf

Drew,

Please coordinate with Tracey and see the telemetry appendix (pages 16-18) of your bat packet for foraging telemetry requirements associated with small-footed bats.

Greg

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**From:** [wank.a.tonk@gmail.com](mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com) [<mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Drew Wanke  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:40 PM  
**To:** Turner, Gregory (PGC); Scafini, Michael; Librandi Mumma, Tracey  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Small-footed bat telemetry question

Hi Greg, Mike, and Tracey,

Will additional telemetry efforts be required for small-footed bats, beyond locating their roost and conducting an emergency count?

We currently have 2 pregnant transmitted MYLE that we have tracked back to a quarry on 2 different days, and conducted an emergence survey on them for one night. We didn't conduct the emergence survey on the first night we tracked them back to the quarry, because of heavy rain, thunder and lightening, and I wanted to make sure there wasn't additional telemetry efforts required for them.

Thanks,  
Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***  
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570-376-2255 (Office)  
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[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)

---

**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2015 11:21 AM  
**To:** Librandi Mumma, Tracey; Turner, Gregory; Scafini, Michael  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Bat Surveyor Packet - Telemetry Question

Hi Tracey,

I have a couple questions about telemetry, the protocol, and survey efforts.

In the Bat Surveyor Packet sent out by Greg on May 15, 2015, the second paragraph states; In an effort to align with regional state and USFWS offices, the PGC will incorporate a standardized procedure where a small proportion of reproductive northern long-eared females/juveniles that meet body mass requirements (6%) will have a transmitter attached, and roost trees/emergence counts performed for a single night.

On page 16 of the same Surveyor Packet, under the Transmitter bullet, it states, Try not to exceed 5% and DO NOT exceed more than 10% of the bats body weight. Does this mean we are able to exceed the 6% rule for small-footed, silver-haired, and seminole bats, as long as the total package weight does not exceed 10% of the bats body weight?

Additionally, will foraging telemetry be required for any state or federal listed species of bats, and if so, what is the Level of Effort required? The Surveyor Packet state a maximum of 6 bats per survey season if a standard PNDI project, but this is a large PNDI project. I haven't seen anything yet requesting foraging telemetry, and I wanted to make sure we are meeting all the conditions of the protocol. Thanks for your time and help with my questions.

Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***

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---

**From:** Librandi Mumma, Tracey <tlibrandi@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2015 9:16 AM  
**To:** 'Drew Wanke'  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah; Turner, Gregory (PGC); Scafini, Michael; Taucher, John  
**Subject:** RE: Bat Surveyor Packet - Telemetry Question

Hi Drew,

On page 16 of the same Surveyor Packet, under the Transmitter bullet, it states, Try not to exceed 5% and DO NOT exceed more than 10% of the bats body weight. Does this mean we are able to exceed the 6% rule for small-footed, silver-haired, and Seminole bats, as long as the total package weight does not exceed 10% of the bats body weight? **Yes, you can exceed the 6% rule for small-footed, silver-haired, and Seminole bats, as long as the total package weight does not exceed 10% of the bats body weight.**

Additionally, will foraging telemetry be required for any state or federal listed species of bats, and if so, what is the Level of Effort required? **PGC defers to USFWS for federally listed species (i.e. Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat) but for state listed species, that are not also federally listed, foraging and roost telemetry is required.** The Surveyor Packet state a maximum of 6 bats per survey season if a standard PNDI project, but this is a large PNDI project. **For the PennEast Pipeline project in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks counties, the PGC has determined that a maximum of 14 non-federally listed bats be telemetered. Of these 14 bats, foraging is required for a maximum of 6 small-footed bats (no more than one small-footed bat per mist nest site). Roost locations will only need to be determined for the remaining 8 bats telemetered. PGC is not going to set quotas on certain areas as we do not have onsite knowledge of the habitat. Therefore use your best professional judgement to evenly distribute telemetered bats across the project. If you have any further question on this project, please contact John Taucher (he is copied on this email).**

Thanks,

*Tracey Librandi Mumma*

Wildlife Biologist / Habitat Protection Section Chief  
Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection Division  
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
717-787-4250 ext 3614  
Fax 717-787-6957  
[tlibrandi@pa.gov](mailto:tlibrandi@pa.gov)

**From:** [wank.a.tonk@gmail.com](mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com) [<mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Drew Wanke  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2015 11:21 AM  
**To:** Librandi Mumma, Tracey; Turner, Gregory (PGC); Scafini, Michael  
**Cc:** Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Bat Surveyor Packet - Telemetry Question

Hi Tracey,

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In the Bat Surveyor Packet sent out by Greg on May 15, 2015, the second paragraph states; In an effort to align with regional state and USFWS offices, the PGC will incorporate a standardized procedure where a small proportion of reproductive northern long-eared females/juveniles that meet body mass requirements (6%) will have a transmitter attached, and roost trees/emergence counts performed for a single night.

On page 16 of the same Surveyor Packet, under the Transmitter bullet, it states, Try not to exceed 5% and DO NOT exceed more than 10% of the bats body weight. Does this mean we are able to exceed the 6% rule for small-footed, silver-haired, and seminole bats, as long as the total package weight does not exceed 10% of the bats body weight?

Additionally, will foraging telemetry be required for any state or federal listed species of bats, and if so, what is the Level of Effort required? The Surveyor Packet state a maximum of 6 bats per survey season if a standard PNDI project, but this is a large PNDI project. I haven't seen anything yet requesting foraging telemetry, and I wanted to make sure we are meeting all the conditions of the protocol. Thanks for your time and help with my questions.

Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***

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[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)

Date-7/18/15 PGC Meeting Summary

Project: PennEast Pipeline

Subject- Meeting with Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC)\_ A/T Crossing

Location- PA Game Commission, SE Regional Office 253 Snyder Road Reading, PA 19605

Present-PennEast Pipeline Project

PennEast Representatives: Jeff England (UGIES), Alisa Harris (UGIES) Dan Murphy (WLS),

PGC Representatives: David Mitchell (Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor), Nathan Havens (Right-of-Way Administrator)

Introduction- After a quick introduction we viewed a large map showing the route as it goes through Blue Mountain Water Park and into PGL 168. David Mitchell's initial reaction was negative stating that it was almost as bad as the original route. Both David and Nathan made the case that Co-locating with the buckeye or any other existing corridor is preferred and went on to discuss the reasons why which included; avoiding fragmentation of the forest and creating a new pathway for invasive plant species.

Jeff England- Jeff explained that we have investigated not only both Buckeye lines but also the power lines corridors and Blue Mountain Drive. He went on to say that PennEast is in discussions with Buckeye but that it was not preferable due to all the constraints involved.

Alisa Harris- Alicia clarified that the current state of negotiation with Buckeye is not promising and the option should not be viewed as a feasible alternative route.

- Nathan stated that it appears there are no other options that would avoid the clearing of a new easement .That being the case we need to find a route that is more palatable than this proposal.. He and David stated that the line needs to get as close to Blue Mountain Drive as possible and then off the PGL and into Danielsville as quickly as possible.

Dan Murphy- Dan reminded them that during the meeting of 5-22 they stated that they would be willing to work with PennEast on a route through this parcel providing it ran as close to the parcel border as possible.

Nathan replied that the offer was based on a Buckeye crossing. He also stated that the route shown does not run close enough to the parcel border. He went on to explain that the line needs to come down the Mountain as far west as possible and be as far south as possible when traveling east. Additionally, they requested that the route travel through private parcels in the area as well as PGC lands stating they did not want to take the entire hit.

Dan Pulled up Google Earth on the computer and placed it between Nathan and David and drew a line showing a route that would be more to their liking. Jeff came over to view it and he explained the construction challenges involved. Nathan asked to change the current view to a leaf off view to see more detail. When this was done a conifer stand in the area of the planed crossing become visible. Nathan stated it was important to the PGC that this stand and the bolder field to the east be avoided. He feels that these areas represent habitat for Eastern small footed Bats as well as rattle snakes. We adjusted the line so that it runs between these features.



Jeff assured them both that surveys would be completed and suggested that it would be best if both parties with representatives from engineering construction and environmental got together and walked the area. Nathan and David agreed.

David again stated that the Buckeye was the preferred route for the PGC. He said he understood that there was a ski area to the immediate north and a superfund site to the west but that they still consider this area to be valuable habitat and need to protect it.

Jeff responded by clarifying that the other options are not preferable from either a safety, construction or legal standpoint and at this time we really need to focus on adequately mitigating the impact of the route on the table.

Jeff talked about the possibility of necking down as much as possible in the area to reduce impact.

David and Nathan began to talk about how the structure of a licensing agreement would require that compensation include a land gift in addition to a standard compensation. He suggested a nearby property that he felt may be available

Parcel: 06-9-1-8-1; 1-32-A2.01; 1-32-A2.02

Owner: WALTERS WILLIAM D BARBARA H

David provided the following contact information to the owner's representative

Abby Pattishal 610-965-4377.

David also mentioned that the PGC would be very interested in picking up a parcel that borders G3-2-1 on the south as they do not currently have access from the south.

We said we would do a thorough search to uncover all possibilities.

Dan clarified that potential parcels need to be contiguous with any PGL and not just the affected PGL. Nathan and David both agreed but David stressed that closer would be preferable.

Nathan stated that while the PGC will work with PennEast they will need to see the impact studies on the alternative routes.

David confirmed that the granting of a licensing agreement can be authorized at his level does not require commission approval. Nathan confirmed but added that the acceptance of a parcel of land does require commission level approval but that would not delay the process.

Nathan requested the formal application should include a CD with all shake file. This will make the task of reviewing the application considerably faster.

### **Next Steps**

Work to locate potential parcel to be purchased for the PGC has begun.

Schedule a time to walk the area with the PGC.

Date-7/21/15 PGC-Northeast Region- Meeting Summary

Project: PennEast Pipeline

Subject-Pipeline Crossing of PGL 91; 40; 129

Location- PA Game Commission, NE Regional Office

3917 memorial highway

Dallas pa 18612

PennEast Representatives: Marco Calderon (UGIES), Juan Cazon (UGIES) TJ (UGIES) Tom Hite(Hatch Mott) Dan Murphy (WLS),

PGC Representatives: Michael Beahm (Northeast Region Land Management Supervisor)

Introduction- After a quick introduction we viewed maps showing the route as it travels through each parcel owned by the PGC in the Northeast Region.

Michael pointed out that there is a new power line easement on 04-113-00A-001 that runs close to the proposed pipeline. It was just put into service 3 weeks ago and does not appear on Google Earth at this time.

Marco responded that they were aware of the line as it was picked up during a flyover of the route.

Michael pointed out the PGC does not grant easements but instead issues licenses that require a yearly fee be paid.

The approval process usually takes between 30 to 90 days on the local level. It would then be sent to the Pa Attorney General for review with that process taking at least 30 days.

After the local review is completed and approved the LOD of the line will need to be marked to allow the PGC to appraise the effected timber.

#### Wildlife

Michael discussed some of the wildlife that are present within the areas game lands. He felt there were small footed bats within GL 129 & 91, rattle snakes within 129 and 40 and that there may be Long eared bats within GL40.

He mentioned that PPL had developed a Small Footed bat mitigation plan and said he would try to get us a copy.

#### Access Roads

Michael said that existing roads within the game lands would be available to be utilized for access. He went on to mention that they would need to be improved beforehand to be able to handle the traffic. He pointed out that PPL left the roads much better than expected.

There is a bridge on parcel 4-M13-00A-000 that is not capable of handling anything larger than a pickup truck. (see attached exhibit titled "bridge location")

Michael offered to provide us with a map of existing roads.

### Reclamation

Michael has a special interest in how re-vegetation is achieved. He pointed out that the PGC has a special seed mix that includes stabilization materials that they would like used.

### Compensation-land

We discussed the fact that a portion of the compensation paid to the PGC would be in the form of land. Michael discussed this as being related to timber damages with the value of land required to be donated to the PGC being a function of the value of the timber lost. This is somewhat different from the way it was presented by the Southeastern District who described it as being tied to impacted lands in general.

When asked if he knew of any suitable parcels that may be available he responded that he would have to think about it and ask other staff. He did point out that he would like to acquire a parcel owned by Blue Ridge but had no reason to believe it would be available for sale. The parcel numbers are 46-20-A1 & 45-20-A12.09

### Compensation-Timber

Timber damages are paid double stumpage.

They prefer that the tops be left and everything else removed. Timber can be left neatly stacked if desired and the PGL will bid it out to a timber company to sell and remove.

### Next Steps

Work to locate potential parcel to be purchased for the PGC has begun.

Follow up with Mike on getting a copy of access road maps, PPL bat mitigation plan

Provide Mike with a map showing the line in relation to GL 141

### Contact

Mike Beahm

570-675-1143

mbeahm@pa.gov

## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:41 AM  
**To:** 'Taucher, John'  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Deviation MP 22.4 to 23.2\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 48.9 to 53.5\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 61.7 to 62.7\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 70.1 to 70.6\_072315.pdf; PennEast Reroute MP 6.5 to 11.8\_072315.pdf; PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

<b>Tracking:</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
	'Taucher, John'	
	West, Jonathan	Delivered: 7/24/2015 11:41 AM
	Binckley, Sarah	Delivered: 7/24/2015 11:41 AM

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. **(To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)**

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

PA agencies- We have also attached PNDIs of the primary deviations and reroutes for your information purposes, although we understand these are not to be used for permitting as this is a large project.

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
D 1-610-832-3597 C 1-215-833-0566  
[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**

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Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn | Google+

AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:35 PM  
**To:** Turner, Gregory (PGC) (grturner@pa.gov)  
**Subject:** Durham Cave info request- per USFWS coordination  
**Attachments:** FWS\_Shellenberger to PE 07012015.pdf

Hi Greg- as you know PennEast pipeline has been consulting with USFWS regarding northern long eared bat and Indiana bat for its upcoming FERC filing. Our subconsultant, Wildlife Specialists, has been conducting bat surveys & telemetry this summer.

USFWS provided us with the attached information regarding Durham Caves #1 and #2. They requested we reach out to PGC regarding any known information on tunnels or connections (“underground passage”) between the two caves. Do you have any maps or information you can share? Thanks very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
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AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.



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."*

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:**

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

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

[www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)

August 13, 2015

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision**

Deborah Poppel  
AECOM  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Deborah.Poppel@aecom.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project (*Revision*)  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Holcomb,

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. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on May 5, 2015 based on the revised proposed route that was provided to the PGC on July 24, 2015.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED	N/A
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED	N/A

## Next Steps

### *Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a federally listed threatened species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Northern long-eared bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys



- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on Map 3 of the attached PGC Survey Maps during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

#### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

#### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Michael Beahm, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

#### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas

- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

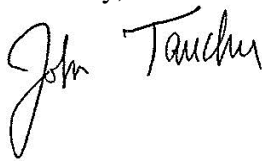
PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
 Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
 2001 Elmerton Avenue  
 Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps

cc: Figured  
Metz  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Beahm  
Mitchell  
Brauning  
Turner  
Gross  
Barber  
DiMatteo  
Havens

Librandi Mumma

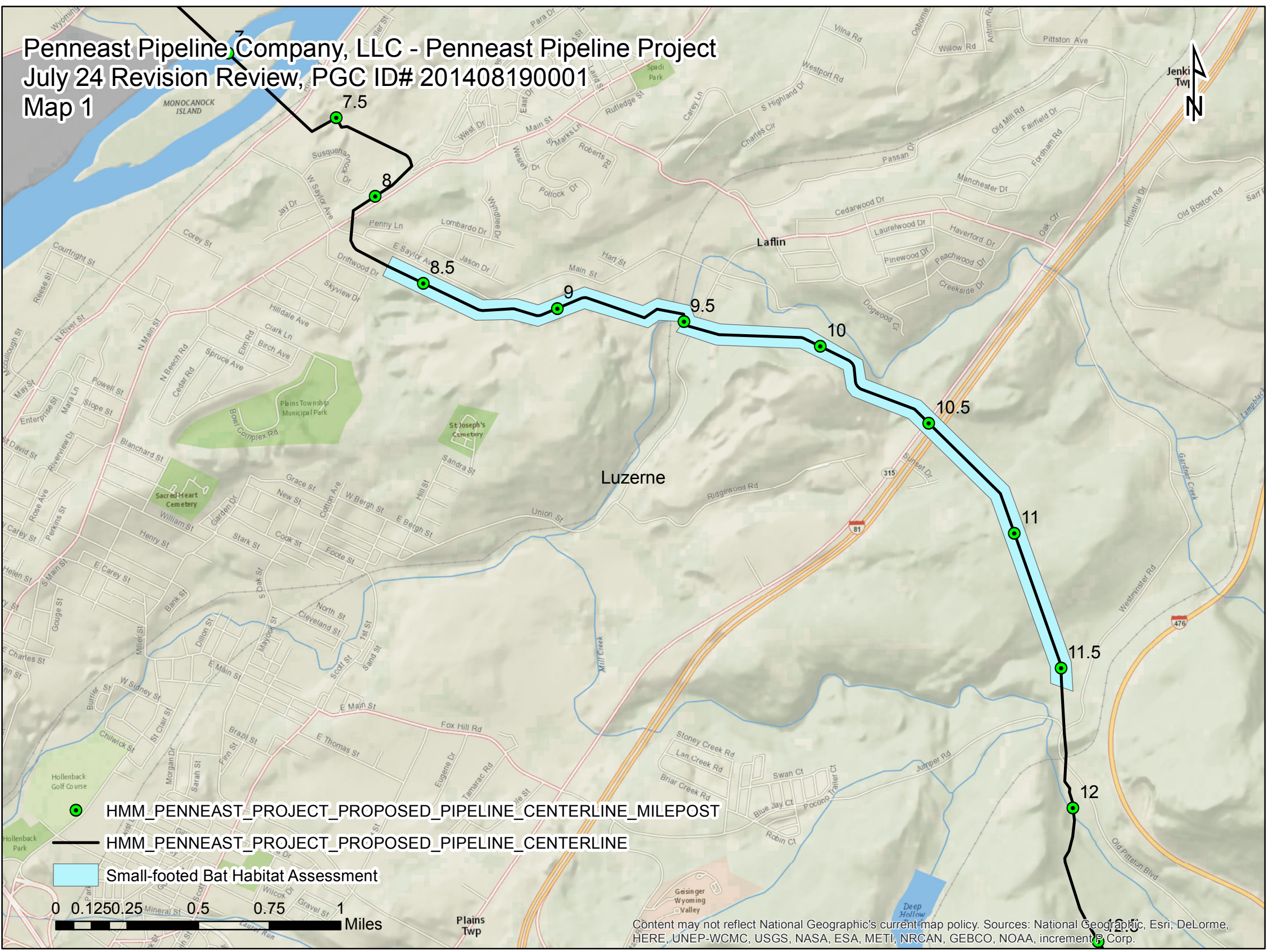
Ms. Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service


Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources


H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects




# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001 Map 1



 HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST

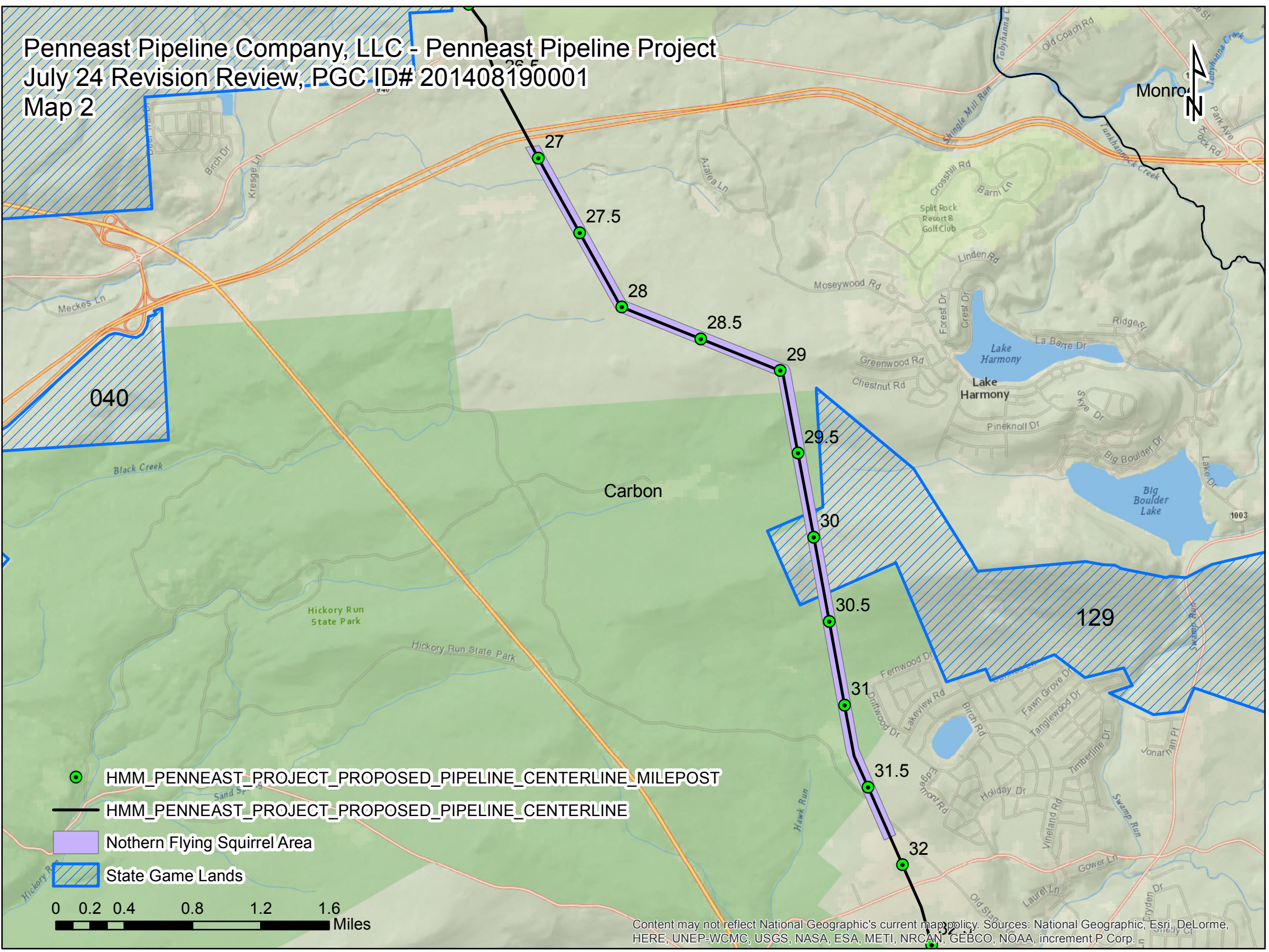
 HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE

 Small-footed Bat Habitat Assessment

0 0.1250.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.





Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 2

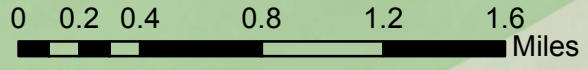


040

Carbon

129

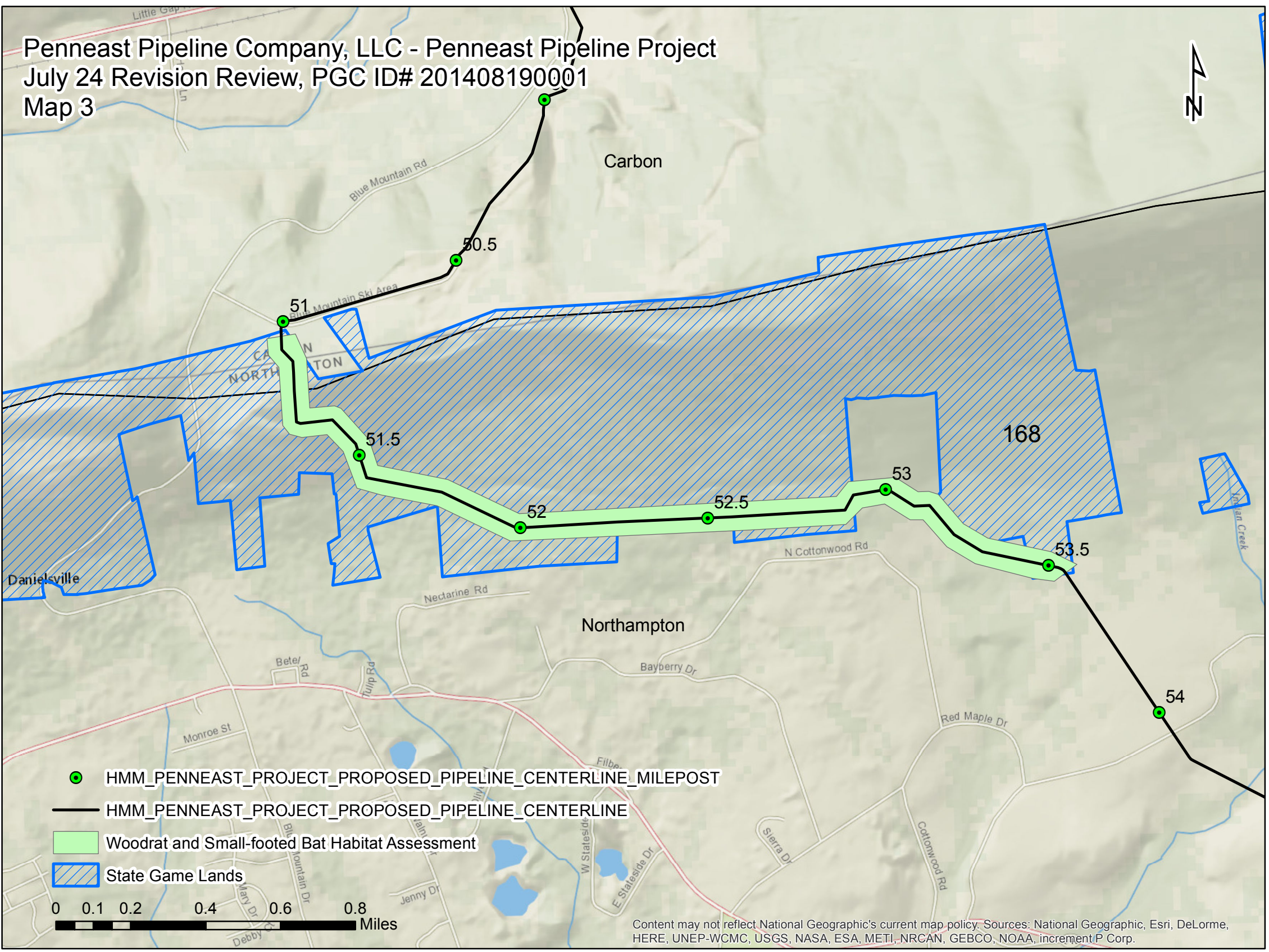
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Northern Flying Squirrel Area
-  State Game Lands



Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 3







Carbon

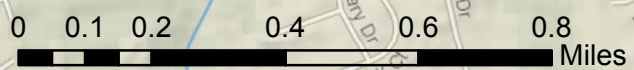
CARLETON  
NORTHAMPTON

Danielsville

Northampton

168

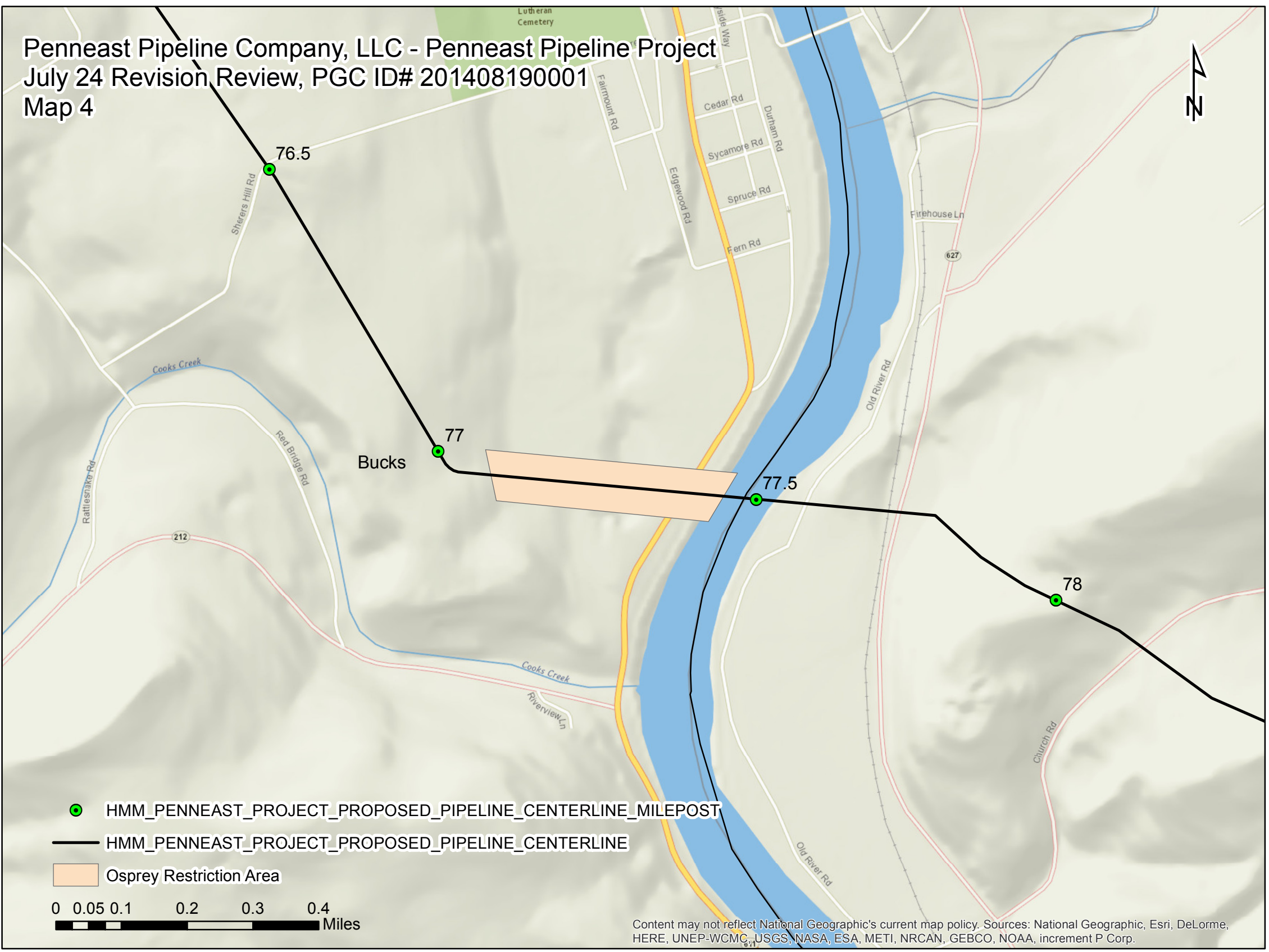
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Habitat Assessment
-  State Game Lands






Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project

July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 4



-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Osprey Restriction Area

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4  
Miles

Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

---

**From:** Turner, Gregory (PGC) <grturner@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2015 8:35 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** Scafani, Michael; Shellenberger, Pamela  
**Subject:** RE: Durham Cave info request- per USFWS coordination

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Deb!

No maps, and the description in the MAR bulletin on the two caves does not have a map. The bulletin is too large to email however, even zipped. It is suggested they connect with airflow.

No 2 was surveyed in 2001 (as was No1). It had VERY cold temps noted and had 38 bats, 14 of which were long-eared bats. Breakdown prohibits human passage between No2 and No1, but it is that very cold air that is reported entering No 1.

Hope this helps!

Greg

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah [<mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:36 PM  
**To:** Turner, Gregory (PGC)  
**Subject:** Durham Cave info request- per USFWS coordination

Hi Greg- as you know PennEast pipeline has been consulting with USFWS regarding northern long eared bat and Indiana bat for its upcoming FERC filing. Our subconsultant, Wildlife Specialists, has been conducting bat surveys & telemetry this summer.

USFWS provided us with the attached information regarding Durham Caves #1 and #2. They requested we reach out to PGC regarding any known information on tunnels or connections ("underground passage") between the two caves. Do you have any maps or information you can share? Thanks very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
D 1-610-832-3597 C 1-215-833-0566  
[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, PA 19428  
T 1-610-832-3500 F 1-610-832-3501  
[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)  
Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn | Google+

AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.

---

**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 1:43 PM  
**To:** Librandi Mumma, Tracey; Turner, Gregory; Scafini, Michael  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Chris Voorhees  
**Subject:** Juvenile silver-haired bat capture

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Wildlife Specialists captured a juvenile male silver-haired bat last night at site PE077A and attached a transmitter to it with frequency 172.116. Coordinates for the site are

40° 48' 17.1" N  
75° 31' 52.6" W

We will be conducting foraging telemetry on the bat until we get 3 successful nights of triangulations, and will be conducting emergence surveys after we locate the roost.

Let me know if any further information is needed.

***Drew A. Wanke***

Wildlife Biologist, QIBS  
Wildlife Specialists, LLC  
2785 Hills Creek Road  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-376-2255 (Office)  
518-569-9999 (Cell)  
[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)



October 7, 2015

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision  
*Myotis leibii* and *Neotomis magister* habitat survey results

Dear Mr. Taucher:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat surveys for Eastern small-footed bat (*Myotis leibii*) and Allegheny woodrat (*Neotomis magister*) in those areas identified by Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) as being of concern for these species. Wildlife Specialists has qualified biologists on staff who conducted the required surveys in accordance with state-specified guidelines. A report documenting the results of the surveys completed as of August 2015 is enclosed for your review, along with a figure that depicts the locations of the species of concern or habitats identified (including those completed in response to route changes after the original surveys were completed). A supplemental report will be provided with the additional survey information in the near future.

Potential woodrat habitat was identified, but no woodrat sign was observed. Therefore, no impacts to woodrat are anticipated. In addition, PennEast will adhere to your office's impact minimization recommendations for osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) and for northern flying squirrel (*Glauconys sabrinus macrotis*), and therefore no adverse impacts to these species are anticipated to occur from the Project.

Potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat was identified following surveys by qualified biologists, in the vicinity of milepost (MP) 8.7, MP 9.2, MP 9.6, and MP 10-10.4. In addition, mist-net surveys for federally-listed bat species resulted in captures of eastern small-footed bat (a copy of that report is also enclosed for your review). Three radio-transmitted eastern small-footed bats were successfully tracked to roost locations outside the Project area (vicinity of MP 24). Foraging telemetry data showed the primary activity to be between MP 22.8 and MP 25.9.

Northern long-eared bats (*Myotis septentrionalis*) were identified following surveys by qualified biologists. Based upon telemetry results and roost locations, the following sections of the Project should adhere to the tree-clearing timing restriction (i.e. only clear trees between November 1 and March 31):

- MP 1.5
- MP 24
- MP 35.8-35.9



- MP 38.7
- MP 39.6
- MP 42.2
- MP 49.4-50.4
- MP 62.8
- MP 82
- MP 84.5
- MP 88.6

In addition, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) State College, PA Office provided information on 3 known hibernacula within 0.25 mile of the Project corridor. These are known as Durham Cave 1, Durham Cave 2, and Tunnel 34. Cave 1 and Cave 2 are both located in the vicinity of MP 77.25, 1,125 feet south of the proposed pipeline. Tunnel 34 is located in the vicinity of MP 11.3, 1,200 feet southwest of a proposed access road and 6,100 feet west of the proposed pipeline. At USFWS' request, PGC was contacted to find out information about any connector tunnels between Cave 1 and Cave 2. Greg Turner of PGC indicated that the only connection known to exist between the two caves is airflow, and that when they were last surveyed in 2001, 34 bats were counted, 11 of which were northern long-eared bats. The USFWS concluded that a 0.25-mile buffer will provide basic protection to hibernacula and hibernating colonies. Direct impacts such as filling, excavation, blasting, noise, and smoke exposure will be restricted to the extent practicable within these buffer area.

With these mitigation measures in place, the Project should not adversely impact the Northern long-eared bat, and it is expected that the measures will be protective of eastern small-footed bat, as well.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



an AECOM Company 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428

Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

cc: Dave Mong, DCNR



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."*

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:**

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

[www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)

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

October 26, 2015

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision**

Deborah Poppel  
AECOM  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Deborah.Poppel@aecom.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project (*Revision*)  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Ms. Poppel,

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. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on August 13, 2015 based on the revised proposed route that was provided to the PGC on October 1, 2015.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED	N/A
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED	N/A

## Next Steps

### *Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a federally listed threatened species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Northern long-eared bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Develop and provide detailed plans and GIS shapefiles illustrating permanent and temporary right of way (ROW) limits for the project.

Please be advised that following our review of the above detailed plans, the PGC will be requesting a northern flying squirrel mitigation plan that may incorporate, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps*. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys



- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC has identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat in areas specified within the attached *PGC Survey Maps* be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices
  - other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on Map 3 of the attached PGC Survey Maps during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

#### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

#### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Michael Beahm, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

#### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas

- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>
	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>

- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 the PGC at the following address as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

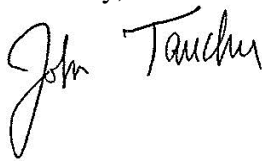
PA Game Commission  
 Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
 Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection  
 2001 Elmerton Avenue  
 Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

Enclosures:

PGC Survey Maps

cc: Figured  
Metz  
Wenner  
Morgan  
Beahm  
Mitchell  
Brauning  
Turner  
Gross  
Barber  
DiMatteo  
Havens

Librandi Mumma

Ms. Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources

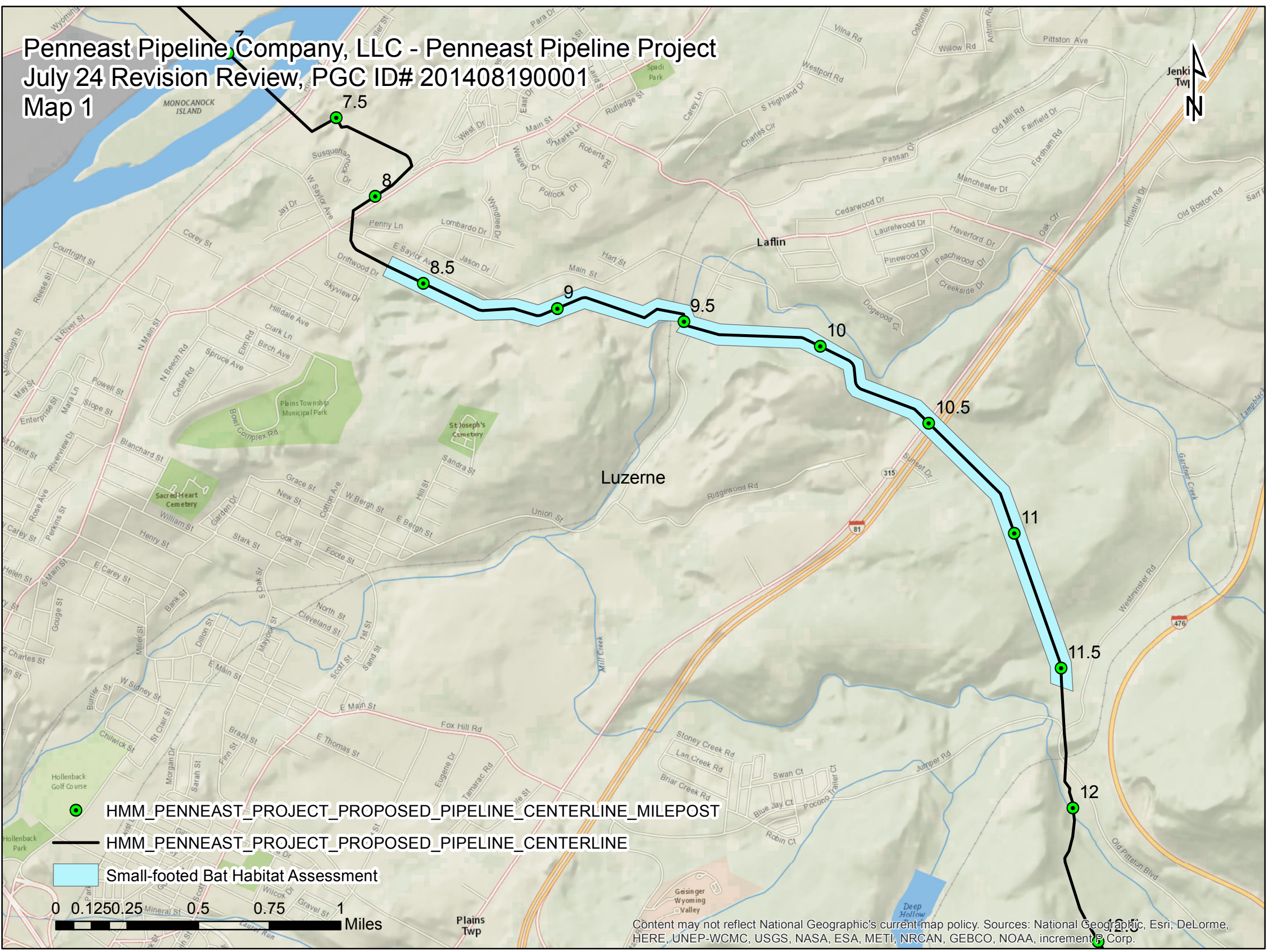
H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects



# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project

## July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001

### Map 1

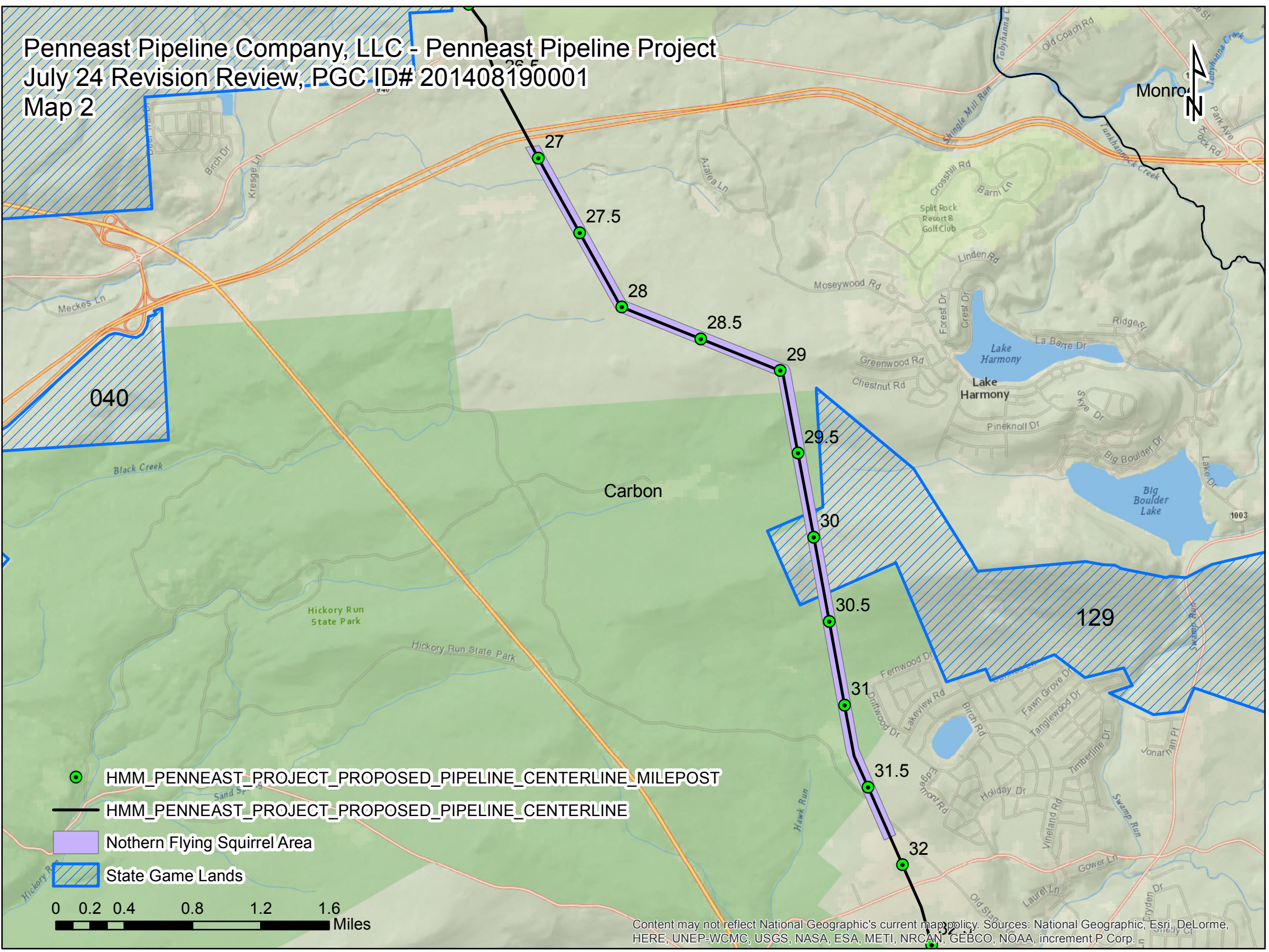






- HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
- HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
- Small-footed Bat Habitat Assessment

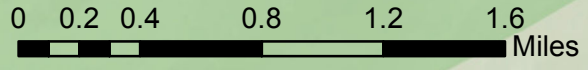


Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 2



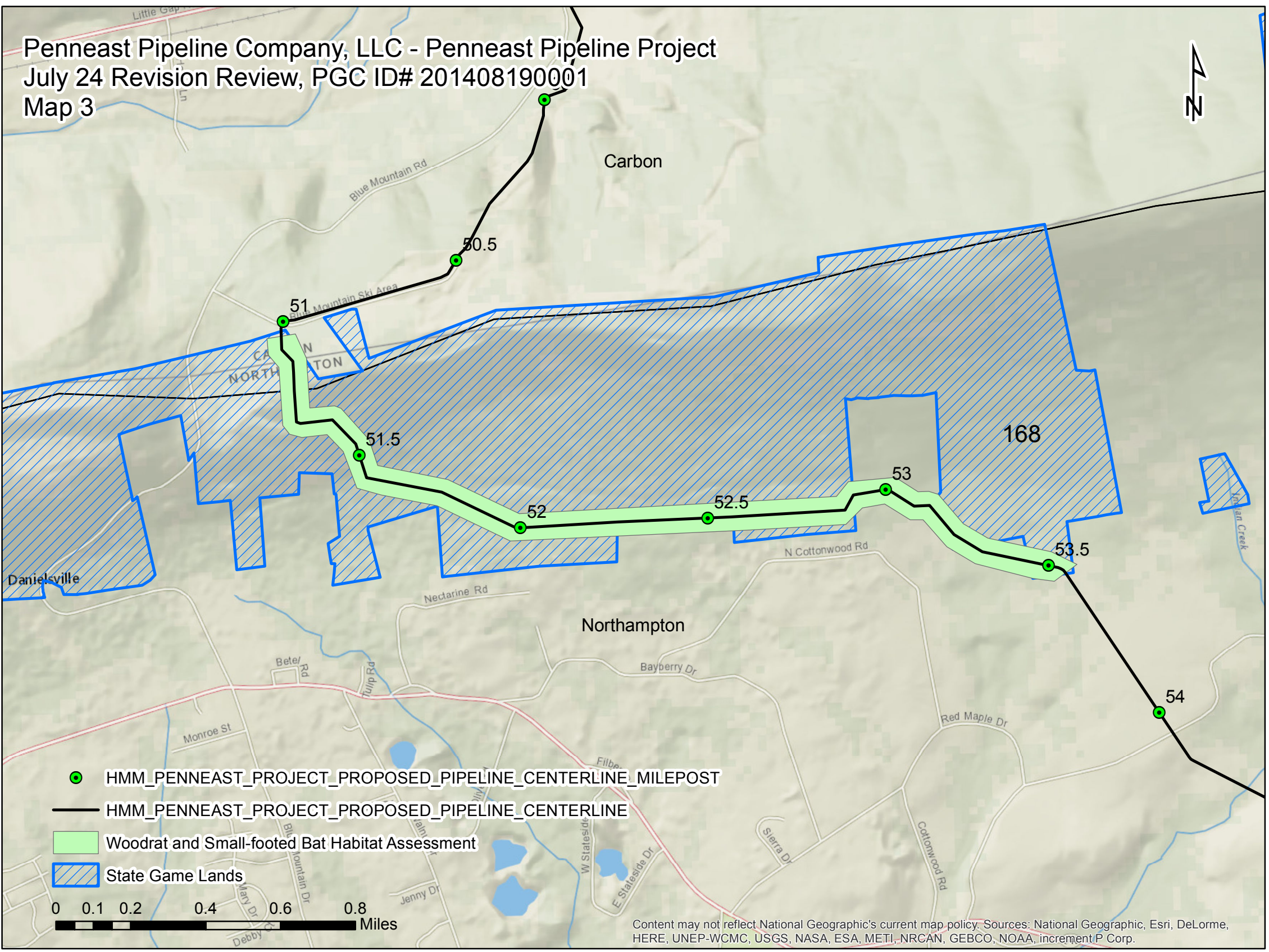
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Northern Flying Squirrel Area
-  State Game Lands







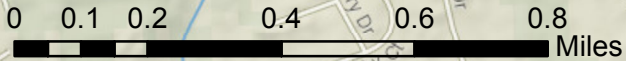
Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project  
July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 3

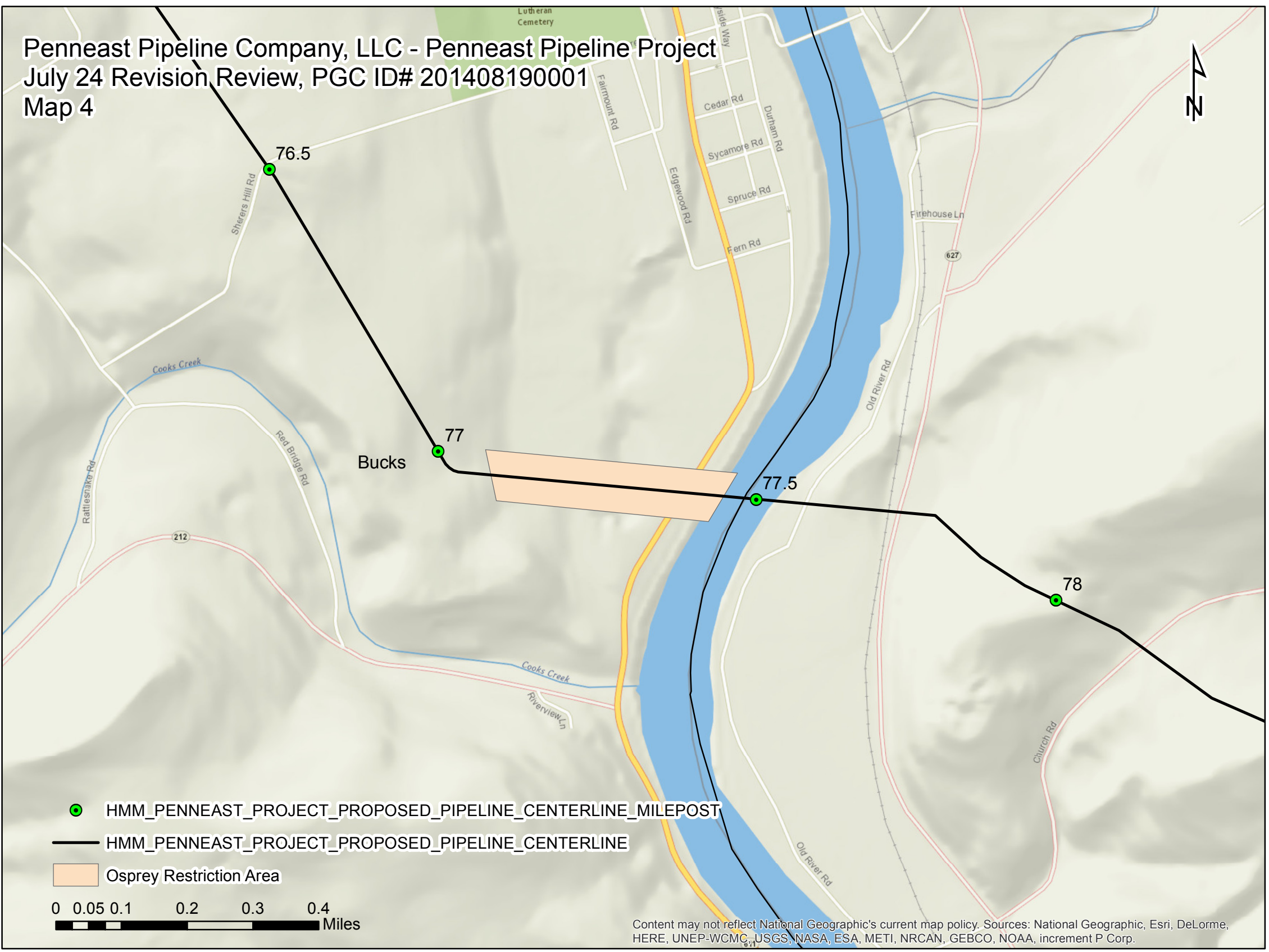





-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Woodrat and Small-footed Bat Habitat Assessment
-  State Game Lands



# Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC - Penneast Pipeline Project

July 24 Revision Review, PGC ID# 201408190001  
Map 4



-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Osprey Restriction Area

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4  
Miles

Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



November 10, 2015

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision  
**Supplemental** *Myotis leibii* and *Neotomis magister* habitat survey results

Dear Mr. Taucher:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat surveys for Eastern small-footed bat (*Myotis leibii*) and Allegheny woodrat (*Neotomis magister*) in those areas identified by Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) as being of concern for these species. Wildlife Specialists has qualified biologists on staff who conducted the required surveys in accordance with state-specified guidelines. The initial survey report was submitted to your office for review in October. This letter transmits the supplemental report documenting results of additional surveys completed in new project areas identified in correspondence with your office in August 2015 (no new survey areas were identified in October 2015 letter).

Potential woodrat habitat was identified, but no woodrat sign was observed. Therefore, no impacts to woodrat are anticipated.

Potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat was identified following surveys by qualified biologists, in the vicinity of milepost (MP) 8.7, MP 9.2, MP 9.6, and MP 10-10.4. A portion of Survey Area 1 and Survey Area 3 will need additional study given that no access permission was obtained (where noted in report).

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



an AECOM Company 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428

Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:27 AM  
**To:** 'jotaucher@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.piz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Taucher, John <jotaucher@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2016 7:42 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast Pipeline- T&E info privileged & confidential?

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Deborah,

The PGC does not release specific location data for listed species to the general public to protect the species. In the past, there have been occurrences of people harassing listed species (both intentionally and unintentionally), taking and collecting listed species, and destroying nest/roosting areas and habitat to avoid having restrictions on proposed projects. As such, the PGC does not make known locations of threatened and endangered species public information. Rather, the PGC utilizes the PNDI system to screen for impacts to threatened and endangered species. This allows the PGC to work through potential issues with project proponents without advertising species locations to the general public.

Regarding the scientific permits, the conditions for those permits generally revolve around general rules for their project, PGC reporting requirements, and do not specifically state anything related to species location.

If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

John

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah [<mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2016 2:43 PM  
**To:** Taucher, John <jotaucher@pa.gov>  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- T&E info privileged & confidential?

Hi John- as per my voice mail to you today, FERC is questioning our classification of threatened and endangered species studies as Privileged and Confidential information, and wants the reports re-filed as public information. We have typically followed the standard practice of not releasing specific location data for listed species to the general public.

What is PGC's policy or guidance in this regard? How does this relate to the scientific collection permits held by qualified biologists, the conditions of those permits, and the standards of ethics to which they are held?

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T +1-610-832-3500

## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:21 PM  
**To:** 'jotaucher@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Taucher, John <jotaucher@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:58 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast- Followup on Review of RTE Survey Reports

Deborah,

The PGC received these reports. The PGC defers to USFWS on Indiana bats and Northern long-eared bats, therefore we have no comments on that report. Regarding the woodrat and small-footed bats, I was waiting for an addendum that included the requested areas which were not surveyed. In the meantime, can you please provide me with shapefiles of the small-footed bat habitat areas.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2016 10:05 AM  
**To:** Taucher, John <[jotaucher@pa.gov](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard <[bernard.holcomb@aecom.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@aecom.com)>; Binckley, Sarah <[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)>  
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Please let me know if there is any further information you need to complete your review. Thank you very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2016 10:25 AM  
**To:** 'jotaucher@pa.gov'  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** FW: FW: PennEast- Followup on Review of RTE Survey Reports  
**Attachments:** Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.dbf; Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.prj; Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.sbn; Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.sbx; Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.shp; Potential Small-footed Bat Day Roosting Habitat.shx

John- per your request, I am forwarding shapefiles for the eastern small footed bat habitat areas identified during surveys conducted by Wildlife Specialists.

The report that we submitted included all areas mentioned by PGC in their PNDI update letter dated 10/26/15. The only areas not surveyed are those for which PennEast did not have property access (limited to MP 10.5-11.5 in ESF Survey Area 1, and MP 53-53.2 in Survey Area 3).

Most of the northern small-footed bat survey area (Survey Area 1) is now bypassed by the latest pipeline route (as provided in Project Update dated February 2016), including the 1 mile area we did not have access to. With this under consideration, that only 0.2 mile of survey area within Survey Area 3 is inaccessible to date, would you be able to commence review of the report? I understand if you would not be able to issue a final finding until after the inaccessible areas were surveyed, unless presence were to be assumed in that area.

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**Stan Boder**

Sr. Herpetologist/Biologist  
Wildlife Specialists, LLC  
2785 Hills Creek Road  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
office: 570-376-2255  
cell: 570-952-1169  
[stan@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:stan@wildlife-specialists.com)  
[www.wildlife-specialists.com](http://www.wildlife-specialists.com)

**From:** Taucher, John  
**To:** [Poppel, Deborah](#)  
**Cc:** [Holcomb, Bernard](#); [Binckley, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FW: PennEast- Followup on Review of RTE Survey Reports  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 24, 2016 10:04:54 AM

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Deborah,

Thanks for the information. I am still trying to figure out how to handle the parts that were not surveyed, so I will get back to you on those. Suitable small-footed bat habitat was identified at Survey Areas 1 and 3. At this point, there are two alternatives to move forward. Presence/absence surveys can be conducted in the form of emergence counts, to determine if bats are using the habitat. If bat use is not documented, then no mitigation will be required. The second alternative is to forgo additional surveys and assume presence of bat use in these habitat areas. In this case mitigation will be required for all habitat areas identified.

Thanks,

John

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[www.wildlife-specialists.com](http://www.wildlife-specialists.com)

## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:55 PM  
**To:** 'jotaucher@pa.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.piz

**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PennEast filed its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC September 24, 2015. PennEast filed route modifications with FERC February 22, 2016, and FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project July 22, 2016. Since the February 22, 2016 route update and issuance of the draft EIS, PennEast has studied an additional 33 minor route deviations to reduce impacts on endangered species and wetlands, increase co-location with existing utilities, and address feedback from collaborative discussions with landowners and regulatory agencies.

On September 23, 2016, PennEast filed with FERC the 33 route modifications and an updated project route, which is provided in the attached Google Earth kmz file and shapefiles for your review (**rename as “zip” file before opening**). A narrative describing each modification and the explanation for the proposed changes is available on the FERC eLibrary ([http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)) under Docket Number CP15-558-000.

*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

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October 31, 2016

Mr. John Taucher  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Ave.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Dear Mr. Taucher:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

On September 26, 2016, your office received a Project Update email with shapefiles of the most recent route centerline filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). With this letter, we would like to request an endangered species consultation with your agency on Project workspace associated with the September 2016 route, which includes access roads, staging areas, and the Kidder Compressor Station. We have enclosed a CD with Project workspace shapefiles and eastern small footed bat and Allegheny woodrat survey data as of July 2016.

Areas crossed by the September 2016 route which were not part of prior study corridors in Pennsylvania are represented by the following mileposts. The specific locations of access roads, staging areas, and the compressor station were not part of prior consultation requests. Please advise if any additional surveys for mammals or birds will be required in these or the following areas:

- 4.2R2-4.8R2
- 6.3R2-6.6R2
- 9R2-9.4 R2
- 11R2-11.3R2
- 39.5R2-40.8
- 42.1R2-42.5R2
- 48.7R2-49.6R2
- 50R2-50.3R2
- 51.1R2-52.1R2
- 53.1R2-53.2R2
- 57.8R2-58.4R2
- 61.9R2-62.2R2
- 73.3R2-74R2



Our prior correspondence with your office focused on your review of Phase I studies completed for eastern small footed bat and Allegheny woodrat, and the request for Phase 2 emergence surveys for eastern small footed bat in specific areas (emails in May 2016). Pursuant to that request, we are enclosing a copy of Wildlife Specialists "Eastern Small Footed Bat Emergence Survey Report" (July 2016). You will note that although a bat roost was confirmed during the emergence surveys, this site is now avoided by the proposed pipeline route.

Due to the results of Phase I woodrat and small footed bat near mileposts 51.1R2 and 53.2R2, Wildlife Specialists completed Phase I surveys in along this route deviation area; the report will be sent to you upon completion, but the data are included within the shapefiles on the enclosed CD.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah K. Poppel".

Deborah K. Poppel, CWB  
Senior Ecologist

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

Wildlife Habitat Management  
717-787-6818

November 3, 2016

**PGC ID Number: 201408190001 Revision**

Deborah Poppel  
AECOM  
625 W. Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
deborah.poppel@aecom.com

Re: Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project (*Revision*)  
State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168  
Large Project PNDI Review  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, PA

Dear Ms. Poppel,

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. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on October 26, 2015 based on the revised proposed route that was provided to the PGC on November 1, 2016.

**Potential Impact Anticipated**

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED
<i>Glaucomys sabrinus macrotis</i>	Northern Flying Squirrel	ENDANGERED	N/A
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED	N/A
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	THREATENED	N/A

## Next Steps

### *Northern Long-eared Bats*

Northern long-eared bats are a federally listed threatened species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Northern long-eared bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

### *Northern Flying Squirrel*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *PGC Survey Maps*), where northern flying squirrels are known to exist, and will be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following for this portion of the project:

- Avoid all clearing activities between April 15th and June 15th to avoid potential impacts to northern flying squirrel young that are expected to be confined to their nests during this period.
- Replanting of the temporary ROW with various species of conifer seedlings, planted no less than 7.5 feet on center, and no more than 10 feet on center.
- Monitoring of the plantings for a minimum of 5 years, at which time 80% survival must be achieved or additional corrective action and monitoring will be required until such time as 80% survival is achieved.
- Installation of glide poles (telephone pole) with horizontal launch beams and shelters on each pole to facilitate northern flying squirrel passage across the cleared ROW.

### *Allegheny Woodrat*

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. Habitat assessments were conducted, which revealed that habitat suitable for woodrats was present. However, no evidence was documented verifying woodrat presence in these areas. Therefore no further coordination with the PGC regarding Allegheny woodrats is necessary for these areas at this time.

Based on the project revisions submitted on November 1, 2016, the PGC is requesting that Allegheny woodrat surveys be completed in the area identified as 51.1R2 to 52.1R2. The surveys should be completed by a qualified biologist and follow protocols found in the *PGC Allegheny Woodrat* guidance document. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the locations (i.e. points) of all woodrat activity centers and potential activity centers, as well as the limits (i.e. polygons) of all woodrat habitat sites (central point locations with average width and length measurements will not be accepted to illustrate the habitat sites)
- color photographs, keyed to a location and orientation map, of any woodrat habitat sites, activity centers, potential activity centers, or woodrat sign that are identified during the surveys

- completed Woodrat Habitat Site Survey forms for each habitat site identified during the survey

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

#### *Eastern Small-footed Bat*

The PGC identified portions of the project where potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. Based on the habitat assessment report, six parcels of suitable small-footed bat habitat will be impacted by this project. The following surveys should be conducted to determine if eastern small-footed bats are using the identified habitat parcels:

- Emergence count surveys
  - Conducted three times per year; 1<sup>st</sup> Survey: mid-June, 2<sup>nd</sup> Survey: second week of July, 3<sup>rd</sup> Survey: last week of July
  - One night per survey for two hours (1/2 hour before sunset until 1 ½ hours after sunset)
  - Survey plans should be submitted to the PGC for review and approval at least 30 days prior to starting surveys

The PGC is also requesting that all potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat the revised project area identified as 51.1R2 and 52.1R2 be assessed and delineated by a qualified biologist. Please be sure that the following information, at a minimum, is provided for further review and comment by the PGC:

- a 1:24,000 scale copy of a USGS topo map and a GIS shapefile illustrating the limits of all potential small-footed bat day roost habitat that is identified
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of tree clearing throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- a GIS shapefile illustrating the proposed limits of earthwork, including any proposed grubbing or erosion and sedimentation pollution controls, throughout the Small-footed Bat Survey Area
- representative color photographs of all surface rock encountered during the assessment and delineation regardless of whether the rock is considered to be potential eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat or not (numerous photos for each area of surface rock are strongly recommended)
- a narrative or table detailing the following information for each area of surface rock that is encountered during the assessment and delineation to support or refute the rock's potential as eastern small-footed bat day roost habitat:
  - the estimated canopy cover over the rock
  - anticipated solar exposure of the rock
  - amount and size of crevices available for roost sites
  - presence of organic material, soil, or water within those crevices

- other details as necessary that cannot be adequately conveyed via the photos provided
- a narrative detailing the reasons for any surface rock encountered not being considered potential small-footed bat day roost habitat
- a photo location and orientation map for all photos provided

The survey report should be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year the survey is completed.

### *Osprey*

The PGC has identified a portion of the project (see attached *Map 1*), where have known to nest, and may be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC is requesting the following seasonal restriction for this portion of the project:

- No activities related to this project shall occur within the Osprey Restriction area identified on the attached Map 1 during the nesting season, Mach 25 through July 31. All project related activities shall be completed in this area between August 1 and March 24.

### *Potential Bat Hibernacula*

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's *Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Inventory Points* from [www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu) indicates abandoned mine features may be located within the requested review area. These mine features have the potential to connect to abandoned deep mine workings that can serve as hibernacula for a variety of cave bat species. These AML openings and any undocumented openings and caves located along the proposed alignment and within the review buffer must be assessed following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Bat Use of Potential Hibernacula*. Any features having potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A special use permit will need to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct such surveys that involve the handling of bats.

### *State Game Lands*

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 91, 40, 129, and 168. Please contact Mr. Michael Beahm, Northeast Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL's 91, 40, and 129, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 168.

### **Conservation Measures**

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the requested review throughout the proposed project. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

In addition, portions of the project located in Luzerne and Carbon County are within areas where the abundance and species richness of various area-sensitive forest bird species are among the

highest in the state. Area-sensitive forest bird species are those species that require a large expanse of relatively contiguous (un-fragmented) forest to maintain their populations. The species found in these areas are listed as species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). The WAP was designed to proactively manage and safeguard the state's declining fish and wildlife resources, and sets a framework to conserve Pennsylvania's diverse wildlife, maintain their role in ecological processes, and protect and enhance species of conservation concern (not just imperiled species). Although these area-sensitive forest bird species are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, and do not produce potential conflicts for projects reviewed using the on-line PNDI Environmental Review Tool, their populations and requisite habitat are either in decline, or are vulnerable to decline in the state.

As a result, the PGC is recommending the following conservation measures be implemented, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize impacts to these area-sensitive forest bird species and minimize additional fragmentation of forested tracts throughout the project area:

- Co-locate the pipeline and associated facilities with existing roads and other disturbed areas
- Minimize the width of the temporary construction right-of-way (ROW), and avoid grubbing where possible to encourage the re-establishment of woody vegetation
- Minimize the width of the permanent, maintained ROW to only that which is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of the pipeline
- Maximize the rotation of mowing and/or clearing along that maintained ROW to allow for the establishment of more beneficial wildlife habitat
- Perform initial tree clearing for the project between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Use the following seed mixes, or similar herbaceous seed mixes that will minimize competition with volunteer woody plant species, while offering additional wildlife habitat and food sources along the reclaimed ROW:

<b>Steep Slopes</b>	<b>Other Areas</b>
<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>	<i>1 bushel/acre Annual Cereal Grain (oats in spring, grain rye or wheat in fall)</i>
<i>10 lbs/acre Timothy</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Timothy</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>	<i>5 lbs/acre Birdsfoot Trefoil</i>
<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>	<i>4 lbs/acre Little Bluestem</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Alsike Clover</i>	<i>2 lbs/acre Indiangrass</i>
<i>3 lbs/acre Ladino Clover</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Side-oats Grama</i>
<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>	<i>1 lb/acre Switchgrass</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Black-eyed Susan</i>
	<i>¼ lb/acre Lance-leaved Coreopsis</i>

	<i>Straw Mulch, NO HAY</i>
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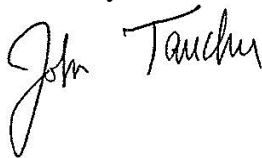
- Perform any future mowing and/or clearing along the maintained ROW between August 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 [www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us).

Sincerely,



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](mailto:jotaucher@pa.gov)

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

cc: Figured



Metz

Wenner

Morgan

Beahm

Mitchell

Brauning

Turner

Gross

Barber

DiMatteo

Havens

Librandi Mumma

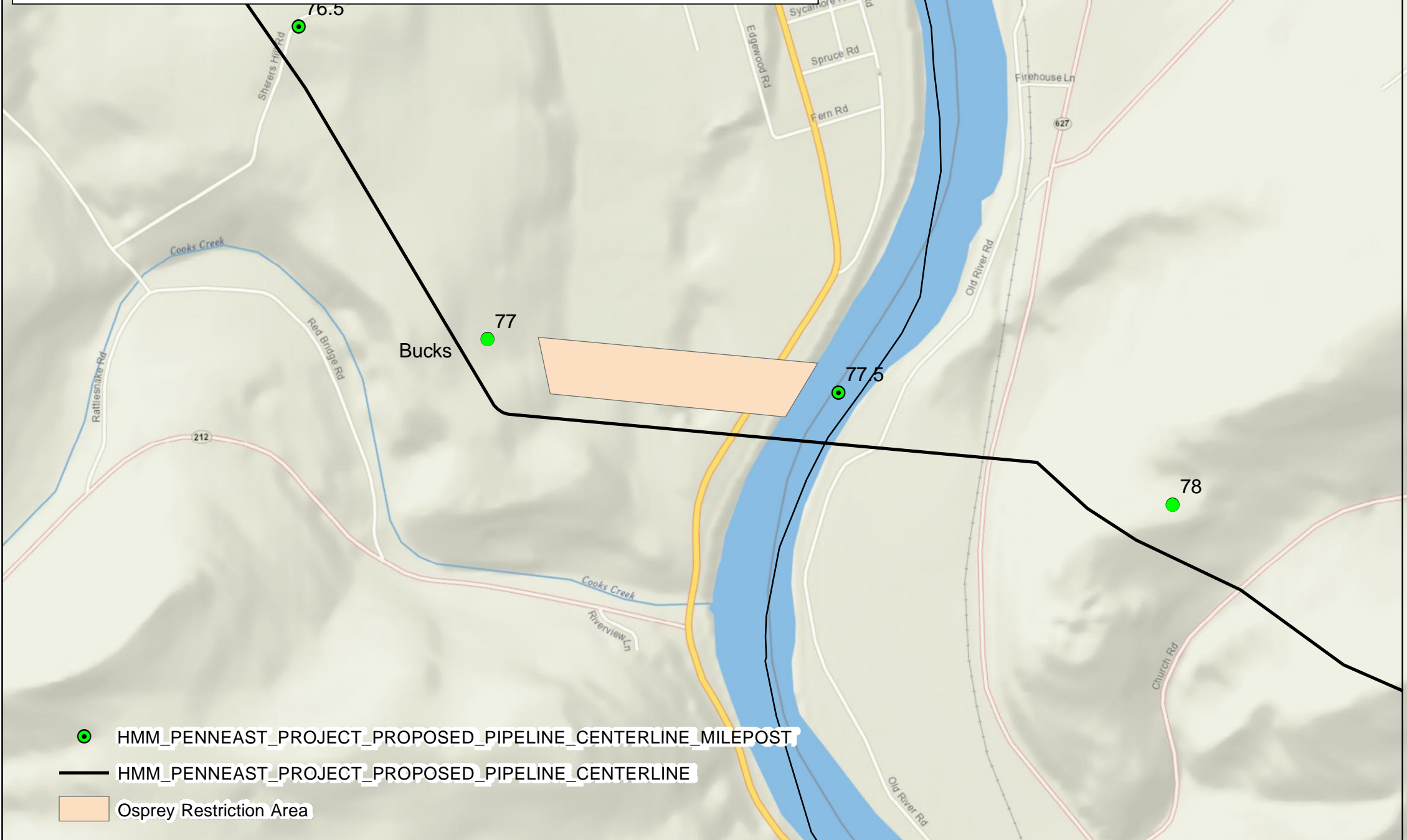
Ms. Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service




Ms. Stephanie Livelsberger, Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources

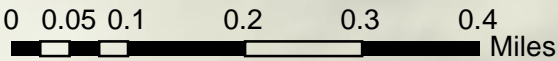
H:\OIL&GAS\_PNDI\_Reviews\Statewide & Multi-Region Projects



Penneast Pipeline Company, LLC – Penneast Pipeline Project  
November 1, 2016 Revision Review, PGC ID#201408190001  
Map 1



-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE\_MILEPOST
-  HMM\_PENNEAST\_PROJECT\_PROPOSED\_PIPELINE\_CENTERLINE
-  Osprey Restriction Area



Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.



**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Correspondence**





August 12, 2014

Mr. Robert Anderson  
Endangered Species Program  
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801

**Re: Large Project PNDI Review  
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC - PennEast Pipeline Project  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania**

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), is a partnership with UGI Energy Services (UGIES), AGL Resources, NJR Pipeline Company, and South Jersey Industries. The PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) proposes to construct a new 100-mile, 30-inch pipeline to deliver natural gas from northeast Pennsylvania to other markets in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This new supply of natural gas will bring lower cost supplies to residents and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, while enhancing pipeline system flexibility and reliability for the local gas utilities.

PennEast intends to file its certificate application for the PennEast Pipeline Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in mid-2015, and anticipates receiving authorization and starting construction in 2017. Permit applications with other federal, state, and local agencies will be submitted within similar timeframes as the certificate application. The permit proceedings conducted by these agencies will provide additional opportunities for public input and involvement. FERC's determination of public convenience and necessity includes a thorough, comprehensive environmental review of proposed projects, working closely with federal, state, and local agencies and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

On behalf of PennEast, URS Corporation (URS) is requesting a Large Project Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review update for rare, candidate, threatened, and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the PennEast Pipeline Project. A critical issues analysis was conducted for multiple routes using readily available secondary source data to select the **Least**

Page | 1



**Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)** route. Mapping depicting the environmental features evaluated for the preferred alternative is enclosed. We are asking for your review prior to the initiation of wetland and watercourse field surveys to be conducted this fall. We hope to concurrently identify any habitat for species under your agencies' jurisdiction at this time. The environmental study area will be a 400-foot corridor centered on the approximately 100-mile alignment. The anticipated permanent right-of-way (ROW) and temporary construction work area will be approximately 100-feet. The study area is wider than the disturbance area to allow for minor alignment shifts to avoid any sensitive resources that may be identified during the environmental field investigations.

The following are enclosed to facilitate your review:

- Large Project PNDI Form;
- PennEast Project Fact Sheet; and
- CD containing:
  - shapefiles of the alignment;
  - USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps with project alignment; and
  - detailed maps depicting the project areas and known secondary source resources

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this request, please contact me at 610.832.1810 or [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com).

Sincerely,

Bernard Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager  
Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Anthony Cox (UGI)  
Mr. Dante D'Alessandro (UGI)



---

**From:** Shellenberger, Pamela <pamela\_shellenberger@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 16, 2014 3:11 PM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard; West, Jonathan; Reich, Donna; Quackenbush, Susan  
**Subject:** Re: Penn East Pipeline- USFWS Project #20141013

Deborah,

This reflects our discussions accurately. One minor correction is that the northern long-eared bat is a proposed endangered species, not a candidate.

Thank you,

Pamela Shellenberger  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
315 South Allen Street  
State College, PA 16801  
814-234-4090 x241  
814-234-0748 (f)

<http://fws.gov/northeast/pafo/index.html>

*\*\*Due to an imposed hiring freeze and the inability to back fill positions, we are experiencing increased project review times (a minimum of 60 days) and response times to phone calls and emails. Please be patient; we will address projects in the order in which they are received.\*\**

On Tue, Sep 16, 2014 at 3:07 PM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@urs.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@urs.com)> wrote:

Pam-

Thanks for speaking with me this afternoon about the above-referenced project and the status of the USFWS consultation review.

Per our discussion, the USFWS Pennsylvania Field Office Point of Contact for this project will be Kayla Easler, but you will be coordinating with her on the review, particularly where the project may intersect with Indiana bat habitat. The USFWS project number assigned is noted in the subject line of this email. A formal response from USFWS is expected 45-60 days from date of the initial review request (8/12/14).

I requested that USFWS provide known locations of bat hibernaculum and/or maternity colonies in its response letter so as to facilitate avoidance wherever possible, and you noted this will be done via lat/long coordinates in the letter as warranted. Also, we discussed that USFWS does regard seasonal timing restrictions on tree

clearing as a viable impact minimization measure for bats in areas where deemed appropriate. Northern long-eared bat, though not officially listed under the ESA, is a candidate species and will be included in the response if the review finds it necessary.

I trust that this summarizes our discussion accurately. If you have any questions in the interim, feel free to give me a call.

Best Regards-

Deborah K. Poppel, CWB

Project Ecologist

Certified Project Manager

**URS** 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, PA 19428

(610) 832-3597 (Direct) : (610) 832-3500 (Main) : (215) 833-0566 (Cell)

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# United States Department of the Interior



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

September 30, 2014

Bernard Holcomb  
URS Corporation  
625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428

RE: USFWS Project #2014-1013

Dear Mr. Holcomb:

This responds to your letter dated August 12, 2014, requesting information about federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species within the area affected by the proposed 100-mile, 30-inch PennEast natural gas pipeline project located in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks counties, Pennsylvania. 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 and 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 (54 Stat. 250, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 668-668d) to ensure the protection of migratory bird species.

### *Indiana bat*

The project is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a species that is federally listed as endangered. Indiana bats hibernate in caves and abandoned mines during the winter months (November through March), and use a variety of upland, wetland and riparian habitats during the spring, summer and fall. Indiana bats usually roost in dead or living trees with exfoliating bark, crevices or cavities. Female Indiana bats form nursery colonies under the exfoliating bark of dead or living trees, such as shagbark hickory, black birch, red oak, white oak, and sugar maple, in upland or riparian areas.

Land-clearing, especially of forested areas, may adversely affect Indiana bats by killing, injuring or harassing roosting bats, and by removing or reducing the quality of foraging and roosting habitat. Therefore, to determine whether the proposed project will affect Indiana bats, we will need additional project information, including site plans and a detailed project description, that describe how much forest disturbance will occur (area, tree species, and size classes).

Additionally, your project is located within the range of the federally proposed endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The northern long-eared bat was proposed for listing as an endangered species on October 2, 2013. No critical habitat has been proposed at this time. Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective, the prohibition against jeopardizing its continued existence and “take”<sup>1</sup> applies **regardless of an action’s stage of completion**. Therefore, to avoid project delays we recommend that the effect of the project on northern long eared bats, and their habitat, be considered during the project planning and design. Additional information about northern long-eared bats, including ecology, habitat descriptions, listing status updates, and possible conservation measures may be found at [www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/index.html](http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/index.html) (click on Northern Long-eared Bat Interim Conference and Planning Guidance). We are available to discuss potential conservation measures specific to your project design.

#### *Northeastern bulrush*

The project area is within the known range of the northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*), a federally listed, endangered plant. Potential habitat for this species could be affected if the project will directly or indirectly affect wetlands within Carbon County. The northeastern bulrush is typically found in ponds, wet depressions, shallow sinkholes, vernal pools, small emergent wetlands, or beaver-influenced wetlands. These wetlands are often located in forested areas and characterized by seasonally variable water levels at elevations of 1300 feet and greater.

To conserve northeastern bulrush (if present) and other wetland-dependent species of concern, project-related activities should avoid adversely affecting the surface and groundwater recharge areas. This would include establishment of 300-foot wide upland buffer areas around wetlands, as well as 50 to 100 foot wide buffers along waterways (perennial and intermittent rivers, streams, creeks and tributaries). When adequately vegetated, these buffers will act to filter pollutants and stabilize streambanks. Earth disturbance, spraying or tree-cutting activities (tree felling, skid trails etc.), should not occur in these wetlands and their buffers. If these buffers are included, implementation of the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect the northeastern bulrush.

If you are unable to adopt the buffer restrictions detailed above, we recommend that a qualified botanist with field experience in the identification of this species conduct a thorough survey of all potentially suitable wetland habitat within the proposed project area to determine the presence of the northeastern bulrush before any permits are approved or earth-moving activities begin. Surveys for this species should be conducted between June 1 and September 30, when the flowering/fruitleting culm is present. A survey report should be submitted to the Service for review

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in the Act, take means “. . . to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct.” “Harm” in the definition of take means an act which kills or injures wildlife. Such act may include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering (50 CFR part 17.3). “Harass” means an intentional or negligent act or omission which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to disrupt normal behavioral patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

and comment. A list of botanists skilled in the location and identification of the northeastern bulrush is enclosed.

### *Bog turtle*

The project is within the known range of the bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*), a species that is federally listed as threatened. Particularly for this project, the species may be found in Bucks, Northampton, and Carbon Counties. Bog turtles inhabit shallow, spring-fed fens, sphagnum bogs, swamps, marshy meadows, and pastures characterized by soft, muddy bottoms; clear, cool, slow-flowing water, often forming a network of rivulets; high humidity; and an open canopy. Bog turtles usually occur in small, discrete populations occupying suitable wetland habitat dispersed along a watershed. The occupied "intermediate successional stage" wetland habitat is usually a mosaic of micro-habitats ranging from dry pockets, to areas that are saturated with water, to areas that are periodically flooded. Some wetlands occupied by bog turtles are located in agricultural areas and are subject to grazing by livestock.

To determine the potential effects of the proposed project on bog turtles and their habitat, begin by identifying all wetlands in, and within 300 feet of, the project area. The project area includes all areas that will be permanently or temporarily affected by any and all project features, including building, roads, staging areas, utility lines, outfall and intake structures, wells, stormwater retention or detention basins, parking lots, driveways, lawns, etc. The area of investigation should be expanded when project effects might extend more than 300 feet from the project footprint. For example, the hydrological effects of some projects (e.g., large residential or commercial developments; golf courses; community water supply wells) might extend well beyond the project footprint due to the effects that impervious surfaces or groundwater pumping may have on the hydrology of nearby groundwater-dependent wetlands. Wetlands should be included on a map showing existing and proposed project features.

*If someone qualified to identify and delineate wetlands has, through a field investigation, determined that no wetlands are located in or within 300 feet of the project area (or within the expanded investigation area, as described above), it is not likely that your project will adversely affect the bog turtle. If this is the case, no further consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service is necessary, although we would appreciate receiving a courtesy copy of the wetland investigator's findings for our files.*

If wetlands have been identified in, or within 300 feet of, the project area (or in an expanded investigation area, as described above), assess their potential suitability as bog turtle habitat, as described under "Bog Turtle Habitat Survey" (Phase 1 survey) of the *Guidelines for Bog Turtle Surveys* (revised April 2006). Survey results should be submitted to the Service for review and concurrence. The survey guidelines, as well as a Phase 1 field form and report template, are available from the Service upon request.

Due to the skill required to correctly identify potential bog turtle habitat, we recommend that the Phase 1 survey be done by a qualified surveyor (see enclosed list). If the Phase 1 survey is done by someone who is not on this list, it is likely that a site visit by a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist will be necessary to verify their findings. *Due to the limited availability of staff from*

*this office, such a visit may not be possible for some time. Use of a qualified surveyor will expedite our review of the survey results.*

If potential bog turtle habitat is found in or near the project area, efforts should be made to avoid any direct or indirect impacts to those wetlands (see enclosed *Bog Turtle Conservation Zones*). Avoidance of direct and indirect effects means no disturbance to or encroachment into the wetlands (*e.g.*, filling, ditching or draining) for any project-associated features or activities. Adverse effects may also be anticipated to occur when lot lines include portions of the wetland; when an adequate upland buffer is not retained around the wetland (see *Bog Turtle Conservation Zones*); or when roads, stormwater/sedimentation basins, impervious surfaces, or wells affect the hydrology of the wetland.

If potential habitat is found, submit (along with your Phase 1 survey results) a detailed project description and detailed project plans documenting how direct and indirect impacts to the wetlands will be avoided. If adverse effects to these wetlands cannot be avoided, a more detailed and thorough survey should be done, as described under “*Bog Turtle Survey*” (Phase 2 survey) of the *Guidelines*. The Phase 2 survey should be conducted by a qualified biologist with bog turtle field survey experience (see enclosed list of qualified surveyors). Submit survey results to the Service for review and concurrence.

Based on the shapefiles that were provided with your August 12, 2014 letter, we would like to inform you that the proposed pipeline is crossing a known bog turtle site less than a mile from the boarder of Northampton County into Bucks County. We look forward to working with you in order to avoid impacts to this area as well as other potential and occupied bog turtle areas in these counties.

#### Assessment of Risks to Migratory Birds

The Service is the principal Federal agency charged with protecting and enhancing populations and habitat of migratory bird species. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior. While the MBTA has no provision for authorizing incidental take, the Service recognizes that some birds may be killed even if all reasonable measures to avoid take are implemented.

The potential exists for avian mortality from habitat destruction and alteration associated with vegetation clearing and fragmentation within the project boundaries. Resources are available to assist you in determining which species are likely to be present within your project area (see attached enclosure) to determine appropriate conservation measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds. Site-specific factors that should be considered in project siting to avoid and minimize the risk to birds include avian abundance; the quality, quantity and type of habitat; geographic location; type and extent of bird use (*e.g.* breeding, foraging, migrating, etc.); and landscape features. Please review the enclosed information for general recommendations for avoiding and minimizing impacts to migratory birds within and around the project area. Be aware that since these are general guidelines, some of them may not be applicable or may have already been included in the project design.

Your project is located in the vicinity of the Important Bird Area (IBA) known as Hawk Mountain and Kittatinny Ridge. IBAs are designated by the Pennsylvania Ornithological Technical Committee. They are the most critical regions in the Commonwealth for conserving bird diversity and abundance, and are the primary focus of Audubon Pennsylvania's conservation efforts. To find out more information about this IBA, including which bird species breed there, visit: <http://netapp.audubon.org/IBA/State/US-PA>

In addition to protection under the MBTA, bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). The Eagle Act protects eagles by prohibiting killing, selling, disturbing, or otherwise harming eagles, their nests or eggs. "Disturb" means to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle; 2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior; or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior.

Consequently, we recommend that you evaluate the project type, size, location and layout in light of the *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* to determine whether or not bald eagles might be disturbed as a direct or indirect result of this project. If it appears that disturbance may occur, we recommend that you consider modifying your project consistent with the *Guidelines*. These guidelines, as well as additional eagle information, are available at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/EcologicalServices/eagle.html> To assist you in making a decision regarding impacts to bald eagles, a screening form can be found at [http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/bald\\_eagle.html](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/bald_eagle.html)

## Summary

In cases where adverse effects to federally listed species cannot be avoided, further consultation with the Service would be necessary to avoid potential violations of section 9 (prohibiting "take" of listed species) and/or section 7 (requiring federal agencies to consult) of the Endangered Species Act. Information about the section 7 and section 10 consultation processes (for federal and non-federal actions, respectively) can be obtained by contacting this office or accessing the Service's Endangered Species Home Page (<http://endangered.fws.gov>).

This response relates only to endangered and threatened species under our jurisdiction, based on an office review of the proposed project's location. No field inspection of the project area has been conducted by this office. Consequently, this letter is not to be construed as addressing potential Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities. A compilation of certain federal status species in Pennsylvania is enclosed for your information.

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

Please contact Kayla Easler of this office at (814) 234-4090 if you have any questions or require further assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Lora L. Zimmerman  
Field Office Supervisor

cc:  
PAFBC – Gipe  
USACOE

Enclosures



**PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION**  
**Division of Environmental Services**  
**Natural Diversity Section**  
**450 Robinson Lane**  
**Bellefonte, PA 16823-9620**

**QUALIFIED SURVEYORS FOR BOG TURTLE**

58 Pa. Code §75.5 provides that in order to conduct surveys for endangered or threatened fish (fish, amphibians, reptiles and aquatic invertebrates) species or their habitat in connection with an application for a proposed or planned development activity, a surveyor must be deemed qualified by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC). An individual who wishes to be qualified by the PFBC to conduct surveys for endangered or threatened species must demonstrate to the PFBC's satisfaction that he or she meets the qualified surveyor requirements as approved by the Executive Director and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The following list includes persons deemed qualified by the PFBC to possess skills and to have experience in properly searching for and finding Bog Turtles (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*) and in identifying their critical habitat. Persons not on this list but who have documented experience in conducting scientific studies of, or successful searches for, Bog Turtles and their critical habitat may submit their qualifications to the Natural Diversity Section for review and possible inclusion as a qualified surveyor. When applicable, a qualified surveyor must meet the requirements pertaining to scientific collector's permits and special permits for endangered and threatened species. All permitted collector's encounters with Bog Turtles must be reported in writing to the PFBC's Natural Diversity Section.

Teresa Amitrone Liberty Environmental, Inc. 50 N. 5th Street, 5th Floor Reading, PA 19601 (610)288-1536 <a href="mailto:tamitrone@libertyenviro.com">tamitrone@libertyenviro.com</a>	Ben Berra Skelly and Loy, Inc. 449 Eisenhower Blvd. Suite 300 Harrisburg, PA 17111 (717)232-0593 <a href="mailto:bberra@skellyloy.com">bberra@skellyloy.com</a>	Tessa Bickhart Herpetological Associates, Inc. 21 Daisy Lane Bernville, PA 19506 (484)650-1508 <a href="mailto:tessabtspecialist@gmail.com">tessabtspecialist@gmail.com</a>
Stanley Boder Wildlife Specialists, LLC 942 Camp Trail Road Quakertown, PA 18951 (570)952-1169 <a href="mailto:stan@wildlife-specialists.com">stan@wildlife-specialists.com</a>	Andy Brookens Skelly and Loy, Inc. 449 Eisenhower Blvd. Suite 300 Harrisburg, PA 17111 (717)232-0593 <a href="mailto:abrookens@skellyloy.com">abrookens@skellyloy.com</a>	Robert Bull The Wilson T. Ballard Company 4287 Fissel's Church Road Glen Rock, PA 17327 (717)424-9817 <a href="mailto:rbull@wtbco.com">rbull@wtbco.com</a>
Scott Bush Conestoga-Rovers & Associates 410 Eagleview Blvd. Suite 110 Exton, PA 19341 (610)321-1800 <a href="mailto:sbush@croworld.com">sbush@croworld.com</a>	Bryon Dubois Dubois Environmental Consultants, LLC 1058 Prospect Avenue Manahawkin, NJ 08050 (609)488-2857 <a href="mailto:bdubois@denviro.com">bdubois@denviro.com</a>	B. Scott Fiegel Ecological Associates, LLC PO Box 181 Oley, PA 19547 (610)987-6585 Office (484)280-4312 Cell <a href="mailto:bscottfiegel@aol.com">bscottfiegel@aol.com</a>
Jeremy Hite RETTEW 3020 Columbia Avenue Lancaster, PA 17603 (717)715-3811 <a href="mailto:jhite@rettew.com">jhite@rettew.com</a>	Kevin Keat ECSI 1095 Mill Road Pen Argyl, PA 18072 (484)515-6806 <a href="mailto:kevinkeat@ptd.net">kevinkeat@ptd.net</a>	Andrew Longenecker Ceso, Inc. 140 Lamplighter Drive Morgantown, WV 26508 (412)334-8619 <a href="mailto:longenecker@cesoinc.com">longenecker@cesoinc.com</a>

<p>Matthew Malhame PO Box 394 Henryville, PA 18332 (570)872-1284 <a href="mailto:mmalhame@hotmail.com">mmalhame@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Dave Moskowitz EcolSciences, Inc. 75 Fleetwood Drive Suite 250 Rockaway, NJ 07866 (973)366-9500 (732)236-2992 cell <a href="mailto:dmoskowitz@ecolsciences.com">dmoskowitz@ecolsciences.com</a></p>	<p>Laura Newgard EcolSciences, Inc. 75 Fleetwood Drive Suite 250 Rockaway, NJ 07866 (973)366-9500 <a href="mailto:lnewgard@ecolsciences.com">lnewgard@ecolsciences.com</a></p>
<p>Joe Pignatelli EcolSciences, Inc. 75 Fleetwood Drive Suite 250 Rockaway, NJ 07866 (973)366-9500 <a href="mailto:jpignatelli@ecolsciences.com">jpignatelli@ecolsciences.com</a></p>	<p>Gian Rocco 322 Strawberry Hill Road Centre Hall, PA 16828 (814)364-1204 <a href="mailto:gxr124@psu.edu">gxr124@psu.edu</a></p>	<p>David Smith Coastal Resources, Inc. 25 Old Solomons Island Road Annapolis, MD 21401 (410)956-9000 <a href="mailto:davids@coastal-resources.net">davids@coastal-resources.net</a></p>
<p>Harry Strano Amy S. Greene Environmental 4 Walter E. Foran Blvd. Suite 209 Flemington, NJ 08822 (908)788-9676 <a href="mailto:hstrano@amygreene.com">hstrano@amygreene.com</a></p>	<p>Charles Strunk 1505 Sleepy Hollow Road Quakertown, PA 18951 (215)679-9147 <a href="mailto:strunk1@aol.com">strunk1@aol.com</a></p>	<p>Jason Tesauro J. Tesauro Ecological Consulting PO Box 908 Millbrook, NY 12545 (201)841-6879 <a href="mailto:jasontesauro@yahoo.com">jasontesauro@yahoo.com</a></p>
<p>Autumn Thomas AECOM Environmental, Inc. 4 Neshaminy Interplex STE 300 Trevose, PA 19053 (215)244-7121 <a href="mailto:autumn.thomas@aecom.com">autumn.thomas@aecom.com</a></p>	<p>Bridger Thompson URS Corporation 4507 N. Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17110 (717)635-7913 <a href="mailto:bridger.thompson@urs.com">bridger.thompson@urs.com</a></p>	<p>Michael Torocco Herpetological Associates, Inc. 581 Airport Road Bethel, PA 19507 (717)933-8380 <a href="mailto:MTorocco@herpetologicalassociates.com">MTorocco@herpetologicalassociates.com</a></p>
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\*Conditionally approved for 2014.

# BOG TURTLE CONSERVATION ZONES<sup>1</sup>

(revised April 18, 2001)

Projects in and adjacent to bog turtle habitat can cause habitat destruction, degradation and fragmentation. Of critical importance is evaluating the potential direct and indirect effects of activities that occur in or are proposed for upland areas adjacent to bog turtle habitat. Even if the wetland impacts from an activity are avoided (i.e., the activity does not result in encroachment into the wetland), activities in adjacent upland areas can seriously compromise wetland habitat quality, fragment travel corridors, and alter wetland hydrology, thereby adversely affecting bog turtles.

The following bog turtle conservation zones have been designated with the intent of protecting and recovering known bog turtle populations within the northern range of this species. The conservation suggestions for each zone are meant to guide the evaluation of activities that may affect high-potential bog turtle habitat, potential travel corridors, and adjacent upland habitat that may serve to buffer bog turtles from indirect effects. *Nevertheless, it is important to recognize that consultations and project reviews will continue to be conducted on a case-by-case basis, taking into account site- and project-specific characteristics.*

## Zone 1

This zone includes the wetland and visible spring seeps occupied by bog turtles. Bog turtles rely upon different portions of the wetland at different times of year to fulfill various needs; therefore, this zone includes the entire wetland (the delineation of which will be scientifically based), not just those portions that have been identified as, or appear to be, optimal for nesting, basking or hibernating. In this zone, bog turtles and their habitat are most vulnerable to disturbance, therefore, the greatest degree of protection is necessary.

Within this zone, the following activities are likely to result in habitat destruction or degradation and should be avoided. These activities (not in priority order) include:

- ▶ development (e.g., roads, sewer lines, utility lines, storm water or sedimentation basins, residences, driveways, parking lots, and other structures)
- ▶ wetland draining, ditching, tiling, filling, excavation, stream diversion and construction of impoundments
- ▶ heavy grazing
- ▶ herbicide, pesticide or fertilizer application<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ mowing or cutting of vegetation<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ mining
- ▶ delineation of lot lines (e.g., for development, even if the proposed building or structure will not be in the wetland)

Some activities within this zone may be compatible with bog turtle conservation but warrant careful evaluation on a case-by-case basis:

- ▶ light to moderate grazing
- ▶ non-motorized recreational use (e.g., hiking, hunting, fishing)

## Zone 2

The boundary of this zone extends *at least 300 feet* from the edge of Zone 1 and includes upland areas adjacent to Zone 1. Activities in this zone could indirectly destroy or degrade wetland habitat over the short or long-term, thereby adversely affecting bog turtles. In addition, activities in this zone have the potential to cut off travel corridors between wetlands occupied or likely to be occupied by bog turtles, thereby isolating or dividing populations and increasing the risk of turtles being killed while attempting to disperse. Some of the indirect effects to wetlands resulting from activities in the adjacent uplands include: changes in hydrology (e.g., from roads, detention basins, irrigation, increases in impervious surfaces, sand and gravel mining); degradation of water quality (e.g., due to herbicides, pesticides, oil and salt from various sources including roads, agricultural fields, parking lots and residential developments); acceleration of succession (e.g., from fertilizer runoff); and introduction of exotic plants (e.g., due to soil disturbance and roads). This zone acts as a filter and buffer, preventing or minimizing the effects of land-use activities on bog turtles and their habitat. This zone is also likely to include at least a portion of the groundwater recharge/supply area for the wetland.

Activities that should be avoided in this zone due to their potential for adverse effects to bog turtles and their habitat include:

- ▶ development (e.g., roads, sewer lines, utility lines, storm water or sedimentation basins, residences, driveways, parking lots, and other structures)
- ▶ mining
- ▶ herbicide application<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ pesticide or fertilizer application
- ▶ farming (with the exception of light to moderate grazing - see below)
- ▶ certain types of stream-bank stabilization techniques (e.g., rip-rapping)
- ▶ delineation of lot lines (e.g., for development, even if the proposed building or structure will not be in the wetland)

Careful evaluation of proposed activities on a case-by-case basis will reveal the manner in which, and degree to which activities in this zone would affect bog turtles and their habitat. Assuming impacts within Zone 1 have been avoided, evaluation of proposed activities within Zone 2 will often require an assessment of anticipated impacts on wetland hydrology, water quality, and habitat continuity.

Activities that are likely to be compatible with bog turtle conservation, but that should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis within this zone include:

- ▶ light to moderate grazing
- ▶ non-motorized recreational use (e.g., hiking, hunting, fishing)
- ▶ mowing or cutting of vegetation

## Zone 3

This zone includes upland, wetland, and riparian areas extending either to the geomorphic edge of the drainage basin or at least one-half mile beyond the boundary of Zone 2. Despite the distance from Zone 1, activities in these areas have the potential to adversely affect bog turtles and their habitat. This particularly applies to activities affecting wetlands or streams connected to or contiguous with Zone 1, because these areas may support undocumented occurrences of bog turtles and/or provide travel corridors. In addition, some activities (e.g., roads, groundwater withdrawal, water/stream diversions, mining, impoundments, dams, "pump-and-treat" activities) far beyond Zone 1 have the potential to alter

the hydrology of bog turtle habitat, therefore, another purpose of Zone 3 is to protect the ground and surface water recharge zones for bog turtle wetlands. Where the integrity of Zone 2 has been compromised (e.g., through increases in impervious surfaces, heavy grazing, channelization of stormwater runoff), there is also a higher risk of activities in Zone 3 altering the water chemistry of bog turtle wetlands (e.g., via nutrient loading, sedimentation, and contaminants).

Activities occurring in this zone should be carefully assessed in consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and/or appropriate State wildlife agency to determine their potential for adverse effects to bog turtles and their habitat. Prior to conducting activities that may directly or indirectly affect wetlands, bog turtles and/or bog turtle habitat surveys should be conducted in accordance with accepted survey guidelines.

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<sup>1</sup> These guidelines are taken directly from the final "Bog Turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*), Northern Population, Recovery Plan" (dated May 15, 2001).

<sup>2</sup> Except when conducted as part of a bog turtle habitat management plan approved by the Fish and Wildlife Service or State wildlife agency

# BOG TURTLE HABITAT (PHASE 1) SURVEY REPORT

(template revised by USFWS on 4/13/2006)

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Pennsylvania Field Office) developed the following report template to ensure that a sufficient amount of detailed information is consistently submitted for agency review. Phase 1 surveyors are encouraged to use this template to format their reports, to ensure that all necessary information is provided. Revisions to this template are likely, as we continue to receive feedback on its content, structure, and ease of use. Example and explanatory language within this template is italicized. Use the current Bog Turtle Survey Guidelines (revised April 2006) in conjunction with this template.*

## PROJECT and SITE INFORMATION

**This Phase 1 survey was conducted on behalf of:**

Name:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- landowner     developer     state agency     local government
- other ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Project / Property Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Project / Property Location:**

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip:

\_\_\_\_\_

Township/Municipality:

\_\_\_\_\_

County:

\_\_\_\_\_

Watershed (minor):

\_\_\_\_\_

Watershed (major):

\_\_\_\_\_

The project location is shown on Figure 1 ( \_\_\_\_\_ USGS 7.5-minute topographic map).

*[Include USGS topographic map showing project area location. Identify county, township, and quadrangle name on map, as well as project name.]*

## **Project Area / Property – Size and Extent**

*[Identify the size/extent of the project area. For example, the project area for a proposed residential development would include all areas that would be affected (directly or indirectly) by all parts of the development, including buildings, roads, driveways, lots in their entirety, utility lines, water and sewer lines, stormwater detention/retention basins, staging and access areas, recreational fields or trails, etc. Often, this includes the entire land parcel, all of which will be either directly or indirectly affected by the project. In some cases, a land parcel is being surveyed, prior to developing project plans. In that case, identify the land parcel (e.g., “the 20-acre David Jones property”) as the project area, and explain that project plans have not yet been developed.]*

## **Current Land Use and Setting**

*[Describe current land use and the overall setting. Also, describe what habitat type(s) are currently in the project area (e.g., “Eighty acres of the 100-acre parcel is in row crops, while the remainder is a woodlot dominated by red maple and green ash that are approximately 40 years old. A stream, approximately 6 inches deep and 2 feet wide crosses through the woodlot. A farmhouse and barn also occur on the property.”)]*

Figure 2 represents a detailed map of the project area or property, showing existing features (including property boundaries, structures, power lines, roads, wetlands, ponds, streams, and major cover types).

*[Include a project area map, showing 1) property/parcel boundaries; 2) existing features and general cover types (e.g., roads, power lines, agricultural fields, forest, streams, ponds, houses, spring houses); and 3) all wetlands (numbered consistent with this report). Include photo point references for each wetland.]*

## **Project Description**

*[Describe the project. Include the project description, including the project purpose, timing, size, duration, etc. If the project is part of a larger undertaking, describe the relationship between the parts. For example, “This project involves the construction of sewer and water lines to connect a proposed 250-unit residential development (located on a 100-acre parcel of land) to the City of Mudville’s existing wastewater treatment plant.” If the project is more vague, at least describe what is proposed for the property, e.g., “The landowner intends to develop a residential subdivision on the property, but plans have not yet been drawn up.”]*

## **Permit Area (for wetland/stream encroachments):**

*[If it is known at the time of the phase 1 survey that one or more permits will be necessary for wetland and/or stream encroachments, disclose this information. For example, “Although plans have not been finalized, it appears that at least three wetland and two stream crossings will be necessary for road and utility crossings.” If no wetland or stream encroachments will be necessary, indicate that as well – if you are sure none will be needed.]*

## WETLAND INFORMATION

*[Include information about all wetlands on the property or in the project area, regardless of whether or not they are "jurisdictional" wetlands, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.]*

A wetland investigation was conducted \_\_\_\_\_ *[identify the extent of the wetland investigation, e.g., "on the entire 220-acre parcel" or "in the 50-foot right-of-way on either side of S.R. 123]. [If some areas were not investigated, explain why. If these areas occur in a location that will be subject to future phases of development, they should be surveyed now. If the entire property/parcel was not investigated, describe exactly what area(s) were investigated, and why.]*

Wetlands were  identified  delineated on \_\_\_\_\_ *[date(s)]* by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Wetlands were delineated in accordance with \_\_\_\_\_ *[describe delineation method.] [If a wetland delineation has not been conducted, explain why.]*

All wetlands \_\_\_\_\_ *[e.g., "in the project area" or "on the 220-acre property" or "in the 50 foot right-of-way"]* were identified and delineated. *[If this is not the case, explain why.]* Wetland information is summarized in Table 1.



**Table 1. Wetland Size and Location**

Wetland ID	Wetland Size (acres)	Designated Survey Area (acres) <sup>1</sup>	Lat/Long <sup>2</sup>	Is the entire wetland on site? <sup>3</sup>

- 1 "Designated survey areas" are those areas of the wetland that meet the soils, hydrology and vegetation criteria for potential bog turtle habitat. These areas may occur within the emergent, scrub-shrub or forested parts of the wetland.
- 2 For smaller wetlands (e.g., up to 3 acres) lat/long should be approximate center of wetland); for larger wetlands, either indicate approximate center or GPS the outer ends of the wetland. Lat/long should be submitted in degrees-minutes-seconds or degree-decimal format. Be sure to indicate the GPS datum (i.e., NAD 27, NAD 83, or WGS 84).
- 3 Answer "yes" if the entire wetland is located within the property/parcel boundaries or right-of-way. If any part of the wetland extends off-site, or if the entire wetland is off-site (e.g., but close to the parcel boundaries) answer "no" and provide a further explanation in the wetland narrative section.

### PHASE 1 SURVEY

*[During the Phase 1 Survey, examine all wetlands on the land parcel, or all wetlands that may be directly or indirectly affected by any aspect of the project. Generally, indirect effects should be assumed to extend about 300 feet beyond the project footprint (e.g., sedimentation from earth disturbance, fertilizer and pesticide transport beyond lot boundaries or agricultural fields). However, the hydrological effects of development or construction (e.g., due to roads, wells, stormwater management) may extend well beyond 300 feet from the area of direct impact. See "Bog Turtle Conservation Zones" for further guidance.]*

The Phase 1 survey was conducted on \_\_\_\_\_ [date(s)] by:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

A Phase 1 survey of all wetlands located \_\_\_\_\_ [*identify the extent of the Phase 1 investigation, e.g., "on the entire 220-acre parcel" or "in the 50-foot right-of-way on either side of S.R. 123" was conducted. [If some wetlands were not surveyed, explain why. If these wetlands occur in an area(s) that will be subject to future phases of development, they should be surveyed now.]*

A summary of the Phase 1 survey results is included in Table 2. Detailed information about each wetland follows the table. Completed field forms for each wetland are included in Appendix A.

**Table 2. Summary of Phase 1 Survey Results**

Wetland ID	Wetland Size	Wetland Type & Amount (% or acres)	Extent of "Mucky" Soils <sup>1</sup> (by wetland type)	Survey Effort (in person-hrs)	Bog Turtle Habitat?
1	1.5	PEM – 50% PSS -- 50%	PEM – 80% PSS – 50%	2	YES

<sup>1</sup> "Mucky" is used to describe soils that can be easily penetrated with a probe. For Phase 1 surveys, a 1-inch diameter blunt-ended wooden pole (e.g., broom or tool handle) is used. "Mucky" is NOT used to refer to a specific soil type or soil classification.

Wetland 1

*[Include narrative description of wetland. Describe dominant vegetation, degree and distribution of "muckiness", and hydrology. Also describe any disturbance noted (e.g., ditches, fill, grazing).*

*[Include a map of the wetland, showing the extent of the "designated survey area(s)". Also, a sketch of the distribution of wetland types (e.g., PEM, PSS, PFO, etc.) within the wetland is helpful.]*

*[List any herps found (or previously found by others).]*

*[Include photo(s) of wetland. Be sure photos are representative of the wetland type(s) found.]*

*[If the wetland continues off-site, disclose this information, describe the off-site portion, and indicate the degree to which the off-site portion was inspected.]*

## Wetland 2

*See above for information to include.*

## Off-site Adjacent Wetlands

*[If any wetlands occur off-site (e.g., adjacent to the subject property), and they might be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed project (or any aspects thereof) they should be included in this Phase 1 report. If these wetlands were not surveyed, visual observations from the subject property or from a public road should be reported.]*

*NOTE: If potential habitat is found and the project proponent chooses to assume bog turtles are present and avoid potential adverse effects to the species (rather than conduct a Phase 2 survey), a detailed project narrative and detailed project plans should be submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Service and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (along with this Phase 1 Report). The narrative and plans should demonstrate that the project will have no direct or indirect adverse effects to bog turtles or their habitat. See "Bog Turtle Conservation Zones" for further guidance.*

## Appendix A

*[Include a completed "USFWS / PFBC Bog Turtle Habitat Evaluation – Field Form" for each wetland. Also -- make sure the forms are legible.]*

## **Appendix B**

*[Include information about the person who conducted the Phase 1 survey, including the name, address, telephone number, email address, and qualifications (e.g., "recognized, qualified Phase 2 bog turtle surveyor").]*

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**  
**Pennsylvania Field Office**

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**QUALIFIED NORTHEASTERN BULRUSH SURVEYORS**

The following list includes persons known by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to have the skills and experience to conduct surveys for the northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*). Observations of the northeastern bulrush at previously undocumented sites must be reported in writing to the Service within 48 hours. Northeastern bulrush surveys should be overseen by a qualified surveyor, who will be present in the field at all times during the investigation.

This information is not to be construed as an endorsement of individuals or firms by the Service or any of its employees. Persons not on this list, but who have documented experience in conducting scientific studies of, or successful searches for, the northeastern bulrush may submit their qualifications to the Service for review. The submission must include documentation that the requestor has experience successfully locating and identifying the northeastern bulrush and its habitat. Additions to and deletions from this list are at the sole discretion of the Service. This list is subject to revision at any time without prior notice.

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*Revised 03/05/2014*

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*Revised 03/05/2014*



## West, Jonathan

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**From:** Holcomb, Bernard  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 2:47 PM  
**To:** West, Jonathan  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed PennEast Pipeline

### Bernie Holcomb

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

\* Please note new address and direct line information that will be effective June 10, 2014

**URS** URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

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**From:** Markuson, Jeremy [[mailto:jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 2:46 PM  
**To:** Holcomb, Bernard  
**Cc:** Ron Popowski  
**Subject:** Proposed PennEast Pipeline

Mr. Holcomb,

I received your August 12, 2014 letter regarding the proposed PennEast Pipeline project in Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey. I'll be your point of contact for this project and for Section 7 consultation. To assist me with my review, please visit our website that describes step-by-step directions for initiating Section 7 consultation and technical assistance (<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/njfieldoffice/endangered/consultation.html>). Please remember that Section 7 consultation must also address Section 7(a)(1) statutory requirements of the Endangered Species Act. After viewing the shapefiles you provided it appears the ROW will cross habitat for the federally listed bog turtle, Indiana bat, and dwarf wedgemussel. The pipeline also crosses a maternity colony for the northern long-eared bat.

Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to working with you.

Jeremy

--

Jeremy Markuson  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office

## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Quackenbush, Susan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 3:01 PM  
**To:** jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Bayne, Bruce; West, Jonathan; Holcomb, Bernard; Reich, Donna  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline - USFWS NJ Field Office ESA Section 7 Consultation

Jeremy-

Thanks for speaking with me this afternoon about the above-referenced project and the USFWS consultation review. Per our discussion, you will be the USFWS NJ Field Office Point of Contact for this project.

I indicated that we have followed the ESA Section 7 Consultation guidance per the USFWS Field Office website, and generated a list of Federally listed threatened/endangered species potentially present within the NJ portion of the project alignment. The species under USFWS NJ field office jurisdiction listed in the iPAC results are as follows:

Indiana bat: You indicated that the project alignment is located at the southern edge of the NJ range for this species. The alignment crosses no known colonies; however, if tree clearing is proposed for trees > 5" dbh, a survey will likely be required.

Northern long-eared bat: You indicated that the alignment crosses through approximately 0.5 miles of a known northern long-eared bat colony. You indicated that projects which require approximately 20 acres or greater of tree clearing (> 3" dbh) typically require a survey for northern long-eared bat. You indicated that you will email me the applicable GIS files for where the alignment intersects northern long-eared bat habitat.

We discussed that USFWS does regard seasonal timing restrictions on tree clearing as a viable impact minimization measure for bats in areas where deemed appropriate.

Dwarf wedgemussel: You indicated that the alignment is located on the edge of dwarf wedgemussel habitat as it crosses the Delaware River, and that there may also be several NJ State-listed mussel species at the crossing location. You stated that you plan to speak with Jeanette Bowers-Altman of NJ-Division of Fish and Wildlife regarding listed mussel species at this crossing. I indicated that we did not yet receive a response from the NJ Natural Heritage Program regarding NJ State listed species. I asked if dwarf wedgemussel would be a species of concern if HDD was proposed for the river crossing. You indicated that it would depend on how far from the banks the entrance and exit points were located, and that potential leaks during construction are of concern; therefore a survey may be required even where HDD is proposed. We discussed the potential avoidance/mitigation measure of translocating mussels to an appropriate upstream location.

Bog turtle: You requested that all emergent wetland habitats be thoroughly documented for their potential to provide suitable bog turtle habitat; however, you believe that the alignment does not cross any known sites.

In addition to the species discussed above, you stated that USFWS is currently recommending a restriction on vegetation clearing from March 15 through July 31 to protect species listed under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). As project coordination continues, we will discuss the specific measures appropriate for the protection of MBTA species.

I explained that field crews are currently conducting wetland delineations and habitat evaluations, and that we will be evaluating habitat characteristics as they pertain to each of the above species in order to continue the Section 7 Consultation as applicable, identify the needs for targeted surveys, and develop avoidance/minimization/mitigating measures for the project as required. You suggested that we consider ESA Section 7-A1 pertaining to species

conservation and recovery measures as we advance the project consultation, and that you will send a list of current projects. You indicated that you are open to participating in field visits to look at specific areas of Federally listed threatened/endangered species habitat, and to aid in identifying appropriate conservation measures.

I trust that this summarizes our discussion accurately. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to give me a call.

Best Regards-

**Sue Quackenbush**  
**Senior Wetlands Ecologist**



625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100, Conshohocken, PA 19428

Phone: (610)832-3654 (Direct) ~ (610)832-3500 (Main)

Email: [susan.quackenbush@urs.com](mailto:susan.quackenbush@urs.com)

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2014 2:41 PM  
**To:** Quackenbush, Susan  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Bayne, Bruce; West, Jonathan; Holcomb, Bernard; Reich, Donna  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Pipeline - USFWS NJ Field Office ESA Section 7 Consultation  
**Attachments:** Video.MOV; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.shx; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.dbf; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.prj; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.sbn; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.sbx; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.shp; NLEB\_Maternity\_Buffer.shp.xml

Thanks Sue!

Good summary of our conversation last week. Once the wetland delineations and habitat evaluations are complete I would like to participate in a field visit. During the field visit we can discuss the results of the habitat evaluations, any additional survey efforts, and necessary conservation measures to protect listed species. Also note that after reviewing your wetland delineations I may request a bog turtle survey by a recognized qualified bog turtle surveyor from the New Jersey bog turtle surveyor list (<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/njfieldoffice/pdf/BogTurtleSurveyors.pdf>) in or near the proposed PennEast Pipeline.

Below are a list of recovery projects for you to consider for fulfilling Section 7(a)(1) statutory requirements. Let's discuss these projects or other projects that you have in mind.

Also, attached is a GIS shapefile of the mile posts that cross a northern long-eared bat maternity colony.

Section 7(a)(1) projects in New Jersey:

### **American chaffseed:**

\* 1) Propagation and outplanting - Only one extant population of American chaffseed is known in the state. Range-wide the species is declining. We would like to propagate and outplant American chaffseed in areas of suitable habitat.

### **Sensitive joint-vetch:**

\* 1) Like American chaffseed sensitive joint-vetch is currently known from a single population in New Jersey and has been extirpated from Pennsylvania and Delaware. Survey efforts are needed to examine historic locations and suitable habitat.

### **Bog Turtle:**

\* 1) Grazing reimbursements - One of the primary threats that face bog turtles is habitat degradation due to succession and invasive exotic plant species. To restore bog turtle wetlands we use light to moderate grazing to reduce invasive species and establish native emergent wetland conditions. Please see the attached video of water buffalo's grazing in an active bog turtle wetland.

\* 2) Installation of fencing to facilitate grazing - To facilitate the introduction and/or management of grazers, fencing needs to be installed.

3) Wildlife health screenings - Over the past few years, we have received sporadic reports of dead and apparently diseased bog turtles from New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. In some cases, the number of bog turtles found dead in their wetland habitat exceeded that which is typically reported. Currently we are working with the Wildlife Conservation Society to understand the reason behind the many dead and dying turtles we are finding.

4) Population Monitoring - Monitoring efforts are needed to better understand status and trends of populations.

5) Habitat monitoring - Similar to population monitoring, monitoring habitat conditions at bog turtle wetlands is a priority.

6) Genetic studies - Pursue genetic research on bog turtles to determine what constitutes a viable population size.

Note that grazing reimbursements are generally combined with installation of fencing and woody vegetation removal activities.

#### **Indiana bat:**

\* 1) Land acquisition - Mt Hope Mine is the second largest bat hibernaculum in the state. The property is currently owned by a private entity. We would like to acquire this property for long-term protection of this important hibernaculum.

2) Spring emergence tracking efforts - We are only aware of eight maternity colonies in New Jersey. However, we realize that many areas in New Jersey have not been surveyed for Indiana bat and there are likely additional maternity colonies elsewhere in the state. To better understand where these colonies occur we would like to conduct spring emergence tracking efforts. These efforts would involve tracking Indiana bats via telemetry after they emerge from hibernation.

3) Monitoring efforts at existing maternity colonies - Additional survey efforts and monitoring efforts are needed at existing maternity colonies in NJ. Monitoring efforts would likely include acoustic surveys, mist netting, and telemetry. One colony in particular is easy to monitor because they are utilizing a bat box. These monitoring efforts would assist with understanding the maternity colonies roosting and foraging behavior to better understand how they are utilizing forested habitat.

4) WNS Research - Additional research needs to be conducted on WNS to understand more about the disease.

5) Other recovery efforts as described in the 2007 Draft Indiana bat Recovery Plan: [http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery\\_plan/070416.pdf](http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/070416.pdf)

#### **Swamp pink:**

1) Land purchases - Identify and protect high quality populations

\* 2) Installation of fencing to prevent deer browsing - Approximately 85% of New Jersey swamp pink populations show evidence of deer browsing. Fencing would focus on populations showing declines due to deer browsing.

3) Invasive species control - Control and remove invasive species through herbicide treatment methods.

4) Canopy thinning - Due to excessive canopy closure some sites require thinning activities.

Projects that are marked with an asterik are considered higher priority projects. This current list of recovery projects will be updated with new additions in the coming months. If you are interested in the recovery projects listed above, please let me know and I'll provide you an approximate cost associated with each project.

Thanks,

Jeremy

On Wed, Sep 17, 2014 at 3:01 PM, Quackenbush, Susan <[susan.quackenbush@urs.com](mailto:susan.quackenbush@urs.com)> wrote:

Jeremy-

Thanks for speaking with me this afternoon about the above-referenced project and the USFWS consultation review.

Per our discussion, you will be the USFWS NJ Field Office Point of Contact for this project.

I indicated that we have followed the ESA Section 7 Consultation guidance per the USFWS Field Office website, and generated a list of Federally listed threatened/endangered species potentially present within the NJ portion of the project alignment. The species under USFWS NJ field office jurisdiction listed in the iPAC results are as follows:

Indiana bat: You indicated that the project alignment is located at the southern edge of the NJ range for this species. The alignment crosses no known colonies; however, if tree clearing is proposed for trees > 5" dbh, a survey will likely be required.

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I trust that this summarizes our discussion accurately. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to give me a call.

Best Regards-

**Sue Quackenbush**

**Senior Wetlands Ecologist**



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Jeremy Markuson  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
927 North Main Street, Bldg. D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232  
phone: (609) 383-3938 ext. 45 fax: (609) 646-0352  
[jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)



## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Quackenbush, Susan  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 23, 2014 2:49 PM  
**To:** jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Holcomb, Bernard; Bayne, Bruce; West, Jonathan  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline - USFWS NJ Field Office ESA Section 7 Consultation Update

Good Afternoon Jeremy,

I am writing to provide an update for the PennEast Pipeline Project since our last conversation on 9/17/14.

Field crews continue to conduct NJ wetland delineations and habitat evaluations, and as the field data becomes available, we will continue to evaluate habitat characteristics, in order to prepare and submit the data required to continue the Section 7 Consultation as applicable, identify the needs for targeted surveys, and develop avoidance/minimization/mitigating measures for the project as required.

There have been adjustments to the proposed alignment, and you will soon be receiving revised maps defining the locations of those re-routes.

Regarding additional agency coordination, a Project Introduction Meeting is scheduled with the USFWS PA Field Office in State College, PA for Wednesday, October 29, 2014. The project team is also in coordination with the NJDEP, Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review, to schedule a pre-application conference. If you are interested in attending either of these meetings, or would like to schedule a separate meeting, please let me know. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding these updates, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

**Sue Quackenbush**  
**Senior Wetlands Ecologist**



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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Trust Resources List

**This resource list is to be used for planning purposes only — it is not an official species list.**

**Endangered Species Act species list information for your project is available online and listed below for the following FWS Field Offices:**

**Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office**  
315 SOUTH ALLEN STREET, SUITE 322  
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801  
(814) 234-4090  
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/>

***Project Name:***

10" Lateral



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Trust Resources List

### *Project Location Map:*



### *Project Counties:*

Northampton, PA



## Trust Resources List

### ***Geographic coordinates (Open Geospatial Consortium Well-Known Text, NAD83):***

MULTIPOLYGON (((-75.297179 40.6136672, -75.297175 40.6136728, -75.2971693 40.6136767, -75.293494 40.615351, -75.2916 40.616745, -75.2920459 40.6185569, -75.2920462 40.6185654, -75.2920429 40.6185732, -75.2920366 40.618579, -75.2896175 40.6199977, -75.2860784 40.6233515, -75.2837886 40.6278872, -75.2837838 40.6278933, -75.2797912 40.6313558, -75.2793636 40.6330303, -75.2793602 40.6330374, -75.2793544 40.6330426, -75.279347 40.6330452, -75.2793393 40.6330448, -75.2793322 40.6330414, -75.279327 40.6330356, -75.2793244 40.6330282, -75.2793248 40.6330205, -75.279754 40.6313399, -75.2797564 40.6313343, -75.2797603 40.6313297, -75.2837546 40.6278657, -75.2860442 40.6233304, -75.2860483 40.6233249, -75.2895916 40.6199671, -75.2895953 40.6199643, -75.2920035 40.618552, -75.291558 40.6167416, -75.2915576 40.6167338, -75.2915603 40.6167265, -75.2915655 40.6167207, -75.2934719 40.6153176, -75.2934755 40.6153155, -75.2971461 40.6136433, -75.2997873 40.6081598, -75.299792 40.6081536, -75.2997987 40.6081496, -75.2998064 40.6081485, -75.299814 40.6081505, -75.2998202 40.6081552, -75.2998242 40.6081619, -75.2998253 40.6081696, -75.2998233 40.6081772, -75.297179 40.6136672)))

### ***Project Type:***

Oil Or Gas

### ***Endangered Species Act Species List ([USFWS Endangered Species Program](#))***

There are a total of 2 threatened or endangered species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fishes may appear on the species list because a project could cause downstream effects on the species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section below for critical habitat that lies within your project area. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

### **Species that should be considered in an effects analysis for your project:**

Mammals	Status		Has Critical Habitat	Contact
Indiana bat ( <i>Myotis sodalis</i> ) Population: Entire	Endangered	<a href="#">species</a> <a href="#">info</a>		Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office
Reptiles				
Bog Turtle ( <i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i> ) Population: northern	Threatened	<a href="#">species</a> <a href="#">info</a>		Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office



## Trust Resources List

### **Critical habitats within your project area:**

*There are no critical habitats within your project area.*

### ***FWS National Wildlife Refuges ([USFWS National Wildlife Refuges Program](#)).***

*There are no refuges found within the vicinity of your project.*

### ***FWS Migratory Birds ([USFWS Migratory Bird Program](#)).***

The protection of birds is regulated by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA). Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. For more information regarding these Acts see: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/RegulationsandPolicies.html>.

All project proponents are responsible for complying with the appropriate regulations protecting birds when planning and developing a project. To meet these conservation obligations, proponents should identify potential or existing project-related impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and develop and implement conservation measures that avoid, minimize, or compensate for these impacts. The Service's Birds of Conservation Concern (2008) report identifies species, subspecies, and populations of all migratory nongame birds that, without additional conservation actions, are likely to become listed under the Endangered Species Act as amended (16 U.S.C 1531 et seq.).

For information about Birds of Conservation Concern, go to:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html>.

To search and view summaries of year-round bird occurrence data within your project area, go to the Avian Knowledge Network Histogram Tool links in the Bird Conservation Tools section at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CCMB2.htm>.

For information about conservation measures that help avoid or minimize impacts to birds, please visit:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CCMB2.htm>.

### **Migratory birds of concern that may be affected by your project:**



## Trust Resources List

There are **19** birds on your Migratory birds of concern list. The underlying data layers used to generate the migratory bird list of concern will continue to be updated regularly as new and better information is obtained. User feedback is one method of identifying any needed improvements. Therefore, users are encouraged to submit comments about any questions regarding species ranges (e.g., a bird on the USFWS BCC list you know does not occur in the specified location appears on the list, or a BCC species that you know does occur there is not appearing on the list). Comments should be sent to [the ECOS Help Desk](#).

Species Name	Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC)	Species Profile	Seasonal Occurrence in Project Area
American bittern ( <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Bald eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Year-round
Black-billed Cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Blue-winged Warbler ( <i>Vermivora pinus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Canada Warbler ( <i>Wilsonia canadensis</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
cerulean warbler ( <i>Dendroica cerulea</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Fox Sparrow ( <i>Passerella iliaca</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Wintering
Golden-Winged Warbler ( <i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Kentucky Warbler ( <i>Oporornis formosus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Louisiana Waterthrush ( <i>Parkesia motacilla</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Pied-billed Grebe ( <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Year-round
Prairie Warbler ( <i>Dendroica discolor</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Purple Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris maritima</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Wintering
Red Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Wintering
Red-headed Woodpecker ( <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding



## Trust Resources List

Rusty Blackbird ( <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Wintering
Short-eared Owl ( <i>Asio flammeus</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Wintering
Wood Thrush ( <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding
Worm eating Warbler ( <i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i> )	Yes	<a href="#">species info</a>	Breeding

### ***NWI Wetlands ([USFWS National Wetlands Inventory](#)).***

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency that provides information on the extent and status of wetlands in the U.S., via the National Wetlands Inventory Program (NWI). In addition to impacts to wetlands within your immediate project area, wetlands outside of your project area may need to be considered in any evaluation of project impacts, due to the hydrologic nature of wetlands (for example, project activities may affect local hydrology within, and outside of, your immediate project area). It may be helpful to refer to the USFWS National Wetland Inventory website. The designated FWS office can also assist you. Impacts to wetlands and other aquatic habitats from your project may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal Statutes. Project Proponents should discuss the relationship of these requirements to their project with the Regulatory Program of the appropriate [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

### **Data Limitations, Exclusions and Precautions**

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery and/or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

**Exclusions** - Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Trust Resources List

seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

**Precautions** - Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

*IPaC is unable to display wetland information at this time.*



**REGULATORY AGENCY MEETING AGENDA**  
**PENN EAST PIPELINE PROJECT INTRODUCTION**  
**USFWS-PA: Wed. October 29, 2014, State College, PA**

**Attendance**

USFWS: Kayla Easler; Pam Shellenberger

URS: Deb Poppel; Jon West

**Introductions**

**Project Description**

- PennEast Pipeline LLC
- Designed to bring lower cost natural gas produced in the Marcellus Shale region in eastern Pennsylvania to homes and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- Planned capacity to transport approximately 1 Bcf of natural gas per day (“Bcf/d”)
- Facilities include a 36-inch diameter, 108-mile pipeline, extending from Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, to Mercer County, New Jersey. The system would be rated for a maximum allowable operating pressure (“MAOP”) of 1,480 psig.
- The mainline route includes construction of the new pipeline that originates near Dallas, Luzerne County, PA, and terminates near Pennington, Mercer County, NJ.
- Approximately 29 percent of the pipeline is co-located with other utilities.
- Major water crossings include the Susquehanna, Lehigh, and Delaware rivers and Beltzville Lake.

**Project Map Presentation - Pipeline**

**Compressor Stations**

- The project would include one compressor station located near Blakeslee in Kidder Township, Carbon County, PA (MP 25.5).
- 3 Taurus 70 units rated at 10,915 horsepower each under ISO conditions for a total of 26,733 available horsepower.

**FERC Filing & Process**

- EIS Pre-Filing Environmental Review Process
- Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

**Project Schedule; Open Houses**

Milestone	Date
Pre-Filing Request Accepted	October 10, 2014
Draft of all Resource Reports	May 1, 2015
Certificate Application	July 1, 2015
Final Environmental Document issued by FERC	August 1, 2016
Certificate Order	December 1, 2016
Mobilization and initial tree clearing	Winter, 2016
Construction (7 months)	Spring, 2017

Open Houses Schedule		
Wilkes-Barre, PA	<b>Monday, November 10 (Luzerne County)</b>	Coughlin High School 80 North Washington Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Bethlehem, PA	<b>Wednesday, November 12 (Northampton County)</b>	Hanover Township Community Center 3660 Jacksonville Road Bethlehem, PA 18017
New Jersey	<b>Thursday, November 13 (Mercer County)</b>	South Hunterdon Regional High School 301 Mt. Airy-Harbourton Road Lambertville, NJ 0853
Palmerton, PA	<b>Tuesday, November 18 (Carbon County)</b>	Aquashicola Volunteer Fire Company 270 Little Gap Road Palmerton, PA 18071

**Consultations & Permitting**

USFWS  
 USACE – Philly and Baltimore  
 PADEP – NE and SE  
 PADCNR  
 PFBC  
 NJSHPD  
 DRBC  
 CCD's

NMFS  
 NPS  
 NJDEP  
 PAGC  
 PAHMC  
 NJSADC  
 SRBC  
 Watersheds

**Status of Environmental Studies**

Survey Status - Completed					Documented Features	
As of: 10/25/2014					As of: 10/24/2014	
	Total Tracts	Centerline	Centerline (miles)	Centerline (%)		
Archaeological	135	80,932.99	15.33	14.49	Archaeology	
Historical	54	25,052.35	4.74	4.49	Historical	
Wetlands	186	118,429.99	22.43	21.21	Wetlands	38
					Waterbodies/Streams	63
T&E	0	0	0	0		



## PennEast Pipeline Project

### MEETING MINUTES

USFWS Pennsylvania Field Office  
State College, PA  
Date: October 29, 2014

#### Attendees:

**Pam Shellenberger**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, PA Field Office

**Kayla Easler**, USFWS, Ecological Services, PA Field Office

**Deborah Poppel and Jon West** - URS Corporation

#### Summary

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the PennEast Pipeline Project to USFWS, following written consultation previously provided. An agenda was prepared and included a project description, associated project maps, a description of the FERC filing process and schedule, and the schedule of open houses commencing November 10, 2014.

URS confirmed that USFWS received the new shapefile depicting the updated pipeline route and one compressor station near Blakeslee, along with the letter inviting USFWS to participate with FERC as a cooperating agency in the pre-filing process. An update was provided on the status of environmental studies.

Items of note discussed with USFWS included:

- The pipeline does not appear to be going through any known bat hibernacula, swarming area radius, or maternity colonies. However there is a lot of forest so surveys are expected to be necessary and should include Northern long-eared bat in addition to Indiana bat. Once URS completes bat habitat assessments USFWS will work with URS to narrow down areas for focused surveys (mist netting). Caves in “mine country” (e.g. Carbon County) should be identified where possible.
- A decision on the listing status of the Northern long-eared bat is expected in April, 2015.
- Known area of sensitive bog turtle population exists along Aquashicola Creek near MP 48.8. USFWS is interested to know exactly where and how PennEast proposes to cross this area. Noted that a recent pipeline project in the area successfully crossed the creek via direct bore. Would like PennEast to demonstrate that this method was analyzed for this crossing. Known locations for bog turtle (primarily Northampton County) will be provided once the route is finalized and wetlands identified.



- USFWS will not adjust the survey window (June 1- Sept. 30) for Northeastern bulrush. Wetland areas above 1,300 ft. elevation, particularly those with vernal pools, will need to be surveyed by an approved biologist.
- PennEast will need to complete a bald eagle screening form for areas of construction that will occur within ½ mile of a known nest. PennEast need a permit if it is determined that a disturbance of a nest will occur.
- Will need to include a generic Migratory Bird Conservation Plan (including restoration details) in filing to cover MBTA requirements. Some timing restrictions on tree clearing that may be incorporated for bats can also benefit migratory birds.
- Dwarf wedgemussel is not known to occur where PennEast is proposing to cross the Delaware – the proposed alignment is currently just below known occupied habitat. USFWS did not mention a requirement on their part to conduct surveys.
- URS should look into the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) to check for conservation/habitat easements that have been negotiated with USFWS.

*Subsequent to the meeting, USFWS provided via email the locations (lat/long) of bald eagle nests that are located within 1 mile (or closer) to the LOD and the adaptive management practices for conserving migratory birds.*

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation

## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Quackenbush, Susan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2014 10:29 AM  
**To:** jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Holcomb, Bernard; Reich, Donna  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline Project: FERC Bi-Weekly Calls

Good Morning Jeremy,

I am writing to extend an invitation to you to join the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) bi-weekly conference calls pertaining to the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project.

The next call is scheduled for December 11, 2014 from 11:00am to 12:00pm (EST). The call in information is as follows:

Phone number: 866-692-5721

Access Code: 8580298

Regards,

**Sue Quackenbush, PWS**  
**Senior Wetlands Ecologist**



625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100, Conshohocken, PA 19428

Phone: (610)832-3654 (Direct) ~ (610)832-3500 (Main)

Email: [susan.quackenbush@urs.com](mailto:susan.quackenbush@urs.com)

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January 14, 2015

Mr. Jeremy Markuson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
927 N. Main Street, Building D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232

Dear Mr. Markuson:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

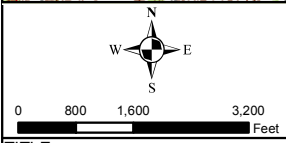
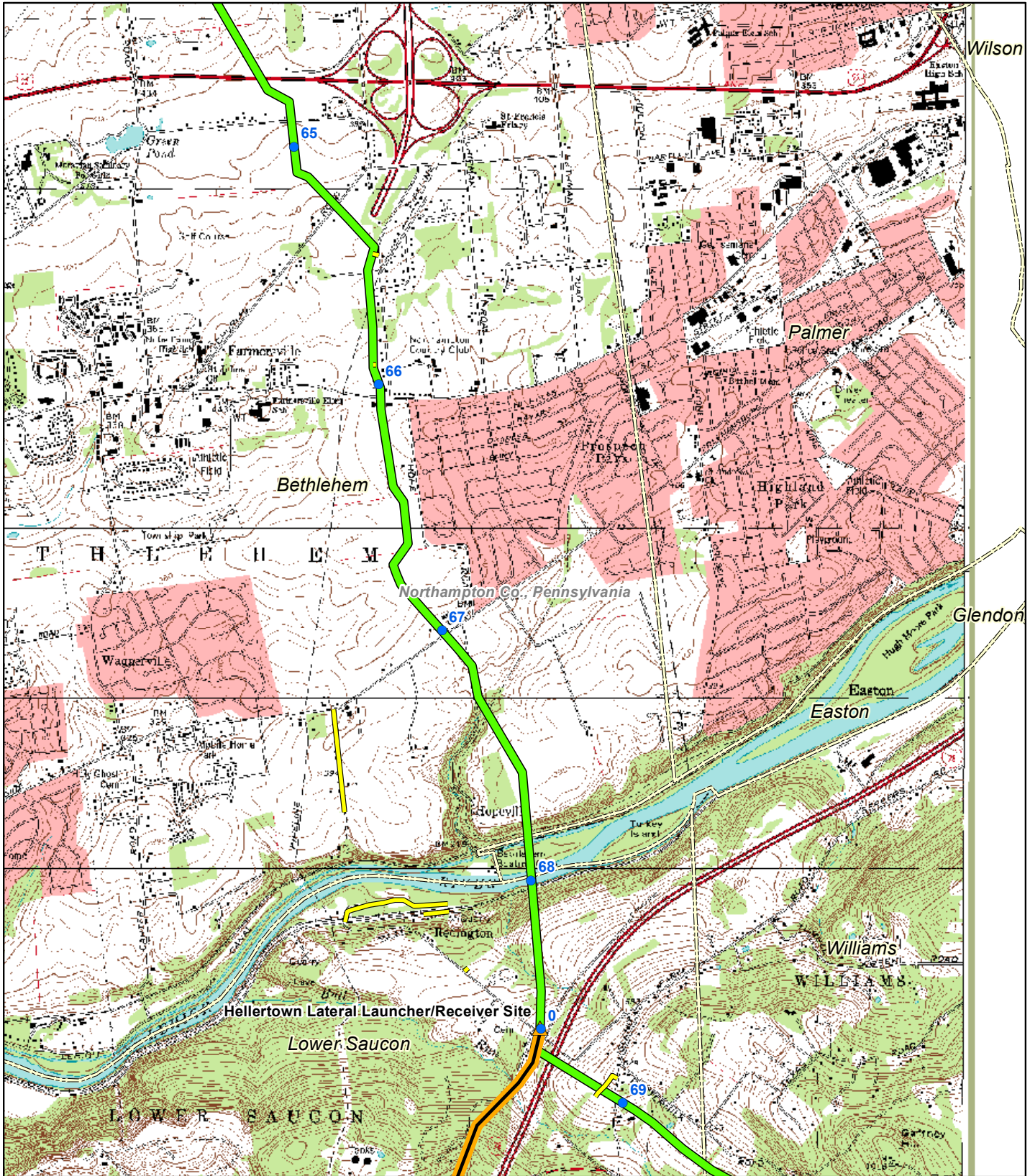
Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

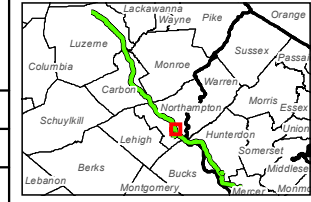


URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)

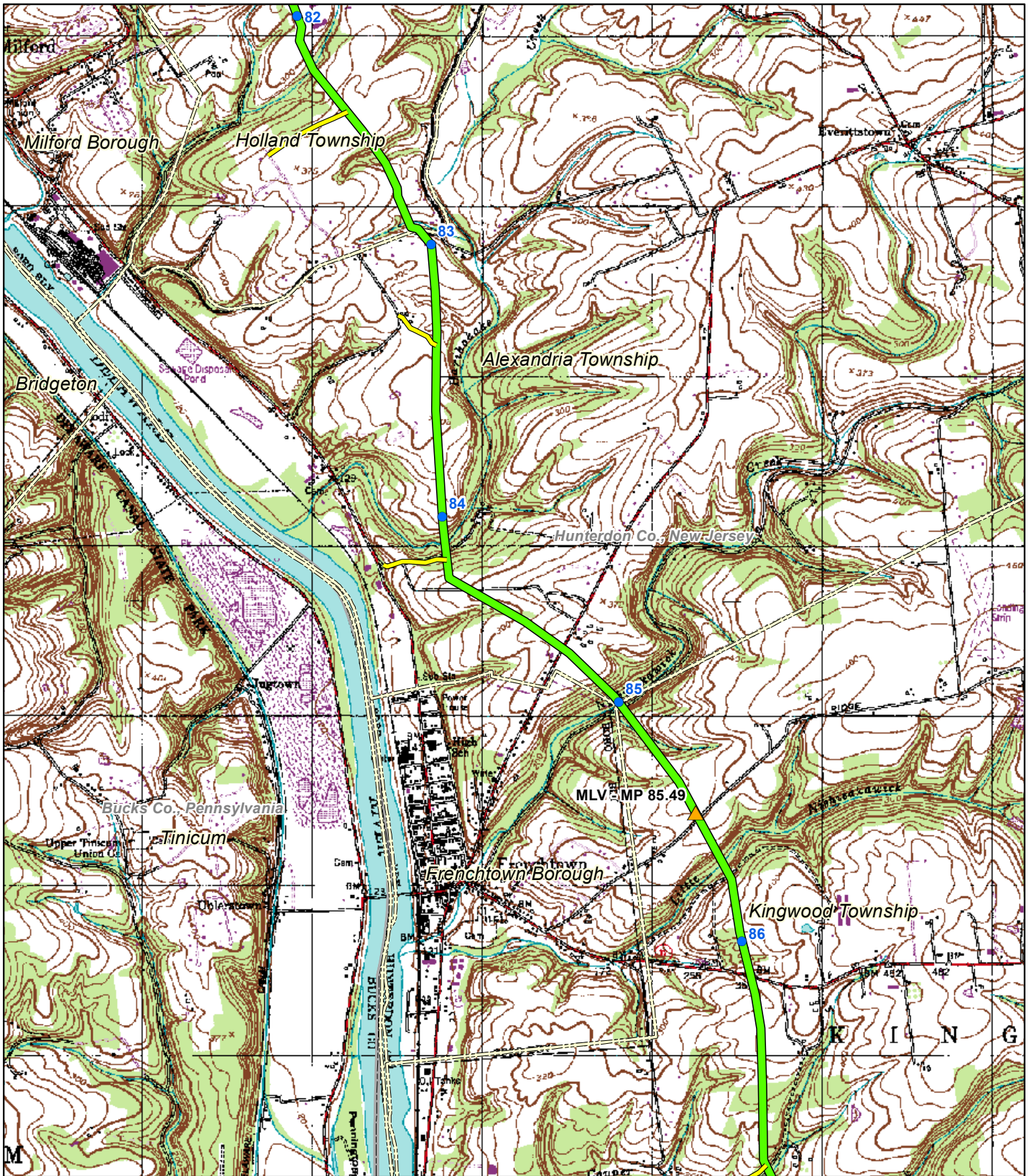


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		▭ Municipality Boundary	▭ County Boundary
		▭ Hellertown 24" Lateral	

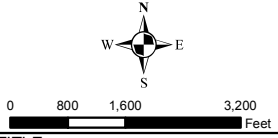
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CKD. BY: BH	ENG.:	Date: 1/13/2015	W.O.:
DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 21 of 33



PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC



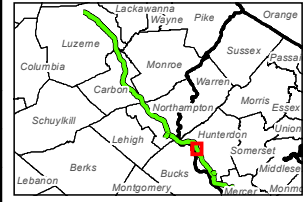
Reference:  
Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



Legend	
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▲ Interconnect	▬ Access Road
▭ Municipality Boundary	▭ County Boundary

TITLE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
USGS Topographic Maps

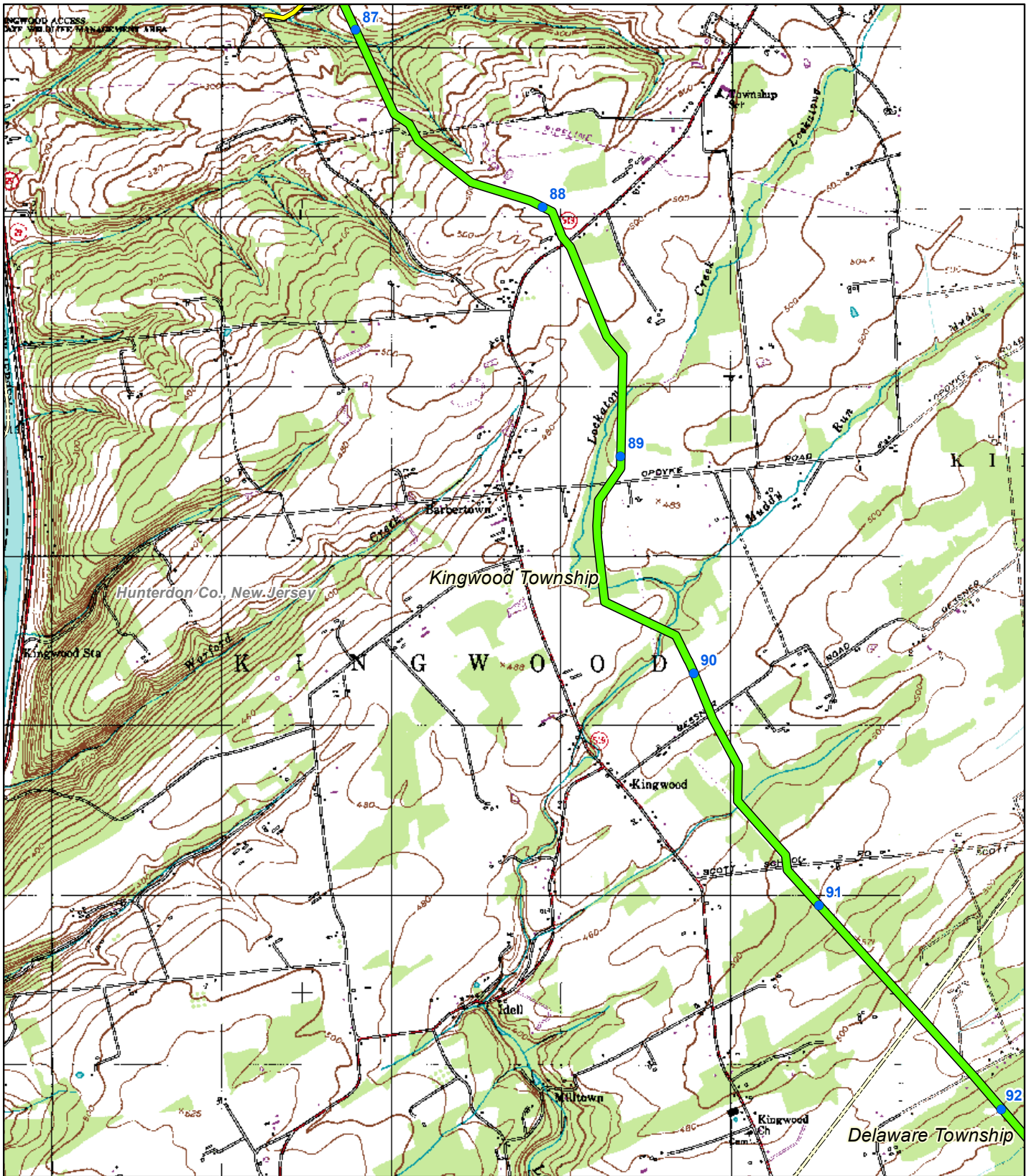
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DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 26 of 33



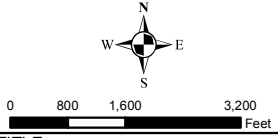
PennEast  
PIPELINE

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC



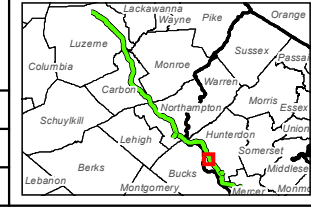


Reference:  
Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



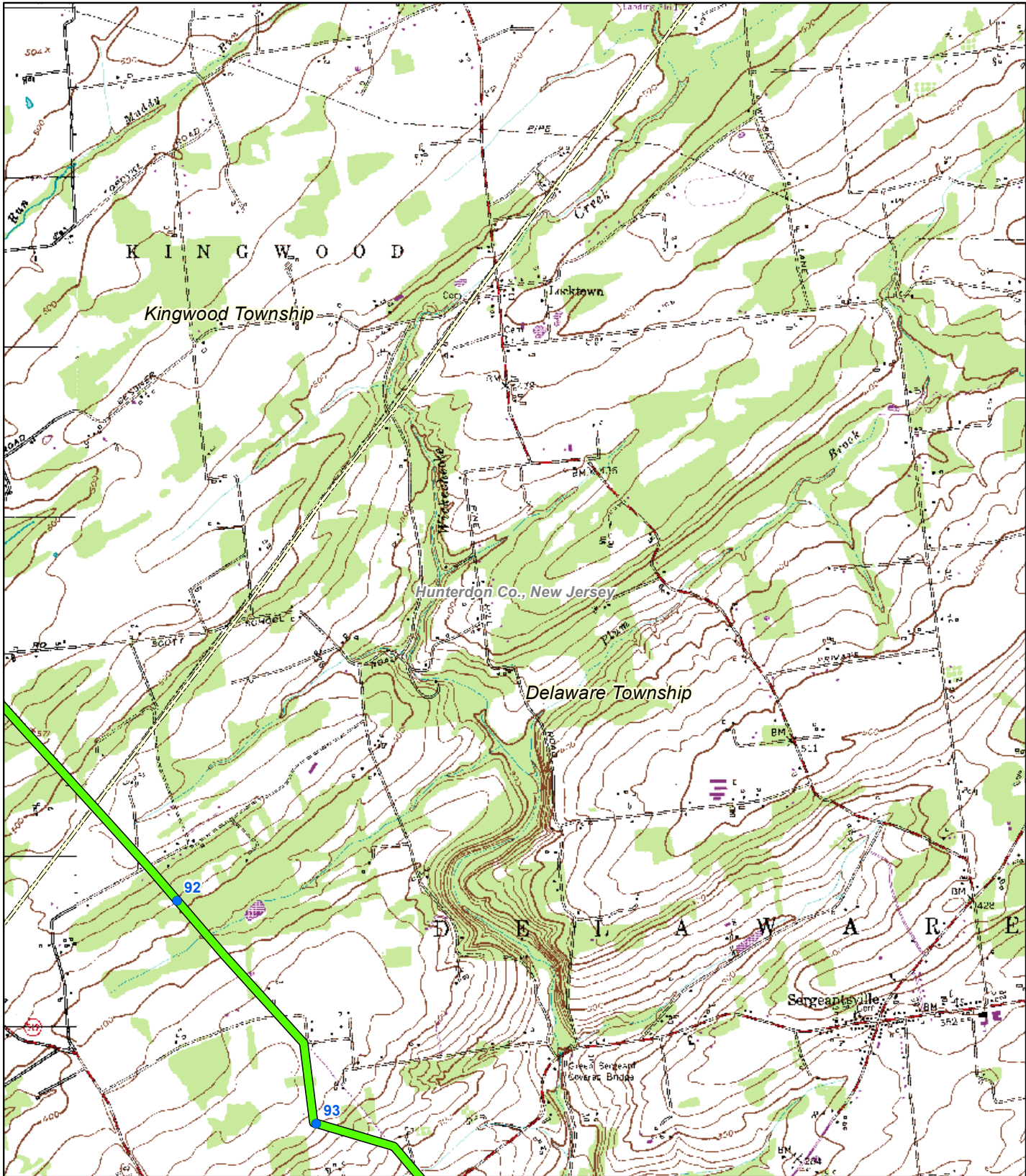
Legend	
● Mile Postings Primary	■ PennEast New Preferred Alternative Route
■ Access Road	□ County Boundary

TITLE: <b>PennEast Pipeline Project USGS Topographic Maps</b>			
LOC: Frenchtown, Lumberville Quadrangle		REV.:	
CKD. BY: BH	ENG.:	Date: 1/13/2015	W.O.:
DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 27 of 33



**PennEast**  
PIPELINE

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC



Reference:  
Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



0 800 1,600 3,200  
Feet

**Legend**

- Mile Postings Primary
- PennEast New Preferred Alternative Route
- County Boundary

TITLE:

**PennEast Pipeline Project  
USGS Topographic Maps**

LOC: Stockton Quadrangle

REV.:

CKD. BY: BH

ENG.:

Date: 1/13/2015

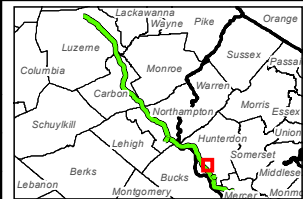
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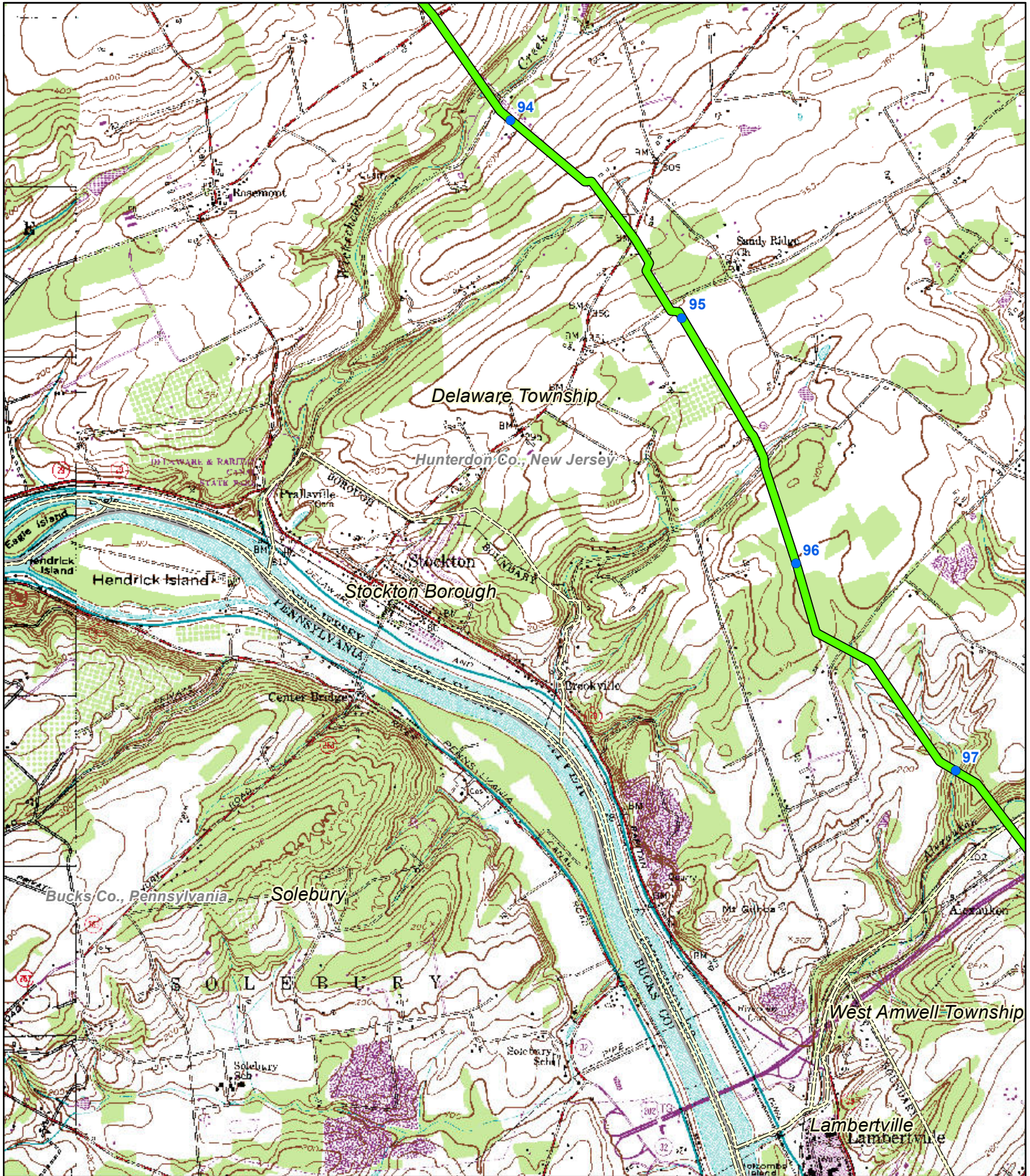
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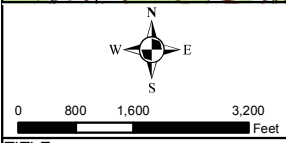
SHEET: 28 of 33



PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

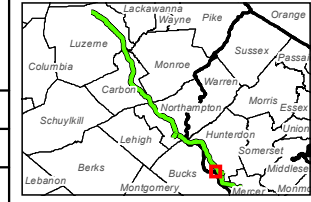


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Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



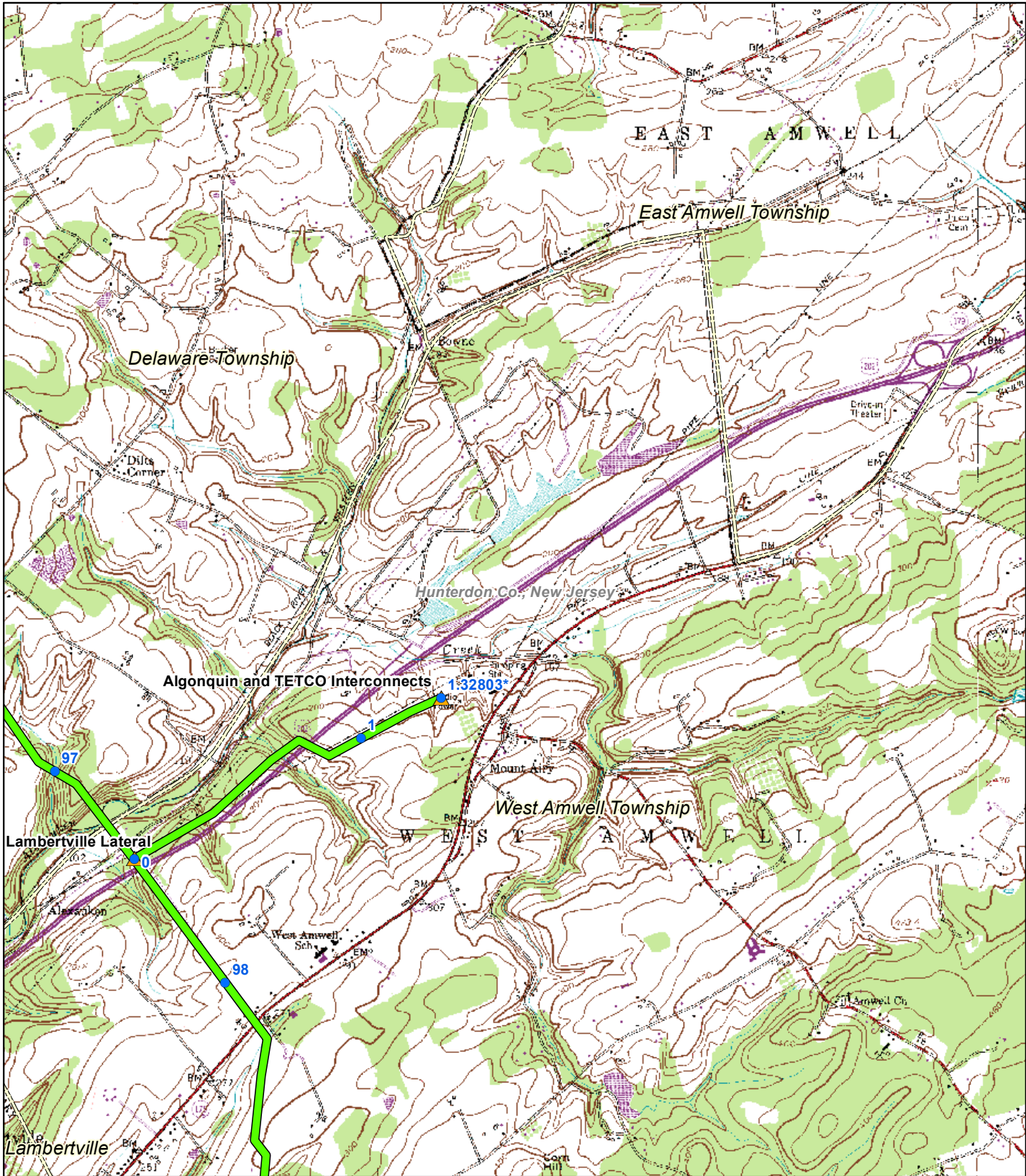
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Municipality Boundary	County Boundary

TITLE: PennEast Pipeline Project USGS Topographic Maps			
LOC: Stockton Quadrangle		REV.:	
CKD. BY: BH	ENG.:	Date: 1/13/2015	W.O.:
DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 29 of 33

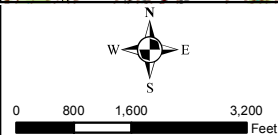


**PennEast**  
PIPELINE

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC



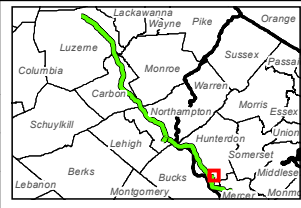
Reference:  
Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



**Legend**

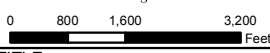
- Mile Postings Primary
- PennEast New Preferred Alternative Route
- ▲ Interconnect
- County Boundary

<p><b>TITLE:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">PennEast Pipeline Project USGS Topographic Maps</p>			
<p>LOC: Stockton Quadrangle</p>		<p>REV.:</p>	
<p>CKD. BY: BH</p>	<p>ENG.:</p>	<p>Date: 1/13/2015</p>	<p>W.O.:</p>
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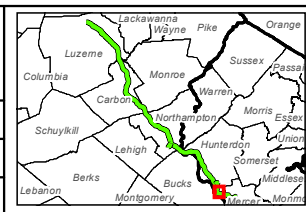


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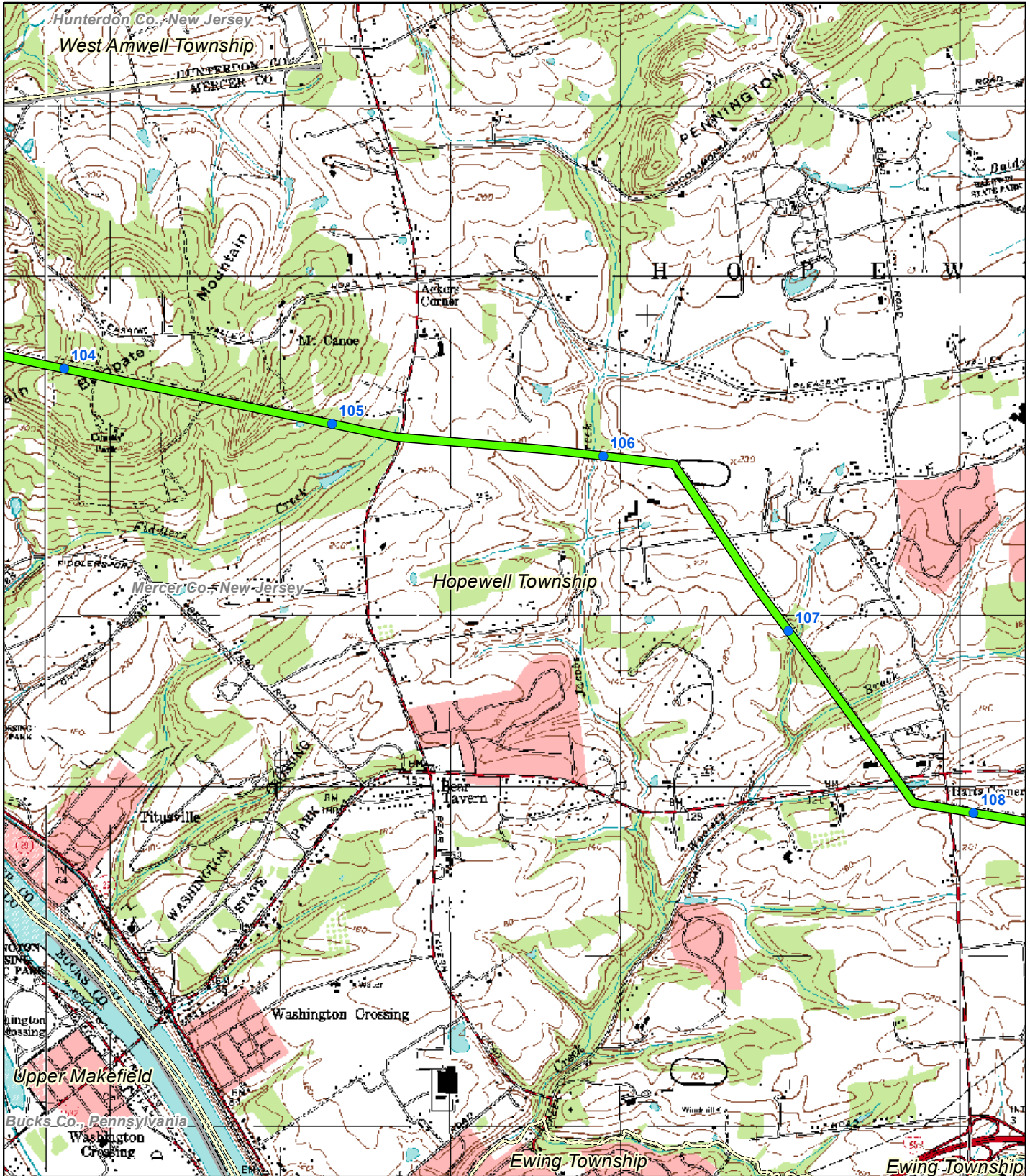
- Legend**
- Mile Postings Primary
  - PennEast New Preferred Alternative Route
  - ▭ Municipality Boundary
  - ▭ County Boundary

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LOC: Hopewell Quadrangle		REV.:	
CKD. BY: BH	ENG.:	Date: 1/13/2015	W.O.:
DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 31 of 33

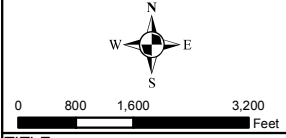


**PennEast**  
PIPELINE

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

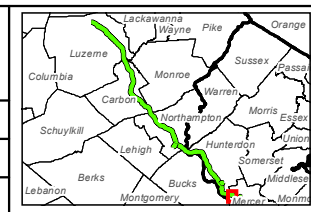


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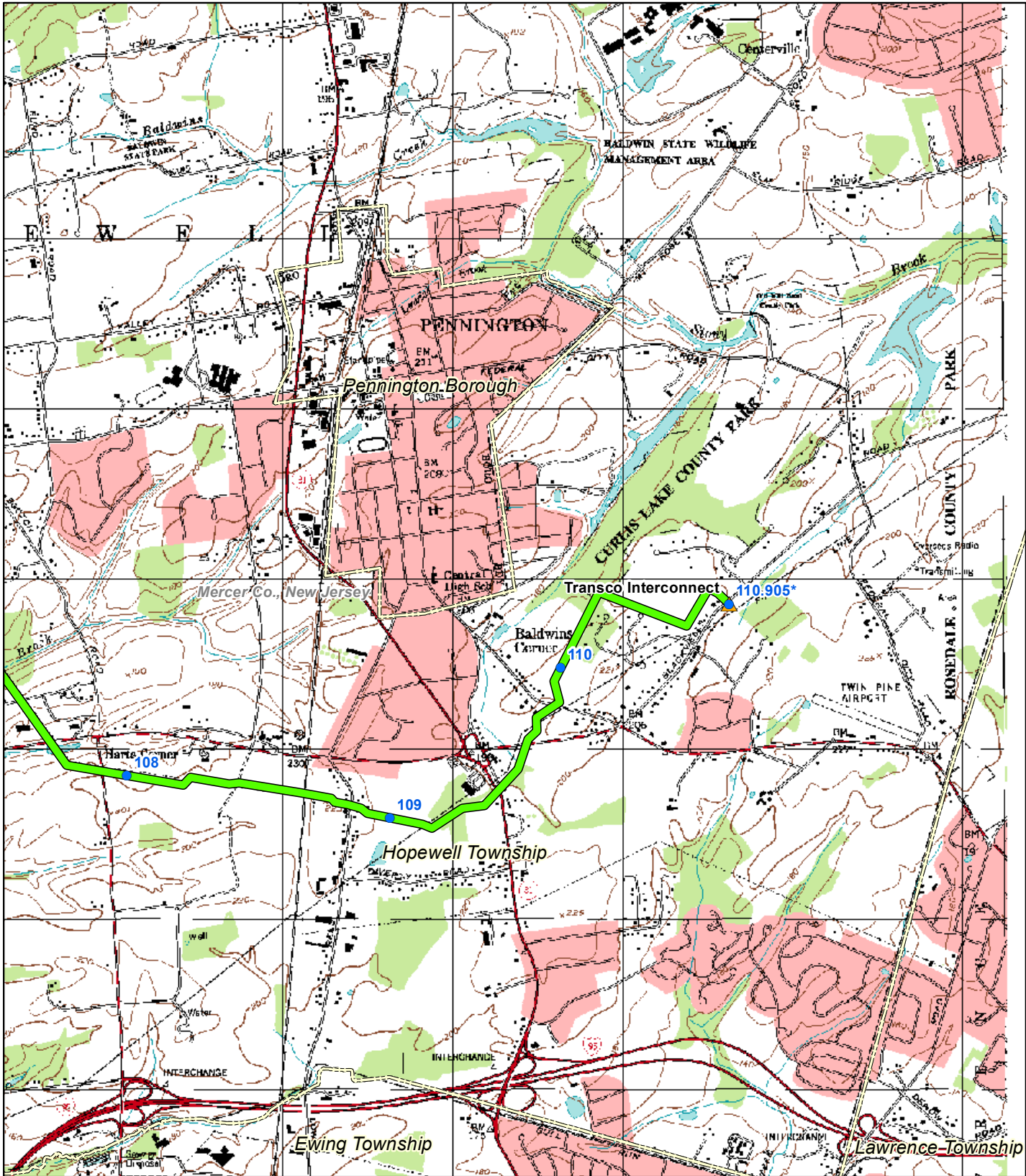
Legend	
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▭ Municipality Boundary	▭ County Boundary

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DRN. BY: VP	SCALE: SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	DWG. NO.:	SHEET: 32 of 33

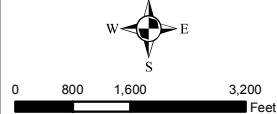


**PennEast**  
PIPELINE

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

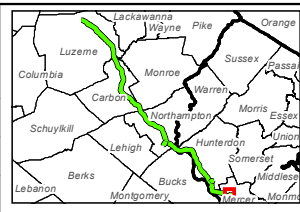


Reference:  
Municipal and County boundaries from PA DOT and NJDEP



- Legend**
- Mile Postings Primary
  - PennEast New Preferred Alternative Route
  - ▲ Interconnect
  - County Boundary

<b>TITLE:</b> PennEast Pipeline Project USGS Topographic Maps			
<b>LOC:</b> Pennington Quadrangle		<b>REV.:</b>	
<b>CKD. BY:</b> BH	<b>ENG.:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 1/13/2015	<b>W.O.:</b>
<b>DRN. BY:</b> VP	<b>SCALE:</b> SEE GRAPHIC SCALE	<b>DWG. NO.:</b>	<b>SHEET:</b> 33 of 33



PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC



January 14, 2015

Ms. Kayla Easler  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801

USFWS Project #: 2014-1013

Dear Ms. Easler:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015.

Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on October 24, 2014. In Pennsylvania, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 2.5 miles to the north side of State Route 33 near Bethlehem, PA. In New Jersey, the preferred alternative route has been re-routed for approximately 21 miles, from M.P. 90 (approximate) to the southern project terminus. This re-route has also necessitated a 1.3-mile, 36-inch lateral near Lambertville, NJ to transport gas to Algonquin and Texas Eastern Transmission systems. USGS topographic maps showing just the new route adjustments and updated shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)





March 30, 2015

Mr. Jeremy Markuson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
927 N. Main Street, Building D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232

Dear Mr. Markuson:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. Over the past months, PennEast has worked to refine a preferred alternative route and to obtain permissions to survey. To that end, we must inform you that the preferred alternative route has again been adjusted to account for engineering, environmental, and land use constraints that have been identified since we last provided your agency with detailed project mapping on January 14, 2015.

Following feedback from FERC's scoping meetings and numerous conversations with landowners, state and local agencies, and other various stakeholders, PennEast has revised and refined various portions of the preferred alternative route. The largest variations to the previously released route are related to the location of the crossing of the Bethlehem Authority water supply mainline (MP 44 and MP 45), Appalachian Trail crossing (between MP 46 and MP 55), and accommodating future subdivision and housing development plans. Additional field data gained over the last month has helped make smaller adjustments related to environmental surveys and individual discussions with landowners.

In addition to the route variations noted above, an additional interconnect was needed for the Gilbert Power Generation facility in Holland Township, New Jersey, which is fed by a small lateral (12 inches) to supply natural gas to the facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.

A summary of the significant route variations in New Jersey is provided below:

- In Holland Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, a new 12-inch lateral is needed to run from milepost 76.6 on the mainline pipeline route approximately ½-mile south to an interconnect with Elizabethtown Gas and the Gilbert Power Generation facility. The previously located interconnection with Elizabethtown Gas was relocated so that both interconnects can be co-located within the power station's industrial property to minimize additional above-ground impacts.
- In Holland Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, approximately two miles of the alignment has been re-routed less than ½-mile to the south of the previous route to accommodate a future private development planned for the area.



- In West Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, approximately 1 mile of the alignment has been re-routed up to 1,000 feet east of the previous route to avoid a newly constructed home that was identified by a landowner.

Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are being provided to aide in your review and analysis of the project.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernie Holcomb".

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



PennEast Pipeline Project

MEETING MINUTES

USFWS Pennsylvania Field Office  
State College, PA  
Date: April 22, 2015

**Attendees:**

**Pam Shellenberger**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, PA Field Office

**John Taucher**, Pennsylvania Game Commission

**Deborah Poppel**, URS Corporation (an AECOM company)

**Drew Wanke and Chris Voorhees**, Wildlife Specialists LLC

**Summary**

The purpose of the meeting was to review specific bat survey needs and protocols with USFWS, PGC, and Wildlife Specialists, the recognized qualified bat surveyors retained by PennEast for the Project.

Items of note discussed with at the meeting included:

- As discussed at the prior meeting with USFWS in October, the pipeline does not go through any known bat hibernacula, swarming area radius, or maternity colonies. USFWS confirmed that mist net surveys are necessary due to the amount of forest crossed as well as the new listing status of Northern Long Eared Bat. Caves in “mine country” (e.g. Carbon County) should be identified where possible.
- USFWS recently published (2015) Indiana Bat Summer survey protocol should be followed.
- Ms. Poppel asked about the potential for assuming presence and applying mitigation measures at the outset. USFWS said assuming presence is not recommended based upon the lack of information on bats in the immediate project corridor, and also contribution to the Indiana Bat conservation fund for a project of this size would be cost-prohibitive compared to the cost of conducting surveys that may rule out large swaths of forest.
- Ms. Shellenberger inquired about the construction schedule; it was noted that PennEast plans to clear trees in the winter of 2016 (Dec timeframe). Ms. Shellenberger reiterated that the winter tree clearing window is Nov. 15-March 31
- Mr. Wanke and Ms. Shellenberger reviewed the aerial photography and ruled out areas that include agricultural fields with narrow woodlots or hedgerows as not needing mist net surveys.
- Mr. Taucher noted that the PGC will requires mist netting based upon the new state status of the Northern Long-eared bat. The PGC’s new letter in response to



the March 31 update request will reflect NLE bat status in PA and this survey requirement.

- PGC was also asked about woodrat survey protocol because the requirement to extend 600' (200m) beyond the survey corridor is not feasible where we do not have property owner access. Mr. Taucher said to just "see what is out there" and then coordinate with him, he is willing to work with us on this.
- Acoustics surveys are not accepted by PGC as a valid methodology; USFWS does not recommend them either.
- Radio tracking will be required by USFWS on any Indiana or NLE bat captured. Wildlife Specialists understands that bats cannot be followed off-site, i.e. onto properties we do not have access permission on. If this scenario occurs, triangulation will be used.
- Survey plan to be provided by Wildlife Specialists to URS, PGC, and USFWS with the identified mist net survey sites. Wildlife Specialists will provide a letter explaining the methodology to be used that land agents can provide to landowners. Plan to start May 15 on state lands. Private landowner access will follow coordination protocol.

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation



PennEast Pipeline Project

MEETING MINUTES

USFWS New Jersey Field Office  
Pleasantville, NJ  
Date: April 23, 2015

**Attendees:**

**Jeremy Markuson**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, NJ Field Office  
**Deborah Poppel**, URS Corporation (an AECOM company)  
**Drew Wanke**, Wildlife Specialists LLC

**Summary**

The purpose of the meeting was to review specific bat survey needs and protocols with USFWS, PGC, and Wildlife Specialists, the recognized qualified bat surveyors retained by PennEast for the Project.

Items of note discussed with at the meeting included:

- If timing restrictions are required, there will not be flexibility on part of USFWS to “bend” these. Ensure that a complete NJDEP application is submitted early.
- USFWS recently published (2015) bat survey protocol should be followed.
- Drew and Jeremy reviewed several areas on the route that cross through agricultural fields, but that have small patches of woodlots or fencerows. It was agreed that these areas do not need to be surveyed with mist netting. Riparian corridors that are connected to larger patches of forest should be included.
- With this consideration in mind, the project as a whole will have about 125 “sites” to survey, because NLE bat habitat is more general (greater diversity of trees, smaller dbh) than that of Indiana bat.
- NJ-USFWS asks that mist net sites be “walking distance” from one another if more than one area is to be surveyed in one evening. 6 net sites per kilometer or more in “good habitat”.
- Do not start surveys in New Jersey before June 1 because of cold spring/late season.
- Coordinate with Mackenzie of NJ-ENSP on banding requirements and collecting fur/blood samples.
- Radio-track any individual bats of protected species that are captured- if female, or juvenile.
- NJ is requiring mist-netting and radio-tracking, will not allow acoustic surveys, and PennEast cannot go straight to time-of-year restrictions on tree clearing without first doing the bat surveys.
- USFWS is currently doing an internal review of tri-color and little brown bat, just to be aware of these species should they be captured.



- Section 7A-1 on recovery of species should be addressed in consultation of project. See ideas in email Jeremy sent during early coordination of project:
  - Land acquisition, funding for WNS research
  - There is a known bat hibernaculum at “Mount Hope”, the site is currently slated for private development, USFWS would like to see a conservation easement there.

Other topics (not bat related):

- USFWS will require adaptive management plan for birds;
- Phase I bog turtle surveys will be required in all wetlands, including forested, by a RQBTS who is listed in NJ.
- Add Jeremy to the invite list for the monthly FERC calls.

Minutes Prepared by:

URS Corporation

---

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 26, 2015 3:49 PM  
**To:** Drew Wanke  
**Cc:** pamela\_shellenberger; Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah; Ron Popowski  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Mist-net Study Plan  
**Attachments:** Phase 2 Mist-net Study Plan\_JMReview.pdf

Thanks Drew,

Please incorporate the following changes into the summer survey work plan:

- 1) The summer bat survey season in NJ is June 1 - August 15. Do not begin summer survey efforts in New Jersey until after June 1.
- 2) I'm requesting additional net sites in four different forested areas (see attached maps with green dots).
- 3) Where in PA are the abandoned mines? Please provide a geographic description in the work plan and add a map showing the abandoned mines.
- 4) In NJ, attach radio transmitters to both male and female northern long-eared bats. Up to 1 male or non-reproductive female per 5 kilometers and 2 reproductive females per 5 kilometers.
- 5) Please contact me if a northern long-eared bat is captured. If I am not available, please contact my supervisor, Ron Popowski (609-241-7065). Please notify us within 48 hours from the time of capture.

Also, I don't have a copy of your qualifications. Please send me your qualifications prior to initiating the summer bat survey in New Jersey.

Thanks,

Jeremy

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Thank you,  
Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***  
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[jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)



## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2015 1:39 PM  
**To:** Markuson, Jeremy  
**Cc:** pamela\_shellenberger; Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah; Ron Popowski  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Mist-net Study Plan

Hi Jeremy,

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner, it's been an extremely busy and hectic start to the season here in PA. We will incorporate all of the changes above that you've requested.

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Drew

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:41 PM  
**To:** Thompson, Bridger; Sue Quackenbush (squackenbush@amygreene.com); Thomas, Autumn  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard; West, Jonathan  
**Subject:** USFWS- NJ bog turtle survey information

Spoke with Jeremy Markuson of USFWS-NJ and he confirmed that he does want to see Phase I bog turtle surveys for all wetlands, including forested because there can be pockets of potential habitat within them, and regardless of NJ Landscape project mapping status.

Also, Bernie & /or Jon, Jeremy made the request to “walk the route” at some point; I explained we didn’t have access to all of it yet but I would relay the request and see that the appropriate person was able to respond to him.

### **Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
D 1-610-832-3597 C 1-215-833-0566  
[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

### **AECOM**

625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, PA 19428  
T 1-610-832-3500 F 1-610-832-3501  
[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)  
Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn | Google+

AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.

## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2015 11:55 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** Drew Wanke; Holcomb, Bernard; West, Jonathan; pamelashellenberger; Chris Voorhees; Ron Popowski  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Mist-net Study Plan

Thanks Deborah,

Depending on the surrounding landscape at or near the blasting locations, I may request a greater level of effort to capture Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat during the summer bat survey.

Jeremy

On Fri, Jun 19, 2015 at 11:30 AM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)> wrote:

Jeremy- By way of cc to this email I am passing along your question regarding blasting locations to the PM and Deputy PM of the project. However, as we are still early in preliminary design phase of this project, I do not know that all of this information is specifically known at this time. Is this really a piece of information necessary for you to approve the NJ bat survey plan?

As to landowner approvals, we give Drew/Wildlife specialists weekly updates on property owner access and survey permissions so they are aware of what properties they are allowed to survey & mist net for bats.

Thanks for your continued assistance with this project.

Deborah Poppel

---

**From:** [wank.a.tonk@gmail.com](mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com) [[wank.a.tonk@gmail.com](mailto:wank.a.tonk@gmail.com)] on behalf of Drew Wanke [[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2015 9:51 AM  
**To:** Markuson, Jeremy  
**Cc:** pamelashellenberger; Chris Voorhees; Poppel, Deborah; Ron Popowski  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Mist-net Study Plan

Hi Jeremy,

I will follow up with Mike Fishman and see where he's at with my letter of reference.

I will defer the question on blasting and adjacent landowner permission to Deb at AECOM, because I'm more towards the northern end of the proposed ROW doing mist-net surveys at this time, and don't know the answers to your questions.

When our crews are in the field, or if we can determine from aerial imagery, that a property/place seems more appropriate for netting than somewhere along the proposed ROW, we try to figure out who owns the property and knock on doors, in an effort to get access where we think mist-netting would be the more productive.

Drew

***Drew A. Wanke***

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[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)

On Fri, Jun 19, 2015 at 8:21 AM, Markuson, Jeremy <[jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Thanks Drew,

Before you start the summer bat survey efforts I would like one additional written recommendation from an experienced surveyor who can comment on your expertise on field identification skills, radio telemetry, and survey efforts. The written recommendation can be submitted by mail or in an e-mail.

In addition to the requested changes to the draft survey work plan, please also provide me the locations where blasting activity is proposed along the route? Once all of this information is incorporated into the workplan I would like to review it one last time for New Jersey Field Office approval. Also, have you been able to get landowner permission to access private properties adjacent to the proposed route in New Jersey?

Thanks,

Jeremy

On Mon, Jun 8, 2015 at 1:39 PM, Drew Wanke <[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)> wrote:  
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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 09, 2015 9:57 AM  
**To:** John Mayersky; Drew Wanke (drew@wildlife-specialists.com)  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; MacKenzie Hall  
**Subject:** Re: NJ QBS list  
**Attachments:** NJ\_MYSO\_MYSE\_Surveyors\_List July 9\_2015.pdf

Hi John (and Drew),

I've added you to our list (attached). Sorry I didn't get back to you earlier.

On May 26 and June 19 I provided comments on the proposed work plan. Since that time I haven't heard if you've been granted access to individual properties along the proposed route. Please provide me an update on your ability to access adjacent properties to conduct an adequate survey.

I have received additional information concerning the need to conduct telemetry on any MYSE. Mike Armstrong has noted that any captures of MYSE (male, female, or juvenile) may represent a maternity colony. This is being based on approximately 2,000 MYSE captures in KY over the last 12 years. Close to 95% of all male captures were within buffers of female and juvenile captures thus providing strong justification. This also seems to hold true in New Jersey. Previously I had recommended conducting telemetry on 1 male or non-reproductive female per 5 kilometers and 2 reproductive females per 5 kilometers. Given this new information, I'm requesting that any 2 MYSEs captured per 5 kilometers, regardless of age or reproductive status (provided the individual can support a transmitter) be fitted with a transmitter.

I still haven't received any information regarding the proposed blasting locations. Additional survey efforts need to be done within these areas.

Can you collect fur samples when bats are captured? I can provide you some vials and instructions for collecting fur samples if this can be done.

MacKenzie Hall and I are both interested in little brown bat and tri-colored bats. If there is an opportunity to conduct telemetry on these bats, we would appreciate it. This would help in my review of the project. However, conducting telemetry on these other bats should not compromise your efforts to capture and track MYSE.

Lastly, please send me a final work plan.

Thanks,

Jeremy

On Wed, Jul 8, 2015 at 2:38 PM, <[mayerskyiii.john@gmail.com](mailto:mayerskyiii.john@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

I sent my second letter of recommendation for the NJ QBS permit about a week ago, and I haven't heard back yet. I will be going to NJ in a week or so and was wondering if I will be qualified to work there at that time. I can send the letter again if you didn't receive it. Thank you.

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Sent from my iPhone

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2015 2:35 PM  
**To:** Markuson, Jeremy  
**Cc:** John Mayersky; Poppel, Deborah; MacKenzie Hall  
**Subject:** Re: NJ QBS list

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Jeremy,

Some access along the ROW has been granted, and in other places, landowners have denied access. When we go out to select our sites, we start first with those sites we put into the study plan, where we have access. This gives the land agents and the ROW crews additional time to get us access on other properties we request, in order to net on them. Sometimes the sites picked from aerial imagery and put onto maps for the study plan, don't pan out once we're in the field, and we shift them to more appropriate spots, once we get access. If we can't get access in an area appropriate for netting, we won't net it, until we have access in a place suitable to hang nets. We try to set up on riparian corridors and trails with good canopy closure to increase the likelihood of capture.

We will conduct the telemetry as requested above. If 2 (or more) MYSE are captured at a site, should we put a transmitter on both of them? What if they're both males? Or should we take the chance of hoping to catch another within 5km, and put a transmitter on only 1 of the males?

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We can collect fur samples. Any or all species? We've been catching mostly EPFU throughout PA, with LABO being our second most common capture. We should be able to do telemetry on little browns and tri-colored. It's been pretty depressing as far as both of those species go this summer. I think we have 4 or 5 total little browns and zero tri-colored bats. And we have been working more or less non-stop since the beginning of the season.

I'll send an updated study plan including the changes to the telemetry, and the additional net sites you requested.

Also, you or MacKenzie are both welcome to come out and join us netting any time you like. Just let me know when, and we'll work out the details.

Thanks,  
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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9:27 AM  
**To:** Drew Wanke; Poppel, Deborah  
**Cc:** John Mayersky; MacKenzie Hall  
**Subject:** Re: NJ QBS list

Thanks for the update Drew.

If you're not given access before the end of the survey period (August 15) I'd recommend surveying the closest habitat where you have access to ensure that listed bats are not missed and I'm able to concur with the findings. If this is the case for several of your proposed areas then get in touch with me. Additional net nights in adjacent habitats might be necessary if you can't survey the proposed action area.

Sorry if I wasn't clear about conducting telemetry on federally listed bats. As you noted in your original work plan, conduct telemetry on any Indiana bat that is captured. Now that I've been reviewing more work plans I've decided that the survey methodologies should not be inconsistent between the two species (Section 7 consultation doesn't change). Thus, go ahead and conduct telemetry on any northern long-eared bat that you capture. However, if you have put transmitters on 5 bats (MYSO or MYSE) within 5 kilometers contact me and we can discuss the need for further telemetry activities within that area.

Let me know if you have a mail address that I can FedEx the supplies for collecting fur samples. Of course this isn't part of the project but we would appreciate the samples if you capture bats. We are most interested in *Myotis* but collections of other species would be great. We don't need more than 5 samples per site.

Deb, any idea where construction blasting will be taking place? Construction blasting is a lot of disturbance and netting efforts should be done in these areas.

Thanks for inviting MacKenzie and myself. If you have a tentative schedule send it to me and maybe I can drop by for an evening.

Thanks again for the close coordination and sorry for any confusion regarding telemetry. I was previously going back and forth about telemetry for northern long-eared bats.

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New Jersey Field Office  
927 North Main Street, Bldg. D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232  
phone:  [\(609\) 383-3938 ext. 45](tel:(609)383-3938) fax:  [\(609\) 646-0352](tel:(609)646-0352)  
[jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)

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Jeremy Markuson  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
927 North Main Street, Bldg. D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232  
phone: (609) 383-3938 ext. 45 fax: (609) 646-0352  
[jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)

## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Christina Voorhees <chris@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2015 2:14 PM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** URGENT- More bats need tracked in NJ

Hi Deb, Drew just informed me that Jeremy with NJ USFWS and MacKenzie with NJDEP have asked for MYLU and PESU to be transmitted as additional effort, but aren't requiring it; because it will "help aid them with their review". Not sure how we want to approach this. It's not required, so we don't have to do it, but it's also good idea to stay on good terms with the agencies. Please advise ASAP as they did already capture 1 MYLU in NJ so far.

Chris

--

### ***Christina S. Voorhees, PhD***

Certified Wildlife Biologist ®  
Vice President  
Wildlife Specialists, LLC

#### **Home Office**

79 Keena Lane  
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717-789-0078  
570-439-7851 (cell)  
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#### **Wellsboro Office**

2785 Hills Creek Road  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-376-2255  
[www.wildlife-specialists.com](http://www.wildlife-specialists.com)



## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:43 AM  
**To:** jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Sue Quackenbush (squackenbush@amygreene.com); West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
Environment - Impact Assessment & Permitting Dept.  
Design & Consulting Services, Philadelphia Metro Region  
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[Deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:Deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**



## Poppel, Deborah

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2015 11:42 AM  
**To:** 'Easler, Kayla'  
**Cc:** West, Jonathan; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Reroutes- Official Notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast Deviation MP 22.4 to 23.2\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 48.9 to 53.5\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 61.7 to 62.7\_072315.pdf; PennEast Deviation MP 70.1 to 70.6\_072315.pdf; PennEast Reroute MP 6.5 to 11.8\_072315.pdf; PennEast Proposed Route (July 15, 2015).kmz; PennEast\_ProjectShapefiles\_July2015

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses. In the April filing we provided an overview of the ongoing assessments for 3 major alternatives and over 70 minor route variations.

In the past 3 months the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. In Pennsylvania, 2 reroutes and more than 40 minor route variations have been evaluated. The 2 reroutes evaluate alternative ways of crossing the Appalachian Trail and nearby PA State Game Lands, and avoid active quarrying operations. These alternatives and reroutes have gone through the same detailed assessment as those assessed in the April filing. Updated GIS shapefiles for the entire new preferred alternative route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. **(To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.)**

Significant reroutes include:

- In Plains Township and Laflin Borough in Luzerne County, approximately 3.6 miles of the alignment has been rerouted one mile to the east to avoid active quarrying operations (new mileposts 8.4 to 12.3).
- In Towamensing Township and Lower Towamensing Township in Carbon County, approximately 2 miles of the alignment has been rerouted approximately 2 miles to the west. This reroute addresses a request for a new Interconnect as well as concerns related to the Appalachian Trail and PA State Game Lands (new mileposts 48.9 to 53.6)

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues on this important Project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**PA agencies- We have also attached PNDIs of the primary deviations and reroutes for your information purposes, although we understand these are not to be used for permitting as this is a large project.**

Sincerely,

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**

Senior Ecologist / Project Manager  
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AECOM and URS have joined together as one company.

## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** wank.a.tonk@gmail.com on behalf of Drew Wanke <drew@wildlife-specialists.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2015 3:05 AM  
**To:** MacKenzie Hall; Jeremy  
**Cc:** Poppel, Deborah; Chris Voorhees  
**Subject:** Northern long-eared bat capture

I caught a post lactating northern long-eared bat tonight at site PE136. I put a transmitter and band on her, and we'll start looking for her tomorrow night. She was captured at

40°23'42.76"N  
74°55'6.57"W

Let me know if you have any questions, or require anything further.

Drew

### ***Drew A. Wanke***

Wildlife Biologist, QIBS  
Wildlife Specialists, LLC  
2785 Hills Creek Road  
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570-376-2255 (Office)  
518-569-9999 (Cell)  
[drew@wildlife-specialists.com](mailto:drew@wildlife-specialists.com)



October 7, 2015

Ms. Pamela Shellenberger  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322  
State College, PA 16801

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
USFWS Project Number: 2014-1013  
Survey Results: Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, bog turtle, and northeastern bulrush  
Project Screening Form: bald eagle

Dear Ms. Shellenberger:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat and presence/absence surveys for Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*); with Mellon Biological Services to conduct surveys for Northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*); and with several Recognized, Qualified Bog Turtle Surveyors (RQBTS) to conduct Phase I and Phase II surveys for bog turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*). These surveys were conducted in accordance with federal survey guidelines established for each species, by qualified biologists, and in areas of the Project identified in consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Pennsylvania Field Office.

Reports documenting the results of these surveys are enclosed for your review. In addition, a completed USFWS Bald Eagle Project Screening Form is also enclosed for your records. Based on the results of the surveys, PennEast requests USFWS concurrence on the following:

- PennEast will adhere to the recommended Avoidance Measures (3, 4, and 5); therefore no adverse impacts to bald eagle from the Project are anticipated.
- No northeastern bulrush were found during surveys by a qualified botanist in suitable habitats, therefore, no adverse impacts to northeastern bulrush from the Project are anticipated.
- In wetlands identified as potential bog turtle habitat during Phase I surveys, no bog turtles were found following Phase 2 surveys conducted according to USFWS protocol. Therefore, no adverse impacts to bog turtle from the Project are anticipated in these areas. Additional surveys will be conducted in spring of 2016 in areas where access permission was denied; these results will be provided in a supplemental report.
- No Indiana bats were identified following surveys by qualified biologists according to protocol. Therefore, no adverse impacts to Indiana bat from the Project are anticipated.



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



- Northern long-eared bats were identified following surveys by qualified biologists. Based upon telemetry results and roost locations, the following sections of the Project should adhere to the tree-clearing timing restriction (i.e., only clear trees between November 1 and March 31):

Based on the results of the surveys and telemetry, which identified active roost and foraging locations, it is expected that timing restrictions for tree clearing will be required within 0.25 mile of the following areas identified by milepost (MP):

- MP 1.5
- MP 24
- MP 35.8-35.9
- MP 38.7
- MP 39.6
- MP 42.2
- MP 49.4-50.4
- MP 62.8
- MP 82
- MP 84.5
- MP 88.6
- MP 102.8

In addition, USFWS provided information on 3 known hibernacula within 0.25 mile of the Project corridor. These are known as Durham Cave 1, Durham Cave 2, and Tunnel 34. Cave 1 and Cave 2 are both located in the vicinity of MP 77.25, 1,125 feet south of the proposed pipeline. Tunnel 34 is located in the vicinity of MP 11.3, 1,200 feet southwest of an access road and 6,100 feet west of the proposed pipeline. At USFWS' request, the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) was contacted to find out information about any connector tunnels between Cave 1 and Cave 2. Greg Turner of PGC indicated that the only connection known to exist between the two caves is airflow, and that when they were last surveyed in 2001, 34 bats were counted, 11 of which were northern long-eared bats. The USFWS concluded that a 0.25-mile buffer will provide basic protection to hibernacula and hibernating colonies (USFWS 2015). Direct impacts such as filling, excavation, blasting, noise, and smoke exposure will be restricted to extent practicable within these buffer areas. With these mitigation measures in place, the Project should not adversely impact the northern long-eared bat.

We look forward to continued consultation with your office on this important Project. Please contact Deb Poppel or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Holcomb**

Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

cc: Jeremy Markuson, USFWS-NJ  
John Taucher, PGC  
Dave Mong, DCNR



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Direct: 610 832 1810; Cell: 215 275-7956 ; Fax: 610-832-3501 [bernard.holcomb@urs.com](mailto:bernard.holcomb@urs.com)



October 7, 2015

Mr. Jeremy Markuson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
927 North Main St, Building D  
Pleasantville, NJ 08232-1454

RE: PennEast Pipeline Project  
Privileged and Confidential  
USFWS Project Number: 2014-I-0543  
Survey Results: Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat

Dear Mr. Markuson:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

In accordance with coordination with your office, PennEast contracted with Wildlife Specialists, LLC (Wildlife Specialists) to conduct habitat and presence/absence surveys for Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*); and with several Recognized, Qualified Bog Turtle Surveyors (RQBTS) to conduct Phase I and Phase II surveys for bog turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*). These surveys were conducted in accordance with federal survey guidelines established for each species, by qualified biologists, and in areas of the Project identified in consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) New Jersey Field Office.

Reports documenting the results of the biological surveys conducted in 2015 are enclosed for your review. Additional bat surveys in areas where survey permission was not obtained (18 out of 55 mist-net sites) will be conducted in 2016. Additional Phase I bog turtle surveys, and any necessary Phase 2 bog turtle surveys, will also be conducted in the spring of 2016 when additional properties are available for survey. The bog turtle reports will be submitted for your review at that time.

We look forward to continued consultation with your office on this important Project. Please contact Deb Poppel or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bernie Holcomb  
Pipeline Environmental Services Manager

cc: Pam Shellenberger, USFWS-PA  
MacKenzie Hall, NJDFW-ENSP



URS Corporation 625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 ; Conshohocken, PA 19428  
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## **Poppel, Deborah**

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**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 11:15 AM  
**To:** 'Shellenberger, Pamela'  
**Subject:** PennEast update notice  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_ProposedRoute\_20151214.kmz; PENNEAST\_SHAPEFILES\_ToDistribute.zip

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted five minor deviations from the route proposed in the September 24 Filing:

Deviation No. 1005 is located between mileposts ("MP") 9.07 and 12.10 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. PennEast adopted this deviation to address landowner concerns and to improve constructability of the proposed Project route. The landowner and quarry operators affected by this portion of the proposed Project route indicated that the proposed route in the September 24 Filing has the potential to adversely affect quarry operations. Additionally, this portion of the route in the September 24 Filing route presented a challenging crossing of Mill Creek. Deviation No. 1005 addresses both of these concerns. In addition, this deviation reduces the overall length of the Project and increases the route's co-location with existing utility easements.

Deviation No. 1400 is located between MP 43.95 and 44.55 in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. This deviation has been adopted based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the Bethlehem Authority, which operates a water supply system in Carbon and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania. Deviation No. 1400 provides a means of crossing the Bethlehem Authority waterline by a trenchless method and avoids the need to locate temporary workspace near the waterline. This deviation also includes a single HDD crossing of Beltzville Lake, instead of the two crossings that were proposed in the September 24 Filing, which minimizes impacts to the Beltzville State Park.

Deviation No. 1701 is located between MP 79.10 and 81.60 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route and is based on feedback that PennEast received in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Deviation No. 1701 minimizes impacts to the New Jersey Natural Lands Trust's Gravel Hill Preserve by increasing co-location with existing utility easements and impacting fewer parcels within the Gravel Hill Preserve. In addition, this deviation allows the proposed route to be in closer proximity to the proposed NRG REMA, LLC/Elizabethtown Gas delivery meter station, and it also relocates a proposed mainline valve from a residential area to an industrial area.

Deviation No. 1802 is located between MP 84.68 and 86.54 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to optimize the Project route to avoid crossing a federally preserved farm. PennEast considered different alternatives to avoid this crossing, and the adopted Deviation No. 1802 minimizes land use impacts and overall land requirements to avoid this crossing.

Deviation No. 1900 is located between MP 91.91 and 93.55 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. This deviation has been adopted to incorporate a route optimization that avoids crossing the Lockatong Creek three times with an open cut. This deviation now allows the Project route to cross the Lockatong Creek using a trenchless method. Deviation No. 1900 also avoids impacts to both a federally preserved farm and a New Jersey Green Acres Program protected parcel.

An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the proposed route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
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M +1-215-833-0566  
[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)



## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:12 PM  
**To:** 'Shellenberger, Pamela'  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the

January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 12:13 PM  
**To:** jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline- Project Update  
**Attachments:** 400' CORRIDOR (200' EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE).kmz

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### Description of Adopted Deviations

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy <jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:50 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Pipeline- Project Update

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Thanks Deb,

Can you also provide me an update on T&E surveys?

Jeremy

Jeremy Markuson  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
4 East Jimmie Leeds Road, Unit 4  
Galloway, New Jersey 08205-4465  
Phone: 609-382-5266  
Fax: 609-646-0352

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 12:12 PM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@acem.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@acem.com)> wrote:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Friday, February 26, 2016 1:38 PM  
**To:** 'Markuson, Jeremy'  
**Cc:** Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** RE: PennEast Pipeline- Project Update

Hi Jeremy- we are in the process of compiling this information and will provide you with an update soon.

Best regards-

Deborah Poppel  
(610) 832-3597 (office)  
(215) 833-0566 (cell)

**From:** Markuson, Jeremy [mailto:jeremy\_markuson@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:50 AM  
**To:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast Pipeline- Project Update

Thanks Deb,

Can you also provide me an update on T&E surveys?

Jeremy

Jeremy Markuson  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
4 East Jimmie Leeds Road, Unit 4  
Galloway, New Jersey 08205-4465  
Phone: 609-382-5266  
Fax: 609-646-0352

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 12:12 PM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)> wrote:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for

**From:** Shellenberger, Pamela  
**To:** [Poppel, Deborah](#)  
**Cc:** [Holcomb, Bernard](#); [Thompson, Bridger](#); [Binckley, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** Re: PennEast- bog turtle wetland MP 49  
**Date:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:58:56 AM

---

Hi Deb,

Thank you for your email.

Yes, the Service appreciates the company trying to avoid the wetland by proposing an HDD. However, we recognize that by using this method, impacts could still occur. In order to determine if the company would need a permit from the Service in the form of a Biological Opinion, we first would need further information about the number of HDDs that PennEast is proposing under known bog turtle wetlands. Also, more information about the geology under these wetlands. Is it suitable geology for HDD? How far underneath the wetland is the HDD proposed to go? Where do the HDD entry and exit points lie?

Direct bore, or direct push could be an option that minimizes impacts, particularly if it does not use bentonite. We would still want to have the above information if this method is proposed.

I am out of the office right now, and at a workshop all next week. If you can gather this information in the meantime, that would help with next step discussions.

Thank you!

Pamela Shellenberger  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office

110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801  
814 234-4090 x7459  
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/>

On Tue, Mar 29, 2016 at 1:03 PM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)> wrote:

Hi Pam- Bridger is busy in the field so I wanted to reach out and discuss with you one of the wetlands along the PennEast Pipeline. In previous discussions you had informed Bridger that the wetland at MP 49 is known to be occupied by bog turtles, therefore further surveys there would not be necessary.

Bridger and I were discussing the previous experience that we and others have had with USFWS, in that HDD is not considered a suitable avoidance measure for pipelines crossing a known bog turtle wetland, because of the potential for inadvertent return of drilling fluid

into the spring seeps that the turtles use for hibernation and aestivation. We would like to present PennEast with what options they may be looking at, because avoiding the wetland by going around it does not seem feasible given its size. Is direct push technology for installing the pipeline under the wetland considered to be an acceptable avoidance measure by USFWS? Biological monitor (RQBTS) oversight during a fall or winter installation? Would a BA and/or incidental take permit be a possibility in this situation?

Once you have a chance to review, if you can get back to me with your thoughts and perhaps we can schedule a call with our project team and your office to discuss further in the near future. Thanks very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** File (Job # 60414094)  
**From:** Deborah Poppel  
**Date:** May 10, 2016  
**Re:** PennEast Pipeline Project- Telephone Conversation with Pamela Shellenberger, USFWS-PA

---

On May 10, 2016, Pam Shellenberger called me to check on the status of what USFWS owed us in terms of correspondence regarding the PennEast Pipeline Project and for an update on species surveys.

I returned her call and let her know that we were still waiting for USFWS' response letter regarding the survey reports that had been submitted in October 2015 for Northeastern bulrush, Indiana/northern long-eared bat, and bog turtle. I also mentioned that we had wanted to discuss further the potential impact avoidance measures that PennEast could use at the known bog turtle wetland in the vicinity of MP 49.

A summary of issues discussed follows- 1) With reference to the known hibernacula locations that were provided by USFWS. The underground mine/cave extent needs to be mapped/delineated (check existing data resources)- USFWS needs to know if/where does the pipeline cross? Vibration is a concern. 0.25 mile buffer does not just apply to the opening of the cave. (from RR3: Cave 1 and Cave 2 entrances are both located in the vicinity of MP 77.25, 1,125 feet south of the proposed pipeline. Tunnel 34 entrance is located in the vicinity of MP 11.3, 1200 feet southwest of an access road and 6,100 feet west of the proposed pipeline. )

2) USFWS was asked- what about Phase 2 and Phase 3 surveys going on at wetlands where not all of the wetland is accessible? Pam wanted to know if the pipeline LOD was accessible and if the non-accessible portions were "off" ROW. Deb will continue to coordinate with bog turtle surveyors and have them provide information regarding where non-access is issue.

3) There is a known bog turtle wetland at MP 49. Deb asked if HDD or direct push technology could be used to avoid impacts. Pam needs to know, for HDD- will drilling fluid be used? What is depth of drill? What is geology (is it feasible without frack-outs?) What is size of entry/exit pits? Will monitors be on site (not just for turtles but for checking for sediment/springs)

4) USFWS will be issuing one letter for all federal RTE species. Need to know the additional information that was requested for #1 and #3, and also the conclusion of this spring's Bog Turtle surveys, before they can issue a determination of effect for the Project.

**From:** Berra, Ben  
**To:** [Pamela.Shellenberger@fws.gov](mailto:Pamela.Shellenberger@fws.gov)  
**Cc:** [Holcomb, Bernard](#); [Poppel, Deborah](#); [Zugay, Logan](#)  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline Buttermilk Road Wetland Complex  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 2:52:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)  
[Buttermilk Road Wetland Complex.pdf](#)  
[PennEast Centerline at Buttermilk Road.pdf](#)  
[Buttermilk Road Wetland trapping expansion area.pdf](#)  
[Expansion Area Trapping Field Form.pdf](#)

---

Pam,

As you requested, attached are figures associated with the referenced project that depict the overall wetland location, the currently proposed pipeline associated with the area, the trap locations, and our trapping dataform with individual trap coordinates. I will also forward you an email we previously sent to Chris Urban that depicts the trap locations from the first phase of our study. All of the attached map figures are essentially working drafts that will be edited and formatted prior to inclusion in any submission to the Service. All of our Phase 2 and Phase 3 survey efforts last year and this year have been reported to the PFBC Regional Office (pursuant to the conditions of our PFBC scientific collectors permit), and access to all of the parcels that comprise the Buttermilk Road Wetland Complex upon which we are working has been approved by the landowners. There are a few "Stay-Off" parcels associated with the Buttermilk Road Wetland Complex and coordination with these landowners or their representative attorneys is ongoing. We have not trespassed on these stay-off parcels.

I am also including the following incident description, FYI, as a follow-up to our conversation on Tuesday regarding project opposition. Since this incident description was prepared for the project team, it has come to light that the woman described is a property owner adjacent to the Buttermilk Road Wetland Complex (I believe her last name is Heindel).

"On May 12, 2016, at approximately 0945 the Skelly and Loy Phase 2 and Phase 3 Bog Turtle Survey Team was preparing to access the large wetland complex located just north of Buttermilk Road when we were questioned by a member of the public who was outwardly against the proposed pipeline project. As the woman questioned the land agent on his home state (Arkansas) and expressed her dismay over his presence in Pennsylvania, I advised the members of my team to not talk to the woman. Once she was finished questioning the land agent, she unexpectedly turned her attention to Skelly and Loy personnel. She first questioned where we were from, to which I simply indicated to her that my entire crew was from Pennsylvania. She further questioned the Skelly and Loy team on the type of work we were performing, our qualifications to conduct such work, our educational backgrounds, and where we attended college. We provided the woman with short answers to her questions in an attempt to satisfy her curiosity and keep the exchange from escalating. The woman then proceeded to preach to all of those present about the dangers of pipelines, the terrible legacy we are handing down to our children, and the burden we must carry for the rest of our lives due to our involvement with the project. While there the woman also photographed the Arkansas license plate of our land agent.

This encounter occurred on the access-approved property of Mr. Thomas Seifert while we were in a

gravel parking area along Buttermilk Road where Mr. Seifert directed us to park our vehicles. After being engaged by the woman for 5 to 10 minutes, she drove away in a small, blue Honda (CRV) or Toyota (RAV4) SUV. While there the woman also indicated she was a college professor or educator. All members of my crew concurred that the woman was harassing us while we were trying to conduct our otherwise authorized and legal work activities. Within the past week, another member of the public also stopped at the same location while a land agent and one Skelly and Loy employee were preparing to enter the wetland and photographed the land agent's out-of-state licensed vehicle as well as the Skelly and Loy Pennsylvania licensed vehicle. Apparently, there is an anti-PennEast Facebook page that routinely displays the out-of-state worker's license plates."

For the record, no bog turtles were found during any of our 2015 Phase 2 surveys or during our ongoing 2016 Phase 2 and Phase 3 surveys. Box turtles, wood turtles, a single spotted turtle, frogs, and snakes have been observed thus far, but our surveys will continue through early June.

I hope this information helps and if you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and interest in this important project.

Regards,

Ben



**Ben Berra** | Senior Manager – Principal Scientist

Skelly and Loy, Inc. | 449 Eisenhower Blvd., Suite 300 | Harrisburg, PA 17111-2302 | USA

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[www.skellyloy.com](http://www.skellyloy.com) | [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) | [Linkedin.com](https://www.linkedin.com)

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** File (Job # 60414094)  
**From:** Deborah Poppel  
**Date:** August 15, 2016  
**Re:** PennEast Pipeline Project- Telephone Conversation with Pamela Shellenberger, USFWS-PA

---

The following provides a summary of the discussion with Pam Shellenberger of USFWS (PA) on August 15; Ryan Leiberher, QIBS from AECOM Harrisburg was also a participant in the call.

We provided Pam with the screenshots of the cave locations vs workspace, as well as PADEP GIS data displaying underground mine extent for discussion purposes. We noted that we were asking USFWS for input on the status of their impact review for bats and to discuss avoidance and minimization measures related to the known hibernacula, prompted by the issuance of the DEIS. She noted that USFWS was still in data gathering mode and that we have now provided some of the additional information requested.

As for Tunnel 34, she concurred that it appears the work area is outside of the 0.25 mile buffer and also that it does not appear there are any underground mines or caves that could affect bats based on the database information. However, she (USFWS) is going to contact PGC to find out if there is any additional information regarding this hibernaculum and its underground extent. She noted that as for tree clearing, there should be no impacts anticipated here and the project would be in compliance with the 4d rule. The USFWS can be expected to request a season restriction on drilling, boring, or blasting in this vicinity, whereby such activities would need to take place outside of the hibernation season. They will likely also request vibration monitoring and temperature/humidity monitoring pre-, concurrent, and post-construction to get an assessment of underground impacts.

For the Durham Caves, the USFWS is assuming presence and is not considering outside factors such as white-nose syndrome. As above, tree clearing here (as the work is within an ag field) is not expected to be an impact and is in compliance with the 4d rule. USFWS concurs that existing farming activities may cause certain levels of vibration within the caves, and thus will likely request monitoring as noted above (to get an assessment of existing levels), and has also requested that we provide any information that PennEast may have on seismology studies in the area. USFWS would also like to contact the property owner to try to see if they have any information (maps, etc) about the caves and asked that we provide them with a phone number. As with Tunnel 34, in order to issue a no-adverse affect finding, USFWS will request that activities such as blasting, drilling, or boring take place outside of the winter hibernating season.

**From:** Shellenberger, Pamela  
**To:** [Poppel, Deborah](#)  
**Cc:** [Leiberher, Ryan](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Call to discuss PennEast bat impact minimization  
**Date:** Monday, August 29, 2016 4:28:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [Tunnel\\_34.jpg](#)  
[Durham\\_Caves.jpg](#)

---

Deb/Ryan -

Per our conversations on 8/15, attached please find a link to a mining database which should help you better understand the extent of the tunnel system at tunnel 34. With this information, please provide our office with additional information about how or if the pipeline will impact the hibernacula.

It looks like there are several maps, one that shows all the underground passageways at this location, many of which extend beneath I-81.

<http://www.minemaps.psu.edu/>

Thank you!

---

Pamela Shellenberger

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801  
814 234-4090 x7459  
<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/>

On Mon, Aug 15, 2016 at 1:28 PM, Poppel, Deborah <[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)> wrote:



files to assist with our discussion this afternoon

## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:50 PM  
**To:** 'Shellenberger, Pamela'  
**Subject:** PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.zip

**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

PennEast filed its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC September 24, 2015. PennEast filed route modifications with FERC February 22, 2016, and FERC issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project July 22, 2016. Since the February 22, 2016 route update and issuance of the draft EIS, PennEast has studied an additional 33 minor route deviations to reduce impacts on endangered species and wetlands, increase co-location with existing utilities, and address feedback from collaborative discussions with landowners and regulatory agencies.

On September 23, 2016, PennEast filed with FERC the 33 route modifications and an updated project route, which is provided in the attached Google Earth kmz file and shapefiles for your review. A narrative describing each modification and the explanation for the proposed changes is available on the FERC eLibrary ([http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)) under Docket Number CP15-558-000.

*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
Project Manager  
Direct: 1-610-832-2713 Cell: 1-757-943-4484  
[sarah.binckley@aecom.com](mailto:sarah.binckley@aecom.com)

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## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:59 PM  
**To:** Steve Mars (Steve\_Mars@fws.gov); Ron Popowski (ron\_popowski@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Attachments:** PennEast\_Project\_KMZ\_20160926.kmz;  
PENNEAST\_PIPELINE\_PROJECT\_PROJECT\_SHAPEFILES\_Sept2016.zip

**Importance:** High

Deborah Poppel  
(610) 832-3597 (office)  
(215) 833-0566 (cell)

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:51 PM  
**To:** [jeremy\\_markuson@fws.gov](mailto:jeremy_markuson@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: PennEast September 2016 Route Update  
**Importance:** High

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thank you for your continued collaboration on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). As an interstate natural gas pipeline, the Project is under the jurisdictional, multi-year review of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

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*Signed- Deborah Poppel on behalf of*

**Sarah Binckley, PWS**  
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October 31, 2016

Ms. Pam Shellenberger  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
110 Radnor Rd, Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801

Dear Ms. Shellenberger:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

On September 26, 2016, your office received a Project Update email with shapefiles included for the most recent route centerline filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). With this letter, we would like to request an endangered species consultation with your agency on Project workspace associated with the September 2016 route, including access roads, staging areas, and the Kidder Compressor Station. We have enclosed a CD with Project workspace shapefiles for your review.

Areas crossed by the September 2016 route which were not part of prior study corridors in Pennsylvania are represented by the following mileposts. The access roads, staging areas, and compressor station were not part of prior consultation requests. Please advise if any additional surveys for federally-listed species will be required in these or the following areas:

- 4.2R2-4.8R2
- 6.3R2-6.6R2
- 9R2-9.4 R2
- 11R2-11.3R2
- 39.5R2-40.8
- 42.1R2-42.5R2
- 48.7R2-49.6R2
- 50R2-50.3R2
- 51.1R2-52.1R2
- 53.1R2-53.2R2
- 57.8R2-58.4R2
- 61.9R2-62.2R2
- 73.3R2-74R2





One of the USFWS data requests in prior communications with your office was information regarding avoidance measures for the known bog turtle habitat near Blue Mountain, in the vicinity of MP 49.1. The new route was designed, in part, to avoid the wetland at MP 49.1, as well as potential bog turtle habitat between MP 73.2 and 74 (where Phase 2 and Phase 3 surveys were completed in 2016). The Phase 2 and Phase 3 surveys completed in this area in 2016 did not find any bog turtles (reports will be submitted under separate cover).

Our most recent communication with your office was a conference call on August 15, 2016, related to bat concerns in the vicinity of two known hibernacula in Pennsylvania, Tunnel 34 in Luzerne County and the Durham Caves in Bucks County. A summary of the main discussion points, along with additional information that was requested, is provided within this letter.

Near Tunnel 34, the Project's workspace is outside of the 0.25 mile buffer for bat hibernacula. PennEast has confirmed that this still applies to the September 2016 route. However, there may be underground tunnels that could be used by bats based on the database information provided by USFWS (<http://www.minemaps.psu.edu/>), which pass beneath the Project. Therefore, PennEast understands that USFWS may request vibration monitoring and, if access is available, temperature/humidity monitoring pre-, concurrent, and post-construction to assess potential underground impacts to the hibernacula. PennEast understands that USFWS will likely impose a seasonal restriction on drilling, boring, or blasting in this vicinity, whereby such activities would need to take place outside of the hibernation season. Based upon the summer roosting season, the hibernation season is expected to be November 1 to March 31. During the August 15 telephone call it was concluded that as for tree clearing, there should be no impacts anticipated here and the Project would be in compliance with the 4d rule. As a note, mist net surveys conducted in this location resulted in the capture of 16 big brown bats and 1 eastern red bat, but no Northern long-eared bats or Indiana bats.

Near the Durham Caves, PennEast understands that the USFWS is assuming presence of northern long-eared bats. However, mist net surveys conducted in this location resulted in the capture of 9 big brown bats and no other species. Also, PGC last surveyed the caves in 2001 (finding 14 Northern long eared bats), but more recent surveys of the nearby Durham Mine (conducted by PGC in 2013) have shown that white-nose syndrome has decimated local bat populations. Tree clearing is not expected to be an impact as the proposed HDD workspace and pipeline is primarily within an active agricultural field and would be in compliance with the 4d rule. PennEast understands that USFWS agrees that existing farming activities may cause certain levels of vibration within the caves. Based on this factor, the mist net capture data, PGC survey information, and the fact that the closest work space (the access road) is 545' from the cave entrance, PennEast believes that vibration or subterranean climate monitoring is not warranted in this location.



PennEast has enclosed reports of seismology studies conducted near the hibernacula. PennEast is looking into USFWS's request regarding property owner contact details so that USFWS may obtain background information about the caves. For USFWS to issue a no-adverse effect finding, PennEast understands that will request that activities such as blasting, drilling, or boring take place outside of the winter hibernating season (expected to be November 1 to March 31).

PennEast understands that several surveys, particularly for bog turtle and for Indiana and northern long-eared bat, remain outstanding pending survey access permission. Upon receipt of the FERC Certificate, PennEast expects that these surveys will be completed in 2017.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah K. Poppel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deborah K. Poppel, CWB  
Senior Ecologist



October 31, 2016

Mr. Steve Mars  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Jersey Field Office  
4 East Jimmie Leeds Road, Unit 4  
Galloway, New Jersey 08205-4465

Dear Mr. Mars:

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

On September 26, 2016, your office received a Project Update email with shapefiles of the most recent route centerline filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). With this letter, we would like to request an endangered species consultation with your agency on Project workspace associated with the September 2016 route, which includes access roads and staging areas. We have enclosed a CD with Project workspace shapefiles for your review.

Areas crossed by the September 2016 route which were not part of prior study corridors in New Jersey are represented by the following mileposts. Access roads and staging areas were not included in prior consultation requests. Please advise if any additional surveys for federally-listed species will be required in these or the following areas:

- 78.7R2-79.4R2
- 80.9R2-81R2
- 86.7R1-87R1
- 89.7R2-90.7R2
- 99.3R2-99.6R2
- 112.R2-112.4R2
- 113.1R2-113.3R2

PennEast understands that several surveys, particularly for bog turtle and for Indiana and northern long-eared bat, remain outstanding pending survey access permission. Upon receipt of the FERC Certificate, PennEast expects that these surveys will be completed in 2017.



We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues on this important project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah K. Poppel".

Deborah K. Poppel, CWB  
Senior Ecologist

## Poppel, Deborah

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2016 10:51 AM  
**To:** 'Shellenberger, Pamela'  
**Cc:** Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** FW: PennEast Pipeline (FERC Docket # CP35-558-000)- Applicant Prepared BA-consultation meeting request

**Importance:** High

Pam- Please see below and be aware that FERC has requested that an applicant prepared B.A. be submitted for the project, in response to comments received from the NJ Field office of USFWS. We are initiating coordination with that office first because the request is based upon a letter received from them, but we will follow-up with additional USFWS-PA consultation. This draft BA needs to be prepared in a relatively short timeframe in order to comply with the FERC deadline for responding to their data request, but we understand that it will be refined in consultation with both PA and NJ field offices of the USFWS.

Deborah Poppel  
(610) 832-3597 (office)  
(215) 833-0566 (cell)

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2016 10:45 AM  
**To:** Ron Popowski ([ron\\_popowski@fws.gov](mailto:ron_popowski@fws.gov))  
**Cc:** Steve Mars ([Steve\\_Mars@fws.gov](mailto:Steve_Mars@fws.gov)); Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline (FERC Docket # CP35-558-000)- Applicant Prepared BA- consultation meeting request  
**Importance:** High

Hello Ron-

As a follow-up to my voice mail this morning, as representatives of PennEast we would like to set up a call or in-person meeting with USFWS-NJ to discuss the applicant-prepared Biological Assessment (BA) that FERC has asked be submitted to them as part of the most recent post-DEIS Data Request (dated 11/7/2016). We need to consult with your office, particularly with respect to the contents of USFWS-NJ comment letter dated 9/12/2016 which indicated that determination of affect could not be made prior to all biological surveys being completed.

Please advise regarding date/time as soon as possible that you could participate in this discussion. Thank you very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
D +1-610-832-3597  
M +1-215-833-0566  
[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

**AECOM**  
625 West Ridge Pike  
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Conshohocken, PA 19428, U.S.A.  
T +1-610-832-3500  
[aecom.com](http://aecom.com)

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## **Poppel, Deborah**

---

**From:** Poppel, Deborah  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2016 10:45 AM  
**To:** Ron Popowski (ron\_popowski@fws.gov)  
**Cc:** Steve Mars (Steve\_Mars@fws.gov); Holcomb, Bernard; Binckley, Sarah  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline (FERC Docket # CP35-558-000)- Applicant Prepared BA- consultation meeting request

**Importance:** High

Hello Ron-

As a follow-up to my voice mail this morning, as representatives of PennEast we would like to set up a call or in-person meeting with USFWS-NJ to discuss the applicant-prepared Biological Assessment (BA) that FERC has asked be submitted to them as part of the most recent post-DEIS Data Request (dated 11/7/2016). We need to consult with your office, particularly with respect to the contents of USFWS-NJ comment letter dated 9/12/2016 which indicated that determination of affect could not be made prior to all biological surveys being completed.

Please advise regarding date/time as soon as possible that you could participate in this discussion. Thank you very much.

**Deborah Poppel, CWB**  
Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
Impact Assessment & Permitting, Environment  
D +1-610-832-3597  
M +1-215-833-0566  
[deborah.poppel@aecom.com](mailto:deborah.poppel@aecom.com)

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T +1-610-832-3500  
[aecom.com](http://aecom.com)

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**Pennsylvania Department of Environmental  
Protection Correspondence**





February 7, 2017

PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC  
Attention: Mr. Anthony Cox  
1 Meridian Boulevard, Suite 2C01  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Re: 401 Water Quality Certification  
PennEast Pipeline Project  
FERC Docket No. CP15-558-000  
DEP File No. WQ02-005  
Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties

Dear Mr. Cox:

This is in reference to your February 9, 2016 request for Water Quality Certification as required by Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1341). The request relates to the PennEast Pipeline Project, a natural gas pipeline project that will take place in Dallas, Kingston, Jenkins, Plains and Bear Creek Townships, West Wyoming, Wyoming and Laflin Boroughs, Luzerne County; Kidder, Penn Forest, Towamensing and Lower Towamensing Townships, Carbon County; Lehigh, Moore, East Allen, Upper Nazareth, Lower Nazareth, Bethlehem, Lower Saucon, and Williams Townships, and Easton City, Northampton County; and Durham and Rieglesville Townships, Bucks County.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has reviewed your request for state water quality certification and hereby grants state water quality certification for the PennEast Pipeline Project. The approved certification is attached.

Any person aggrieved by this action may file a petition for review pursuant to Section 19(d) of the federal Natural Gas Act, 15 U.S.C. 717r(d), with the Office of the Clerk, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, 21400 U.S. Courthouse, 601 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1790 within 30 days of publication of this notice, or within 30 days of receipt of written notice of this action, whichever occurs first. Important legal rights are at stake, so you should show this document to a lawyer at once.

If you have any questions, please contact Eugene Trowbridge at 570-820-4919.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. Buczynski, P.E.  
Environmental Program Manager  
Waterways and Wetlands Program

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Kimberly Boase, Secretary/FERC (w/ Enclosure)  
DEP SERO Waterways and Wetlands Program (w/ Enclosure)  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (w/ Enclosure)  
AECOM (w/ Enclosure)  
PA Fish and Boat Commission, Div. of Environmental Services  
Luzerne Conservation District  
Carbon County Conservation District  
Northampton County Conservation District  
Bucks County Conservation District

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION  
PENNEAST PIPELINE PROJECT  
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT  
AND RELATED MITIGATION  
FERC DOCKET NO. CP15-558-000**

WQ02-005, PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC  
Attn: Anthony Cox  
1 Meridian Boulevard  
Suite 2C01  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties  
ACOE Baltimore District and Philadelphia District

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION  
PENNEAST PIPELINE PROJECT  
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT  
AND RELATED MITIGATION  
FERC DOCKET NO. CP15-558-000**

**WQ02-005** – The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) certifies that the construction, operation and maintenance of the Project will not violate applicable State water quality standards set forth in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 16, 93, and 105, provided that the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project complies with the following conditions of this certification, including the criteria and conditions of the following permits:

1. Discharge Permit – PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC shall obtain and comply with a PADEP National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of water from the hydrostatic testing of the pipeline pursuant to Pennsylvania’s Clean Streams Law (35 P.S. §§ 691.1 – 691.1001) and all applicable implementing regulations (25 Pa. Code Chapter 92a).
2. Erosion and Sediment Control Permit - PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC shall obtain and comply with PADEP’s Chapter 102 Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit for Earth Disturbance Associated with Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Processing or Treatment issued pursuant to Pennsylvania’s Clean Streams Law and Storm Water Management Act (32 P.S. §§ 680.1-680.17) and all applicable implementing regulations (25 Pa. Code Chapter 102).
3. Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits - PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC shall obtain and comply with a PADEP Chapter 105 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits for the construction, operation and maintenance of all water obstructions and encroachments associated with the project pursuant to Pennsylvania’s Clean Streams Law, Dam Safety and Encroachments Act (32 P.S. §§ 673.1-693.27), and Flood Plain Management Act (32 P.S. §§ 679.101-679.601.) and all applicable implementing regulations (25 Pa. Code Chapter 105).
4. Water Quality Monitoring - PADEP retains the right to specify additional studies or monitoring to ensure that the receiving water quality is not adversely impacted by any operational and construction process that may be employed by PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC.
5. Operation – For each Project under this certification, PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC shall at all times properly operate and maintain all Project facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this Certification and all required permits. Proper operation and maintenance includes adequate laboratory controls, appropriate quality assurance procedures, and the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems installed by PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC.
6. Inspection - The Projects, including all relevant records, are subject to inspection at reasonable hours and intervals by an authorized representative of PADEP to determine compliance with this Certification, including all required permits, and Pennsylvania’s Water Quality Standards. A copy of this Certification shall be available for inspection by the PADEP during such inspections of the Projects.

7. Transfer of Projects – If PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC intends to transfer any legal or equitable interest in the Projects which is affected by this Certification, PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC shall serve a copy of this Certification upon the prospective transferee of the legal and equitable interest at least thirty (30) days prior to the contemplated transfer and shall simultaneously inform the PADEP Regional Office of such intent. Notice to PADEP shall include a transfer agreement signed by the existing and new owner containing a specific date for transfer of Certification responsibility, coverage, and liability between them.
8. Correspondence - All correspondence with and submittals to PADEP concerning this Certification shall be addressed to:  
  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Northeast Regional Office  
Waterways and Wetlands Program  
2 Public Square  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1915
9. Reservation of Rights – PADEP may suspend or revoke this Certification if it determines that PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC has not complied with the terms and conditions of this Certification. PADEP may require additional measures to achieve compliance with applicable law, subject to PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC's applicable procedural and substantive rights.
10. Other Laws - Nothing in this Certification shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable federal or state law or regulation.
11. Severability - The provisions of this Certification are severable and should any provision of this Certification be declared invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the Certification shall not be affected thereby.



Joseph J. Buczynski, P.E.  
Environmental Program Manager  
Waterways and Wetlands Program

2/7/2017  
Date



**New Jersey Department of Environmental  
Protection Correspondence**





**From:** [West, Jonathan](#)  
**To:** [Foster, Ruth](#)  
**Cc:** [Holcomb, Bernard](#); ["Gorini, Jennifer"](#); [Walter Judge \(Wjudge@psands.com\)](#); [David Pepe](#)  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline Project - Update  
**Date:** Friday, October 02, 2015 2:10:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [PENNEAST\\_9\\_30\\_2015\\_MapToKML.kmz](#)  
[PennEast\\_ProjectShapefiles\\_September2015](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

Dear Dr. Foster,

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, we would like to thank you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of New Jersey Resources; PSEG Power LLC; South Jersey Industries; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services (UGIES), a subsidiary of UGI Corporation.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Draft Resource Reports with FERC in April 2015. Since the Preliminary Draft Resource Report filing in April 2015, PennEast has continued to evaluate potential alternatives to the proposed pipeline alignment based on comments received during the formal Scoping process, ongoing dialogue with federal, state, regional and local agencies, land owners, and the findings from field surveys and engineering analyses.

As noted in our July 24, 2015 update, the overall alignment has been adjusted within the 400 foot survey corridor to avoid and/or minimize impacts to wetlands and waterbodies, cultural resources, agricultural lands and other sensitive habitats. Since that time there have been adjustments to the Project due to the finalization of valve locations. An updated Google Earth kmz file and GIS shapefiles for the entire route are attached to aide in your review and analysis of the Project. (To open the shapefiles, please add a ".zip" extension to the file and then extract the files.) Please let us know if you have any difficulty opening the attached files.

On behalf of Jeff England  
PennEast Project Manager

**Jon West**  
Environmental Scientist  
Direct: 610-832-3653  
[jonathan.west@aecom.com](mailto:jonathan.west@aecom.com)



625 West Ridge Pike, Suite E-100 Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428  
Telephone: 610-832-3500 Fax: 610-832-3501  
[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Google+](#)

This electronic communication, which includes any files or attachments thereto, contains proprietary or confidential information and may be



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** February 3, 2016

**Contact Date:** February 3, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch, Jennifer Godoski

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.sheppard@dep.nj.gov

Chris Squazzo, Land Use Permitting, chris.squazzo@dep.nj.gov

Diane Dow, Land Use Permitting, diane.dow@dep.nj.gov

Lisa Dunne, Land Use Permitting, lisa.dunne@dep.nj.gov

Christina Albizati, T&E Species, Christina.albizati@dep.nj.gov

Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, jodale.legg@dep.nj.gov

Jan Gheen, Water Allocation, Jan.Gheen@dep.nj.gov

Jesse West-Rosenthal, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Jesse.West-Rosenthal@dep.nj.gov

Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, kevin.appelget@dep.nj.gov

Kelly Davis, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kelly.davis@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, New Jersey Natural Lands Trust, cari.wild@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, steven.bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys, alternatives analysis, flood hazard area rules adoption

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!**



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
State Forestry Services  
Mail Code 501-04  
ONLM -Natural Heritage Program  
P.O. Box 420  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420  
Tel. #609-984-1339  
Fax. #609-984-1427

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

BOB MARTIN  
*Commissioner*

February 9, 2016

Sean J. Ronan  
Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
4 Walter E. Foran Boulevard, Suite 209  
Flemington, NJ 08822-4666

Re: PennEast Pipeline  
Hopewell Township, Mercer County  
Frenchtown Borough, Holland, Alexandria, Kingwood, Delaware and West Amwell Townships, Hunterdon County

Dear Mr. Ronan:

Thank you for your data request regarding rare species information for the above referenced project site.

Searches of the Natural Heritage Database and the Landscape Project (Version 3.1) are based on a representation of the boundaries of your project site in our Geographic Information System (GIS). We make every effort to accurately transfer your project bounds from the topographic map(s) submitted with the Request for Data into our Geographic Information System. We do not typically verify that your project bounds are accurate, or check them against other sources.

We have checked the Landscape Project habitat mapping and the Biotics Database for occurrences of any rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat on the referenced site. The Natural Heritage Database was searched for occurrences of rare plant species or ecological communities that may be on the project site. Please refer to Table 1 (attached) to determine if any rare plant species, ecological communities, or rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat are documented on site. A detailed report is provided for each category coded as 'Yes' in Table 1.

We have also checked the Landscape Project habitat mapping and Biotics Database for occurrences of rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat in the immediate vicinity (within ¼ mile) of the referenced site. Additionally, the Natural Heritage Database was checked for occurrences of rare plant species or ecological communities within ¼ mile of the site. Please refer to Table 2 (attached) to determine if any rare plant species, ecological communities, or rare wildlife species or wildlife habitat are documented within the immediate vicinity of the site. Detailed reports are provided for all categories coded as 'Yes' in Table 2. These reports may include species that have also been documented on the project site.

The Natural Heritage Program reviews its data periodically to identify priority sites for natural diversity in the State. Included as priority sites are some of the State's best habitats for rare and endangered species and ecological communities. Please refer to Tables 1 and 2 (attached) to determine if any priority sites are located on or in the vicinity of the site.

A list of rare plant species and ecological communities that have been documented from the county (or counties), referenced above, can be downloaded from <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/countylist.html>. If suitable habitat is present at the project site, the species in that list have potential to be present.

Status and rank codes used in the tables and lists are defined in EXPLANATION OF CODES USED IN NATURAL HERITAGE REPORTS, which can be downloaded from [http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/nhpcodes\\_2010.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/nhpcodes_2010.pdf).

NHP File No. 16-4007552-9083

If you have questions concerning the wildlife records or wildlife species mentioned in this response, we recommend that you visit the interactive NJ-GeoWeb website at the following URL, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm> or contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Endangered and Nongame Species Program at (609) 292-9400.

PLEASE SEE 'CAUTIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON NHP DATA', which can be downloaded from <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/newcaution2008.pdf>.

Thank you for consulting the Natural Heritage Program. The attached invoice details the payment due for processing this data request. Feel free to contact us again regarding any future data requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Cartica', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Cartica  
Administrator

c: NHP File No. 16-4007552-9083

Mail Code 501-04  
 Department of Environmental Protection  
 State Forestry Services  
 Office of Natural Lands Management  
 P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420  
 (609) 984-1339 Fax: (609) 984-1427

# *Invoice*

		Date	Invoice #
		2/9/2016	9083
Bill to: Amy S. Greene Environmental Consultants, Inc. 4 Walter E. Foran Boulevard, Suite 209 Flemington, NJ 08822-4666		Make check payable to: <b>Office of Natural Lands Management</b> And forward with a copy of this statement to: <b>Mail Code 501-04</b> <b>Office of Natural Lands Management</b> <b>P.O. Box 420 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420</b>	
Quantity (hrs.)	Description	Rate (per hr.)	Amount
1	Charge for Natural Heritage Database search for rare species and ecological communities locational information. Project: 16-4007552-9083	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00
Sean J. Ronan Project Name: PennEast Pipeline		<b>Total</b>	\$ 70.00

**Table 1: On Site Data Request Search Results (7 Possible Reports)**

<b><u>Report Name</u></b>	<b><u>Included</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Pages</u></b>
1. Possibly on Project Site Based on Search of Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New Jersey Natural Heritage Database	Yes	2 page(s) included
2. On or In the Immediate Vicinity of the Project Site Based on Search of the Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New Jersey Natural Heritage Database	Yes	1 page(s) included
3. Natural Heritage Priority Sites On Site	Yes	See emailed attachments
4. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches	Yes	3 page(s) included
5. Vernal Pool Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1	Yes	1 page(s) included
6. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File	No	0 pages included
7. Other Animal Species On the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	Yes	1 page(s) included

**Possibly on Project Site Based on Search of  
Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and  
Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New  
Jersey Natural Heritage Database**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Sranks	Identified	Last Observed	Location
<i>Carex aggregata</i>	Glomerate Sedge		HL	G5	S2	Y - Yes	2015-06-29	West side of Javes Road, north of Milford Borough in Holland Township, Hunterdon County. West side of Javes Road, east of Hakhokake Creek, approximately 650 feet south of the intersection of Miller Park Road with Javes Road.	
<i>Synoglossum virginianum</i> var. <i>virginianum</i>	Wild Comfrey		HL	G5T5	S2	Y - Yes	2015-08-13	North and south of Pleasant Valley Road, approximately 0.8 mile west-southwest of Ackers Corner, Hopewell Township. Along woods road/trail south of road and north of powerline right-of-way. Also documented due north of this location, approximately 75 yards north of Pleasant Valley Road.	
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh Bedstraw		HL	G5	S3	Y - Yes	2015-06-26	Along the Delaware River, approximately 1/4 mile southwest of Mount Joy in Holland Township, Hunterdon County. West of Old River Road, just northwest of the Georgia-Pacific Corporation property.	
<i>Trientalis spicata</i> var. <i>spicata</i>	Blazing-star		HL	G5T5?	S3	Y - Yes	2015-10-14	Approximately 1 1/2 miles north of Rosemont and 2 1/2 miles west-northwest of Sergeantsville, Delaware Township, Hunterdon County. In meadow bisected by utility right-of-way, ca. 0.7 mile northeast of intersection of Sanford Road with Kingwood-Stockton Road (County Route 519). Also found near the right-of-way approximately 150 yards southeast of the main population.	

***Vascular Plants***

**Possibly on Project Site Based on Search of  
Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and  
Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New  
Jersey Natural Heritage Database**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Srank	Identified	Last Observed	Location
<i>Linum virginianum</i>	Woodland Flax			HL	G4G5	S3	Y - Yes	2015-08-12	Baldpate Mountain, Hopewell Township, Mercer County. South side of powerline right-of-way, approximately 575 yards west-northwest from the parking lot along the right-of-way and approximately 950 yards directly southeast from the intersection of Barry Road with Pleasant Valley Road.
<i>Ribes missouriense</i>	Missouri Gooseberry	E		LP, HL	G5	S2	Y - Yes	2015-10-14	East side of County Route 519, between Kingwood and Barbertown, Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County. Scattered throughout large area beginning approximately 150 yards east of the intersection of Barbertown Idell Road with Route 519 and continuing roughly south, and southeast for approximately 1400 yards to an area located approximately 75 yards north of the Kingwood Locktown/Locktown School Road.
<i>Ribes missouriense</i>	Missouri Gooseberry	E		LP, HL	G5	S2	Y - Yes	2015-07-22	Southeast of Frenchtown, near tributaries to Copper Creek in Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County. Multiple locations on the Copper Creek Preserve and the Reformed Church property. From approximately 500 yards east-northeast of the intersection of Spring Hill Road with Horsehoe Bend Road to approximately 1100 yards northeast of this intersection.

Total number of records: 7



**On or In the Immediate Vicinity of the  
Project Site Based on Search of the  
Natural Heritage Database: Rare Plant Species and  
Ecological Communities Currently Recorded in the New  
Jersey Natural Heritage Database**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Strank	Identified	Last Observed	Location
<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>	Squirrel-corn		E	LP, HL	G5	S1	Y - Yes	1922-04-29	North of Moore.
<i>Delphinella rupestris</i>	Rock Spike-moss			HL	G5	S2	Y - Yes	1951-12-13	Along Delaware River, just South of Mount Joy.

Total number of records: 2

***Vascular Plants***

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project  
Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
<i>Amphibia</i>  <i>Birds</i>	Longtail Salamander	<i>Eurycea longicauda longicauda</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G5T5	S2
	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Nest	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Non-breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Breeding Sighting-Confirmed	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Nest	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project  
Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Non-breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S1B,S3N
	Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Breeding Sighting	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S3N
	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helminthos vermivorum</i>	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B

**Mammalia**

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat on the Project  
Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
	Bobcat	Lynx rufus	Live Individual Sighting	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1
	Northern Copperhead	Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen	Occupied Habitat	2	NA	Special Concern	G5T5	S3
	Wood Turtle	Glyptemys insculpta	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2

*Reptilia*

**Vernal Pool Habitat on the  
Project Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1**

<b>Vernal Pool Habitat Type</b>	<b>Vernal Pool Habitat ID</b>
Vernal habitat area	1848
Vernal habitat area	1908
Potential vernal habitat area	1878
Potential vernal habitat area	1980
Potential vernal habitat area	2055
Potential vernal habitat area	2056
Potential vernal habitat area	2066
Total number of records:	7

**Other Animal Species  
On the Project Site Based on  
Additional Species Tracked by  
Endangered and Nongame Species Program**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
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***Invertebrate Animals***

Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle		G2		S1
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Total number of records: 1

**Table 2: Within 1 Mile for FHACA Searches (6 possible reports)**

<b><u>Report Name</u></b>	<b><u>Included</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Pages</u></b>
1. Rare Plant Species Covered by the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rule Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Natural Heritage Database	Yes	1 page(s) included
2. Natural Heritage Priority Sites within 1 mile	Yes	See emailed attachments
3. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches	Yes	4 page(s) included
4. Vernal Pool Habitat Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1	Yes	2 page(s) included
5. Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File	Yes	4 page(s) included
6. Other Animal Species Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Additional Species Tracked by Endangered and Nongame Species Program	Yes	1 page(s) included

**Rare Plant Species Covered by the  
Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rule  
Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of  
Natural Heritage Database**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Regional Status	Grank	Srank	Identified	Last Observed
<i>Carex bushii</i>	Bush's Sedge	E		LP, HL	G4	S1	Y - Yes	2009-06-23
<i>Carex jamesii</i>	James' Sedge	E		LP, HL	G5	S1	Y - Yes	2012-04-24
<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i>	Buttombush Dodder	E		LP, HL	G5	S1	Y - Yes	1990-08-20
<i>Panicum canadense</i>	Squirrel-corn	E		LP, HL	G5	S1	Y - Yes	2012-04-24
<i>Pentstemon laevigatus</i>	Smooth Beardtongue	E		LP, HL	G5	S1	Y - Yes	1993-06-08

***Vascular Plants***

total number of records: 5



**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One  
Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
<i>Amphibia</i>	Longtail Salamander	Eurycea longicauda longicauda	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G5T5	S2
<i>Aves</i>	American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Foraging	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Nest	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S2N
	Barred Owl	Strix varia	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Barred Owl	Strix varia	Non-breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cerulean Warbler	Dendroica cerulea	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G4	S3B,S3N

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One  
Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Feature Type</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Federal Protection Status</b>	<b>State Protection Status</b>	<b>Grank</b>	<b>Strank</b>
	Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Breeding Sighting-Confirmed	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	Nest	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Grasshopper Sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S3N
	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	Foraging	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S4N
	Kentucky Warbler	Oporornis formosus	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B,S3N
	Long-eared Owl	Asio otus	Non-breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Northern Harrier	Circus cyaneus	Non-breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S1B,S3N
	Northern Parula	Parula americana	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Foraging	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One  
Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Nest	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B
	Red-headed Woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus	Non-breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S2N
	Red-shouldered Hawk	Buteo lineatus	Breeding Sighting	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S3N
	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	Breeding Sighting	3	NA	State Threatened	G5	S2B,S4N
	Veery	Catharus fuscescens	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Vesper Sparrow	Poocetes gramineus	Breeding Sighting	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1B,S3N
	Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Worm-eating Warbler	Helmitheros vermivorum	Breeding Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3B
	Brook Snaketail	Ophiogomphus aspersus	Territorial Display	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2
	Cobra Clubtail	Gomphus vastus	Exuvia Sighting	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3
	Cobra Clubtail	Gomphus vastus	Territorial Display	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3

***Insecta***

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat Within One  
Mile of the Project Site Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Species Based Patches**

Class	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank
<i>Mammalia</i>	Bobcat	Lynx rufus	Live Individual Sighting	4	NA	State Endangered	G5	S1
	Shortnose Sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Migration Corridor - Adult Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G3	S1
	Shortnose Sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Nursery Area - Larvae Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G3	S1
	Shortnose Sturgeon	Acipenser brevirostrum	Summering Area - Adult Sighting	5	Federally Listed Endangered	State Endangered	G3	S1
<i>Reptilia</i>	Northern Copperhead	Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen	Occupied Habitat	2	NA	Special Concern	G5T5	S3
	Wood Turtle	Glyptemys insculpta	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2

**Vernal Pool Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1**

<b>Vernal Pool Habitat Type</b>	<b>Vernal Pool Habitat ID</b>
Vernal habitat area	1833
Vernal habitat area	1848
Vernal habitat area	1908
Potential vernal habitat area	1825
Potential vernal habitat area	1857
Potential vernal habitat area	1858
Potential vernal habitat area	1866
Potential vernal habitat area	1878
Potential vernal habitat area	1883
Potential vernal habitat area	1950
Potential vernal habitat area	1980
Potential vernal habitat area	2045
Potential vernal habitat area	2055
Potential vernal habitat area	2056
Potential vernal habitat area	2060
Potential vernal habitat area	2066
Potential vernal habitat area	2124

**Vernal Pool Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1**

<b>Vernal Pool Habitat Type</b>	<b>Vernal Pool Habitat ID</b>
Potential vernal habitat area	2142
Potential vernal habitat area	2157
Potential vernal habitat area	2161
Total number of records:	20

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File**

Link ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank	Last Observed	Count
119565	Creeper	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Occupied Habitat	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3	2008	4
120707	Creeper	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Occupied Habitat	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3	2008	4
124947	Creeper	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Occupied Habitat	2	NA	Special Concern	G5	S3	2008	4
115849	Tidewater Mucket	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1993	1
116285	Tidewater Mucket	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1993	1
123232	Tidewater Mucket	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1993	1
118219	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
118910	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
118911	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File**

Link ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank	Last Observed	Count
118913	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
119200	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
119548	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
119565	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
119959	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
120618	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
120633	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
120707	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
123592	Triangle Floater	Alasmidonta undulata	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3



**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File**

Link ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Strank	Last Observed	Count
23602	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
23603	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
23998	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
24794	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
24947	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
77043	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
77046	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
77470	Triangle Floater	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G4	S2	1995	3
114254	Yellow Lampmussel	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1994	1

**Rare Wildlife Species or Wildlife Habitat  
Within One Mile of the Project Site  
Based on Search of  
Landscape Project 3.1 Stream Habitat File**

Link ID	Common Name	Scientific Name	Feature Type	Rank	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank	Last Observed	Count
15849	Yellow Lampmussel	Lampsilis cariosa	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1994	1
16285	Yellow Lampmussel	Lampsilis cariosa	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1994	1
23232	Yellow Lampmussel	Lampsilis cariosa	Occupied Habitat	3	NA	State Threatened	G3G4	S2	1994	1

Total number of records: 30

**Other Animal Species  
Within One Mile of the Project Site Based on  
Additional Species Tracked by  
Endangered and Nongame Species Program**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	Grank	Srank
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***Invertebrate Animals***

Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle		G2		S1
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Total number of records: 1

**From:** [Gorini, Jennifer](mailto:Gorini, Jennifer)  
**To:** [Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov)  
**Cc:** [david.pepe@dep.nj.gov](mailto:david.pepe@dep.nj.gov); [Holcomb, Bernard](#); [West, Jonathan](#); [Judge, Walter F.](#)  
**Subject:** PennEast Pipeline Project - Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 1:10:26 PM  
**Attachments:** [400" CORRIDOR \(200" EITHER SIDE OF CENTERLINE\).kmz](#)

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Dr. Foster,

On behalf of PennEast Pipeline Company (PennEast), thanks you for your continued coordination on the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project. PennEast is a joint project of AGL Resources; NJR Pipeline Company; PSEG Power; SJI Midstream; Spectra Energy Partners; and UGI Energy Services.

As an interstate natural gas pipeline, PennEast Pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project on January 13, 2015. PennEast filed Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Related Authorizations with FERC on September 24, 2015. Since the September 24 filing, PennEast has evaluated several additional route alternatives based on discussions with landowners, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, as well as comments filed in this proceeding. In light of those evaluations, PennEast has adopted seven (7) additional deviations from the route proposed in the September 2015 Application, as modified by the route deviations filed on December 14, 2015, and is providing supplemental information regarding these additional adopted route deviations for your review.

### **Description of Adopted Deviations**

PennEast has adopted the following seven route deviations: Deviation Nos. 1704, 1808, 1907, 1913, and 2000 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and Deviation Nos. 2100 and 2102 in Mercer County, New Jersey.

Deviation No. 1704 is located between mileposts (MP) 78.7 and 79.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to address feedback from resource agencies received during a route review meeting on January 11, 2016. This deviation avoids crossing a category one (C1) waterway, associated mapped forested wetlands on both sides of Dogwood Drive, and a preserved farmland. Additionally, Deviation No. 1704 allows the route to follow a ridge and alleviates side slope areas that would have existed at the crossing of Dogwood Drive. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1704 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters. Additionally, three (3) landowners not previously identified as abutters have small amounts of temporary workspace on their property as a result of adopting Deviation No. 1704. Such landowners have been identified in the updated affected landowner list provided as part of the February Data Responses.

Deviation No. 1808 is located between MP 86.6 and 87.1 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1808 avoids crossing a parcel with a Green Acres conservation easement. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1808 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1907 is located between MP 89.6 and 90.8 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting. Deviation No. 1907

avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel and minimizes the impact to forested areas and wetland crossings. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1907 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 1913 is located between MP 99.0 and 101.0 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation to minimize impact to environmentally sensitive areas raised as a concern by resource agencies during the January 11 route review meeting and to implement a trenchless crossing of several roadways, third-party utilities, and several C1 waterways, including Alexauken Creek. Deviation No. 1913 also avoids paralleling a C1 waterway and forested riparian area and minimizes forestland impacts. Another result of adopting Deviation No. 1913 is that this route deviation allows for the crossing of one (1) C1 waterway by dry crossing methodology in a location that appears to have been previously crossed by farm equipment. The dry crossing methodology will further minimize the impacts to the riparian buffer on both sides of the crossing. Additionally, Deviation No. 1913 optimizes co-location opportunities with the adjacent overhead utility corridor. This route deviation requires relocating the Lambertville Launcher Site to the trenchless crossing workspace. The new site area accommodates post-construction stormwater management design elements and optimizes pipeline design. Landowners associated with Deviation No. 1913 were included on the landowner list provided in the September 2015 Application as abutters.

Deviation No. 2000 is located between MP 101.3 and 101.7 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation by moving to the opposite side of the existing overhead utility corridor and providing separation from the paralleling waterbody and forested wetland. Deviation No. 2000 reduces forest clearing while maintaining co-location with existing utility corridors. Deviation No. 2000 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2100 is located between MP 112.9 and 113.5 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this route deviation as a route optimization that corresponds to proposed land development plans for the applicable parcels crossed. PennEast collaborated with the landowner to improve co-location with existing natural gas pipelines and to minimize impacts from the proposed route with the development plans for the applicable parcels. Additionally, Deviation No. 2100 avoids crossing a Green Acres encumbered parcel. Deviation No. 2100 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

Deviation No. 2102 is located between MP 112.0 and 112.7 in Mercer County, New Jersey. PennEast adopted this deviation based upon feedback and field information received from the affected property owners. Deviation No. 2102 is a route optimization that would remove interference with proposed housing and commercial land use development plans on the applicable parcels. Hopewell Township has plans to develop low income housing on this parcel in the area originally crossed by the Project. Deviation No. 2102 would avoid impacts to the housing development plan and to future commercial development plans adjacent to New Jersey State Route 31 by co-locating with the existing natural gas pipelines on the parcel. Deviation No. 2102 does not require any additional landowners to be crossed by the Project.

**Jennifer Gorini, PP, AICP**

o. 732-584-0469  
jgorini@psands.com

67B Mountain Blvd. Ext.  
Warren, NJ 07059



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** March 2, 2016

**Contact Date:** March 2, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc.): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch, Jennifer Godoski

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.sheppard@dep.nj.gov

Chris Squazzo, Land Use Permitting, chris.squazzo@dep.nj.gov

Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov

Christina Albizati, T&E Species, Christina.albizati@dep.nj.gov

Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, jodale.legg@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Robin Madden, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Robin.Madden@dep.nj.gov

Jesse West-Rosenthal, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Jesse.West-Rosenthal@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, steven.bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys; PennEast response to comments filed with the FERC; alternatives analysis meeting; upcoming flood hazard area, wetlands, and threatened and endangered species meetings to be scheduled

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, alternatives analysis meeting on March 23.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!**



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** March 9, 2016

**Contact Date:** March 9, 2016

**Time:** 10:00am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Meeting

**Location** (office, restaurant): Highlands Council, 100 North Road, Chester, NJ

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Project route in Google Earth

**Project Team Members Present:** Jeff England, Marilyn Lennon, Walter Judge, Dominic Oppedisano, Sue Quackenbush, Jennifer Gorini

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable): Kim Kaiser, Margaret Nordstrom, Chris Danis, Keri Green, and John Maher of the Highlands Council.

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** Logistics of the Consistency Determinations; alternatives analysis discussion; impacts to Highlands Resources; roadway alternatives; surveys schedules and work plans for Highlands plant and wildlife species; mitigation.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Updated shapefiles of the route; calculation of impacts to Highlands resources; threatened and endangered species reports prepared for 2015; work plans and surveyor qualifications for rare, threatened, and endangered species.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: [Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com](mailto:Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com). Thank you!**



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** March 16, 2016

**Contact Date:** March 16, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc.): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch, Jack Herbert

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov

Diane Dow, Land Use Permitting, Diane.Dow@dep.nj.gov

Lisa Dunne, Land Use Permitting, Lisa.Dunne@dep.nj.gov

Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Jan Gheen, Water Allocation, Jan.Gheen@dep.nj.gov

Carol Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov

Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kevin.Appelget@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, steven.bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:** Delaware River Keepers, Citizens Against PennEast Pipeline, NJ Conservation Federation

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys; recent meeting with Highlands Council, upcoming Alternatives Analysis meeting; technical meeting to be scheduled in April; concern regarding outreach to municipalities; letter from Delaware River Keepers and Citizens Against PennEast Pipeline dated March 1; NJ Conservation Federation letter dated March 11; potential to start LOIs; dewatering permits will be required; NJ Natural Lands Trust letter dated March 3 regarding Gravel Hill alternatives; concerns regarding crossing of agricultural lands.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, alternatives analysis meeting on March 23.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!**





## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** March 23, 2016

**Contact Date:** March 23, 2016

**Time:** 1:00pm

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Presentation

**Location** (office, restaurant): Public Hearing Room, 401 East State Street, Trenton NJ

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Google Earth presentation of route

**Project Team Members Present:** Jason Doersom, Jennifer Godoski, Juan Mones-Cazon, Grace Ziesing, Jeff England, Mike Mara, Marco Calderon, Walter Judge, Kevin Koch, Keith Edmonds, Jennifer Gorini, Marilyn Lennon, Brian McPeak, Linda Kellner, Judeth Yeany, Jack Herbert

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Steven.Bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Jesse West-Rosenthal, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Jesse.West-Rosenthal@dep.nj.gov

Kate Marcopul, State Historic Preservation Office, Kate.Marcopul@dep.nj.gov

Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov

Bob Cartica, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Bob.Cartica@dep.nj.gov

Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov

Christina Albizati, T&E Species, Christina.Albizati@dep.nj.gov

Lisa Dunne, Land Use Permitting, Lisa.Dunne@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, JoDale.Legg@dep.nj.gov

Carol Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kevin.Appelget@dep.nj.gov

George Chidley, Leases & Concessions, George.Chidley@dep.nj.gov

Diane Dow, Land Use Permitting, Diane.Dow@dep.nj.gov

Ginger Kopkash, Land Use Permitting, Ginger.Kopkash@dep.nj.gov

John Gray, Deputy Chief of Staff & Legislative Liaison, John.Gray@dep.nj.gov

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** Alternatives analysis discussion; community outreach; roadway alternatives; impacts calculations; T&E species; engineering considerations; Green Acres parcels; diagonal crossings of agricultural land.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, FHA/wetlands/T&E meeting on April 19, Trenchless Technologies Presentation on April 27.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock. Lindsey.Pollock@dep.state.nj.us. Thank you!



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** March 30, 2016

**Contact Date:** March 30, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.Sheppard@dep.nj.gov

Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Jan Gheen, Water Allocation, Jan.Gheen@dep.nj.gov

Carol Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov

Jesse West-Rosenthal, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Jesse.West-Rosenthal@dep.nj.gov

Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kevin.Appelget@dep.nj.gov

Kelly Davis, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kelly.Davis@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, steven.bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys; follow up from March 23 alternatives analysis meeting; FHA/wetlands/T&E meeting scheduled for April 19; interest in Trenchless Technologies (HDD/bores) presentation.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, FHA/wetlands/T&E meeting on April 19.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!**



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** April 13, 2016

**Contact Date:** April 13, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc.): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch, Jack Herbert, Keith Edmonds

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.Sheppard@dep.nj.gov

Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov

Lisa Dunne, Land Use Permitting, Lisa.Dunne@dep.nj.gov

Christina Albizati, T&E Species, Christina.Albizati@dep.nj.gov

Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov

Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, JoDale.Legg@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Carol Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov

Jesse West-Rosenthal, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Jesse.West-Rosenthal@dep.nj.gov

Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kevin.Appelget@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys; distribution of and legend for alignment sheets; FHA/wetlands/T&E meeting scheduled for April 19; Trenchless Technologies Presentation scheduled for April 27; Green Acres meeting to be scheduled; survey access on state-owned, county-managed Green Acres property.

## ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, FHA/wetlands/T&E meeting on April 19, Trenchless Technologies Presentation on April 27.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** April 19, 2016

**Contact Date:** April 19, 2016

**Time:** 11:00am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Meeting

**Location** (office, restaurant): NJDEP Hudson Room, 501 East State Street, Trenton, NJ

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Google Earth of Project and environmental data

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Bill Salmon, Dominic Oppedisano, Sue Quackenbush, Kevin Koch, John Dening, Pavel Zhinkel, Theresa Albanese

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

Ruth Foster, Permit Coordination, Ruth.Foster@dep.nj.gov  
David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov  
Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.Sheppard@dep.nj.gov  
Diane Dow, Land Use Permitting, Diane.Dow@dep.nj.gov  
Chris Squazzo, Land Use Permitting, Chris.Squazzo@dep.nj.gov  
Dennis Contois, Land Use Permitting, Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov  
Christina Albizati, T&E Species, Christina.Albizati@dep.nj.gov  
Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov  
Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, JoDale.Legg@dep.nj.gov  
Kelly Davis, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kelly.Davis@dep.nj.gov

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** LOIs/FHA verifications; Project schedule and survey schedule; horizontal directional drilling; Habitat assessment; FHA regulations; Mitigation.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, Trenchless Technologies Presentation on April 27, Green Acres, mitigation, and HDD meetings to be scheduled.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

**Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com. Thank you!**



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** April 27, 2016

**Contact Date:** April 27, 2016

**Time:** 9:30am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Conference Call

**Location** (office, restaurant): Conference Call

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc...): Agenda

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Jennifer Gorini, Walter Judge, Brian McPeak, Kevin Koch, Keith Edmonds, Sue Quackenbush

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov

Patrick Sheppard, Land Use Permitting, Patrick.Sheppard@dep.nj.gov

Chris Squazzo, Land Use Permitting, Chris.Squazzo@dep.nj.gov

Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov

Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, JoDale.Legg@dep.nj.gov

Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov

Carol Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov

Kelly Davis, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kelly.Davis@dep.nj.gov

Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov

Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Steven.Bruder@ag.state.nj.us

Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** NJ surveys; Threatened and endangered species consultations; Potential modification to Special Use Permit; Trenchless Technologies Presentation scheduled for April 27; Green Acres, mitigation, and HDD meetings to be scheduled.

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, Trenchless Technologies Presentation on April 27, Green Acres, mitigation, and HDD meetings to be scheduled.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: [Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com](mailto:Lindsey.Pollock@erm.com). Thank you!



## Stakeholder Contact Report

**Today's Date:** April 27, 2016

**Contact Date:** April 27, 2016

**Time:** 12:00am

**Engagement Method** (meeting, presentation, call): Presentation

**Location** (office, restaurant): NJDEP 4th Floor Large Conference Room, 401 East State Street, Trenton

**Specify informational materials provided** (e.g., project overview, fact sheet, map, etc.): PowerPoint Presentation

**Project Team Members Present:** Marilyn Lennon, Walter Judge, Jason Doersom, Glenn Duyvestyn, Kevin Koch

**Stakeholder(s) Present** (name, title, affiliation, e-mail address and phone number, as applicable):

David Pepe, Permit Coordination, David.Pepe@dep.nj.gov  
Michael Schumacher, Permit Coordination, Michael.Schumacher@dep.nj.gov  
Ginger Kopkash, Land Use Permitting, Ginger.Kopkash@dep.nj.gov  
Diane Dow, Land Use Permitting, Diane.Dow@dep.nj.gov  
Chris Squazzo, Land Use Permitting, Chris.Squazzo@dep.nj.gov  
Lisa Dunne, Land Use Permitting, Lisa.Dunne@dep.nj.gov  
Michael Palmquist, Land Use Enforcement, Michael.Palmquist@dep.nj.gov  
Larry Torok, T&E Species, Larry.Torok@dep.nj.gov  
Jo Dale Legg, Land Use Mitigation, JoDale.Legg@dep.nj.gov  
Kelly Davis, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kelly.Davis@dep.nj.gov  
Kevin Appelget, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Kevin.Appelget@dep.nj.gov  
Maude Snyder, Natural & Historic Resources Group, Maude.Snuder@dep.nj.gov  
Steve Reya, Well Permitting, Steve.Reya@dep.nj.gov  
Jeremy Wick, Well Permitting, Jeremy.Wick@dep.nj.gov  
Julia Altieri, Well Permitting, Julia.Altieri@dep.nj.gov  
Pat Bono, Well Permitting, Pat.Bono@dep.nj.gov  
Mark Ortega, Well Permitting, Mark.Ortega@dep.nj.gov  
Richard Dalton, NJ Geological and Well Survey, Richard.Dalton@dep.nj.gov  
Carolyn Olynyk, Water Allocation, Carol.Olynyk@dep.nj.gov  
Akin Ode, Water Allocation, Akinsanya.Ode@dep.nj.gov  
Jan Gheen, Water Allocation, Jan.Gheen@dep.nj.gov  
Barbara Ware, Water Allocation, Barbara.Ware@dep.nj.gov  
Jay Patel, Water Supply, Jay.Patel@dep.nj.gov  
Martin Rapp, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Martin.Rapp@dep.nj.gov  
Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Trust, Cari.Wild@dep.nj.gov  
Elena Williams, Natural Lands Management, Elena.Williams@dep.nj.gov  
Ovidiu Petriman, NJDEP, Ovidiu.Petriman@dep.nj.gov  
Jessica Mevoli, NJDEP, Jessica.Mevoli@dep.nj.gov  
Rob Hudgins, NJDEP, Robert.Hudgins@dep.nj.gov  
Jennifer Ngo, NJDEP, Jennifer.Ngo@dep.nj.gov  
Steven Bruder, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Steven.Bruder@ag.state.nj.us  
Hector Weah, NJ Department of Agriculture Development Committee, Hector.Weah@ag.state.nj.us

**List name and title/affiliation of other stakeholders identified from meeting:**

**List issues and concerns raised by stakeholder(s):** Trenchless construction methods including horizontal directional drilling, microtunneling, direct pipe, pipe ramming, and auger

### ACTION ITEMS

**Specify follow-up actions required** (e.g., another meeting, letter, addition information): Bi-weekly update and status meetings, Green Acres, mitigation, and HDD meetings to be scheduled.

**Overall tone of interaction** (receptive, neutral, dubious, supportive): Neutral

**Additional notes/insights:**

Please return completed form to Lindsey Pollock: Lindsey.Pollock@em.com. Thank you!

ORIGINAL

HPO Project # 14-4462-38

HPO-C2017-062

Page 1 of 2



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**State of New Jersey**

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL &amp; HISTORIC RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

P.O. Box 420

Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

TEL. (609) 984-0176 FAX (609) 984-0578

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

March 7, 2017

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Ms. Bose:

As Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for New Jersey, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties, as published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2000 (65 FR 77725-77739) and amended on July 6, 2004 (69 FR 40544-40555), I am providing Consultation Comments for the following proposed undertaking:

**Hunterdon and Mercer Counties  
Reconnaissance-Level Historic Architectural Survey Report - Addendum 1  
PennEast Pipeline  
Docket No. CP15-558-000  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

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**800.4 Identification of Historic Properties**

The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) was recently provided with the opportunity to review and comment on the following addendum to the previously reviewed reconnaissance-level historic architectural survey report, received at this office on January 30, 2017, for the above-referenced undertaking:

Hammel, Matthew, Nicole McKairnes, Ann Marie DiLucia, Sam Pickard, Michael Robb and Jennifer Robinson.

August 2016

*Reconnaissance-Level Historic Architectural Survey Report Addendum 2, PennEast Pipeline Project, Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey.* Prepared for PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania. Prepared by URS Corporation, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

URS Corporation was recently given access to 4 additional tax parcels containing architectural resources greater than 50 years of age. These properties were not previously surveyed, and are documented within this second addendum to the original survey report. All 4 of the resources surveyed were recommended not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The HPO concurs that, based upon the submitted survey forms, the following 4 newly identified resources do not appear to meet any of the criteria necessary for listing on the National Register of Historic Places:

- 817 Milford-Frenchtown Road, Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0254)
- 796 County Route 519, Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0259)
- 91 Featherbed Road, Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0256)
- 53 Lambertville Headquarters Road, Delaware Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0257)

No further architectural survey work is necessary for the above-referenced properties. If archaeological survey has not yet been submitted for these properties, the HPO will review that information upon receipt.

### **Additional Comments**

The HPO has made a note of the change in alignment, which removes the following properties from the area of potential effects (APE) for the undertaking:

1. Stamets Road (Block 25, Lot 60), Holland Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0075)
2. 173 Horseshoe Bend Road, Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU-0184)
3. 108 Old Route 518 East, West Amwell Township, Hunterdon County (URS Field No. HU 0208)

If the project alignment changes to include these properties again in the future, the previously requested intensive-level architectural survey will be required at that time.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to review and comment on the potential for the above-referenced undertaking to affect historic properties. The HPO looks forward to receiving additional reconnaissance-level survey of the remaining portions of the APE; and previously-requested intensive-level survey reports from URS to complete identification of historic properties pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4. If you have any questions regarding historic architecture, please contact Michelle Craren of my staff at (609) 292-0032 or [michelle.craren@dep.nj.gov](mailto:michelle.craren@dep.nj.gov). Please reference the HPO Project Number 14-4462 in any future calls, emails, or written correspondence in order to expedite our review and response. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Katherine J. Marcopul  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

CC: Matt Hamel, URS/AECOM  
John Gray, NJDEP-Office of the Commissioner  
Robin Madden, NJDEP-NHR  
Ruth Foster, NJDEP-OPCER