Construction Notice Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line Cut-in to Badger Station Project

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY℠

An AEP Company

BOUNDLESS ENERGY℠

PUCO Case No. 23-0852-EL-BNR

Submitted to:
The Ohio Power Siting Board
Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-6-05

Submitted by:
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

September 13, 2023

Construction Notice

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line Cut-in to Badger Station Project

4906-6-05

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (the "Company") provides the following information to the Ohio Power Siting Board ("OPSB") pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-6-05.

4906-6-5(B) General Information

B(1) Project Description

The name of the project and applicant's reference number, names and reference number(s) of resulting circuits, a brief description of the project, and why the project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification.

The Company has identified the need to construct the Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line Cut-in to Badger Station Project (the "Project") in the City of New Albany, Licking County, Ohio. The purpose of the Project is to provide looped 138 kV service to the new Badger Station (Case No. 23-0290-EL-BLN), which will provide electricity to a customer's facility. The new 138 kV transmission line cut-in will be less than 0.2 mile between the existing Jug Street-Corridor 345 kV line (specifically the Corridor-Jug Street 138 kV circuit) and the new substation and will be located entirely on customer property. The location of the Project is shown on Figure 1 and Figure 2 in Appendix A.

The Project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice (CN) because it is within the types of projects defined by item 1 (d)(i) of Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-1-01 Appendix A of the Application Requirement Matrix For Electric Power Transmission Lines:

(1) New construction extension, or relocation of single or multiple circuit electric power transmission line(s), or upgrading existing transmission or distribution line(s) for operation at a higher transmission voltage, as follows:
(d) Line(s) primarily needed to attract or meet the requirements of a specific customer or customers, as follows:
(i) The line is completely on the property owned by the specific customer or the applicant.

The Project has been assigned PUCO Case No. 22-0852-EL-BNR.

B(2) Statement of Need

If the proposed project is an electric power transmission line or gas or natural gas transmission line, a statement explaining the need for the proposed facility.

A customer has requested a new substation to serve their facility requiring 125 MW of initial load, with growth up to 290 MW of peak demand. To meet the customer's needs, the Company will be required to construct a new 138 kV station, configured in a breaker-and-half-bus layout, named Badger Station. Badger Station will be powered by cutting into the existing Corridor-Jug Street 138 kV circuit (part of Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV double-circuit Transmission Line). Therefore, a section of the Jug Street– Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line will be adjusted to allow the cut-in to the new Badger Station, which is the subject of this application. The customer has requested an in-service date of May 1, 2024, for the initial load.

Failure to move forward with the proposed Project will result in the inability to serve the customer's load expectations and thereby jeopardize the customer's plans in the New Albany area (potentially 290 MW peak).

The need was presented and reviewed with stakeholders at the February 18, 2022, PJM SSRTEP Western Meeting. The solution was submitted at the May 9, 2023, PJM TEAC Meeting. The Project was subsequently assigned PJM supplemental number S2653.1-3 (See Appendix B).

B(3) Project Location

The applicant shall provide the location of the project in relation to existing or proposed lines and substations shown on an area system map of sufficient scale and size to show existing and proposed transmission facilities in the Project Area.

The location of the Project in relation to the existing transmission lines is shown in Figure 1 of Appendix A.

B(4) Alternatives Considered

The applicant shall describe the alternatives considered and reasons why the proposed location or route is best suited for the proposed facility. The discussion shall include, but not be limited to, impacts associated with socioeconomic, ecological, construction, or engineering aspects of the project.

The Project is located on customer property and based on the customer's proposed development, location of Badger Station, and existing facilities in the area, the proposed location of the transmission line cut-in is the most suitable location for the Project. Other alternatives would require impacting neighboring properties, as opposed to remaining entirely on the customer's property, and would add additional transmission length to the Project without any additional benefit. The selected cut-in alignment, Badger Station site, and tie lines are located within the specific customer's property on land most historically used for agriculture but has been zoned for industrial use. The customer property and surrounding parcels are currently under development for industrial use. The Project will result in no impacts to wetlands, streams, or known cultural resource areas eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Therefore,

this alternative represents the most suitable location and is the most appropriate solution for meeting the Company's and specific customer's needs in the area.

B(5) Public Information Program

The applicant shall describe its public information program to inform affected property owners and tenants of the nature of the project and the proposed timeframe for project construction and restoration activities.

The Badger Station property will abut the existing ROW for the Jug Street-Corridor 345 kV transmission line. All work activities are proposed on a property currently owned by the customer. The Company has currently entered into a right of entry agreement with the customer and is in discussion with the customer to obtain an option for purchase in fee of the land on which the station will be situated. No additional property owners or tenants affected. The Company maintains a website (http://aeptransmission.com/ohio/) on which an electronic copy of this CN is available. An electronic copy of the CN will be served to the public library in each political subdivision affected by this Project.

B(6) Construction Schedule

The applicant shall provide an anticipated construction schedule and proposed in-service date of the project.

Construction of the Project is planned to begin in February 2024, and the anticipated in-service date will be in April 2024.

B(7) Area Map

The applicant shall provide a map of at least 1:24,000 scale clearly depicting the facility with clearly marked streets, roads, and highways, and an aerial image.

Figure 1 in Appendix A provides the proposed Project area on a map of 1:24,000-scale (1 inch equals 2,000 feet), showing the Project on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps of the New Albany, Ohio and Jersey, Ohio quadrangles. Figure 2 in Appendix A shows the Project Area on recent aerial photography, dated 2023, as provided by the Licking County Auditor at a scale of 1:6,000 scale (1 inch equals 500 feet).

To visit the Project site from Columbus, Ohio, take I-670 East to Exit 10A-B toward OH-161/I-270 North. After 1.7 miles, take the ramp on the right for OH-161 East. Continue for 11.2 miles before taking the ramp on the right to Beech Road/Township Road 88. Turn left onto Beech Road SW. The Project is located on the right after approximately 1.4 miles at the approximate address of 2465 Beech Rd, Johnstown, Ohio 43031, at latitude 40.099548, longitude -82.749439.

B(8) Property Agreements

The applicant shall provide a list of properties for which the applicant has obtained easements, options, and/or land use agreements necessary to construct and operate the facility and a list of the additional properties for which such agreements have not been obtained.

No new ROW is required for the Project. The Badger Station property will abut the existing ROW for the Jug Street-Corridor 345 kV transmission line. All work activities are proposed on Parcel 095-111618-04.000, which is currently owned by the customer. The Company currently has entered into a right of entry agreement with the customer and is in discussion with the customer to obtain an option for purchase in fee of the land on which the station will be situated.

A list of properties required for the Project is provided in the table below.

Property Parcel Number	Agreement Type	Easement/ Option Obtained (Yes/No)
095-111618-04.000	Customer Owned Property to be transferred to Company	Not Applicable

B(9) Technical Features

The applicant shall describe the following information regarding the technical features of the project:

B(9)(a) Operating characteristics, estimated number and types of structures required, and right-of-way and/or land requirements.

The equipment and facilities anticipated to be installed for the Project include the following:

Ownership: AEP Ohio Transmission Company
Voltage: 138 kV
Conductors: 2-bundled – (6) 1590 KCM ACSR (54/19)
Static Wire: (2) 159 ACSR 12/7
Insulators: Polymer
ROW Width: 100 feet
Structure Type: 2-pole 90° steel dead end

B(9)(b) Electric and Magnetic Fields

For electric power transmission lines that are within one hundred feet of an occupied residence or institution, the production of electric and magnetic fields during the operation of the proposed electric power transmission line.

No occupied residences or institutions are located within 100 feet of the Project.

B(9)(c) Project Cost

The estimated capital cost of the project.

The capital cost estimate for the proposed Project, which is comprised of applicable tangible and capital costs, is approximately $1,270,900. The costs will be recovered through the Company's FERC formula rate (Attachment H-20 to the PJM OATT) and allocated to the AEP Zone pursuant to the PJM OATT.

B(10) Social and Economic Impacts

The applicant shall describe the social and ecological impacts of the project:

B(10)(a) Land Use Characteristics

Provide a brief, general description of land use within the vicinity of the proposed project, including a list of municipalities, townships, and counties affected.

An aerial photograph of the Project vicinity is provided as Figure 2 in Appendix A. The Project is located in the City of New Albany, Licking County, Ohio. Land use in the Project area was historically agricultural with scattered residences, but the vicinity is developing. The customer property and surrounding parcels are currently under development for industrial use. The closest residence is approximately 1,000 feet from the Project.

B(10)(b) Agricultural Land Information

Provide the acreage and a general description of all agricultural land, and separately all agricultural district land, existing at least sixty days prior to submission of the application within the potential disturbance area of the project.

The majority of the customer's property was historically agricultural and fallow land currently under development for industrial use. No current agricultural land will be impacted by the Project. The Licking County Auditor confirmed that the Project parcel is not registered as Agricultural District Land on September 12, 2023.

B(10)(c) Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of significant archaeological or cultural resources that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

The Company's consultant completed a literature review of a Phase I Cultural Resource Management Investigation of the Project Area in October 2022. No further investigation was considered to be necessary by the consultant. Two previously identified archaeological sites are located within the Project area, Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) #33LI2442 and #33LI2521. The sites were recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Ohio Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO")

agreed that the Project will not impact any cultural resources eligible for listing on the NRHP and no additional coordination is necessary prior to construction. A copy of the October 5, 2022, concurrence letter from SHPO is provided in Appendix C.

B(10)(d) Local, State, and Federal Agency Correspondence

Provide a list of the local, state, and federal governmental agencies known to have requirements that must be met in connection with the construction of the project, and a list of documents that have been or are being filed with those agencies in connection with siting and constructing the project.

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for authorization of construction stormwater discharges under General Permit OHC000006. The Company will also coordinate stormwater permitting needs with the City of New Albany as required. The Company will implement and maintain best management practices as outlined in the Project-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan ("SWPPP") to minimize erosion control sediment to protect surface water quality during storm events. Coordination with the City of New Albany is required for the SWPPP and is currently ongoing.

The customer completed an ecological survey in April 2019 for the overall customer property. The proposed Project falls within the area reviewed by the customer in 2019. One stream was identified in the Badger Station area, although it was not directly crossed or adjacent to the proposed cut-in and was the subject of a Jurisdictional Determination (LRH-2018-686-SCR-Blacklick Creek). The customer continued with the permitting process and received the applicable permits. The associated permits are LRH-2018-686-SCR-Blacklick Creek and OEPA DSW 401196304.

The Company's consultant completed an additional survey in March 2023 to review current site conditions. The Project area had been graded, resulting in two PEM/Cat 1 wetlands, which were located within the area of the Jurisdictional Determination (LRH-2018-686-SCR-Blacklick Creek) discussed above. The Company will not be impacting the two identified wetlands (see Figure 2 in Appendix D). Permitting efforts for the two identified wetlands were conducted by the customer and are located within the larger site development that is underway.

The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map was reviewed to identify any floodplains/flood hazard areas that have been mapped within the Project Area (specifically, map numbers **39049C0207K and 39049C0230K**). Based on this mapping, no mapped FEMA floodplains are located in the Project Area. Therefore, no floodplain permit will be required for this Project.

There are no other known local, state, or federal requirements that must be met prior to commencement of the proposed Project.

B(10)(e) Threatened, Endangered, and Rare Species

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of federal and state designated species (including endangered species, threatened species, rare species, species proposed for listing, species under review for listing, and species of special interest) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

As part of the ecological study completed for the Project, a coordination letter was submitted to the USFWS Ohio Ecological Services Field Office seeking technical assistance on the Project for potential impacts to threatened or endangered species. The October 21, 2022 response letter from the USFWS (see Appendix C) indicated that the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat occur throughout Ohio. Seasonal tree clearing would be required if bat habitat trees were identified, although no tree clearing is anticipated for the Project. Due to the Project type, size, and location, USFWS does not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species.

A coordination letter was submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources ("ODNR") Division of Wildlife ("DOW") Ohio Natural Heritage Program ("ONHP") and the ODNR - Office of Real Estate seeking an environmental review of the proposed Project for potential impacts on state-listed and federally-listed threatened or endangered species. Correspondence from ODNR's DOW/OHNP and the ODNR – Office of Real Estate was received on November 15, 2022 (see Appendix C).

According to the ODNR-DOW, the Project is within the range of the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, and tricolored bat. ODNR recommends cutting between October 1 and March 31. No winter hibernacula were observed within the Project Area (See Appendix D), and no tree clearing is anticipated for the Project. A review of potential winter bat hibernacula including underground mine openings and karst features was conducted within 0.25 miles of the Project. No potential hibernacula were identified. Therefore, no adverse impacts to these species are anticipated and no additional coordination with ODNR regarding bat species is required.

The ODNR-DOW indicated that the Project is within the range of the lake chubsucker, a state threatened fish species. Due to no in-water work and habitat, this species is not anticipated to be impacted by the Project.

The ODNR-DOW indicated that the Project is within the range of the eastern massasauga, a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

In addition, the ODNR lists the Project in the range of the northern harrier. The ODNR recommends that nesting habitats for the listed species be avoided during their nesting periods. A habitat survey was completed for avian resources, and concluded no suitable habitat was observed in the Project area. No construction restrictions are warranted as suitable habitat was not present on site.

B(10)(f) Areas of Ecological Concern

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of areas of ecological concern (including national and state forests and parks, floodplains, wetlands, designated or proposed wilderness areas, national and state wild and scenic rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, and wildlife sanctuaries) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

Correspondence received from the USFWS indicated that there are no federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges, or designated critical habitats in the Project vicinity. Similarly, the ODNR ONHP identified no unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, state nature preserves, state or national parks, state or national forests, national wildlife refuges, or other protected natural areas within one mile of the Project (see Appendix D).

FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps were consulted to identify any floodplains/flood hazard areas that have been mapped in the Project Area (specifically, map numbers **39049C0207K and 39049C0230K**). Based on these maps, no mapped FEMA floodplains are located in the Project area.

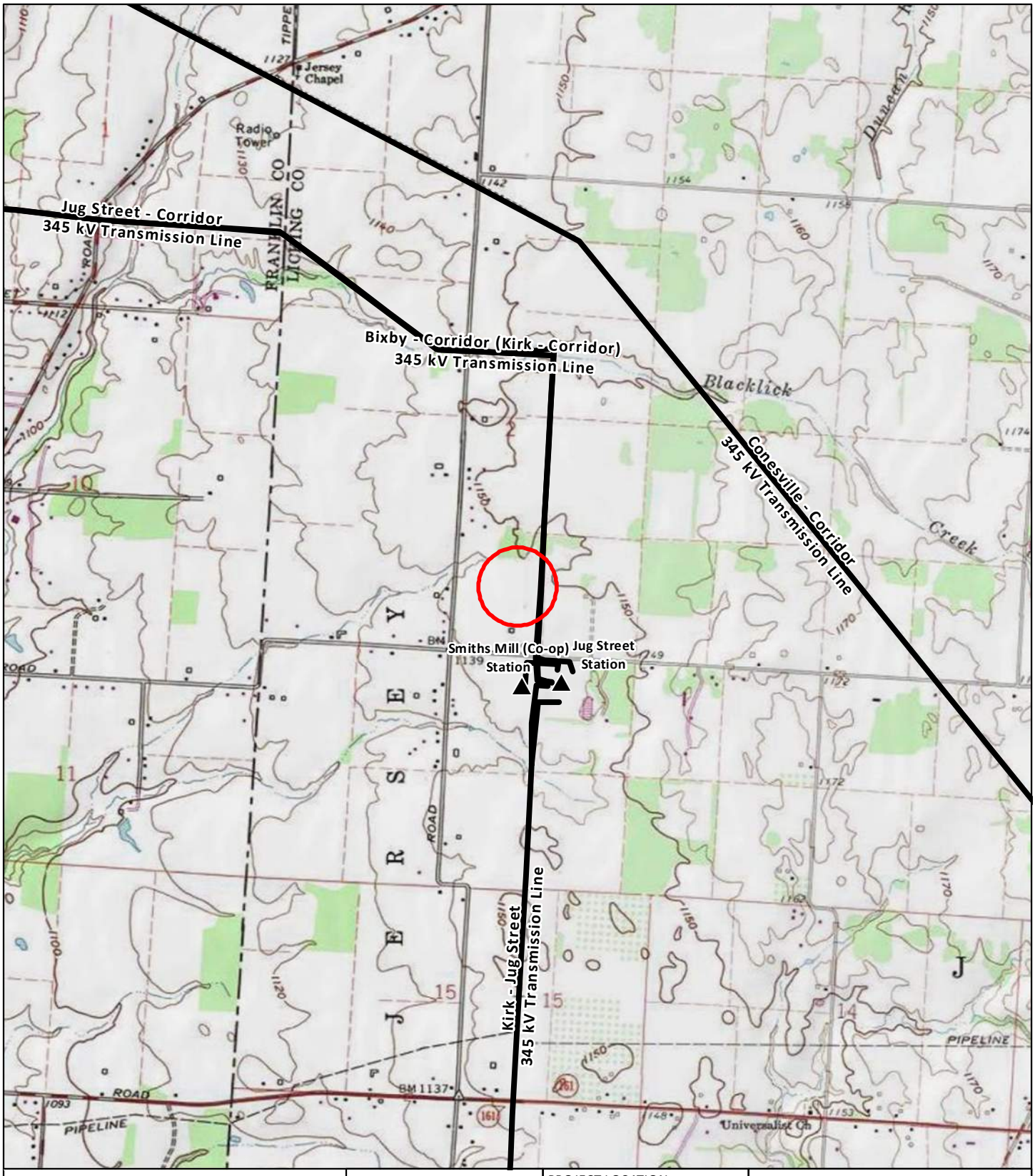
The customer completed an ecological survey in April 2019 for the overall customer property. The proposed Project falls within the area reviewed by the customer in 2019. One stream was identified in the Badger Station area, although it was not directly crossed or adjacent to the proposed cut-in. The Company's consultant completed an additional survey in March 2023 to review current site conditions. The Project area was graded with no streams or wetlands identified.

B(10)(g) Unusual Conditions

Provide any known additional information that will describe any unusual conditions resulting in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

To the best of the Company's knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

Appendix A Project Maps



Legend:
- Project Area
- Existing Station
- Existing Transmission Line

Data Sources: AEP, USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangles (New Albany and Jersey, Ohio)

Ohio State Plane South
NAD 1983

September 12, 2023

PROJECT LOCATION

LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

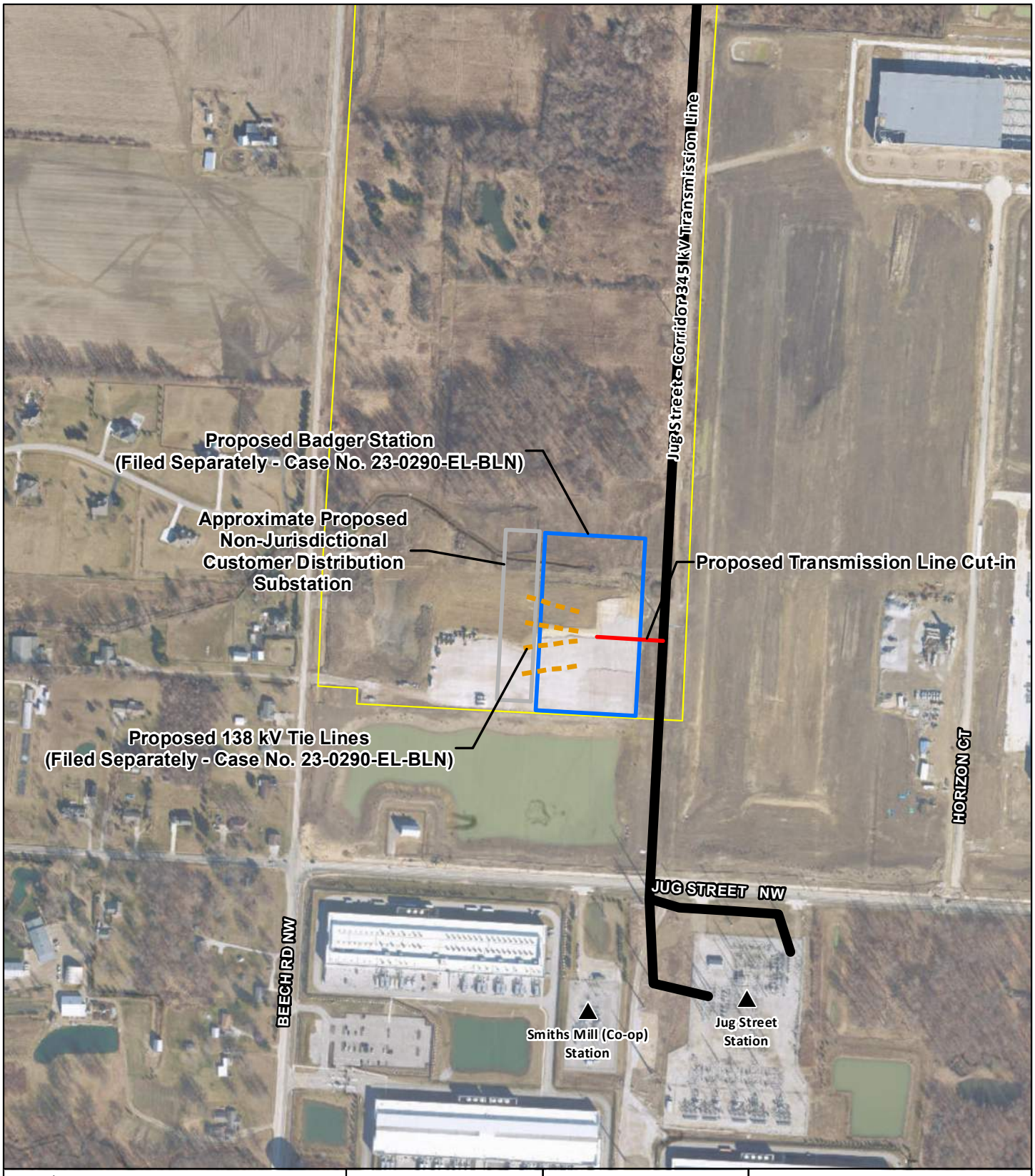
FIGURE 1
TOPOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line Cut-In to Badger Station Project

0 1,000 2,000 3,000

Feet



Legend:

- Proposed Transmission Line Cut-In
- Proposed Badger Station Fence (Filed Separately)
- Proposed 138 kV Tie Line (Filed Separately)
- Proposed Non-Jurisdictional Customer Distribution Station
- Project Area (Customer Property)
- Existing Transmission Line
- Existing Station

Data Sources: AEP, Licking County (2023)

Ohio State Plane South
NAD 1983

September 12, 2023

PROJECT LOCATION

LICKING COUNTY, OHIO

FIGURE 2
PROJECT AERIAL MAP

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Jug Street – Corridor 345 kV Transmission Line Cut-In to Badger Station Project

0 300 600 900

Feet

Appendix B PJM Solution and Long-Term Forecast Report Pages

AEP Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Badger

Need Number: AEP-2022-OH023

Process Stage: Solutions Meeting 5/9/2023

Previously Presented: Need Meeting 2/18/2022

Project Driver: Customer Service

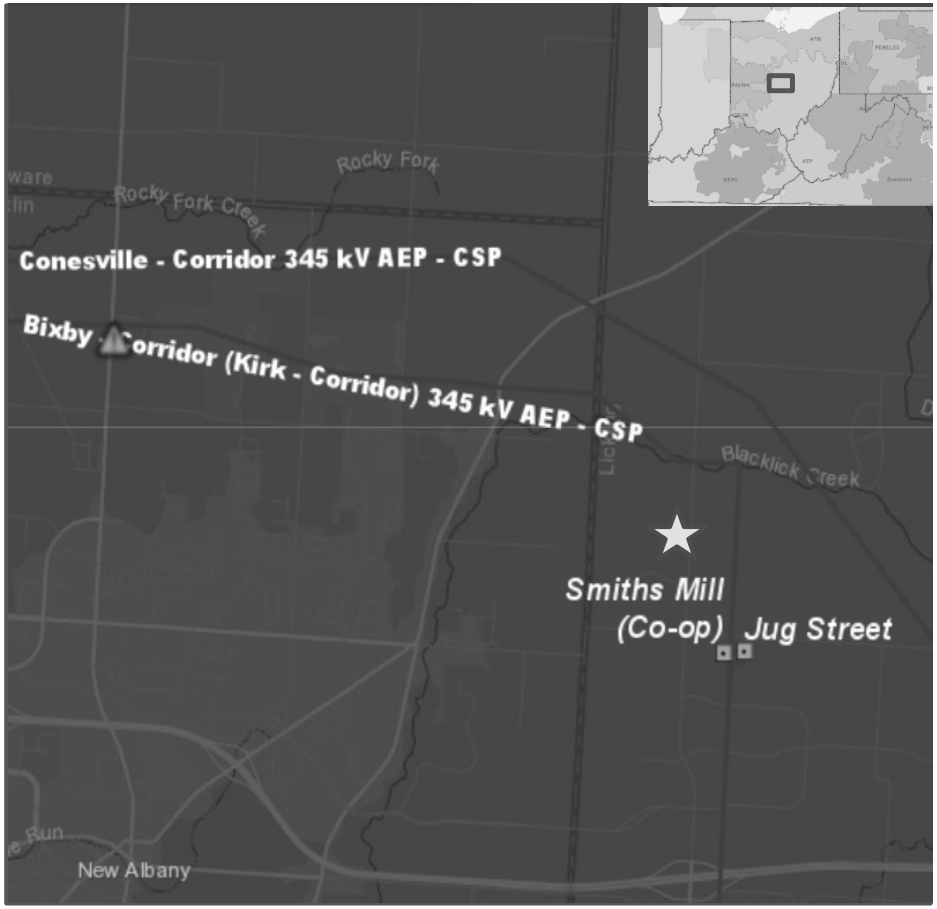
Specific Assumption Reference:

AEP Connection Requirements for the AEP Transmission System (AEP Assumptions Slide 12)

Problem Statement:

Customer Service:

- A customer has requested transmission service at a site North of AEP's existing Jugg Street station in Columbus, OH.
- The customer has indicated an initial peak demand of ~~90~~ 125 MW with an ultimate capacity of up to ~~360~~ 290 MW at the site.
- Initial customer requested in-service date of June 1, 2024.



AEP Transmission Zone M-3 Process
New Albany, OH

Need Number: AEP-2022-OH023

Process Stage: Solutions Meeting 5/9/2023

Proposed Solution:

The following work is all direct connect substation to physically connect demand to the grid.

- **Badger 138 kV:** Cut into the Green Chapel – Jug 138 kV circuit and extend ~ 0.1 miles of new double circuit line, utilizing 2-bundled ACSR Falcon 1590 (54/19) conductor, SE rating 1118 MVA , to the greenfield Badger station with (10) 80 kA, 4000 A breakers & (1) 69.1 MVAR 138 kV Cap bank, laid out as breaker and a half for future expansion to 6 strings. Construct 4 - 138 kV tie lines to the customers dead end structures ~.05 miles utilizing ACSR Dove 556.5 (26/7) conductor SE 284 MVA. Cost: **$18.43 M**

PUCO FORM FE-T9 SUPPLEMENT
AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
Specifications of Planned Transmission Lines

12	CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION	Potential for increased transmission line outages
13	MISCELLANEOUS:	
1	LINE NAME AND NUMBER:	East Wheelersburg - Texas Eastern 138 kV (TP2015095 s2464)
2	POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION	East Wheelersburg - Texas Eastern INTERMEDIATE STATION - N/A
3	RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS	~2 miles / 100 feet / 1 circuit
4	VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE	138 kV / 138 kV
5	APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:	2023
6	CONSTRUCTION:	2023 - 2026
7	CAPITAL INVESTMENT:	$3.41 M
8	PLANNED SUBSTATION:	N/A
9	SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:	Steel
10	PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES	N/A
11	PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE	Rebuild aging infrastructure
12	CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION	Potential for increased transmission line outages
13	MISCELLANEOUS:	
1.	LINE NAME AND NUMBER:	Badger - Corridor 138 kV (TP2021766)
2.	POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION	Badger - Corridor INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3.	RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS	6.1 mi / 100 ft / 2 circuit (0nly 0.1 mi of line work)
4.	VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE	138 kV / 138 kV
5.	APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:	2023
6.	CONSTRUCTION:	2024
7.	CAPITAL INVESTMENT:	$0.53 M
8.	PLANNED SUBSTATION:	Badger
9.	SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:	Steel

PUCO FORM FE-T9 SUPPLEMENT
AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
Specifications of Planned Transmission Lines

10.	PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES	N/A
11.	PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE	Reterminate the Corridor - Jug Street 138 kV circuit into Badger
12.	CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION	Unable to provide requested service
13.	MISCELLANEOUS:	
1.	LINE NAME AND NUMBER:	Badger - Jug 138 kV (TP2021766)
2.	POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION	Badger - Jug INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3.	RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS	0.5 mi / 100 ft / 2 circuit (0nly 0.1 mi of line work)
4.	VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE	138 kV / 138 kV
5.	APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:	2023
6.	CONSTRUCTION:	2024
7.	CAPITAL INVESTMENT:	$0.53 M
8.	PLANNED SUBSTATION:	Badger
9.	SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:	Steel
10.	PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES	N/A
11.	PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE	Reterminate the Corridor - Jug Street 138 kV circuit into Badger
12.	CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION	Unable to provide requested service
13.	MISCELLANEOUS:	
1.	LINE NAME AND NUMBER:	Anguin - Babbitt 138 kV (TP2022073)
2.	POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION	Anguin - Babbitt INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3.	RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS	1.63 mi / 100 ft / 2 circuit (0.17 mi of line work)
4.	VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE	138 kV / 138 kV
5.	APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:	2023
6.	CONSTRUCTION:	2024
7.	CAPITAL INVESTMENT:	$0.97 M

Appendix C Agency Coordination

In reply, refer to
2022-LIC-56033

October 5, 2022

Mr. Ryan J. Weller
Weller & Associates, Inc.
1395 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212

RE: Jug Street Corridor 345kV Cut-In Project to Badger Station Project, Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weller:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received October 4, 2022 regarding the proposed Jug Street Corridor 345kV Cut-In Project to Badger Station Project, Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the *Phase I Cultural Resource Management Investigations for the Approximately .8 km (.5 mi) Jug Street Corridor 345kV Cut-In project to Badger Station in Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio* by Ryan J. Weller (Weller & Associates, Inc. 2022).

A literature review was completed as part of the investigations as the entirety of the project area was previously investigated. Two (2) previously identified archaeological sites are located within the project area, Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) #33LI2242 and 33LI2521. Neither site was recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Our office agrees with this recommendation and no additional archeological investigation is needed. No architectural resources were identified in the Area of Potential Effects (APE).

Based on the information provided, we agree that the project as proposed will have no effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2022, or by e-mail at khorrocks@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Krista Horrocks, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

RPR Serial No: 1095207

Office of Real Estate
John Kessler, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6621
Fax: (614) 267-4764

November 15, 2022

Kim Catano
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
1500 Lake Shore Drive Suite 100
Columbus OH 43204

Re: 22-1017; AEP Badger Station CMH 82 Project

Project: The proposed project involves an approximately 10-acre parcel to construct a new 138kV station.

Location: The proposed project is located in Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio.

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.

Natural Heritage Database: A review of the Ohio Natural Heritage Database indicates there are no records of state or federally listed plants or animals within one mile of the specified project area. Records searched date from 1980.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

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

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The project is within the vicinity of records for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

In addition, the entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these bat species predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. The DOW recommends tree cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible.

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range the lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*) a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

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

October 21, 2022

Project Code: 2023-0000416

Dear Ms. Catano:

The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) occur throughout the State of Ohio. The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat may be found wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and breed that may also include adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, woodlots, fallow fields, and pastures. Roost trees for both species include live and standing dead trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities. These roost trees may be located in forested habitats as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet of other forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat. In the winter, Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves, rock crevices and abandoned mines.

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is recommended where Indiana bats are assumed present.
If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats. If Indiana bats are not detected

during the survey, then tree clearing may occur at any time of the year. Surveys must be conducted by an approved surveyor and be designed and conducted in coordination with the Ohio Field Office. Surveyors must have a valid federal permit. Please note that in Ohio summer mist net surveys may only be conducted between June 1 and August 15.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

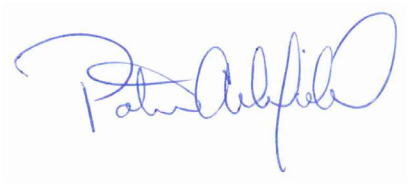
Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or 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, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Eileen Wyza, ODNR-DOW

Appendix D Ecological Survey Report

Badger Station Project
Licking County, Ohio

Ecological Survey Report

Prepared for:

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
8600 Smiths Mill Road
New Albany, OH 43054

Prepared by:

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
1500 Lake Shore Drive, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43204

March 31, 2023

Sign-off Sheet

This document entitled Badger Station Project Ecological Survey Report was prepared by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. ("Stantec") for the account of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (the "Client"). Any reliance on this document by any third party is strictly prohibited. The material in it reflects Stantec's professional judgment in light of the scope, schedule and other limitations stated in the document and in the contract between Stantec and the Client. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the document was published and do not take into account any subsequent changes. In preparing the document, Stantec did not verify information supplied to it by others. Any use which a third party makes of this document is the responsibility of such third party. Such third party agrees that Stantec shall not be responsible for costs or damages of any kind, if any, suffered by it or any other third party as a result of decisions made or actions taken based on this document.

Prepared by Zoe True

(signature)

Zoe True

Reviewed by Angela J Sjollema

(signature)

Angela Sjollema

Reviewed by Charlie Allen

(signature)

Charlie Allen

Table of Contents

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF APPENDICES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (AEP) is proposing to construct a new 138 kilovolt (kV) station in Licking County, Ohio. The Badger Station Project (the Project) is located northeast of New Albany in Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio (Figure 1, Appendix B). The Project will include the construction of a new 138 kV station with associated access roads. A 12.7-acre parcel (the Project area) for the proposed new 138 kV station was surveyed for wetlands, waterbodies, open water features, upland drainage features, and potential threatened, endangered, and rare species habitat by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) biologists on September 28 and October 5, 2022, and March 21, 2023 (Figure 2, Appendix B). The approximate locations of features located up to 50 feet outside of the Project area were also recorded during the field surveys, where landowner access was permitted. However, no data forms were collected on features that did not extend into the Project area. These features are shown on the Figure 2 map in Appendix B as "approximate" wetlands, streams (waterways), open waters, and upland drainage features.

2.0 METHODS

2.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

Prior to completing the field surveys, a desktop review of the Project area was conducted using U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps, National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, and aerial imagery mapping. Stantec completed a wetland delineation study in accordance with the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (USACE Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0; USACE 2010). Wetland categories were classified using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) for Wetlands Version 5.0 (Mack 2001).

2.2 STREAM DELINEATION

Streams that demonstrated a continuously defined channel (bed and bank), ordinary high water mark (OHWM), and the disturbance of terrestrial vegetation were delineated within the Project area, per the protocols outlined in the USACE's Guidance on Ordinary High Water Mark Identification (Regulatory Guidance Letter, No. 05-05; USACE 2005). Delineated streams were classified as ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial per definitions in the Federal Register/Vol. 67, No. 10 (USACE 2002) and determined as potential Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) in reference to the current guidance per interpretation of WOTUS that is consistent with the pre-2015 regulatory regime (40 CFR 230.3(s)) (USEPA 2022). Functional assessment of streams within the Project area was based on completion of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA) Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index (HHEI; OEPA 2020) and/or Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI; OEPA 2006). The centerline and/or the OHWM locations of each waterway were identified and surveyed using a handheld sub-meter accuracy global positioning system (GPS) unit and mapped with GIS software. Additionally, the locations of upland drainage features (which lacked a continuously defined bed and bank/OHWM) identified within the Project area were also recorded with a sub-meter accuracy GPS unit during the field surveys.

2.3 RARE SPECIES

Prior to conducting the field surveys, Stantec contacted the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for information regarding rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats of concern within the vicinity of the Project area (Appendix E – Agency Correspondence). To assess potential impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species, Stantec scientists conducted a pedestrian reconnaissance of the Project area, collected information on existing habitats within the Project area, and assessed the potential for these habitats to be used by these species.

3.0 RESULTS

3.1 TERRESTRIAL HABITAT

Stantec completed field surveys within the Project area on September 28 and October 5, 2022, and March 21, 2023 for potentially suitable habitats for threatened and endangered species. Figure 3 (Appendix B) shows the land cover, vegetation communities, and any identified rare, threatened, or endangered species habitats observed within the Project area during the habitat assessment surveys. Representative photographs of the vegetation communities/habitats identified within the Project area are included in Appendix D-2 of this report (photo locations are shown on Figure 3 in Appendix B). Information regarding the vegetation communities/habitats identified within the Project area are provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Found within the Badger Station Project Area Licking County, Ohio

Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types within the Project Area	Degree of Human-Related Ecological Disturbance	Unique, Rare, or High Quality?	Approximate Acreage Within Project Area
Old Field	Moderate to Extreme Disturbance/Ruderal Community (dominated by opportunistic invaders, planted non-native species, and/or native highly tolerant taxa, and structures). Dominant species included nodding foxtail (*Setaria faberi*), Canadian goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), fall panicum (*Panicum dichotomiflorum*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), lamb's quarters (*Chenopodium album*), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), red-root (*Amaranth retroflexus*), heath aster (*Symphyotrichum ericoides*), and alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*).	No	9.29
Second Growth Deciduous Forest	Intermediate disturbance (dominated by plants that typify a stable phase of a native community that persists under some disturbance). Dominant species included eastern poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), pin oak (*Quercus palustris*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), northern spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), clustered black snakeroot (*Sanicula odorata*), heath aster, jumpseed (*Persicaria virginiana*), common red rasberry (*Rubus idaeus),* multiflora rose (*Rosa*	No	3.13

Vegetation Communities and Land Cover Types within the Project Area	Degree of Human-Related Ecological Disturbance	Unique, Rare, or High Quality?	Approximate Acreage Within Project Area
	multiflora), and harvest-lice (*Agrimonia parviflora*), false nettle (*Boehmeria cylindrica*).		
Palustrine Emergence Wetland	Intermediate disturbance (dominated by plants that typify a stable phase of a native community that persists under some disturbance). Dominant species included reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), American tearthumb (*Persicaria sagittata*), panicled aster (*Symphyotrichum lanceolatum*).	No	0.28
		TOTAL	**12.70**

3.2 WETLANDS

Desktop analysis determined that the Project area contains no NWI features. Stantec completed field surveys for wetlands within the Project area on September 28 and October 5, 2022. Two wetlands were identified within the Project area during the field surveys. Figure 2 (Appendix B) shows the location of the identified wetlands. Representative wetland photographs are included in Appendix D-1 of this report (photo locations are shown on Figure 2, Appendix B). Completed wetland determination and ORAM data forms are included in Appendix C. Information regarding the wetland resources within the Project area and proposed impacts are summarized in Table 2 and Appendix A.

Biologists completed an additional survey on March 21, 2023 to review current site conditions. During the time of the survey, the two wetlands that were previously delineated were recently graded as part of the construction associated with the permitting efforts by others for a large site development. Representative photographs of the current site conditions, previous wetland areas, are included in Appendix D-3 of this report.

Table 2. Summary of Wetland Resources Found within the Badger Station Project Area, Licking County, Ohio

Wetland ID	Location			Isolated?[2]	Habitat Type[3,4]	Delineated Area (acre)	ORAM[5]		Nearest Proposed Structure Number	Existing Structure Number in Wetland	Proposed Structure Number in Wetland	Structure Installation Method	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude	Photo Location[1]				Score	Category					Temporary Matting Area (acre)	Permanent Impact Area (acre)
Wetland 1	40.100484	-82.750062	2	No	PEM	0.11	23	1	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Wetland 2	40.100254	-82.749535	7	No	PEM	0.17	26	1	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
					Total:	**0.28**						**Total:**	**TBD**	**TBD**

[1] Appendix B - Figure 2 and Appendix D – Photo log D-1
[2] Pending USACE jurisdictional review
[3] Habitat type based on Cowardin et al. (1979).
[4] PEM = Palustrine Emergent Wetland
[5] ORAM Score and Category are based on the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetland v. 5.0 (Mack 2001).

3.3 STREAMS

Stantec completed field surveys within the Project area on September 28 and October 5, 2022 for waterbodies (streams). Stantec identified one stream within the Project area. Information regarding the stream within the Project area and proposed impacts are summarized in Table 3 and Appendix A. Figure 2 (Appendix B) shows the location of the stream identified within the Project area. Representative photographs of the stream are included in Appendix D of this report (photo locations are shown on Figure 2, Appendix B). A completed HHEI data form is included in Appendix C.

Biologists completed an additional survey on March 21, 2023 to review current site conditions. During the time of the survey, the one intermittent stream that was previously delineated was recently graded as part of the construction associated with the permitting efforts by others for a large site development. Representative photographs of the current site conditions, previous stream area, are included in Appendix D-3 of this report.

3.4 OPEN WATERS

No open waters (i.e., ponds, lakes) were delineated within the Project area during the field surveys completed on September 28 and October 5, 2022, and March 21, 2023.

Table 3. Summary of Stream Resources Found within the Badger Station Project, Licking County

Stream ID	Location			Stream Type [2]	Stream Name	Delineated Length (feet)	Bankfull Width (feet)	OHWM Width[3] (feet)	Field Evaluation			Ohio EPA 401 Eligibility	Stream Crossing ?	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude	Photo Location [1]						Method[4]	Score	Category/ Rating/OAC Designation			Fill Type	Length (LF)
Stream 1	40.10036	-82.75079	4, 5	Intermittent	UNT to Blacklick Creek	471	6	4.5	HHEI	58	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	N/A	TBD	TBD
	Total Delineated Length Within Project Area:					**471**	**Total Proposed Impacts:**							**TBD**	**TBD**

[1] Appendix B – Figure 2 and Appendix D – Photo log D-2
[2] Stream Classification is based on Federal Register/Vol.67, N. 10 (USACE 2002).
[3] OHWM = Ordinary High Water Mark
[4] HHEI = Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index; QHEI = Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index

3.5 RARE, THREATENED, OR ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT

Table 4. Summary of Potential Federal and Ohio State-Listed Species within the Badger Station Project Area Licking County, Ohio

Common/Scientific Names	*State Listed Status	*Federally Listed Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Agency Comment** (Appendix D)	Potential Impacts and Avoidance Dates
Indiana bat/ *Myotis sodalis*	E	E	The Indiana bat is likely distributed over the entire State of Ohio, though not uniformly. This species generally forages in openings and edge habitats within upland and floodplain forest, but they also forage over old fields and pastures (Brack et al. 2010). Natural roost structures include trees (live or dead) with exfoliating bark, and exposure to solar radiation. Other important factors for roost trees include relative location to other trees, a permanent water source and foraging areas. Dead trees are preferred as maternity roosts; however, live trees are often used as secondary roosts depending on microclimate conditions (USFWS 2007, USFWS 2022). Roosts have also occasionally been found to consist of cracks and hollows in trees, utility poles, buildings, and bat boxes. Primarily use caves for hibernacula, although are also known to hibernate in abandoned underground mines (Brack et al. 2010).	No potentially suitable winter hibernacula were observed within the Project area. However, suitable summer roost and foraging habitat (deciduous forest) was observed within the Project area.	**ODNR** – This Project lies within the range the Indiana bat. Therefore, ODNR DOW recommends that habitat be conserved wherever possible. If suitable habitat occurs within the Project area and trees need to be cut, the ODNR DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. In addition, the DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if there are potential hibernacula present within the Project area. **USFWS** – If the proposed Project area contains trees ≥3 inches dbh, the USFWS recommends that trees be saved wherever possible. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, USFWS recommends that removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats.	Stantec completed a desktop habitat assessment in accordance with the 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2022) utilizing available ODNR websites, including data on known abandoned or active mines (ODNR 2022a) and locations of known or suspect karst geology (ODNR 2022b). The desktop assessment did not identify any karst regions or abandoned or active mines within 0.25 miles of the Project area (Figure 4; Appendix B). Potential suitable summer foraging and roosting habitat was observed in the Project area. AEP will determine if any tree clearing is necessary in areas containing suitable habitat and will proceed in accordance with agency recommendations. **Avoidance Dates: April 1 through September 30**
Northern Long-eared Bat/ *Myotis septentrionalis*	E	T/PE	The northern long-eared bat is found throughout Ohio. This species generally forages in forested habitat and openings in forested habitat and utilizes cracks, cavities, and loose bark within live and dead trees, as well as buildings as roosting habitat (Brack et al. 2010; USFWS 2022). The species utilizes caves and abandoned mines as winter hibernacula. Various sized caves are used providing they have a constant temperature, high humidity, and little to no air current (Brack et al. 2010).	No potentially suitable winter hibernacula were observed within the Project area. However, suitable summer roost and foraging habitat (deciduous forest) was observed within the Project area.	**ODNR -** This Project is within the vicinity of records for northern long-eared bat. Therefore, ODNR DOW recommends that habitat be conserved wherever possible. If suitable habitat occurs within the Project area and trees need to be cut, the ODNR DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. In addition, the DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if there are potential hibernacula present within the Project area. **USFWS** – If the proposed Project area contains trees ≥3 inches dbh, the USFWS recommends that trees be saved wherever possible. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, USFWS recommends that removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal tree clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to the northern long-eared bat. Incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule.	Stantec completed a desktop habitat assessment in accordance with the 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2022) utilizing available ODNR websites, including data on known abandoned or active mines (ODNR 2022a) and locations of known or suspect karst geology (ODNR 2022b). The desktop assessment did not identify any karst regions or abandoned or active mines within 0.25 miles of the Project area (Figure 4; Appendix B). Potential suitable summer foraging and roosting habitat was observed in the Project area. AEP will determine if any tree clearing is necessary in areas containing suitable habitat and will proceed in accordance with agency recommendations. **Avoidance Dates: April 1 through September 30**

Common/Scientific Names	*State Listed Status	*Federally Listed Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Agency Comment** (Appendix D)	Potential Impacts and Avoidance Dates
Little Brown Bat/ *Myotis lucifugus*	E	N/A	This bat uses a wide range of habitats and man-made structures for roosting, including buildings and attics. Less frequently, they use hollows of trees. Winter hibernation sites typically consist of caves, tunnels, abandoned mines. Foraging habitat for this species generally occurs over water, along the edges of lakes and stream or in woodlands near waterbodies (NatureServe 2022).	No potentially suitable winter hibernacula were observed within the Project area. However, suitable summer roost habitat (second growth deciduous forest) was observed within the Project area.	**ODNR** - This Project lies within the range of the little brown bat. Therefore, ODNR DOW recommends that habitat be conserved wherever possible. If suitable habitat occurs within the Project area and trees need to be cut, the ODNR DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. In addition, the DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if there are potential hibernacula present within the Project area. **USFWS** – No comments received.	Stantec completed a desktop habitat assessment in accordance with the 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2022) utilizing available ODNR websites, including data on known abandoned or active mines (ODNR 2022a) and locations of known or suspect karst geology (ODNR 2022b). The desktop assessment did not identify any karst regions or abandoned or active mines within 0.25 miles of the Project area (Figure 4; Appendix B). Potential suitable summer foraging and roosting habitat was observed in the Project area. AEP will determine if any tree clearing is necessary in areas containing suitable habitat and will proceed in accordance with agency recommendations. **Avoidance Dates: April 1 through September 30.**
Tricolored Bat/ *Perimyotis subflavus*	E	PE	This species is found throughout Ohio and is associated with forested landscapes, foraging near trees and along waterways. Maternity and summer roosts usually occur in dead or live tree foliage, or in the south, in clumps of Spanish moss. Maternity colonies may also use tree cavities or man-made structures, such as buildings or bridges. Caves, mines, and rock crevices may be used as night roosts between foraging (NatureServe 2022).	No potentially suitable winter hibernacula were observed within the Project area. However, suitable summer roost habitat (second growth deciduous forest) was observed within the Project area.	**ODNR** - This Project lies within the range of the tricolored bat. Therefore, ODNR DOW recommends that habitat be conserved wherever possible. If suitable habitat occurs within the Project area and trees need to be cut, the ODNR DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. In addition, the DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if there are potential hibernacula present within the Project area. **USFWS** – Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat	Stantec completed a desktop habitat assessment in accordance with the 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2022) utilizing available ODNR websites, including data on known abandoned or active mines (ODNR 2022a) and locations of known or suspect karst geology (ODNR 2022b). The desktop assessment did not identify any karst regions or abandoned or active mines within 0.25 miles of the Project area (Figure 4; Appendix B). Potential suitable summer foraging and roosting habitat was observed in the Project area. AEP will determine if any tree clearing is necessary in areas containing suitable habitat and will proceed in accordance with agency recommendations. **Avoidance Dates: April 1 through September 30**
Lake Chubsucker/ *Erimyzon sucetta*	T	N/A	This species is found in habitats that include ponds, lakes, oxbows, sloughs, swamps, impoundments, quiet pools of creeks and small rivers, and similar waters of little or no flow that are clear and have bottoms of sand or silt mixed with organic debris; aquatic vegetation usually is present. Eggs are broadcast over beds of vegetation or in gravelly are cleared by males. Spawning occurs usually over gravel in streams or in still water over vegetation (NatureServe 2022).	No suitable habitat was observed in the project area.	**ODNR** - The Project is within the range of this species. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial stream from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impact to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in water work is proposed in perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these or other aquatic species. **USFWS** - No comments received.	No suitable habitat was observed within the Project area. Therefore, no impacts to this species are anticipated.
Eastern Massasauga / *Sistrurus catenatus*	E	T	This species of snake is found in habitats that include freshwater, bogs, fens, swamps, marshes, shrub-dominated peatlands, wet meadows, and floodplains to dry woodland; it prefers seasonal wetlands with a mixture of open grass-sedge areas and short closed canopies (NatureServe 2022).	No suitable habitat was observed in the project area.	**USFWS** - Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat.	No suitable habitat was observed in the project area. In addition, DOW stated ,due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Common/Scientific Names	*State Listed Status	*Federally Listed Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Agency Comment** (Appendix D)	Potential Impacts and Avoidance Dates
Northern harrier / *Circus hudsonis*	E	N/A	This species is typically a resident of grasslands, wetlands and upland habitats. As these habitats were converted to cultivated crops, harriers started to occupy pasture, hayfield and cultivated fields. In Ohio they prefer wet prairies, damp meadows, and the grassy margins of large wetlands. (Smith, K. G 2020).	No nesting habitat was observed within the Project area. However, this species will utilize upland fields for hunting prey during the winter. Old field habitat was observed within the Project area.	**ODNR -** The Project is within the range of this species. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species. **USFWS** - No comments received.	No nesting habitat was observed within the Project area. Due to no nesting habitat being present and the mobility of this species during their use of wintering grounds, the Project is not likely to impact this species.

*Status key: E=Endangered; T=Threatened; PE= Proposed Endangered; N/A = Not Applicable

**The information is based on the literature review response information from ODNR and USFWS and is study area/project specific.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Stantec conducted a wetland and waterbodies delineation and a preliminary habitat assessment for threatened and endangered species within the Project area on September 28 and October 5, 2022, and March 21, 2023. During the 2022 field surveys, two PEM wetlands totaling 0.28 acre, and one intermittent stream totaling 471 linear feet were observed within the Project area. No open water features were observed within the Project area.

The information provided by Stantec regarding wetland and stream boundaries is based on an analysis of the wetland and upland conditions present within the Project area at the time of the field work. The delineations were performed by experienced and qualified professionals using regulatory agency-accepted practices and sound professional judgment.

On April 1, 2019 a Jurisdictional Determination was completed for the area east of Beech Road and north of Jug Street by others. The Project area discussed in this report falls within the area detailed in the 2019 Jurisdictional Determination (LRH-2018-686-SCR-Blacklick Creek). The property owner continued with the permitting process and received the applicable permits. The associated permits are LRH-2018-686-SCR-Blacklick Creek and OEPA DSW 401196304.

Stantec biologists completed an additional survey on March 21, 2023, to review current site conditions. During the time of the survey the two Category 1 PEM wetlands and intermittent stream, that were previously delineated in 2022 within the area of the Jurisdictional Determination, were recently graded as part of the construction associated with the permitting efforts by others for a large site development. No wetlands will be impacted by AEP due to the fact that AEP's Project will occur after the grading activities of the large site development.

An ODNR Ohio Natural Heritage Program data request and Environmental Review response letter, and USFWS Technical Assistant Response letter were received on November 15, and October 21, 2022, respectively (Appendix E). Table 3 in section 3.5 of this report details the potential threated and endangered species with the potential to occur within or near the Project area discussed in the correspondence letters and how the Project may affect these species based on the habitats identified during the field surveys.

The Project is within the vicinity of records of the northern long-eared bat and within the range of the Indiana bat, little brown bat and tricolored bat. Stantec completed a desktop habitat assessment in accordance with the 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines (USFWS 2022) utilizing available ODNR websites, including data on known abandoned or active mines (ODNR 2022a) and locations of known or suspect karst geology (ODNR 2022b). The desktop assessment did not identify any karst regions or abandoned or active mines within 0.25 miles of the Project area (Figure 4; Appendix B). No potentially suitable hibernacula were observed during the field surveys. However, potentially suitable foraging and roosting habitat was observed within the Project area. AEP will determine if any tree clearing is

necessary in areas containing suitable habitat and will proceed in accordance with agency recommendations, cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31.

The Project is not likely to impact state listed fish species or other aquatic species because no in-water work is proposed by AEP in any perennial streams. In addition, no perennial streams were identified within the Project area.

No suitable habitat for the eastern massasauga was observed in the Project area. In addition, ODNR stated, due to the location, the type of habitat within the Project area, and the type of work proposed, this Project is not likely to impact this species.

According to the ODNR response letter, the Project is within the range of the state endangered northern harrier. No nesting habitat was observed within the Project area. Due to no nesting habitat being present and the mobility of this species during their use of wintering grounds, the Project is not likely to impact this species.

5.0 REFERENCES

Brack, Virgil Jr., Dale W. Sparks, John O. Whitaker Jr., Brianne L. Walters, and Angela Boyer. 2010. Bats of Ohio. Indiana State University Center for North American Bat Research and Conservation.

Mack, J.J. 2001. Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands, Manual for Using Version 5.0. Ohio EPA Technical Bulletin Wetland/2001-1-1. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Surface Water, 401 Wetland Ecology Unit, Columbus, Ohio.

NatureServe. 2022. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, VA. U.S.A. Available at http://explorer.natureserve.org. Accessed October 2022.

ODNR, Division of Geological Survey. 2022a. Karst Interactive Map. Available online at Karst Interactive Map Viewer (ohiodnr.gov). Accessed October 2022.

ODNR, Division of Mineral Resources and Division of Geological Survey. Mines of Ohio. 2022b. Available online at ODNR Mines of Ohio Viewer (ohiodnr.gov). Accessed October 2022.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). 2006. Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI). 26 pp.

Ohio EPA. 2020. Field Methods for Evaluating Primary Headwater Streams in Ohio. Version 4.1. Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, Columbus, Ohio. 130 pp.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Environmental Laboratory. 1987. Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual, Technical Report Y 87 1, U.S. Army Engineer Waterway Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

USACE. 2005. Guidance on Ordinary High Water Mark Identification (Regulatory Guidance Letter, No.05-05). Available online at https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Portals/39/docs/regulatory/rgls/rgl05-05.pdf. Accessed October 2022.

USACE. 2010. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0), ed. J. S. Wakeley, R. W. Lichvar, and C. V. Noble. ERDC/EL TR-10-16. Vicksburg, MS: U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center.

USACE. 2020. The Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of "Waters of the United States"; Vol 85, No. 77. Fed. Reg. 22250. April 21, 2020. Federal Register: The Daily Journal of the United States. Available at https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/21/2020-02500/the-navigable-waters-protection-rule-definition-of-waters-of-the-united-states.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2007. Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) draft recovery plan: First revision. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ft. Snelling, Minnesota. 258 pp.

USFWS. 2020. Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Available online at https://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/mammals/nleb/nlebFactSheet.html.. Accessed August 2022.

USFWS. 2022. 2022 Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Survey Guidelines, March 2022. Available at https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USFWS_Range-wide_IBat_%26_NLEB_Survey_Guidelines_2022.03.29.pdf. Accessed August 2022.

APPENDIX A WETLAND IMPACTS TABLE

Table 1. Summary of Wetland Resources Found within the Badger Station Project Area, Licking County, Ohio

Wetland ID	Location			Isolated?[2]	Habitat Type[3,4]	Delineated Area (acre)	ORAM[5]		Nearest Proposed Structure Number	Existing Structure Number in Wetland	Proposed Structure Number in Wetland	Structure Installation Method	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude	Photo Location[1]				Score	Category					Temporary Matting Area (acre)	Permanent Impact Area (acre)
Wetland 1	40.100484	-82.750062	2	No	PEM	0.11	23	1	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Wetland 2	40.100254	-82.749535	7	No	PEM	0.17	26	1	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
					Total:	**0.28**						**Total:**	**TBD**	**TBD**

[1] Appendix B - Figure 2 and Appendix D – Photo log D-1
[2] Pending USACE jurisdictional review
[3] Habitat type based on Cowardin et al. (1979).
[4] PEM = Palustrine Emergent Wetland
[5] ORAM Score and Category are based on the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetland v. 5.0 (Mack 2001).

Table 2. Summary of Stream Resources Found within the Badger Station Project, Licking County

Stream ID	Location			Stream Type [2]	Stream Name	Delineated Length (feet)	Bankfull Width (feet)	OHWM Width[3] (feet)	Field Evaluation			Ohio EPA 401 Eligibility	Stream Crossing ?	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude	Photo Location [1]						Method[4]	Score	Category/ Rating/OAC Designation			Fill Type	Length (LF)
Stream 1	40.10036	-82.75079	4, 5	Intermittent	UNT to Blacklick Creek	471	6	4.5	HHEI	58	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	N/A	TBD	TBD
	Total Delineated Length Within Project Area:					**471**						**Total Proposed Impacts:**		**TBD**	**TBD**

[1] Appendix B – Figure 2 and Appendix D – Photo log D-2
[2] Stream Classification is based on Federal Register/Vol.67, N. 10 (USACE 2002).
[3] OHWM = Ordinary High Water Mark
[4] HHEI = Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index; QHEI = Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index

APPENDIX B FIGURES

B.1 PROJECT LOCATION MAP

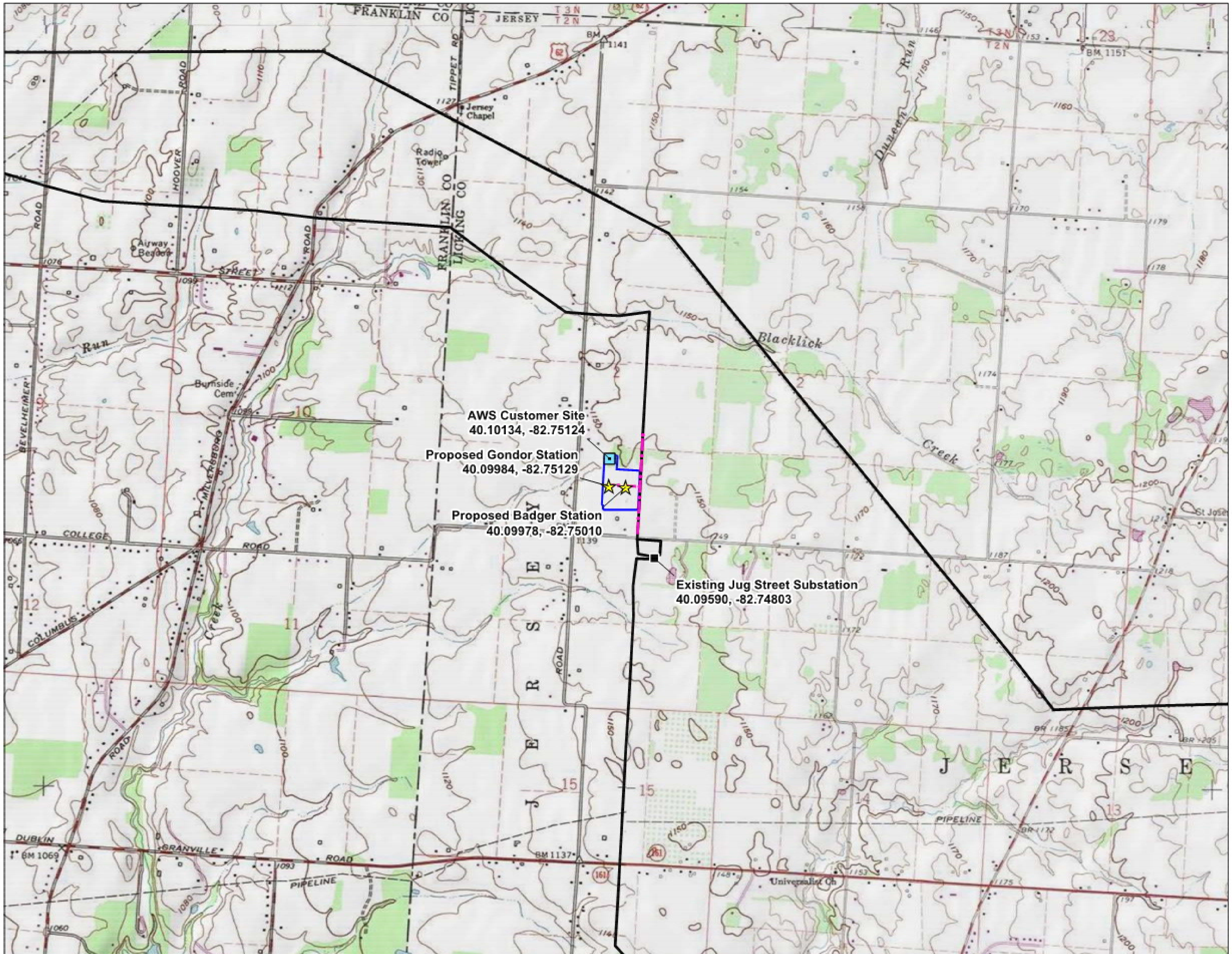


Figure No.
1

Title
Project Location Map

Client/Project 193710365
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Badger Station Project

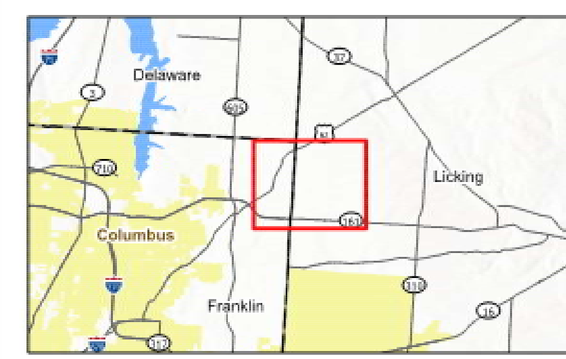
Project Location
Licking County, Ohio

Prepared by JDS on 2022-09-21
TR by AS on 2022-10-19
IR by CA on 2022-10-20

N

0 1,000 2,000 Feet
(At original document size of 11x17)
1:24,000

Legend
- AWS Customer Site
- Proposed AEP Substation
- Existing AEP Substation
- Existing 345 kV Transmission Line
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Project Area



Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio South FIPS 3402 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, AEP, USGS, NADS
3. Background: USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangles: New Albany, OH (1983), Jersey, OH (1975)

Stantec

B.2 WETLAND AND WATERBODY DELINEATION MAP

Figure No.
2

Title
Wetland and Waterbody Delineation Map

Client/Project
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Badger Station Project

193710365

Project Location
Licking County, Ohio

Prepared by JDS on 2022-09-21
TR by AS on 2022-10-19
IR by CA on 2022-10-20

N

0 75 150 Feet
(At original document size of 11x17)
1:1,800

Legend
- Existing Structure
- Proposed Structure
- Existing 345kV Transmission Line
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Project Area
- Photo Location
- Culvert
- Wetland Determination Sample Point
- Upland Drainage Feature
- Field Delineated Waterway
- Approximate Waterway
- Field Delineated Emergent Wetland
- Approximate Wetland
- National Wetlands Inventory Feature

FEMA Flood Hazard Area*
- 100-year Floodplain
- Floodway

*No features within data frame

Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio South FIPS 3402 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, AEP, USGS, NADS, USFWS, FEMA
3. Background: 2019 NAIP

Stantec

B.3 HABITAT ASSESSMENT MAP

Figure No.
3

Title
Habitat Assessment Map

Client/Project
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Badger Station Project

193710365

Project Location
Licking County, Ohio

Prepared by JDS on 2022-09-21
TR by AS on 2022-10-19
IR by CA on 2022-10-20

N

0 75 150 Feet
(At original document size of 11x17)
1:1,800

Legend
- Existing Structure
- Proposed Structure
- Existing 345kV Transmission Line
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Project Area
- Photo Location
- Culvert
- Upland Drainage Feature
- Field Delineated Waterway
- Approximate Waterway
- Field Delineated Emergent Wetland
- Approximate Wetland

Habitat
- Old Field
- Second Growth Deciduous Forest

*No features within data frame

Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio South FIPS 3402 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, AEP, USGS, NADS, USFWS, FEMA
3. Background: 2019 NAIP

Stantec

B.4 HIBERNACULA DESKTOP STUDY MAP

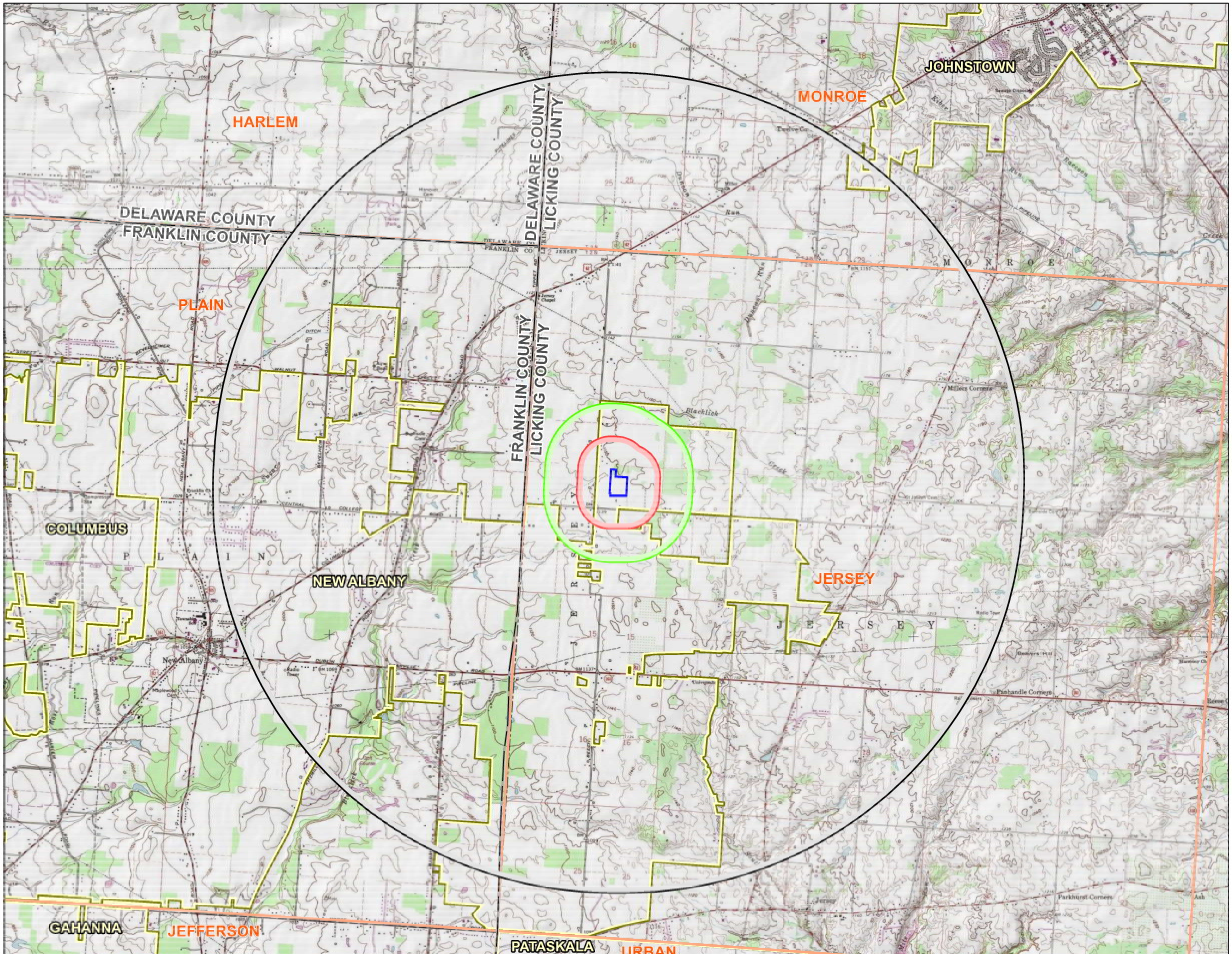


Figure No.
4

Title
Bat Hibernacula Desktop Study Map

Client/Project 193710365
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Badger Station Project

Project Location
Franklin County, Ohio

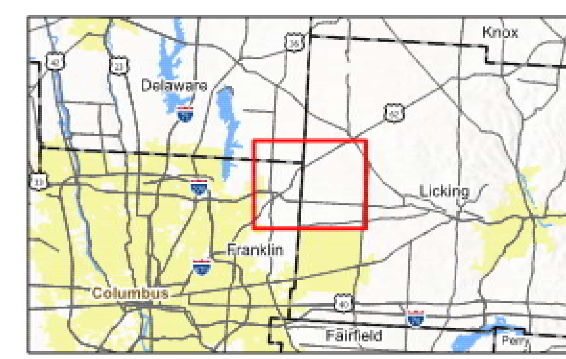
Prepared by JDS on 2022-10-17
TR by AS on 2022-10-19
IR by CA on 2022-10-20

N

0 2,000 4,000 Feet
(At original document size of 11x17)
1:48,000

Legend
- Project Area
- 0.25-Mile Project Area Buffer
- 0.5-Mile Project Area Buffer
- 3-Mile Project Area Buffer
- Township Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Karst Feature*
- Area of Karst Geology*
- Abandoned Underground Mine*
- Active Underground Mine*
- Mine Opening*
- Active Surface Mine Area*
- Inactive Surface Mine Area*
- Surface Mine Area (Unknown Status)*
- Abandonded Surface Mine Area*
- Abandonded Underground Mine Area*

*No features within data frame



Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio South FIPS 3402 Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, AEP, USGS, NADS, ODNR
3. Background: USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle - Jersey, OH (1975) and New Albany, OH (1983)

Stantec

APPENDIX C FIELD COLLECTED DATA FORMS

C.1 WETLAND DETERMINATION FORMS

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Badger Station City/County: Licking Sampling Date: 09/28/2022

Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. State: Ohio Sampling Point: SP01

Investigator(s): S. Heitzenrater, M. Kearns Section, Township, Range: T002N, R015W, SNW

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 1

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR M, MLRA Lat: 40.10055 Long: -82.750201 Datum: WGS84

Soil Map Unit Name: Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X No ____	

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)
Wetland 1, PEM

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15 ft)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5 ft)			
1. Phalaris arundinacea	50	Yes	FACW
2. Persicaria sagittata	35	Yes	OBL
3. Symphyotrichum lanceolatum	15	No	FAC
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100 = Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)			
1.			
2.			
	0 = Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species ____	x 1 = ____
FACW species ____	x 2 = ____
FAC species ____	x 3 = ____
FACU species ____	x 4 = ____
UPL species ____	x 5 = ____
Column Totals: ____ (A)	____ (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: SP01

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-3	10YR 3/3	100					Clay Loam	
3-12	10YR 4/1	95	7.5YR 4/6	5	C	M	Clay Loam	
12-21	10YR 5/1	90	7.5YR 4/6	10	C	M	Clay Loam	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: N/A

Depth (inches): N/A

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- X Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Saturation Present (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Badger Station City/County: Licking Sampling Date: 09/28/2022

Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. State: Ohio Sampling Point: SP02

Investigator(s): S. Heitzenrater M. Kearns Section, Township, Range: T002N, R015W, SNW

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): Linear Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR M, MLRA Lat: 40.100549 Long: -82.750361 Datum: WGS84

Soil Map Unit Name: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** **Yes** ____ **No** X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____ No X	

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species	Indicator Status
1. Quercus palustris	25	Yes	FACW
2. Ulmus americana	15	No	FACW
3. Fraxinus pennsylvanica	10	No	FACW
4.			
5.			
	50 = Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15 ft)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5 ft)			
1. Ambrosia artemisiifolia	40	Yes	FACU
2. Solidago canadensis	20	Yes	FACU
3. Euthamia graminifolia	15	No	FACW
4. Setaria faberi	10	No	FACU
5. Rubus idaeus	10	No	FACU
6. Toxicodendron radicans	5	No	FAC
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100 = Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)			
1.			
2.			
	0 = Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 60 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species ____	x 1 = ____
FACW species ____	x 2 = ____
FAC species ____	x 3 = ____
FACU species ____	x 4 = ____
UPL species ____	x 5 = ____
Column Totals: ____ (A)	____ (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

- - 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- - 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
- ____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- ____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: SP02

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-21	10YR 4/2	93	10YR 4/6	7	C	M	Clay Loam	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: N/A

Depth (inches): N/A

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Saturation Present (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Badger Station City/County: Licking Sampling Date: 10/05/2022

Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio Transmission company Inc. State: Ohio Sampling Point: SP03

Investigator(s): Charlie Allen Ashley Hansen Section, Township, Range: T002N, R015W, SNW

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave Slope %: 1

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR M, MLRA Lat: 40.100535 Long: -82.749358 Datum: WGS84

Soil Map Unit Name: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X No ____	

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15 ft)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5 ft)			
1. Setaria pumila	45	Yes	FAC
2. Persicaria pensylvanica	20	Yes	FACW
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65 = Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)			
1.			
2.			
	0 = Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species ____	x 1 = ____
FACW species ____	x 2 = ____
FAC species ____	x 3 = ____
FACU species ____	x 4 = ____
UPL species ____	x 5 = ____
Column Totals: ____ (A)	____ (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

- - 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- - 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
- ____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- ____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)
35% bare ground

SOIL

Sampling Point: SP03

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-10	10YR 3/1	97	7.5YR 4/6	3	C	M	Loam	
10-20	10YR 3/1	93	7.5YR 4/6	7	C	M	Clay Loam	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- X Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: N/A

Depth (inches): N/A

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- X Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- X Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Saturation Present (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Badger Station City/County: Licking Sampling Date: 10/05/2022

Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. State: Ohio Sampling Point: SP04

Investigator(s): Charlie Allen, Ashley Hansen Section, Township, Range: T002N, R015W, SNW

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Terrace Local relief (concave, convex, none): Linear Slope %: 0

Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR M, MLRA Lat: 40.100545 Long: -82.749319 Datum: WGS84

Soil Map Unit Name: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation N , Soil N , or Hydrology N naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** **Yes** ____ **No** X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks: (Explain alternative procedures here or in a separate report.)

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15 ft)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0 = Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5 ft)			
1. Ambrosia artemisiifolia	50	Yes	FACU
2. Trifolium hybridum	45	Yes	FACU
3. Setaria pumila	10	No	FAC
4. Erigeron annuus	5	No	FACU
5. Persicaria pensylvanica	5	No	FACW
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	115 = Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30 ft)			
1.			
2.			
	0 = Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	5	x 2 =	10
FAC species	10	x 3 =	30
FACU species	100	x 4 =	400
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	115 (A)		440 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.83

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
- 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: SP04

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/3	100					Loam	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: N/A

Depth (inches): N/A

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Saturation Present (includes capillary fringe)	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

C.2 ORAM FORMS

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**	
	Background Information Scoring Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating Field Form Quantitative Rating ORAM Summary Worksheet Wetland Categorization Worksheet	Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland *may* be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

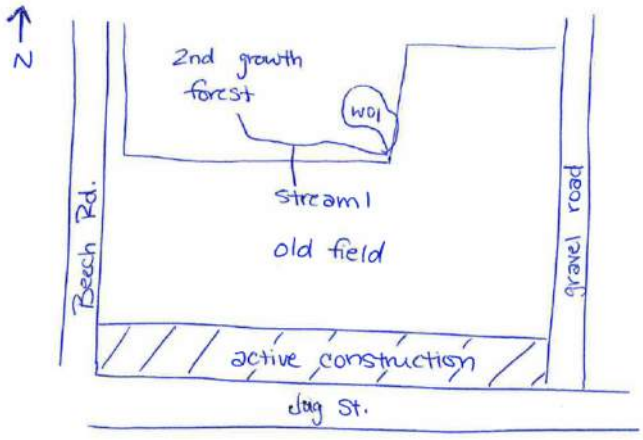
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To *properly* answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	Samantha Heitzenrater
Date:	9/28/2022
Affiliation:	Stantec
Address:	1500 Lake Shore Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43204
Phone Number:	(614) 607-2458
e-mail address:	samantha.heitzenrater@stantec.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland 1
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PEM
HGM Class(es):	depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

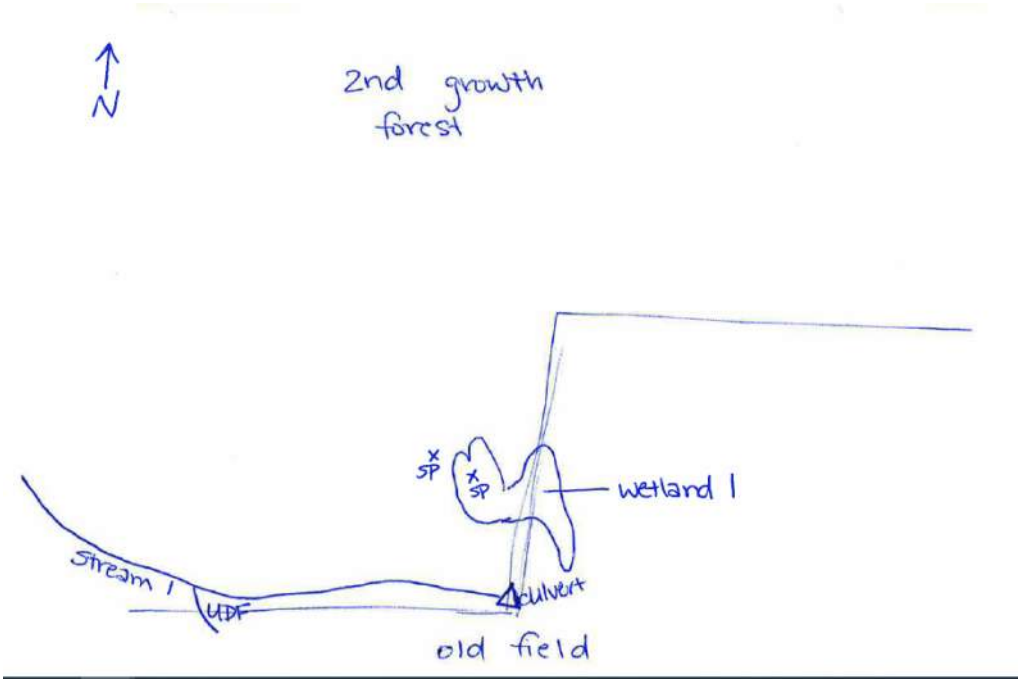


Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	40.10048, -82.7501
USGS Quad Name	Jersey, OH
County	Licking County
Township	Jersey
Section and Subsection	T 2 N R 15 W
Hydrologic Unit Code	050600011503
Site Visit	9/28/2022
National Wetland Inventory Map	No
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	No
Soil Survey	Licking County Soil Survey
Delineation report/map	Wetland and Waterbody Delineation Report

Name of Wetland: Wetland 1

Wetland Size (acres, hectares): 0.11 acre

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 23 **Category:** 1

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

Badger Station Samantha Heitzenrater 9/28/2022

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	X	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	X	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	X	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		X
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		X
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		X

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

Badger Station Samantha Heitzenrater 9/28/2022

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ☒ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ☒ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ☒ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ☒ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ☒ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ☒ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ☒ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ☒ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO ☒ Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES ☐ Go to Question 9b	NO ☒ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ☐ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES ☐ Go to Question 9d	NO ☐ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ☐ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ☐ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ☒ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ☒ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Badger Station	**Rater(s):** Samantha Heitzenrater	**Date:** 9/28/2022

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

max 6 pts.	subtotal
1	1

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [x] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

max 14 pts.	subtotal
9	10

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [x] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

max 30 pts.	subtotal
8	18

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [x] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [x] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] other Agriculture

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

max 20 pts.	subtotal
7	25

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [x] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [x] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [ ] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

subtotal this page
25

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Badger Station	**Rater(s):** Samantha Heitzenrater	**Date:** 9/28/2022

25
subtotal first page

0 (max 10 pts.) | 25 (subtotal)

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

-2 (max 20 pts.) | 23 (subtotal)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [0] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [✓] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [✓] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

23

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

Badger Station | Samantha Heitzenrater | 9/28/2022

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	1	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	9	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	8	
	Metric 4. Habitat	7	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	0	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	-2	
	TOTAL SCORE	23	Category based on score breakpoints Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES ☐ Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ☒	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ☒	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES ☐ Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ☒	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES ☒ Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ☐	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ☐ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO ☒	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES ☐ Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ☒ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Category 1	☒	☐	☐

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**	
	Background Information Scoring Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating Field Form Quantitative Rating ORAM Summary Worksheet Wetland Categorization Worksheet	Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland *may* be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

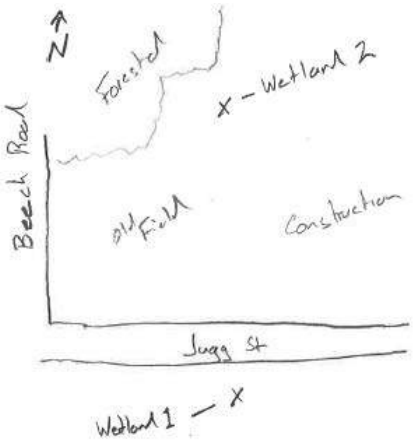
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To *properly* answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	Charlie Allen
Date:	10/5/22
Affiliation:	Stantec
Address:	1500 Lake Shore Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43204
Phone Number:	(614) 643-4348
e-mail address:	Charlie.Allen@stantec.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland 2
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PEM
HGM Class(es):	Depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

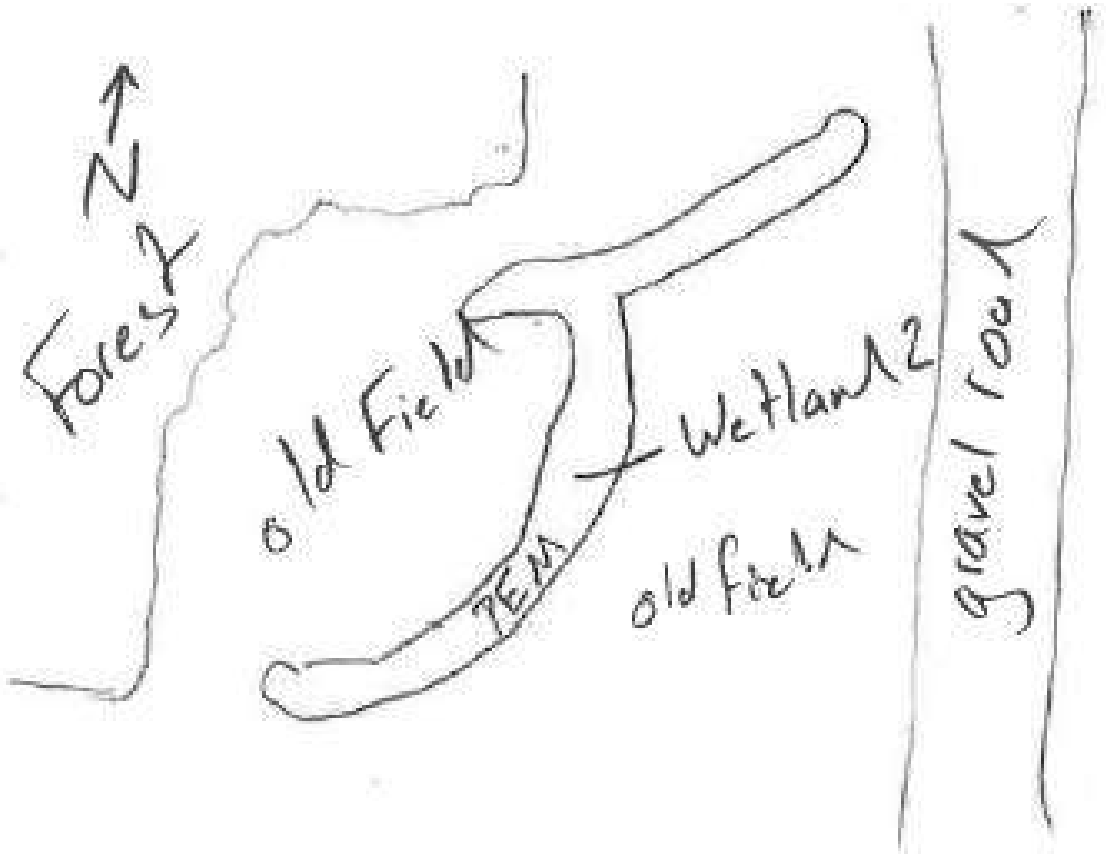


Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	40.10025, -82.7495
USGS Quad Name	Jersey
County	Licking County
Township	Jersey
Section and Subsection	T 2 N R 15 W
Hydrologic Unit Code	050600011503
Site Visit	10/5/2022
National Wetland Inventory Map	No
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	No
Soil Survey	Licking County Soil Survey
Delineation report/map	Wetland and Waterbody Delineation Report

Name of Wetland: Wetland 2

Wetland Size (acres, hectares): 0.28 acre

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 26 **Category:** 1

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

Badger Station Charlie Allen 10/5/22

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	X	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	X	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	X	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		X
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		X
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		X

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

Badger Station Charlie Allen 10/5/22

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ☒ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ☒ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ☒ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ☒ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ☒ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ☒ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ☒ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ☒ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO ☒ Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES ☐ Go to Question 9b	NO ☒ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ☒ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES ☐ Go to Question 9d	NO ☒ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ☒ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ☒ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES ☐ Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ☒ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ☒ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Badger Station	**Rater(s):** Charlie Allen	**Date:** 10/5/22

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

max 6 pts.	subtotal
1	1

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [x] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

max 14 pts.	subtotal
9	10

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [x] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

max 30 pts.	subtotal
7	17

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [x] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] other Agriculture

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

max 20 pts.	subtotal
7	24

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [x] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [x] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [ ] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

subtotal this page
24

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Badger Station	**Rater(s):** Charlie Allen	**Date:** 10/5/22

24
subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

0 (max 10 pts.) | 24 (subtotal)

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

2 (max 20 pts.) | 26 (subtotal)

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [✓] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [✓] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

26

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

Badger Station | Charlie Allen | 10/5/22

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	1	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	9	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	7	
	Metric 4. Habitat	7	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	0	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	2	
	TOTAL SCORE	26	Category based on score breakpoints Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES ☐ Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ☒	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES ☐ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ☒	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES ☐ Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ☒	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES ☒ Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ☐	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ☐ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO ☒	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES ☐ Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ☒ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Category 1	☒	☐	☐

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

C.3 HHEI FORM

Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1, 2, 3) : **58**

SITE NAME/LOCATION: **Badger Station AEP**

SITE NUMBER: **Stream 1** RIVER BASIN: _____ DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): **<1**

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): **200** LAT. **40.10036** LONG. **-82.75079** RIVER CODE: _____ RIVER MILE: _____

DATE: **09/28/22** SCORER: **S. Heitzen** COMMENTS: **intermittent**

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☐ RECOVERED ☑ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0%	☑	SILT [3 pt]	40%
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0%	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	0%
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0%	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0%
☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	0%	☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0%
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	10%	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	10%
☑	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	40%	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0%

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: **0.00%** (A) Substrate Percentage Check: 100% (B)

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: **9** **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** **4**

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

13

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☐	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☑	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☐	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS: _____ **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH (centimeters):** **13**

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☐	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☐	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☑	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS: **TOB W-6' H-1', OHWM W-4.5' H-0.5'** **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH (meters):** **1.80**

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L	R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L	R		L	R	
☑	☑	Wide >10m	☐	☑	Mature Forest, Wetland	☐	☐	Conservation Tillage
☐	☐	Moderate 5-10m	☑	☐	Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐	☐	Urban or Industrial
☐	☐	Narrow <5m	☐	☐	Residential, Park, New Field	☐	☐	Open Pasture, Row Crop
☐	☐	None	☐	☐	Fenced Pasture	☐	☐	Mining or Construction

COMMENTS: _____

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑ Stream Flowing
☐ Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)
☐ Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☐ Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS: _____

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	None	☐	1.0	☐	2.0	☐	3.0
☑	0.5	☐	1.5	☐	2.5	☐	>3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

ADDITIONAL STREAM INFORMATION (This Information Must Also be Completed):

QHEI PERFORMED? - ☐ Yes ☑ No QHEI Score _____ (If Yes, Attach Completed QHEI Form)

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **Blacklick Creek** Distance from Evaluated Stream **1.75mi**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

MAPPING: ATTACH COPIES OF MAPS, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE WATERSHED AREA. CLEARLY MARK THE SITE LOCATION

USGS Quadrangle Name: **Jersey, OH** NRCS Soil Map Page: _____ NRCS Soil Map Stream Order _____

County: **Wyandot** Township / City: **Jersey / New Albany**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **Y** Date of last precipitation: **09/27/22** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: **Upstream, downstream, substrate**

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **40%**

Were samples collected for water chemistry? (Y/N): **N** (Note lab sample no. or id. and attach results) Lab Number: _____

Field Measures: Temp (°C) **14.60** Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l) _____ pH (S.U.) **6.90** Conductivity (µmhos/cm) **650**

Is the sampling reach representative of the stream (Y/N) **N** If not, please explain: _____

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

Performed? (Y/N): **N** (If Yes, Record all observations. Voucher collections optional. NOTE: all voucher samples must be labeled with the site ID number. Include appropriate field data sheets from the Primary Headwater Habitat Assessment Manual)

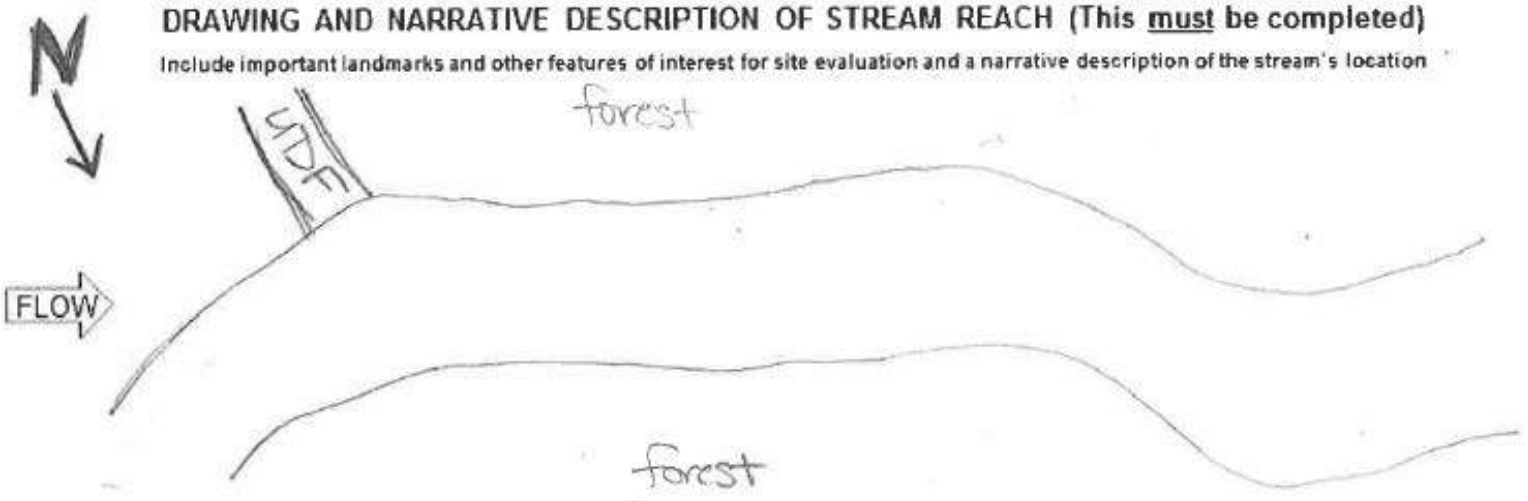
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Frogs or Tadpoles Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Aquatic Macroinvertebrates Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Comments Regarding Biology: _____

DRAWING AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF STREAM REACH (This must be completed)

Include important landmarks and other features of interest for site evaluation and a narrative description of the stream's location



Save as pdf Reset Form

APPENDIX D REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS

D.1 WETLAND AND WATERBODY PHOTOGRAPHS

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.
Badger Station Project
Licking County, Ohio

Photo Location 1. View of wetland determination sample point (SP01; PEM). Photograph taken facing southwest.

Photo Location 1. View of wetland determination sample point (SP01; PEM), soil profile.

Photo Location 2. View of Wetland 1. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 2. View of Wetland 1. Photograph taken facing east.

Photo Location 2. View of Wetland 1. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 2. View of Wetland 1. Photograph taken facing west.

Photo Location 3. View of wetland determination sample point (SP02; upland). Photograph taken facing west.

Photo Location 3. View of wetland determination sample point (SP02; upland), soil profile.

Photo Location 4. View of Stream 1 (intermittent). Photograph taken facing upstream, southeast.

Photo Location 4. View of Stream 1 (intermittent). Photograph taken facing downstream, northwest.

Photo Location 4. View of Stream 1 (intermittent), typical substrates.

Photo Location 5. View of Stream 2 (intermittent). Photograph taken facing upstream, east.

Photo Location 5. View of Stream 2 (intermittent). Photograph taken facing downstream, west.

Photo Location 5. View of Stream 2 (intermittent), typical substrates.

Photo Location 6. View of wetland determination sample point (SP03; PEM). Photograph taken facing northeast.

Photo Location 6. View of wetland determination sample point (SP03; PEM), soil profile.

Photo Location 7. View of Wetland 2. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 7. View of Wetland 2. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 7. View of Wetland 2. Photograph taken facing east.

Photo Location 7. View of Wetland 2. Photograph taken facing west.

Photo Location 8. View of upland determination sample point (SP04; upland). Photograph taken facing northeast.

Photo Location 8. View of wetland determination sample point (SP04; upland), soil profile.

D.2 HABITAT PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Location 1. View of old field habitat. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 1. View of old field habitat. Photograph taken facing northeast.

Photo Location 2. View of old field habitat. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 2. View of old field habitat. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 3. View of old field habitat. Photograph taken facing east.

Photo Location 3. View of old field habitat (foreground) and second growth deciduous forest habitat (background). Photograph taken facing west.

Photo Location 4. View of typical upland drainage feature (UDF). Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 4. View of typical UDF. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 5. View of second growth deciduous forest habitat. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 5. View of second growth deciduous forest habitat. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 6. View of second growth deciduous forest habitat. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo Location 6. View of second growth deciduous forest habitat. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo Location 7. View of typical culvert. Photograph taken facing ground.

Photo Location 7. View of typical culvert. Photograph taken facing east.

D.3 CURRENT CONDITIONS PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1. View of previously delineated Wetland 2 and Stream 1 area. Photograph taken facing southwest.

Photo 2. View of previously delineated Wetland 1 area. Photograph taken facing southwest.

Photo 3. View of grading activities in northeast corner of the Project area. Photograph taken facing west.

Photo 4. View of grading activities from northern edge of the Project area. Photograph taken facing south.

Photo 5. View of previously delineated Wetland 1 area. Photograph taken facing north.

Photo 6. View of grading activities in southeast corner of Project area. Photograph taken facing west.

APPENDIX E AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

Office of Real Estate
John Kessler, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6621
Fax: (614) 267-4764

November 15, 2022

Kim Catano
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
1500 Lake Shore Drive Suite 100
Columbus OH 43204

Re: 22-1017; AEP Badger Station CMH 82 Project

Project: The proposed project involves an approximately 10-acre parcel to construct a new 138kV station.

Location: The proposed project is located in Jersey Township, Licking County, Ohio.

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.

Natural Heritage Database: A review of the Ohio Natural Heritage Database indicates there are no records of state or federally listed plants or animals within one mile of the specified project area. Records searched date from 1980.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

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

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The project is within the vicinity of records for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

In addition, the entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these bat species predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. The DOW recommends tree cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible.

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range the lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*) a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

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

October 21, 2022

Project Code: 2023-0000416

Dear Ms. Catano:

The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) occur throughout the State of Ohio. The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat may be found wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and breed that may also include adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, woodlots, fallow fields, and pastures. Roost trees for both species include live and standing dead trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities. These roost trees may be located in forested habitats as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet of other forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat. In the winter, Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves, rock crevices and abandoned mines.

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is recommended where Indiana bats are assumed present.
If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats. If Indiana bats are not detected

during the survey, then tree clearing may occur at any time of the year. Surveys must be conducted by an approved surveyor and be designed and conducted in coordination with the Ohio Field Office. Surveyors must have a valid federal permit. Please note that in Ohio summer mist net surveys may only be conducted between June 1 and August 15.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or 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, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Eileen Wyza, ODNR-DOW