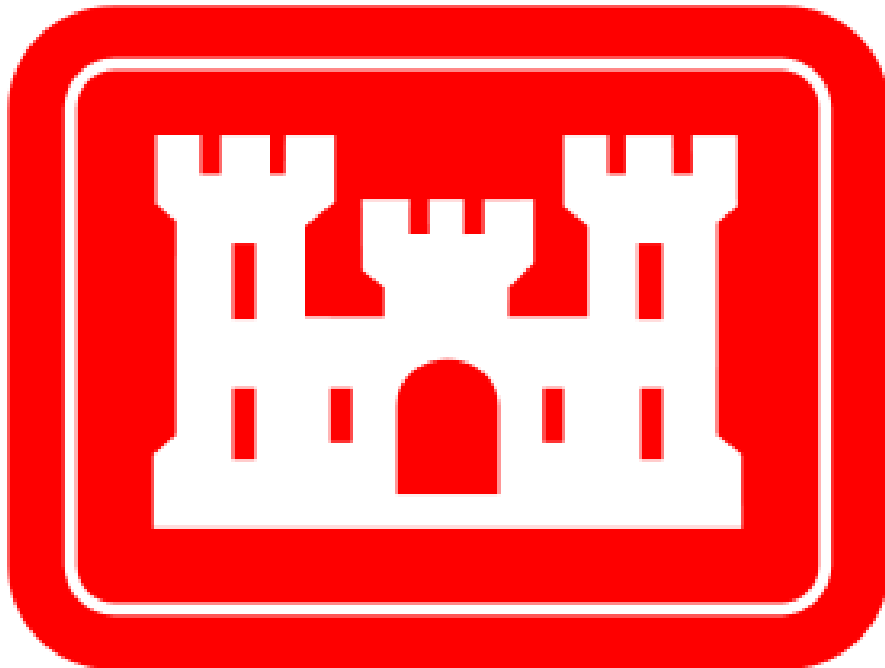


Draft Environmental Assessment
Section 594 Northern Perry Township
Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project
Brown County, Ohio



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
Huntington, West Virginia
January 2013

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
SECTION 594 NORTHERN PERRY TOWNSHIP
SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT
BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

1. Members of my staff have conducted an environmental assessment, in the overall public interest, concerning the implementation of the Northern Perry Township/St. Martin Sanitary Sewer Replacement Section 594 Project. The proposed project consists of replacing existing sanitary sewers throughout the unincorporated area of St. Martin. The purpose of the proposed project is to eliminate failing sanitary sewer in St. Martin. This action will improve water quality and the health and safety of the community. The proposed project is authorized under Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999 (Public Law 106-53).
2. The possible consequences of the project have been studied for environmental, cultural, and social well-being impacts. Another factor bearing on the investigation was the capacity of the action to meet the needs of the public for whom it was proposed.
3. The Proposed Action Alternative (PAA) and the No Action Alternative (NAA) were the only alternatives carried forward for detailed evaluation. The PAA is both environmentally and socially acceptable. The NAA would not be in the public's best interest and would have continued negative impact on the health and safety of the community.
4. An evaluation of the PAA and the NAA produced the following pertinent conclusions:
 - a. Environmental Considerations. The Huntington District has taken reasonable measures to assemble and present the known or foreseeable environmental impacts of the project in the Environmental Assessment (EA). All potential adverse effects of the project implementation are considered insignificant and should last only a few months longer than the construction period.
 - b. Social Well-Being Considerations. The proposed project will provide a safe environment for the residents of St. Martin by ensuring safe conveyance of wastewater. No significant economic or social well-being impacts that are both adverse and/or unavoidable are foreseen as a result of the proposed action. The human community would benefit from the proposed action through elimination of a failing sanitary sewer system. The project will not have any impact on sites of known significant archeological or historic importance. Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) will not be impacted on the site.
 - c. Coordination with Resource Agencies. Pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) of 1958 as amended, coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been maintained throughout the study. Appropriate measures and best management practices will be identified and incorporated into the PAA. Also, in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1970, as amended, the proposed action would not have any adverse impacts on listed species.



d. Other Pertinent Compliance. Prime or unique farmland under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) will not be negatively impacted. The PAA will not adversely affect prime or unique farmland due to the type of project and the lack of conversion of prime farmland soils or loss of farmland. The PAA is also in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA Section 106, 36 CFR 800), Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management), and EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands).

e. Other Public Interest Considerations. There has been no significant opposition to the PAA. Comments received during the public review period will be included in the EA.

f. Section 176(c) Clean Air Act. The PAA has been analyzed for conformity and applicability pursuant to regulations implementing Section 176 (c) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). The PAA will not exceed *de minimis* levels or direct emissions of a criteria pollutant or its precursors and is exempted by 40 CFR Part 93.153. Any later indirect emissions are generally not within the District's continuing program responsibility and generally cannot be practicably controlled by the District. For these reasons a conformity determination is not required for the action.

5. I find the Northern Perry Township/St. Martin Sanitary Sewer Replacement Section 594 Project has been planned in accordance with current authorization as described in the EA. The PAA is consistent with national policy, statues and administrative directives. This determination is based on thorough analysis and evaluation of the PAA and alternative courses of action. In conclusion, I find the proposed Northern Perry Township/St. Martin Sanitary Sewer Replacement Section 594 Project will have No Significant Adverse Impact on the quality of the human environment.

Date

Steven T. McGugan
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer



DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SECTION 594 NORTHERN PERRY TOWNSHIP
SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT
BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District, West Virginia

ABSTRACT: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Huntington District has prepared this Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to document the evaluation of potential environmental impacts of a sanitary sewer replacement project located in Brown County, Ohio. The Huntington District's review and analyses of economic, human and natural environments, and engineering designs have determined that the Proposed Action Alternative (PAA) would address the purpose and need for the project and would have minimal adverse impact on the human environment.

The PAA is the most economical and environmentally sound project that meets the purpose and need. The work effort for the PAA includes the construction of approximately 9,500 linear feet of 2-inch force main and 25-30 grinder pumps and service laterals. The Draft EA presents the results of the evaluation of the Proposed Action's potential impacts, both positive and negative. Positive impacts are associated with replacement of the existing sanitary sewer system for the unincorporated area of St. Martin which will enhance surface water quality, as well as improve human health by providing a safe environment. Adverse impacts include those associated with construction of the project, but are expected to be minor and temporary.

The proposed project is authorized under Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999 (PL 106-53).

For additional information please contact:

Mr. Jonathan J. Aya-ay, Chief
Environmental Analysis Section, Planning Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 8th Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070
Commercial Telephone: (304) 399-5276
Commercial Fax: (304) 399-5136



SECTION 594 NORTHERN PERRY TOWNSHIP
SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT
BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|------------|---|----|
| 1.0 | Project Description | 1 |
| 1.1 | Project Background | 1 |
| 1.2 | Purpose, Need and Authorization | 2 |
| 2.0 | Proposed Actions and Alternatives | 3 |
| 2.1 | Proposed Action | 3 |
| 2.2 | No Action Alternative | 3 |
| 3.0 | Environmental Setting and Consequences | 3 |
| 3.1 | Geologic Setting | 3 |
| 3.2 | Terrestrial Habitat | 3 |
| 3.3 | Floodplains | 4 |
| 3.4 | Prime and Unique Farmland | 4 |
| 3.5 | Aquatic Habitat | 4 |
| 3.6 | Wetlands | 4 |
| 3.7 | Wild and Scenic Rivers | 6 |
| 3.8 | Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Wastes | 6 |
| 3.9 | Cultural Resources | 6 |
| 3.10 | Threatened and Endangered Species | 7 |
| 3.11 | Air Quality | 7 |
| 3.12 | Noise | 8 |
| | 3.12.1 Background | 8 |
| | 3.12.2 Analysis | 9 |
| 3.13 | Socioeconomic Conditions | 10 |
| 3.14 | Aesthetics | 10 |
| 3.15 | Transportation and Traffic | 11 |
| 3.16 | Health and Safety | 11 |
| 3.17 | Cumulative Effects | 11 |
| 4.0 | Required Coordination | 12 |
| 4.1 | Public Involvement | 12 |
| 4.2 | Required Agency Coordination | 12 |
| 5.0 | Conclusion | 12 |



List of Tables

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| Table 1 | Permissible Non-Department of Defense Noise Exposures | 7 |
| Table 2 | Human Reaction to Increases in Sound Pressure Level | 8 |

List of Appendices

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| Appendix A | Exhibits |
| Appendix B | Agency Coordination |
| Appendix C | Mailing List |
| Appendix D | HTRW Memorandum |



The brief and concise nature of this document is consistent with the 40 CFR requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to reduce paperwork and delay by eliminating duplication with existing environmental documentation, incorporating pertinent material by reference and by emphasizing interagency cooperation. The majority of data collection and analysis in this document was performed by Dunn Engineers in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Summary

The proposed sanitary sewer replacement Project Area is the unincorporated area of the Northern Perry Township in St. Martin. Information gathered for the preparation of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was derived from federal, state, and local agencies and databases. The project area was evaluated for potential adverse impacts to the human and natural environment. Impacts associated with the Project Area are anticipated to be minimal as the project will be located within a previously disturbed area. Minimal and temporary negative impacts are anticipated throughout the Project Area as a result of replacement of the sanitary sewer collection system.

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Project Background

This Draft EA examines the potential environmental impacts of a sanitary sewer replacement project as proposed by the Fayette-Perry Township Regional Sewer District (FPTRSD). The project is located in the unincorporated area of Northern Perry Township in the Village of St. Martin. The purpose of the Draft EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The USACE Section 594 program provides funds to communities, counties, and other public entities for design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure, resource protection and development, and restoration projects in Ohio.

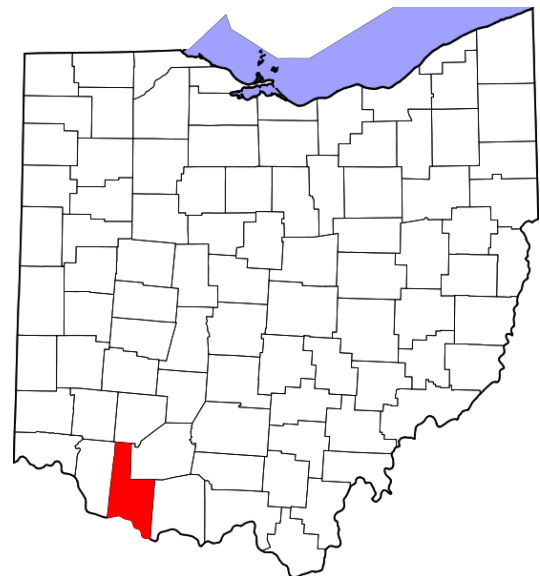


Figure 1: Location of Brown County, Ohio



The Village of St. Martin owned and operated a small wastewater treatment and collection system which was originally constructed in the 1930s to serve the Brown County Ursuline School for Girls and 27 residences. The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) was operated until 2010 when an NPDES Permit required substantial improvements. At that time it was determined most feasible to construct a sanitary force main between the Village of St. Martin and the sewer district's WWTP located east of Fayetteville, Ohio. This project has been successfully completed and the St. Martin WWTP is no longer in use.

As a result of high inflow and infiltration being experienced there is a need for replacement of the existing collection system. Along with the Ursuline School, Chatfield College is also located in St. Martin. The school campus is a large source of inflow and infiltration and corrective actions will be constructed with use of private funding on the campus. The remainder of corrective actions for the collection system will be financed with public financing and will serve residents within St. Martin. Improving the sewage collection system will improve overall efficiency by renovating the regional system and expanding the capacity to accommodate expansion developments in surrounding communities outside of the current service area. The Project Area is located in the unincorporated area of St. Martin and is defined by SR 251, Church Street (Co. Hwy 9/86), and Anderson Road (Co. Hwy 48) to an existing pump station south of Ursuline Lane. See Appendix A for maps of the area.

This EA is prepared pursuant to NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1517), and USACE implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2, 1988.

1.2 Purpose, Need and Authorization

The purpose of the proposed project is to replace a failing sewage collection system for the area known as St. Martin. The need for the sanitary sewer replacement project is to address an existing collection system that was installed in the early 1930s and has suffered from excessive inflow and infiltration due to its age and deteriorating condition.

The proposed project is a partnership agreement between the FPTRSD and USACE established under the authority of Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999 (Public Law 106-53), which provides authority for the USACE to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in Ohio. This law provides assistance in design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure, resource protection, and development projects in Ohio, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities; combined sewer overflow, water supply, storage, treatment and related facilities; mine drainage, environmental restoration and surface water resource protection and development.



2.0 PROPOSED ACTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Proposed Action Alternative (PAA)

The PAA includes the installation of approximately 9,500 lineal feet of 2-inch force main and 25-30 grinder pumps and service laterals. The new pressure lines will be installed within the public right of way in the same trench as the existing pipe.

2.2 No Action Alternative (NAA)

The NAA will result in continued operation of the existing collection system which may result in contamination of the environment and potential health risks for the residents of St. Martin. This alternative was considered unacceptable due to the potential health risks for the residents of the project area.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND CONSEQUENCES

3.1 Geologic Setting

The project area is located in Illinoian Till Plain which is the subsection of the Central Lowlands physiographic province of Ohio. According to the Brown County, Ohio, Soil Survey, at one time, all of Brown County was covered by a relatively shallow ocean. Marine creatures settled to the floor of this ocean, forming hundreds of layers of limy sediment. These sediments eventually turned into hard, highly fossiliferous limestone bedrock which underlies the entire county. The depth to unweathered bedrock in the county typically ranges from 20 inches to about 40 feet. Based on the Fayetteville, quadrangle United States Geologic Survey (USGS) 7.5 topographic map, the Project Area is mostly flat terrain. The elevation of St. Martin is 978 feet above sea level.

3.2 Terrestrial Habitat

Land use within St. Martin consists primarily of residential dwellings. The Ursuline School for Girls and Chatfield College are also located in St. Martin. Land use surrounding St. Martin consists of mostly farming activities and is rural in nature. The current land use would not change with implementation of the PAA. Construction activities will be conducted within road right-of-ways and in the same trench as the existing sanitary sewer collection system. Due to use of a pressure system, small diameter pipe will require less depth requirements than the previous system resulting in less land disturbance. Considering the project area size, location, and scope, there will be no long-term impacts to land use from the PAA. The NAA would have no effect on land use.

The PAA would be constructed entirely on previously disturbed areas, including road right-of-ways and within the same trench as the existing pipeline; therefore, potential impacts to vegetation would be minimal and temporary. Existing vegetation within the project area consists mostly of managed lawn grass. A few trees are present within the project area; however it is not



anticipated that trees will require removal. The project area will be graded and reseeded with grasses in order to be returned to pre-construction condition as soon as possible upon completion of construction activities. Only short-term minimal impacts during construction with no long-term adverse impacts are anticipated to occur from the PAA. No impacts to vegetation are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

3.3 Floodplains

Executive Order 11988 requires federal agencies to consider the potential effects of their proposed actions to floodplains. In order to determine the PAA's potential floodplain impact, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) was reviewed and the project is not located in the floodplain. There should be no indirect conversion of floodplain areas as a result of the PAA. The project design is to replace an existing sanitary sewer system. Five new sewer connections will be included in the proposed project however, these homes are in the immediate area of St. Martin and there are no issues with floodplains in this area. This area is not expected to grow as a result of the sewer replacement project. No impacts to floodplains are anticipated to occur from the PAA or NAA.

3.4 Prime and Unique Farmland

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) requires federal agencies to minimize the conversion of prime and unique farmland to non-agricultural uses. Based on information obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) NRCS Web Soil Survey, of the soil types identified in the Project Area, two are considered prime farmland if drained. These soils consist of Avonburg silt loam (AVA) and Rossmoyne silt loam (RpB).

Work being completed within the village limits is on previously disturbed soils to replace existing infrastructure. The force main from Anderson Road south to the existing pump station will cross agriculture land. Soil type in this area is considered prime farmland. However due to the type of project and the lack of conversion of prime farmland soils or loss of farmland, the proposed project is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on prime or unique farmland.

Considering the Project Area size, location, developed nature, and project scope, no impacts impacts to physiography (topography, geology, soils and prime and unique farmland) are anticipated for the PAA. All disturbed areas will be returned to original condition upon completion of construction activities, including grading. No existing farmland will be taken out of production as a result of the PAA. No impacts would occur from the NAA.

3.5 Aquatic Habitat

The Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972 and the Clean Water Act of 1977 collectively set regulatory standards on the discharge of various pollutants into surface water resources. The disposal of untreated or improperly treated wastewater into streams and rivers can contribute to poor water quality which can degrade aquatic resources.



According to an Ohio State University Extension Fact Sheet, Brown County contains several streams and their tributaries that have been classified as being affected by nonpoint source pollution. Solomon Run and an unnamed tributary are located near St. Martin. Solomon Run is a perennial tributary to the East Fork Little Miami River which drains to the Ohio River located in the southern part of Brown County. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used throughout the project to prevent construction runoff. Runoff water will be controlled through erosion minimization measures as specified in the ODNR Manual of Rainwater and Land Development and by controlling the use and storage of construction materials which may pollute runoff water. Silt fencing and appropriate restoration will be a part of the project and detailed in contract documents. All disturbed areas will be mulched and re-vegetated with native plants. Under the PAA, water quality impacts are not anticipated as no in-water work will occur and the possibility of contamination of Solomon Run and its tributaries is greatly minimized with the use of BMPs such as silt fencing. Any applicable state or local water quality permits will be obtained. Under the NAA, potential adverse impacts to the watershed or groundwater could occur from the failing sanitary sewers collection system. This continued failure could pose potential adverse impacts on biological species through the contamination of waterways and local environment.

3.6 Wetlands

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) regulates discharges into aquatic sites such as wetlands. Executive Order 11990 requires federal agencies to take action to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve, enhance natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out their respective responsibilities. National Wetland Inventory Maps (NWI) were reviewed for the project area and site assessments and reconnaissance were conducted by Mr. Wayne Cannon with Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program to determine validity of the NWI Maps. The site reconnaissance indicates there is no evidence of wetland vegetation within the project area. Mr. Cannon confirms that the pipeline route is highly improved with road way drainage improvements. The area consists of single family residences and the project route is regularly mowed by residential lawn care equipment. Mr. Larry Whitaker with Brown County Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) also indicates there is little likelihood that wetland areas would be impacted by the proposed project due to the reuse of the existing trench and easement area with no change in use of land.

Due to the location of proposed project and the fact that this is a replacement of existing sanitary sewers, it is not anticipated that any long term adverse impacts will be associated with wetlands. No conversion of wetlands will occur as a result of the project activities. Disturbed areas will be returned to pre-construction contours. The new sanitary sewer line will overlie the existing sewer line within the existing easement. The proposed pipeline route lies entirely within county/state right of way or existing easement location. Terrain in the area is mostly flat. There do not appear to be areas of roadside ditches where wetland habitat would exist. The majority of the road right way is mown grass. Therefore it is not anticipated any adverse action to or loss of wetlands will occur as a result of the PAA or the NAA.



3.7 Wild and Scenic Rivers

No designated State Wild or Scenic Rivers are present within the Project Area. Since no State Wild or Scenic Rivers are located within the Project Area, no impacts to these resources are anticipated from the PAA or NAA.

3.8 Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW)

A phase 1 HTRW Environmental Site Assessment was conducted by Shaw Environmental, Inc. in August of 2012 for the Northern Perry Township Water District Sanitary Sewer Replacement, to identify environmental conditions and potential presence of HTRW contamination located in the project's work limits. The investigation was performed in accordance with ASTM E-1527-05 and 1528-06 Standards, USACE HTRW policies and Corps of Engineers Huntington District ISO 9001 requirements. This assessment has revealed no recognized environmental conditions in connection with the project area except for the following:

- Potential petroleum contaminated soil (PCS).
- Potential underground storage tank(s) (USTs).
- Abandoned water wells.

The potential PCS is located on the north side of the roadway. Shallow trenching in the PCS area is on the south side of the roadway and should not encounter PCS. However, if PCS is encountered, it should be managed in accordance with the environmental plan notes for roadway projects. This was assessed to be a low risk situation. The recommendation in regard to the site containing the potential USTs is that the site be scanned with ground penetrating radar (GPR) to locate the tank(s) and assess the impact to the sewer line replacement project. Lastly, if abandoned water wells cannot be avoided, they should be closed in accordance with the Brown County Health Department (BCHD) and ODNR regulations. The USACE has determined that this strategy is sufficient and no further HTRW action is required at this time. The NAA would not result in ground disturbing activities, and would not disturb areas of HTRW contamination. USACE HTRW compliance memorandum can be found in Appendix D.

3.9 Cultural Resources

An on-line search of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) records indicates the presence of nine historic structures, one archaeological site and three cemeteries within a one-mile radius of St. Martin. The Urusline School and Chatfield College campus does contain historic structures; however, an initial determination was made that no adverse effect to historic properties would occur as a result of the proposed waterline replacement.

Consultation with the OHPO under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) was initiated by Roberta Acosta, Rural Development Specialist of the Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP), on June 7, 2012 and passed through the USACE to OHPO for review and consultation. OHPO responded on September 25, 2012. OHPO



determined that the proposed project will not affect historic properties. No further consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA is necessary.

For the PAA, this project is not anticipated to impact any existing historic or archaeological sites. According to consultation with the OHPO, the area does not have a high probability for encountering archaeological sites. The project will also not require above ground structures which would visually impact surrounding structures. Consequently, impacts to historic properties are not anticipated as a result of the PAA

No impacts would occur from the NAA.

3.10 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) requires federal agencies to take action prevent loss or damage to wildlife resources, and provide for the measures taken to mitigate such impacts. Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) was consulted under the FWCA. Wildlife and wildlife resources are defined by the FWCA to include: birds, fish, mammals and all other classes of wild animals and all types of aquatic and land vegetation upon which wildlife is dependent. The majority of the PAA project area is previously disturbed road right-of-ways and within the same trench as the existing pipeline. All areas impacted by the PAA will be stabilized and reseeded to preconstruction condition. No tree removal or in-water work is proposed. No impacts to fish and wildlife are anticipated to occur from the PAA or the NAA, due to the previously disturbed nature of the proposed project area.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of actions on Federally listed endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) were contacted regarding threatened and endangered species in the Project Area. The USFWS concurs with the USACE determination that this PAA may affect but not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species or their habitats due to the project type size and location. USFWS coordination is available in Appendix B.

No impacts to threatened or endangered species are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

3.11 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act (CAA) allows the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to set air quality standards for pollutants considered harmful to public health and welfare. The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) set limits to protect public health, including the health of sensitive populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly. These standards have been established for six criteria pollutants including carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃), particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}), and Sulfur dioxide (SO₂). Each state is required to develop implementation plans for each pollutant. Areas are generally in “attainment” of the standards for the pollutants listed above or in “nonattainment”.



Nonattainment areas are required by the CAA to comply with the NAAQS standards through the evaluation and development of a maintenance plan.

According to air quality reports and databases from the USEPA and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), Brown County is classified as “attainment” for NAAQS pollutants. Construction of the PAA will have temporary, localized nuisance air quality impacts. Potential sources of these impacts include emissions from diesel exhaust and fuel odors associated with heavy construction equipment, engine emissions from other construction vehicles, dust associated with excavation, earth-moving and construction activities. The PAA would not require around the clock construction; therefore, equipment downtime would allow for dispersion of the nuisance fumes generated during construction. BMPs will be implemented to cover and/or wet area soils during construction to minimize dust impacts and construction equipment in good working order shall be used to minimize emissions and exhaust impacts. The proposed action is therefore exempt from making a conformity determination, since estimated emissions from construction equipment would be far below the de minimis standards of 100 tons/year, which are the minimum threshold for which a conformity determination must be performed. The NAA would not generate construction related air emissions.

3.12 Noise

3.12.1 Background

Noise is measured as Day Night average noise levels (DNL) in "A-weighted" decibels that the human ear is most sensitive to (dBA). There is no federal standard for allowable noise levels; however, the USACE and other federal agencies have adopted guidance for evaluating noise level impacts.

The USACE Safety and Health Requirements Manual (September 2008) provides criteria for permissible noise exposure levels, as well as thresholds for the consideration of hearing protection and/or the implementation of sound reduction controls. Table 1 presents the minimum duration and noise level thresholds outlined in the USACE Safety and Health Requirements Manual.

Table 1
Permissible Non-Department of Defense Noise Exposures

| Duration/day (hours) | Noise level (dBA) |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 8 | 90 |
| 6 | 92 |
| 4 | 95 |
| 3 | 97 |
| 2 | 100 |
| 1.5 | 102 |
| 1 | 105 |

Source: USACE Safety and Health Requirements Manual, 2008



The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Guidelines denote DNLs below 65 dBA as normally acceptable levels of exterior noise in residential areas. Several other agencies, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, use a DNL criterion of 55 dBA as the threshold for defining noise impacts in sparse suburban and rural residential areas (Schomer et al 2001). According to Dr. Paul Schomer in his 2001 Whitepaper, while there are numerous thresholds for acceptable noise in residential areas, research suggests that an area's current noise environment, which has experienced noise in the past may reasonably expect to tolerate a level of noise about 5 dBA higher than the general guidelines. Down and Stock (1978) conducted a study to determine the human reaction to progressive sound increases. The results of the study indicate that increases in ambient noise levels below 5 dB go unnoticed while every 5 dB increase above that level becomes increasing noticeable and increases over 20 dB are intolerable (Table 2).

Table 2
Human Reaction to Increases in Sound Pressure Level

| Increase in Sound Pressure (dB) | Human Reaction |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Under 5 | Unnoticed to tolerable |
| 5 – 10 | Intrusive |
| 10 – 15 | Very noticeable |
| 15 – 20 | Objectionable |
| Over 20 | Very objectionable to intolerable |

Source: Down and Stocks, 1978

3.12.2 Analysis

Construction noise would be similar to that of farm equipment and other small machinery used in the local area. A backhoe, end loader, road grader and/or vibratory roller are equipment that is likely to be used during installation of the sewer line. Each emits noise levels around 85 dBA at 45 feet. Construction equipment would be operated for approximately 8 hours, generating noise during the daytime (7am-6pm) when many residents are at work. Therefore, a reasonable exposure time of two hours would be expected when residents may be home during the day. Peak outdoor noise levels ranging from 78-90 dBA would occur during the time in which equipment is directly in front of or in close proximity to homes (within 25-100 feet). A maximum noise exposure of approximately 98 dBA, for one hour could occur if equipment were within 10 feet of homes. The noise projections do not account for screening objects, such as trees, outbuildings or other objects that muffle and reduce the noise being emitted. The outdoor construction noise would be further muffled inside the home. While the construction noise generated would be considered unacceptable according to HUD and FAA standards, these limited exposures and time intervals are still within allowable Corps safety levels (USACE 2003). Further, they are similar to typical neighborhood noise generated by gas powered lawnmowers in the local area, which could range from 90-95 dBA at three feet and 70-75 dBA at



100 feet. Residential exposure to these noise levels would occur if/when residents are home and outdoors. Elevated noise levels proximate to homes should be limited to a few days and human exposure to such noise levels would likely be limited to a few hours.

Due to daytime construction and the short and limited duration of elevated noise levels associated with the PAA, impacts from noise to local residences should be minor and temporary in nature.

No impacts would occur from the NAA.

3.13 Socioeconomic Conditions

Under Executive Order (EO) 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations”, federal agencies are directed to identify, address and avoid disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low income populations.

Population in the village of St. Martin is 129 based on the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) Census data. Approximately 99.2% of the residents are white with .08% of population as American Indian/Alaska native. The median household income for St. Martin is \$55,000. The per capita income for St. Martin was \$19,887. About 14% of the families were below the poverty line. The unemployment rate in Brown County, Ohio, as of July 2012, was 8.3%. The State unemployment rate for this period was 7.4% and the national average was 8.6%.

This project will provide a safer environment by replacing the failing sanitary sewer collection system that is susceptible to severe inflow and infiltration. Therefore, the project meets the directive of EO 12898 by not creating adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low income populations.

No impacts to minority and low income populations are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

3.14 Aesthetics

The Project Area is comprised of residential homes and Ursuline School and Chatfield College. The surrounding area is rural in nature. Vegetation is comprised of mostly mowed lawns and trees. The existing aesthetics of St. Martin is typical of most small, rural communities.

Temporary disturbance of the local area is anticipated during construction of the PAA. No long term adverse impacts will occur as the PAA consists of sanitary sewer replacement and once complete the area will be restored to preconstruction contours.

No impacts would occur from the NAA.



3.15 Transportation and Traffic

No new traffic patterns are expected to occur as a result of the proposed project. Traffic delays may occur under the PAA however any delays should be temporary as the installation of the sanitary sewers occurs. Construction in or near road surfaces will be in compliance with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) guidelines. All appropriate ODOT guidelines for traffic control will be implemented. Temporary street closures, if necessary, will have appropriate detours marked and prior notification of appropriate officials will be required. Impacts anticipated to occur from the PAA would be minimal and temporary.

No impacts to transportation and traffic are anticipated to occur from the NAA.

3.16 Health and Safety

Under the PAA, the replacement of existing, deteriorated sanitary sewers is intended to mitigate the current health and safety issues related to failures of the existing sewer system.

Under the NAA, these health issues related to the sanitary sewer system failures would continue and possibly worsen as the system continues to age and deteriorate.

3.17 Cumulative Effects

The USACE must consider the cumulative effects of the proposed project on the environment as stipulated in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Cumulative effects are “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions”. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR Part 1508.7 Council on Environmental Quality [CEQ] Regulations).

The cumulative effects analysis qualitatively presented below is based on the potential effects of the proposed project when added to similar impacts from other projects in the region. An inherent part of the cumulative effects analysis is the uncertainty surrounding actions that have not yet been fully developed. The CEQ regulations provide for the inclusion of uncertainties in the analysis and states that “when an agency is evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse effects on the human environment...and there is incomplete or unavailable information, the agency shall always make clear that such information is lacking” (40 CFR 1502.22).

Temporal and geographical limits for this project must be established in order to frame the analysis. These limits can vary by the resources that are affected. The replacement of the sanitary sewer collection system will have temporary and insignificant impacts on the environment. The only resource that would show long term effects would be water quality. The temporal limits for assessment of this impact would initiate in 1972 with the passage of the Clean Water Act and end in 2017 or five years after completion of this project.



The geographical extent would be the unincorporated area of St. Martin. Past and present impacts on water quality within this area are primarily development driven in the form of construction, roads, and effluents from the human community. The same stressors are anticipated in the reasonably foreseeable future. On the positive side, the Clean Water Act established regulatory controls over development at both the federal and state levels. These regulatory controls aim to achieve attainment of water quality standards to support different uses of water. Finally, the availability of federal funds through programs such as the 594 Program to assist communities with drinking water and wastewater treatment is an additional benefit.

The significance of this action on water quality will be both minimal and positive. Given the current programs that are in place for the foreseeable future, the action is expected to be a positive cumulative effect on water quality.

4.0 REQUIRED COORDINATION

4.1 Public Involvement

This Draft EA, along with the Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), will be circulated to the local community and local, state, and federal governmental agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise for a 30-day review/comment period. A copy will be made available at the local Brown County Public Library Fayetteville-Perry Branch and a notice of availability will be published in the *Brown County Press*. A mailing list of parties that will be receive notice of this Draft EA has been included in Appendix C.

4.2 Required Agency Coordination

Coordination with federal, state, county, and local agencies has been conducted throughout the preparation of this report. The USFWS, ODNR, and OHPO have all been asked to review the project for potential negative resource impacts. The Draft EA will be sent to interested agencies for review and comment. All correspondence letters can be found in Appendix B.

5.0 CONCLUSION

No significant adverse impacts have been identified with the replacement of the sanitary sewer collection system. The construction will take place on previously disturbed land that follows existing right-of-ways. Replacement of sanitary sewer lines will occur in the same trench area as the existing lines and the contractor will be required to fill, re-grade, and reseed areas to original conditions. Health and safety as well as water quality benefits, will be realized immediately and cumulatively with project implementation.

Short term impacts associated with construction of the sanitary sewer collection system will be localized and minor with the use of BMPs. Some possible temporary minor impacts on the natural and human environment may include terrestrial habitat, noise, traffic disruptions, and aesthetics. However, these impacts would be temporary and insignificant when compared to the positive permanent impact the project would have on the local community.

Appendix A
Exhibits

Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements
Brown County, Ohio
Aerial Map
June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers

0 345 690 1,380 Feet

1 inch = 625 feet

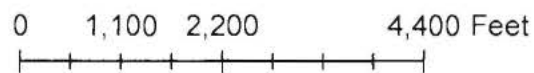


Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements
 Brown County, Ohio
 USGS Map
 June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers



1 inch = 2,000 feet



Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements

Brown County, Ohio

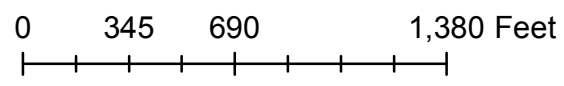
Soils Map

June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers



1 inch = 625 feet

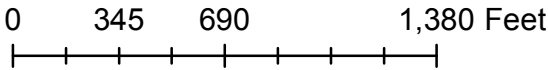


Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements
Brown County, Ohio
Aerial Map
June 6, 2012



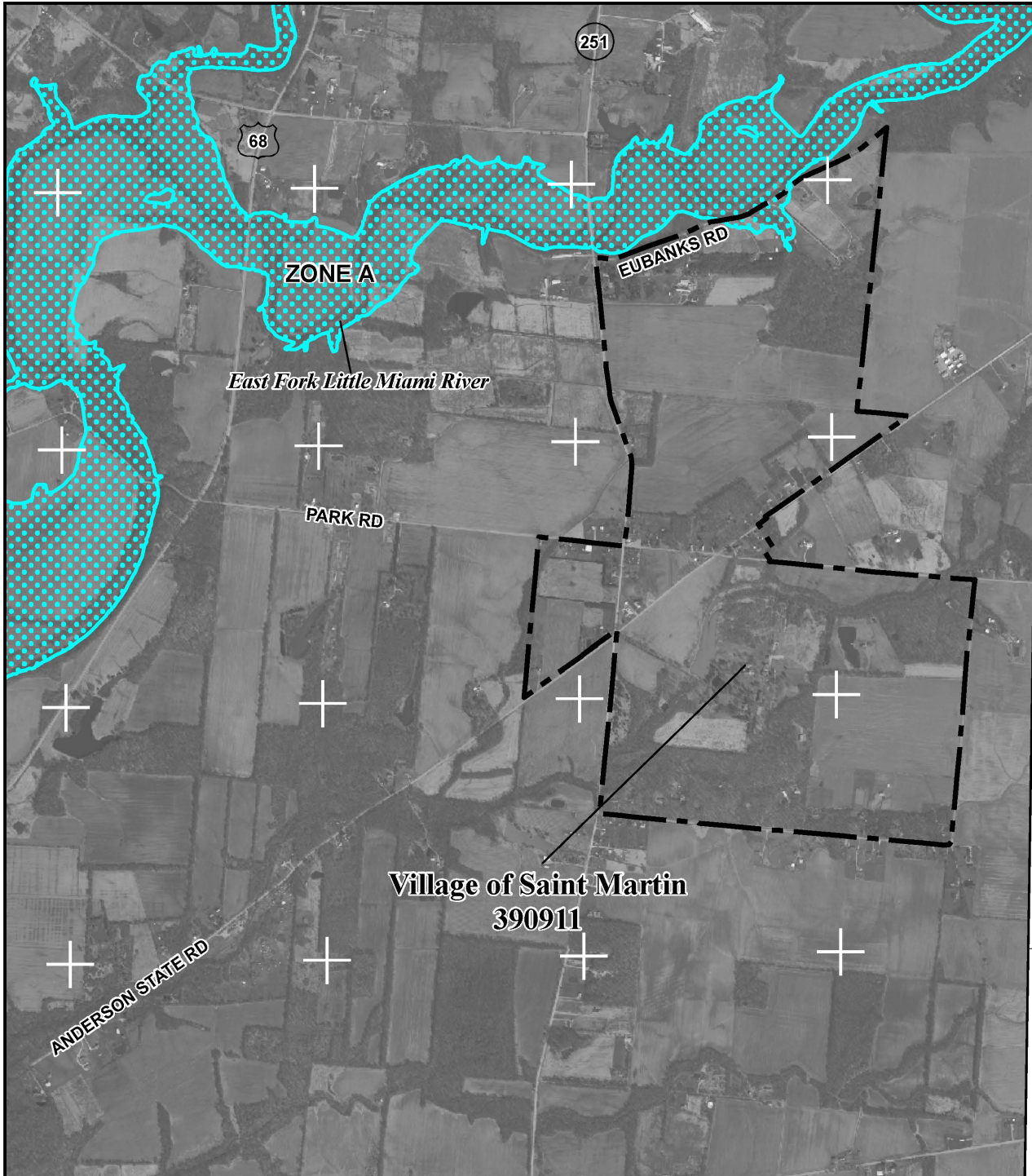
Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers

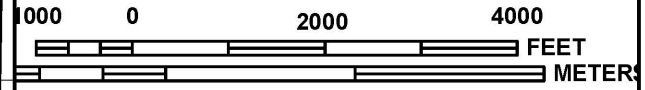


1 inch = 625 feet





MAP SCALE 1" = 2000'



PANEL 0075D

FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP
BROWN COUNTY,
OHIO
AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 75 OF 450
 (SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

| COMMUNITY | NUMBER | PANEL | SUFFIX |
|-----------------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| BROWN COUNTY | 390034 | 0075 | D |
| FAYETTEVILLE, VILLAGE OF | 390788 | 0075 | D |
| SAINT MARTIN, VILLAGE OF | 390911 | 0075 | D |

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.



MAP NUMBER
39015C0075D
MAP REVISED
SEPTEMBER 29, 2010

Federal Emergency Management Agency

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. It was extracted using F-MIT On-Line. This map does not reflect changes or amendments which may have been made subsequent to the date on the title block. For the latest product information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps check the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.msc.fema.gov

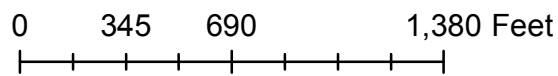
NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM
 FEMA

Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements
Brown County, Ohio
NWI Map
June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers



1 inch = 625 feet

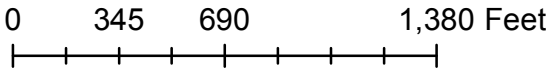


Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements
Brown County, Ohio
Aerial Map
June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers



1 inch = 625 feet

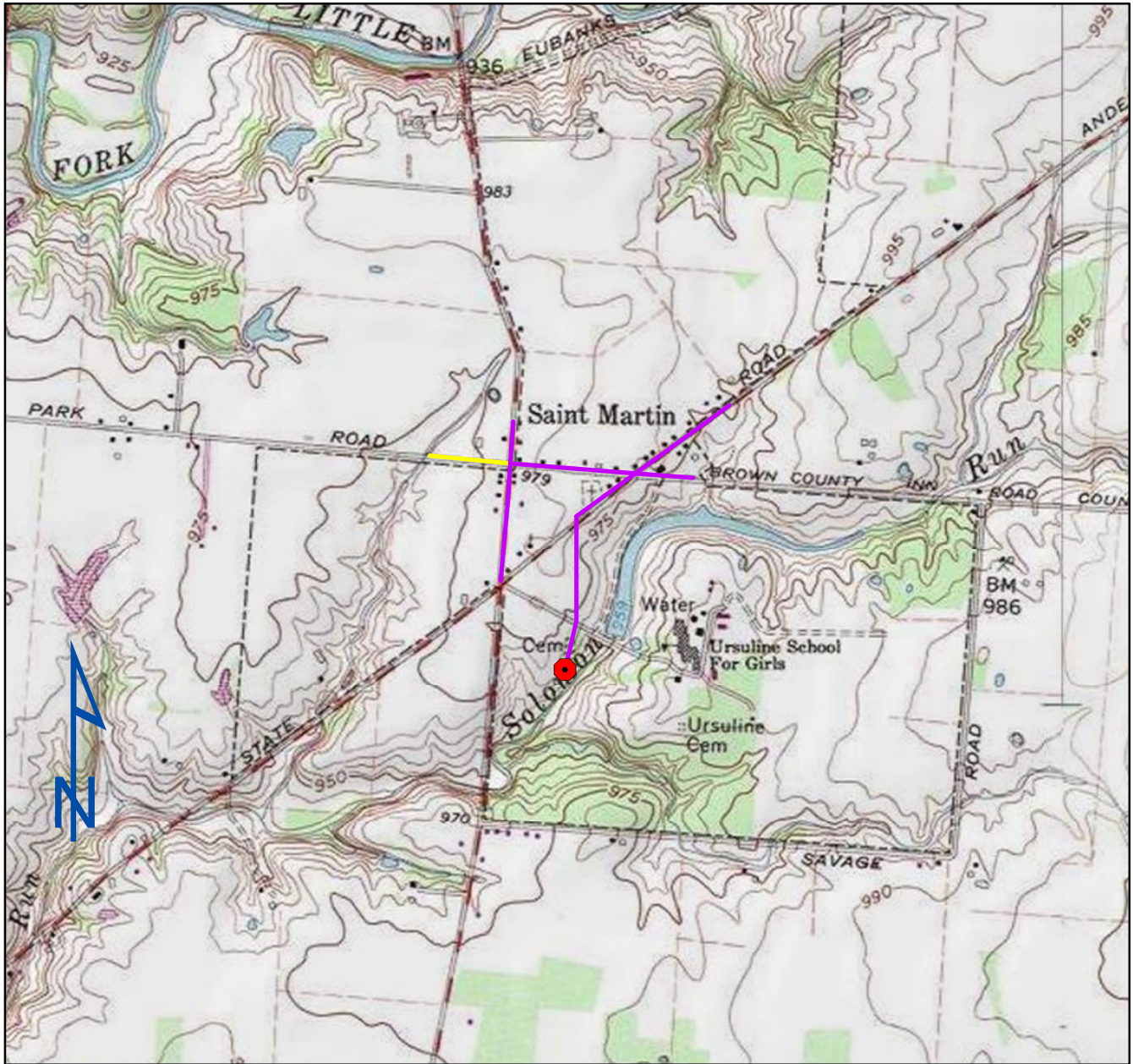


Northern Perry Township Wastewater Collection System Improvements

Brown County, Ohio

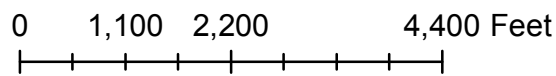
USGS Map

June 6, 2012



Legend

- Existing Pump Station
- Collection System Replacements
- Potential New Customers



1 inch = 2,000 feet



Appendix B
Agency Correspondence

From: "Kessler, John" <John.Kessler@dnr.state.oh.us>
To: <rjacosta@wsos.org>
Date: 7/23/2012 3:50 PM
Subject: FW: comments 12-403 Perry Twp wastewater system improvements

ODNR COMMENTS TO: Roberta Acosta, Ohio RCAP; rjacosta@wsos.org

Project: RCAP Wastewater Collection System Improvement Project

Location: Village of St. Martin, Fayetteville quad

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has completed a review of the above referenced project. These comments were generated by an inter-disciplinary review within the Department. These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Ohio Revised Code and other applicable laws and regulations. These comments are also based on ODNR's experience as the state natural resource management agency and do not supersede or replace the regulatory authority of any local, state or federal agency nor relieve the applicant of the obligation to comply with any local, state or federal laws or regulations.

Fish and Wildlife: The ODNR, Division of Wildlife (DOW) has the following comments.

The project is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state and federally endangered species. The following species of trees have relatively high value as potential Indiana bat roost trees: Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), Shellbark hickory (*Carya laciniosa*), Bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), Black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), White ash (*Fraxinus americana*), Shingle oak (*Quercus imbricaria*), Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), Slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), Silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), Post oak (*Quercus stellata*), and White oak (*Quercus alba*). Indiana bat habitat consists of suitable trees that include dead and dying trees of the species listed above with exfoliating bark, crevices, or cavities in upland areas or riparian corridors and living

trees of the species listed above with exfoliating bark, cavities, or hollow areas formed from broken branches or tops. If suitable trees occur within the project area, these trees must be conserved. If suitable habitat occurs on the project area and trees must be cut, cutting must occur between September 30 and April 1. If suitable trees must be cut during the summer months, a net survey must be conducted in May or June prior to cutting. Net surveys shall incorporate either two net sites per square kilometer of project area with each net site containing a minimum of two nets used for two consecutive nights, or one net site per kilometer of stream within the project limits with each net site containing a minimum of two nets used for two consecutive nights. If no tree removal is proposed, the project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*), a state endangered and federal endangered mussel, the sheepnose (*Plethobasus cyphus*), a state endangered and federal endangered mussel, the fanshell (*Cyprogenia stegaria*), a state and federally endangered mussel, the pink mucket (*Lampsilis orbiculata*), a state and federally endangered mussel, the snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), a state endangered and federal endangered mussel, the ebonyshell (*Fusconaia ebena*), a state endangered mussel, the butterfly (*Ellipsaria lineolata*), a state endangered mussel, the elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*), a state endangered mussel, and the wartyback (*Quadrula nodulata*), a state endangered mussel.

If there is a history of mussels near the proposed project area, it may be necessary for a professional malacologist approved by the DOW to conduct a mussel survey in the project area. If no in-water work is proposed in perennial streams, the project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), a state threatened species. However, the Ohio Biodiversity Database currently has no records of this species near the project area.

The project is within the range of the shovelnose sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*), a state endangered species. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams at least April 15 to June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed, the project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), a state endangered species. Due to the mobility of this species, the project is

not likely to have an impact on this species.

The ODNR, Ohio Biodiversity Database has no records for rare or endangered species at this project site. We are unaware of any unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, parks or forests, national wildlife refuges or other protected natural areas within the project area. Our inventory program has not completely surveyed Ohio and relies on information supplied by many individuals and organizations. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact John Kessler at (614) 265-6621 if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

John Kessler, P.E.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Office of Real Estate

2045 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43229-6605

phone: 614-265-6621

email: john.kessler@dnr.state.oh.us
<<mailto:john.kessler@dnr.state.oh.us>>

From: ROBERTA ACOSTA
To: Brian.Mitch@dnr.state.oh.us
Date: 6/18/2012 1:59 PM
Subject: Project Review Request
Attachments: USGS Map.pdf

Mr. Mitch,

The Northern Perry Township Water District is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, in order that they may assess the environmental impacts of their wastewater collection system improvements project in the Village of St. Martin, Ohio. This review includes the above-mentioned areas as indicated on the enclosed map.

The District is currently considering a sanitary sewer collection system replacement project for the Village of St. Martin. The existing collection system was installed in the early 1930's and suffered from excessive I&I. The proposed project will alleviate unsanitary conditions in the area associated with excessive wastewater flows related to the failing collection system. The project includes the installation of approximately 9,500 lineal feet of 1 ¼ thru 2-inch force main and 25-30 grinder pumps and service laterals. The collection system will discharge to an existing manhole and force main for the conveyance of wastewater for treatment at the Village of Fayetteville. The project also includes structural repairs to the existing manholes in order to eliminate I&I.

The project is located on the Fayetteville Quad.

Please examine this proposal and comment on any potential adverse effects to endangered species that may occur in the project area. Please provide any recommendation you may have to mitigate or avoid these impacts.

A response within 30 days would be appreciated. If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please contact me at (419) 724-4155 or by email at rjacosta@wsos.org.

Sincerely,

Roberta Acosta
Senior Rural Development Specialist
Ohio RCAP
PO Box 23078
Toledo, Ohio 43623

PH: (419) 724-4155
FAX: (419) 241-9116

Check out our website at: www.glracap.org/ohio

Save The Date: RCAP 'Small Towns, Big Futures' Conference August
14-15, 2012

For alternative project planning information check out: www.decentralizedcentral.org (
<http://www.decentralizedcentral.org/>)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HUNTINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
502 EIGHTH STREET
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701-2070

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

July 25, 2012

Regulatory Division
North Branch
LRH-2012-470-ELM-Solomon Run

Ms. Roberta Acosta
Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program
Post Office Box 23078
Toledo, Ohio 43623

Dear Ms. Acosta:

I refer to information and request for comments received in this office on June 20, 2012 concerning a proposed wastewater collection system improvement project located in the Village of St. Martin, Brown County, Ohio. The project would include the installation of approximately 9,500 linear feet of force main, and grinder pumps and service laterals. The proposed project appears to be located near Solomon Run and its unnamed tributary. Solomon Run is a perennial tributary to the East Fork Little Miami River, a traditional navigable water of the United States. This request has been assigned the following file number: LRH-2012-470-ELM. Please reference this file number on any future correspondence related to this subject proposal.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires a DA permit be obtained prior to discharging dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 requires a DA permit be obtained for any work in, on, over or under a navigable water.

The Corps' authority to regulate waters of the United States is based on the definitions and limits of jurisdiction contained in 33 CFR §328 and 33 CFR §329. "Water of the United States" include navigable waters and may include other parts of the surface water tributary system down to the smallest of streams (e.g. tributary that only contains water after a rain event), lakes, ponds, or other water bodies on those streams, and adjacent wetlands (e.g. swamps and some seasonally flooded areas) if they meet certain criteria. Proposed activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States which may require a permit may include, but is not limited to, bank stabilization, roads, developments, utilities, and in some cases dredging and other excavation.

Based on our review, we have determined the information submitted is not sufficient for us to be certain of the need for permits on this particular project. The proposed new line along Park Road appears to extend to an unnamed tributary to Solomon Run. Should this project

include the discharge of fill material into waters of the United States, including Solomon Run and its tributary, prior authorization may be required from this office. Impacts to waters of the United States associated with the installation of the force main may meet the criteria of Nationwide Permit Number (NWP) 12, *Utility Line Activities*, provided all terms and conditions of the permit are met. You may access NWPs at the following web address: <http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/permits/nwp/>. To access NWPs for the state of Ohio, click on '2012 Nationwide Permits for the State of Ohio (without State 401 Water Quality Certifications)' at the above web address.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact me at (513) 825-4518. Please submit any future information regarding this project to the Huntington District Office with a copy to the Cincinnati Field Office, 10557 McKelvey Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45240.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denise M. Marmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Denise M. Marmer
Regulatory Project Manager
North Branch

Roberta Acosta
Ohio RCAP
PO Box 23078
Toledo, Ohio 43623

June 14, 2012

US Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District Office
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

RE: Northern Perry Township Water-St Martin Collection System Improvements
Brown County, Ohio

Dear Reviewer:

The Northern Perry Township Water District is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, in order that they may assess the environmental impacts of their wastewater collection system improvements project in the Village of St. Martin, Ohio. This review includes the above-mentioned areas as indicated on the enclosed map.

The District is currently considering a sanitary sewer collection system replacement project for the Village of St. Martin. The existing collection system was installed in the early 1930's and suffered from excessive I&I. The proposed project will alleviate unsanitary conditions in the area associated with excessive wastewater flows related to the failing collection system. The project includes the installation of approximately 9,500 lineal feet of 1 ¼ thru 2-inch force main and 25-30 grinder pumps and service laterals. The collection system will discharge to an existing manhole and force main for the conveyance of wastewater for treatment at the Village of Fayetteville. The project also includes structural repairs to the existing manholes in order to eliminate I&I.

Please examine this proposal and comment on any potential adverse effects to wetlands and/or the need for a Nationwide Permit that may occur in the project area. Please provide any recommendation you may have to mitigate or avoid these impacts.

A response within 30 days would be appreciated. If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please contact me at (419) 724-4155 or by email at rjacosta@wsos.org.

Sincerely,

Roberta Acosta
Field Agent

Enclosures

From: [Haas, Nicole](#)
To: [Ostrow, Ashley L LRH](#)
Subject: Re: Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project St. Martin, Ohio
Date: Monday, December 10, 2012 10:57:24 AM

Ashley

This email is in regard to the sanitary sewer replacement project in the Village of St. Martin in Brown County, Ohio (USFWS #03E15000-2012-TA-0116). Our office has been in coordination with Ms. Pam Ewing of the Rural Community Assistance Program. You have indicated that BMP's will be used to prevent construction runoff and minimize erosion of the stream bank into Solomon Run and that no in-water work will take place. You have also indicated that it is not anticipated that any tree removal will occur. We have received the USACE Huntington District's determination that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats due to the project type size and location; we concur with your determination.

This concludes consultation on this action as required by section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. Should, during the term of this action, additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, consultation with the Service should be reinitiated to assess whether the determinations are still valid.

Thank you,
Nicole

On Thu, Dec 6, 2012 at 4:25 PM, Ostrow, Ashley L LRH <Ashley.L.Ostrow@usace.army.mil> wrote:

Nicole,

Per our conversation yesterday, this email is in regard to the sanitary sewer replacement project in the Village of St. Martin in Brown County, Ohio. The proposed project is a partnership agreement between the Fayette-Perry Township Regional Sewer District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under the authority of Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-53), which provides authority for the USACE to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in Ohio. This law provides assistance in design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure, resource protection, and development projects in Ohio.

The Project Area is located in the unincorporated area of St. Martin and is defined by SR 251, Church Street (Co. Hwy 9/86), and Anderson Road (Co. Hwy 48) to an existing pump station south of Ursuline Lane. The proposed project includes the installation of approximately 9,500 lineal feet of 1-1/4 thru 2-inch force main and 25-30 grinder pumps and service laterals. The new pressure lines will be installed within the public right of way in the same trench as the existing pipe. A few trees are present within the project area; however it is not anticipated that trees will require removal. The project area will be graded and reseeded with grasses in order to be returned to pre-construction condition as soon as possible upon completion of construction activities. Solomon Run and an unnamed tributary are located near St. Martin. Solomon Run is a perennial tributary to the East Fork Little Miami River which drains to the Ohio River located in the southern part of Brown County. BMPs will be used throughout the project to prevent construction runoff. Runoff water quality will be controlled through erosion minimization measures as specified in the ODNR Manual of Rainwater and Land Development and by controlling the use and storage of construction materials which may pollute runoff water. Silt fencing and appropriate restoration will be a part of the project and detailed in contract documents. All disturbed areas will be mulched and re-vegetated with native plants. Water quality impacts are not anticipated as no in-water work will occur and the possibility of contamination of Solomon Run and its tributaries is greatly minimized with the use of BMPs such as silt fencing. A project work limit map has

been attached (See Attachment 1).

Ms. Pam Ewing with the Rural Community Assistance Program has corresponded with your office regarding threatened and endangered species (See USFWS Letter, Case #03E15000-2013-TA-0116). Due to the project type, size, and location, the USACE Huntington District has determined that the proposed project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats. The USFWS letter dated November 16, 2012, indicates that the letter does not serve as completed Section 7 consultation. The USACE Huntington District is asking for consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Thank you for your continued coordination. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information on the proposed project.

Thanks,
Ashley Ostrow, CFM
US Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
(304)399-5947

--

Nicole Haas
Biological Technician
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Ohio Ecological Services Field Office
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, OH 43230
Phone: 614-416-8993 x: 32
Fax: 614-416-8994
E-mail: nicole_haas@fws.gov



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994

November 16, 2012

Ms. Pam Ewing
Rural Community Assistance Program
1817 St. Rt. 83, Unit 423
Millersburg, Ohio 44654

Tails: 03E15000-2013-TA-0116

Re: Northern Perry Township (St. Martin)

Dear Ms. Ewing:

This is in response to your October 26, 2012 correspondence, which was read by our office on October 29, 2012, requesting information about threatened and endangered species. The proposed project site is located near the intersection of Anderson Street and Park Road in the Village of St. Martin in Brown County, Ohio. Project plans include a sanitary sewer collection system replacement. The site currently exists as maintained right-of-way and a small forested section near the existing pump station.

There are no Federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges, or designated Critical Habitat within the vicinity of the proposed site.

STREAM & WETLAND COMMENTS:

The existing pump station is located adjacent to Solomon Run, a forested stream. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that proposed activities minimize water quality impacts and impacts to quality fish and wildlife habitat, such as forests, streams, and wetlands. Riparian zone habitat should be preserved wherever possible. Vegetated areas along streams and rivers stabilize the banks, provide fish and wildlife habitat, filter pollutants and excess nutrients, store excess water during storm events, and minimize sedimentation. Best Management Practices (BMP's) should be utilized to minimize sedimentation and erosion. All disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native woody and herbaceous species.

ENDANGERED SPECIES COMMENTS:

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate any impact on federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, consultation with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended, and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document. If you have questions, or if we may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact Nicole Haas at extension 32 in this office.

Sincerely,



Mary Knapp, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor

cc: ODNR, DOW, SCEA Unit, Columbus, OH



September 25, 2012

David Frantz
US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

Dear Mr. Frantz:

RE: Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Perry Township, Brown County, Ohio

This is in response to correspondence, received on July 12, 2012, regarding this project. The proposed project involves sanitary sewer replacement lines in Perry Township, Brown County, Ohio. The comments of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office are submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

A review of our records shows that the majority of the area adjacent to the proposed project area has not previously been subject to archaeological survey. Based on the information included in your submission, the area of potential effect (APE) does not appear to have a high probability for additional archaeological deposits. We are unable to determine whether any properties in the APE are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. However, based on the limited information provided, we can conclude that the proposed project will not affect historic properties.

No further coordination with this office is necessary unless there is a change in the project. If new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project, or if the project changes, this office should be notified as required by 36 CFR Section 800.13.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2000, or by email at nyoung@ohiohistory.org.

Sincerely,

Nathan J. Young, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

800 East 17th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211 ph: 614.298.2000 fx: 614.298.2037

www.ohiohistory.org

2012-BRO-21195

Appendix C
Mailing List

**Section 594 Northern Perry Township Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project
Brown County, Ohio
Draft Environmental Assessment
Mailing List**

Federal Agencies and Officials

Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
200 North High Street
Room 614
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
37 West Broad Street
Room 300
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Jean Schmidt
House of Representatives
1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

USDA Natural Resources Conservation
Service
Georgetown Service Center
706 South Main Street
Georgetown, Ohio 45121

Ms. Mary Knapp
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230

U.S Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

State Agencies and Officials

Honorable John Kasich
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Thomas Niehaus
Ohio State Senate
1 Capital Square, 2nd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Danny R. Bulp
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Mr. John Kessler
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife
2045 Morse Road, Building G
Columbus, Ohio 43229

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

Mr. Nathan Young
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
1982 Velma Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43211

County Agencies and Officials

Fayetteville-Perry Library
406 North East Street
Fayetteville, Ohio 45118

Appendix D

HTRW

CELRH-EC-CE (1110)

13 November 2012

Wolfe/5327

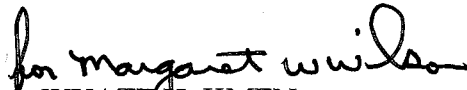
gw

MEMORANDUM FOR CELRH-PM-PP-P (Attention: David Frantz)

SUBJECT: Acceptance of revisions to the August 26, 2012 Phase I HTRW Investigation of the Sewer Line Replacement Project, submitted as the Final Report of the August 26, 2012 Phase I HTRW Investigation of the Sewer Line Replacement Project, Northern Perry Township/Saint Martin, Saint Martin, OH 45142.

1. The above referenced document was reviewed by EC-CE and has been determined to be acceptable. This completes the hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW) investigation of the above referenced project. No further HTRW investigation is necessary at this time.

2. If you have any further questions, you may contact Janet Wolfe at x5327.


WYATT H. KMEN

Chief, Environmental and Remediation Section