



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

Pittsburgh District

Planning and Environmental Branch  
William S. Moorhead Federal Building  
1000 Liberty Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Public Notice Date: 18 August 2020  
Expiration Date: 16 September 2020

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## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

### **Draft Environmental Assessment**

#### **North Union Township Municipal Services Authority Sewage Improvements in Fayette County, Pennsylvania**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (USACE) is evaluating a Federal funding request for the proposed Bethelboro Road sewer line replacement and extension project in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

The USACE invites submission of comments on the environmental impact of the approval of the request. The USACE will consider all submissions received before the expiration date of the public comment period. The nature or scope of the proposal may be changed upon consideration of the comments received.

The **draft** Environmental Assessment and **draft** Finding of No Significant Impact are available electronically at:

<https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning-Programs-Project-Management/Environmental-Documents/>

**Comments can be submitted via email to Erin.Stuart@usace.army.mil. Comments must be received by 16 September 2020 to ensure consideration.**

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## **DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

### **Bethelboro Road Sewer Line Replacement and Extension North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps) is presenting an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The **DRAFT** Environmental Assessment (EA), dated June 2020, for the Bethelboro Road Sewer Line Replacement and Extension project, located in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, evaluates potential environmental impacts associated with sewer line replacement, sewer line extensions, and pump station construction proposed for federal funding under the Section 313 program. The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 (Public Law 102-580), as amended, allows the Corps to consider reimbursement for design and/or construction of environmental infrastructure in Pennsylvania.

The **DRAFT** EA, considered two alternatives for the proposed sewage improvements. The preferred alternative, ultimately the Proposed Federal Action, includes federal funding for sewage improvements including:

- the construction of a new pump station, extension of sewer lines and the replacement of existing sewer lines in North Union Township in Fayette County.

In addition to the preferred alternative, a “no action” alternative was evaluated. For the preferred alternative, the potential effects to the following resources were evaluated:

<b>Environmental Resource</b>	<b>Minor effect</b>	<b>No effect</b>
Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic resources/wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fish and wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threatened/Endangered species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous, toxic & radioactive waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydrology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Noise levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tribal trust resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child health and safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Minor temporary stream impacts will occur where the sewer line crosses tributaries to Redstone Creek. No compensatory mitigation is required.

Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Corps determined that the preferred alternative may affect but is not likely to adversely affect threatened and endangered bat species with the implementation of an avoidance measure to conduct all tree cutting between November 15 and March 31. The preferred alternative will have no effect on designated critical habitat.

Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Corps subsequently determined that the Proposed Federal Action has no effect on historic or cultural resources. A letter dated 21 September 2017 from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office stated that the proposed project will have no effect on historic buildings, structures, and/or archaeological resources.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972 (CWA), as amended, temporary stream impacts are proposed where the sewer line crosses tributaries to Redstone Creek. A general permit will be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection authorizing the discharge of fill under Sections 404 and 401 of the CWA.

A 30-day public comment period will occur from 18 August 2020 to 16 September 2020. The Corps will consider all submissions received before the expiration date of the public comment period. The nature or scope of the proposal may change upon consideration of the comments received. If significant effects on the quality of the human environment are identified during public comment which cannot be mitigated, the Corps will initiate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and afford all of the appropriate public participation opportunities attendant to an EIS.

After having carefully evaluated all aspects of the Proposed Federal Action and based on the **draft** EA, I have reasonably concluded that the Proposed Federal Action does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared.

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Date

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ANDREW J. SHORT  
COLONEL, Corps of Engineers  
District Commander



# **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BETHELBORO COMMUNITY**

**January 2020**  
**Revised May 2020**  
**Revised June 2020**

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## Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	1
Introduction .....	2
Proposed Action .....	4
Alternatives to Proposed Action .....	5
Existing Conditions.....	6
Environmental Effects.....	13
Conclusion .....	16
Appendices	
Appendix A    Development Plan	
Appendix B    USGS Map	
Appendix C    Soil Map	
Appendix D    National Wetland Inventory Map	
Appendix E    Agency Coordination	

## **Executive Summary**

The Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps) by McMillen Engineering, Inc. for the North Union Township Municipal Services Authority (NUTMSA) to secure Federal funding for the Inflow and Infiltration Study based on the televised results of existing lines, replacement of existing lines, extend public sewerage to those currently served by on-lot systems, install a pump station to replace an existing sewage treatment plant, and to hire a contractor to televise the existing lines, as necessary, to resolve problems in the community of Bethelboro North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580), as amended, provides design and construction assistance to non-federal interests for water-related environmental infrastructure, and resource development and protection projects in south central Pennsylvania.

The NUTMSA owns, operates, and maintains the sewerage system that serves North Union Township. The NUTMSA is part of a regional sewerage system with two other municipalities (South Union Township and the City of Uniontown) with treatment at the Greater Uniontown Joint Sewage Treatment Plant.

The EA is prepared in pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Corps implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2. The alternatives identified for this project are the Proposed Action (televise, study, design, and construct or replace sewer lines with Federal funding or No Action (no Federal funding). It is expected the NUTMSA would study, design and construct even if no Federal funding is provided; therefore, the Proposed Action and No Action would result in the work being completed.

All social and environmental factors are considered, including the cumulative effects thereof. This EA includes a summary of the effects both by the Proposed Action and No Action alternative for all categories. The short-term, minor, adverse impacts from the proposed project include: soils and topography, terrestrial resources, air quality, noise, aesthetics, utilities, socioeconomic condition, surface water resources, fish and wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered species, and child health and safety. Many of these minor impacts occur during the actual construction of sewer lines. Short-term benefit to the socioeconomic conditions is employing local workers to assist with construction. Long-term benefits to the sewer system is the simple fact more individuals will be provided with public sewerage and the elimination of Inflow & Infiltration in the existing lines.

Based on this evaluation of the environmental effects, the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human or natural environment, and therefore, the Proposed Action does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement. A Finding of No Significant Impact has been prepared.

## **I.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **I.1 Project Authority**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps), is proposing to provide federal funding for the Bethelboro Road Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580), as amended, authorizes the Secretary of the Army to establish a program for providing design and construction assistance to non-Federal interests for water-related environmental infrastructure and water resource development and protection projects in south central Pennsylvania (hereinafter the "Section 313 Program").

Prior to providing design and construction assistance for a project, the Corps requires a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), which is executed by the Corps and the non-Federal sponsor. The Section 313 Program provides for a federal contribution of 75 percent of the total project cost and 25 percent contribution from the non-Federal sponsor. The non-Federal interest receives credit for lands, easements, rights-of-way, and relocation towards its share of project cost, but not to exceed 25 percent of the total project cost. The non-Federal sponsor is responsible for operation and maintenance cost at 100 percent.

### **I.2 Project Background**

The project is located in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The NUTMSA has received funding from previous rounds of awards through the Corps and each time an Environmental Assessment was prepared for each project. Refer to Appendix for mapping of area.

The non-Federal sponsor for this project is NUTMSA. The consulting engineering firm for the project is McMillen Engineering, Inc., who is responsible for the design and applying for applicable permits for the action.

### **I.3 Purpose and Need**

The Bethelboro community service area is currently 78% serviced by public sewerage and the remaining 22% of the residents of Bethelboro utilize on-lot sewage systems. The purpose of the project is to replace sections of the existing 8-inch sewer system that are damaged; replace the Bethelboro Sewage Treatment Plant with construction of a pump station adjacent but on the same property as the sewage treatment plant; construct a new force main extending to the existing University Park Pump Station; and, install a low flow low pressure sewer system to connect the residents utilizing on-lot sewage system to the public sewage system to resolve existing problems as well as to provide public infrastructure in the remaining areas of the community. This project will result in the elimination of existing Inflow

and Infiltration problems within the existing system, elimination of a projected hydraulically overloaded treatment plant, and elimination of malfunctioning on-lot systems. Furthermore, the improvements will eliminate complaints of odor within the community from the failing Bethelboro Sewage Treatment Plant.

There has been a proactive approach over the years to eliminate roof drains to not have a combined sewer system. The NUTMSA has performed smoke tests with results of these test not showing many issues to think all the drains are still tied in. New users will not be permitted to create a combined storm sewage system.

The existing STP that serves Bethelboro will be eliminated with these flows going to the University Park Pump Station. There is more than enough capacity to serve the community of Bethelboro. The design capacity is 259,000GPD; whereas, the current flows are 9,900GPD with rarely any flows during the weekend. Presently, those connected into this pump station are PennState Fayette Campus and those businesses/office within the University Technology Park.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Environmental Assessment**

Authorized by the Section 313 Program, the Corps proposes to fund the Federal share of the design and construction cost of the project. Under the requirements of Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the proposed funding constitutes a major Federal action, and an Environmental Assessment is required. To assess the impacts of the funding action, McMillen Engineering, Inc. prepared the Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts from design, construction, and operation of the Proposed Action.

#### **1.5 Public Involvement**

McMillen Engineering, Inc. submitted the scope of work to begin consultation with the Pennsylvania Historical Museum and Commission in August 2017. A Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) was prepared for the 3m Planning Module in November 2018. The correspondence from both agencies is included in the Appendices.

A Public Notice, prepared on December 30, 2019, was submitted to various agencies for review with a copy of the agency's correspondence included in the Appendix.

A Notice of Availability announcing the availability of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact will be provided to those who received a copy of the Public Notice. The Corps invites submission of comments of the environmental impact of the approval of the federal funding request. The Corps will consider all submissions received before the expiration date of the public comment period. The nature or scope of the proposal may be changed upon consideration of the comments received.



## **2.0 PROPOSED ACTION**

The Proposed Action is funding by the Corps, under the Section 313 Program, of the Federal share of the design and construction cost of the project. The NUTMSA is proposing to:

- Contract to camera the existing lines to identify problems
- Prepare an Inflow and Infiltration Study
- Replace existing lines based on Inflow and Infiltration Study
- Extend sewer lines to those currently served by individual on-lot systems
- Eliminate the sewage treatment plant which will be replaced with a pump station on the same property

The project area surrounding the community of Bethelboro is predominantly residential with a business park near the University Pump Station.

The length (linear feet) of replacement of existing lines is determined based on the problems identified the contract to camera the lines and the inflow and Infiltration Study. The total length to be studied is approximately 3,541 linear feet.

The length of extending sewer line is:

- 2,600+/-LF of 6" force main
- 2,000+/-LF of low flow low pressure sewer line
- 1,000+/- LF of gravity sewer line

The pump station will disturb approximately 8,000 square feet of property. It will be located on the same property already disturbed for the sewage treatment plant.

The total amount in Federal funds that has been allocated to NUTMSA by the executed PPA for the project is \$922,050.00. The total cost for the project is \$1,229,400.00; whereas, at a 75/25 percent cost sharing, the Federal share is \$922,050.00, and the non-Federal sponsor share is \$307,350.00.

### **3.0. ALTERNATIVES TO PROPOSED ACTION**

NEPA requires that the Environmental Assessment evaluates all reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Action, including the No- Action alternative. Based on this project, there is no other alternative other than No-Action in addition to the Proposed Action previously outlined in Section 2.0. The No-Action Alternative involves no federal funding.

#### **3.1 No Action Alternative**

Under the No-Action Alternative, the Corps would not reimburse the non-Federal sponsor (NUTMSA) for the Federal share of the proposed project. The NUTMSA would study, design and construct this project without Section 313 Program funding. The NUTMSA would secure other funding from various other sources. The result of the No-Action Alternative is that the project would continue to be constructed per McMillen Engineering's discussion with Authority Manager Garrett Mechling on December 30, 2019 if no federal funds would be available for the project. The NUTMSA is committed to providing public sewerage to residents knowing the existing problems with I & I and those being served by individual sewerage systems. The monthly meeting has residents attending asking when they will the existing problems be resolved and for the extension of public sewerage.

#### **3.2 Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study**

There are no other alternatives identified in the Environmental Assessment. The NUTMSA evaluated the best method of providing adequate sewage to those not currently served by public sewage in the regional system and to address the I & I issue with the existing lines. NUTMSA determined that the Proposed Action is the only feasible alternative because there are no other methods to address the environmental, health and safety concerns of and to the residents and property owners.

## 4.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS AND APPLICABILITY TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

This section of the Environmental Assessment describes the existing conditions and the affected environment for the natural and socioeconomic resource categories applicable to the area affected by the Proposed Action.

Prior to reviewing the resource for its applicability to the Proposed Action, the existing conditions were assessed and are identified below:

Land Use	The area surrounding the project site is mainly agricultural with a paved township road leading to a small residential area containing approximately 50 homes. The area has historically been agricultural.
Geology	Local bedrock units underlying the project site and adjacent belong to the Alluvium Formation and the Waynesburg Formation. The Alluvium Formation consists of unconsolidated deposits of gravel, sand, silt, and clay that occupy the floodplains of streams and low terraces. The Waynesburg Formation consists of siltstone, claystone, mudstone, sandstone, and limestone.
Soils & Topo	<p>The USDA Soil Survey identifies two soil types within the project site. Clarksburg silt loam, located on hillslopes and uplands, contains fine-loamy colluvium derived from limestone, sandstone, and shale. Permeability is low. The Hydrologic Soil Group rating is C/D. Dormont silt loam, located on hills and uplands, contains residuum weathered from limestone, sandstone, and shale. Permeability is low. The Hydrologic Soil Group rating is D.</p> <p>The local area is generally characterized by gently rolling to hilly topography separated by drained fertile valleys. Streams are generally low to moderate gradient and are composed of mud and sand deposits along with coarser bed material such as gravel and cobble. Relief in the area ranges from 1,000 to 1,200 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).</p>
Prime & Unique Farmlands	The project site is located in an area classified as Farmland of statewide importance by the USDA NRCS.
Groundwater	The depth to water table ranges from 24 to 36 inches.
Wetlands	No wetlands are located within the project area basin on National Wetlands Inventory mapping.
Floodplains	There are no floodplains in the project area (FEMA map 42051C0360E).
Terrestrial	Agricultural land is the primary resource in and near the project area.
Threatened and Endangered	The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program does not list any threatened or endangered species in or adjacent to the project area.

Designated Natural Areas	There are no designated natural areas in or adjacent to the project area.
Climate	The project area lies within a climate area classified as Humid Subtropical. The area receives an average of 46 inches of rainfall and 90 inches of snowfall per year. Temperatures range on average between 15 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
Air Quality	The project site is in a rural area, with no industrial or commercial facilities nearby. An existing sewage treatment plant, which occasionally emits odors, will be eliminated with the proposed sewer line project.
Noise	Sources of noise in the project area include vehicular traffic, lawn mowers, farm equipment, and a nearby sewage treatment plant.
Cultural Resources	Cultural resources include archaeological or cultural sites, standing structures, and other historic properties considered to be eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (HRHP). There are none of these resources within the project site.
Aesthetics	The project area consists of rolling hills, farm fields, tree lines, and a small residential community with various home styles and landscaping.
Recreation	No recreation facilities are in the project area.
Utilities	Water service is provided to the area by PA American Water. Sewage treatment is provided by North Union Township Municipal Services Authority. Aged and failing sewer line segments will be replaced with the proposed project. Also, an existing treatment plant will be eliminated with this project. Electric service is provided by West Penn Power. There is no gas service in the project area.
Transportation	Vehicular traffic on township road T686 is the primary transportation mode. Fayette County also provides bus service to the area.
Socioeconomic Conditions	The area is a middle-class community, with a predominantly Caucasian population.
Hazardous, Toxic Radioactive Substances	There are no known sources of hazardous, toxic, or radioactive substances/materials present in the project area.
Child Health And Safety	The project site lies partially within a residential neighborhood. There may be children present in the vicinity of construction.
Environmental Justice	(see 4.10)
Invasive Species	There are no invasive species listed for the project area on the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) website.

Fish & Wildlife Habitat	The project area is within 10 miles of a known habitat area for the Indiana Bat (see 4.12)
Hydrogeology	The regional drainage pattern is dendritic and is mainly controlled by rolling hills and a broad valley bottom. The site is drained by an unnamed tributary that flows on the west side of the project area, and enters Redstone Creek, a tributary to the Monongahela River. Soils in the area are primarily silt loam, containing fine-loamy colluvium derived from limestone, sandstone, and shale. Permeability is low. The depth to water table ranges from 24 to 36 inches.
Navigation	There no navigational waters in the project area.
Public Infrastructure	The area is served by a public water system. Part of the area is provided with public sewage. The remainder of properties have private on-lot systems.
Tribal Trust Resources	There are no resources in the area.
Water Quality	<p>Pennsylvania's integrated water quality monitoring and assessment report lists the local watershed's unnamed tributary to Redstone Creek as Attaining its designated use as a warm water fishery, and is supporting aquatic life.</p> <p>Each resource was reviewed for its applicability to the Proposed Action. Resource categories clearly not applicable to the alternatives were screened from further evaluation; whereas, those affected resources applicable to the Proposed Action are discussed further in Section 5.0 Environmental Effects. To describe existing conditions and environmental effects, the project area is defined as the areas directly affected by the project design and construction.</p>

The Table below is a matrix for baseline conditions:

Table 4-1

Resource Category	Affected by Proposed Project/	Reason for Non-Applicability Determination
Land Use	No	Existing land use is residential as the area is an existing built-up community. Land Use would not be affected by the proposed project.
Geology	No	No changes to the geology are anticipated.
Soils and Topography	Yes (§4.1, §5.1)	
Prime and Unique Farmlands	No	There will be no impacts to farming in the community as the proposed pipelines are not crossing areas of 'prime farmland' and "farmland of statewide importance."
Groundwater	No	No impacts to groundwater expected.
Wetlands	No	There are wetlands in the community; however, there is no construction proposed in the wetlands.

Floodplains	No	There is no impact on the 100-year floodplain and associated floodway (42051C0366E). The project will not affect the floodplain and associated 100-year water surface elevations.
Terrestrial Resources	Yes (§4.2, §5.2)	
Threatened and Endangered Species	Yes (§4.3, §5.3)	
Designated Natural Areas	No	The project area does not have designated natural area including no Wild or Scenic Rivers, National Parks or National Forests in the project area.
Climate	No	No effects expected after this project is completed.
Air Quality	Yes (§4.4, §5.4)	
Noise	Yes (§4.5, §5.5)	
Cultural Resources	No	The PHMC letter, dated September 21, 2017, states no impact. Research was completed on the entire project area which is a residential community with the existing sewage treatment plant. Any structure over forty years or older was included on a map with photo of the structure for review. The line extensions will be in existing roadways and/or easements secured from a property owner(s).
Aesthetics	Yes (§4.6, §5.6)	
Recreation	No	None present in the project area thus not impacted.
Utilities	Yes (§4.7, §5.7)	
Transportation	No	The site has access from Bethelboro Road so there will be controlled traffic, lane closure, etc. during construction.
Socioeconomic Conditions	Yes (§4.8, §5.8)	
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Substances	No	No hazardous, toxic or radioactive substances/materials are known to be present in the project area. The proposed project will not use hazardous or toxic materials, other than in minor amounts for routine maintenance. The project is expected to generate minimal to no amount of hazardous wastes, which would be disposed of according to state and Federal Regulations
Child Health and Safety	Yes (§4.9, §5.9)	
Environmental Justice	No	This is further detailed in §4.10 and §5.10
Surface Water Resources	Yes (§4.11, §5.11)	
Invasive Species	No	There are no invasive species in the project area.
Fish & Wildlife Habitat	Yes (§4.12, §5.14)	

Hydrogeology	No	The water flow is not affecting the local environment as a result of changes to water quality or quantity. The proposed project will not alter/impact/change the existing hydrogeology of the area.
Navigation	No	No navigational waters are impacted as there are none in the project area.
Public Infrastructure	No	Public water is existing in the project area. The intent of the plan is to extend public sewer lines to those currently served by an individual on-lot system.
Tribal Trust Resources	No	None in the project area was determined.
Water Quality	No	The project will improve the Commonwealth stream with eliminating the on-lot sewage systems.

#### §4.1 Soils and Topography

The soil survey map and descriptions were obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Resources Conservation Service website. The site lies with seven different soil types; however, it must be noted all soils types are very limited meaning the soil has one or more features that are unfavorable for use for an on-lot system which some of the residents are served by today.

#### §4.2 Terrestrial Resources

The site is located along Bethelboro Road in a built-up area with residential dwellings. The terrestrial resources which includes water, fresh air, oil, natural gas, and soil minerals.

#### §4.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

The PA Game Commission indicates a Conservative Measure and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicates an Avoidance Measure based on the scope of work. The avoidance measure involves tree cutting, tree inundation, and prescribed burning between November 15 and March 31 as well as implementing management for Indiana Bat Swarming habitat.

#### §4.4 Air Quality

Emissions will be short-term and will be controlled using normal practices. Construction activities will include dust and equipment exhaust from installing sanitary sewer lines.

#### §4.5 Noise

During construction, noise will be generated in the immediate area from the machinery and equipment. The contractor will be asked to take ordinary, normal measures to minimize noise pollution at the site.

#### §4.6 Aesthetics

The aesthetics in the area are residential with a business park access road from the Bethelboro community.

#### §4.7 Utilities

The utility demand for the extension of sanitary lines, replacement of existing lines, and the elimination of the Bethelboro Sewage Treatment Plant can be met by the existing pump stations and the treatment facility owned and operated by the Greater Uniontown Joint Sewage Authority.

#### §4.8 Socioeconomic Conditions

This project will not result in any individual needing to relocate and there will be opportunities for employment in construction and technical services while under construction.

#### §4.9 Child Health and Safety

The area for construction is a residential neighborhood. At any given time, depending on the time of year, there may be children around.

#### §4.10 Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, signed by the president on February 11, 1994 directs Federal agencies to take the appropriate and necessary steps to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects of Federal projects on the health and environment of minority and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law.

Minority populations, as defined by the “Environmental Justice Guidance Under NEPA”, includes: persons who identify themselves as Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American or Alaskan Native, black, or Hispanic. A minority population exists where the percentage of minorities in an affected area either exceeds 50 percent or is meaningfully greater than in the general population. Low-income populations are identified using poverty threshold, which is based on income and family size. The Census Bureau defines a “poverty area” as a census tract with 20 percent or more of its residents below the poverty threshold and an “extreme poverty area” as one with 40 percent or more below the poverty level.

According to the Census of 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau, released June 2011), the population in North Union Township is 12,728 people with total households being 5,411. The population by races included 96.5% white, 3.8% Black/African American, 0.5% American Indian, 0.6% Asian, and 0.3% other races. The median family income level is \$49,067 and the per capita income is at \$23,068. Approximately 12.1% families are below the poverty level and 17.1% of the population was below the poverty line; therefore, this area does not meet the definition of an Environmental Justification area.

#### §4.11 Surface Water Resources

In the project area of Bethelboro, there are some tributaries to Redstone Creek in the area of Carr Road.



#### §4.12 Fish & Wildlife

The PA Game Commission indicates a Conservative Measure and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicates an Avoidance Measure based on the scope of work. The avoidance measure involves tree cutting, tree inundation, and prescribed burning between November 15 and March 31 as well as implementing management for Indiana Bat Swarming habitat.

## **5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

The Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Action was based on an evaluation of the impacts from design, construction, and operation of the proposed project. The No-Action Alternative assumed that the NUTMSA will still proceed with the project if no Section 313 Program funding was available; therefore, the Environmental Effects are the same as those for either the Proposed Action or No-Action Alternative.

Various agency reviews, permitting requirements, design, and construction activities are used to determine the environmental effects of the proposed project. Also considered is the operation of the project for long-term impacts after construction is complete.

Below details mitigation measures from the specific resource effected by the project; whereas, all mitigation is the responsibility of NUTMSA.

### **§5.1 Soils and Topography**

The Proposed Action will have short-term adverse impacts to soils in the project area due to construction activities; however, the elimination of the individual on-lot systems will allow no contamination in the soils from malfunctioning systems that exist today. The area with existing sewer lines will address Inflow and Infiltration within their lines and appropriate action will be taken. An Erosion and Sedimentation Plan is required and was approved by the Fayette County Conservation District along with an approved NPDES permit from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

### **§5.2 Terrestrial Resources**

Disturbance of fresh air and soils will be short-term during construction activities; however, upon completion terrestrial resources will be normal.

### **§5.3 Threatened and Endangered Species**

There will be compliance with the short-term adverse impact during construction in regards to tree cutting, tree inundation, and prescribed burning along with implementing the Fish and Wildlife service's Forest Management for Indiana Bat Swarming Habitat. There may be little to no tree cutting involved in the project; however, the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service states for the developer to conduct tree cutting, tree inundation (flooding), and prescribed burning between November 15<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **§5.4 Air Quality**

The Proposed Action will have short-term adverse localized effect on air quality due to emissions from construction equipment. No long-term effects are expected. The methods to minimize emissions include: avoidance of burning debris; and, dampen roadways to minimize dust during construction and at the end of each day. No air quality permits are required for the scope of work.

### §5.5 Noise

There will be short-term adverse effect during construction activities. Normal and ordinary measures to minimize noise during construction will be asked of the selected contractor. As for the pump station operations, the noise will be minimal and the Site is not located near residential dwellings.

### §5.6 Aesthetics

The minor adverse impact will be visual aesthetics from construction equipment and excavation work for those adjacent to the site.

### §5.7 Utilities

There are no short-term or long-term adverse effects on utilities from this Proposed Action. A long-term positive effect is the simple fact of eliminating an existing sewage plant that has problems; whereas, these flows will go into the Greater Uniontown Joint Sewage Treatment Plant and then the elimination of the individual on-lot systems for those impacted by the sanitary line extensions.

### §5.8 Socioeconomic Conditions

There are no significant socioeconomic environmental consequences to the repair of existing sanitary lines and extension of sanitary lines. Short-term benefits are from temporary increase in design and construction workforce; however, the long-term effect of resolving Inflow & Infiltration issues and extend public sewerage will allow the NUTMSA to have a more efficient system and eliminate environmental concerns of those individual properties with existing malfunctioning on-lot system. The users will pay a monthly user rate; fortunately, the Corps program allows the NUTMSA to adopt an affordable monthly rate.

### §5.9 Child Health & Safety

The potential impact to child health and safety is short-term, minor impact during construction activities. The contractor is responsible for the safety of all persons as well as public and private properties.

### §5.10 Environmental Justice

As shown in Section 4.11, the proposed project is not considered to be an area of concentrated minority population or an area of concentrated poverty. Based on the analysis, the Proposed Action will not cause disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations in accordance with the provisions of E.O. 12898. No further Environmental Justice analysis is required.

### §5.11 Surface Water Resources

As a result of the project, the potential impact to surface water resources is short-term, minor impact. While the scope of work will require a GP-5 Utility Line Stream Crossing Permit approved by the PADEP for construction, once the project is complete there is no more disturbance unless there is a line leak in later years.

### §5.12 Cumulative Impacts

The definition of cumulative impact is “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future action regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.” Evaluations of cumulative impacts include consideration of the Proposed Action with known past and present actions, as well as reasonably foreseeable future actions.

The work proposed under the Section 313 Funding is to allow the NUTMSA provide sewer to additional users within their regional sewer system. There have been no significant adverse impacts associated with this work. There are no known other past, present or future actions in the project area that would create significant impacts when considered in conjunction with the proposed project.

The long-term benefit of the Proposed Action will allow the NUTMSA to provide additional users public sewerage; thus, there is no adverse cumulative impacts.

### §5.13 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

An irreversible or irretrievable commitment of sources refers to impacts on or losses to resources that cannot be recovered or reversed. Irreversible is a term that describes the loss of future options. It applies primarily to the impacts of use of nonrenewable resources, such as minerals or cultural resources, soil productivity, that are renewable only over long periods of time. Irretrievable is a term that applies to the loss of production, harvest, or use of natural resources. For example, if farm land is used for a non-agricultural event, some or all of the agricultural production from an area of farm land is lost irretrievably while the area is temporarily used for another purpose.

Based on the Proposed Action by the NUTMSA, the short-term irreversible commitments of resources include planning and engineering costs, material and supplies and their cost, during construction cost of energy resources, labor cost, dust emission and noise (both temporary). No irretrievable commitment of resources would result in the Proposed Action.

### §5.14 Fish & Wildlife Habitat

There will be compliance with the short-term adverse impact during construction in regards to tree cutting, tree inundation, and prescribed burning along with implementing the Fish and Wildlife service’s Forest Management for Indiana Bat Swarming Habitat. This avoidance measure will be complied with during construction and there may be little to no tree cutting involved in the project. Therefore, there are no adverse cumulative impacts.

## 6.0 CONCLUSION

McMillen Engineering, Inc. prepared the Environmental Assessment for Federal Funding for North Union Township Municipal Services Authority (NUTMSA) for sewer line extensions, replacement of existing sewer line, elimination of an existing sewage treatment plant, and contracting to camera existing lines for problems in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, as authorized under Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act.

Under the Proposed Action, the Corps would provide 75 percent of the study, design and construction costs of \$922,050.00 for the proposed scope of work.

Short-term, minor adverse impacts from the proposed project would be expected to include: dust, air emission, aesthetics, and noise during construction from earthmoving, equipment and installing the sewer line.

Compost filter socks will be used as the primary method of erosion and sediment control. Additionally, best management practices will be employed to minimize erosion and sediment pollution from leaving the site. The proposed BMPs will prevent any offsite sedimentation, or erosion impacts. The erosion control BMPs have been designed in accordance with the PADEP Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program Manual.

The short-term benefits to socioeconomic conditions would be expected as a result of employing local workers to construct the project. Long-term benefits to the public are the connection to public sewerage to minimize environmental impacts as a result of on-lot malfunctions and the elimination of existing I & I problems.

The Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative both result in the project being completed. Below is a summary of the Effects of the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative impact:

RESOURCE	PROPOSED ACTION	NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE
Land Use	No Effect	No Effect
Geology	No Effect	No Effect
Soils and Topography	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Prime and Unique Farmlands	No Effect	No Effect
Groundwater	No Effect	No Effect
Surface Water Resources	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Wetlands	No Effect	No Effect
Floodplains	No Effect	No Effect
Terrestrial Resources	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Threatened and Endangered Species	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Designated Natural Areas	No Effect	No Effect
Climate	No Effect	No Effect
Air Quality	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact

Noise	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Cultural Resources	No Effect based on PHMC Response	No Effect based on PHMC Response
Aesthetics	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Recreation	No Effect	No Effect
Utilities	Short-term, minor impact; Long-term benefit to the sewer system	Short-term, minor impact; Long-term benefit to the sewer system
Transportation	No Effect	No Effect
Socioeconomic Conditions	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Substances	No Effect	No Effect
Child Health and Safety	Short-term, minor impact	Short-term, minor impact
Environmental Justice	No Effect	No Effect
Invasive Species	No Effect	No Effect
Fish & Wildlife Habitat	Short-term, minor effect	Short-term, minor effect
Hydrogeology	No	No
Navigation	No	No
Public Infrastructure	No	No

Based on the analysis and evaluation of the environmental effects described in Section 5.0, there are no significant impacts from the Proposed Action or the Non-Action Alternative, and a Finding of No Significant Impact will be prepared.

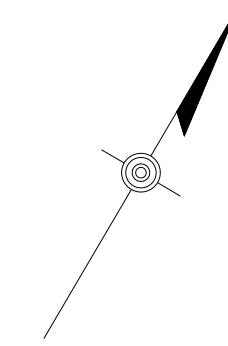
## **7.0 APPENDICES**

Appendix A	Development Plan
Appendix B	USGS Location Map
Appendix C	Soil Map
Appendix D	National Wetland Inventory Map
Appendix E	Agency Coordination

APPENDIX A  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN



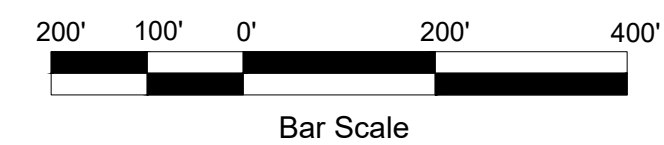
1. Declaration is made to original purchaser of the plan. It is not transferable to additional institutions or subsequent owners.
2. This drawing is based upon tax mapping, Penn DOT mapping, LIDAR imaging and deeds of record. This Plan is not based upon an actual field survey and does not constitute a survey or any fact for the property shown herein.
3. McMillen Engineering, Inc. has made no investigation or independent search for easements of record, encumbrances, restrictive covenants, ownership title evidence, or any other facts that an accurate and current title search may disclose.
4. Topographic information derived from LIDAR data provided by PAMAP Program, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Horizontal Datum: North American Datum of 1983 (CORS96) State Plane Pennsylvania South FIPS 3702 U.S. Survey Feet (NAD83 PA83-SF). Vertical Datum: The North American Vertical Datum of 1988, (Geoid 03 NAVD88). The elevations and / or contour lines shown herein are for information purposes only and are not based upon an actual topographic field survey.
5. Project site is not located in a flood plain according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency or USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



1. Existing sanitary sewer system to be inspected by CCTV.

Legend:

- Existing Force Main
- Existing Gravity Line
- Existing Pump Station
- Existing Sanitary Manhole
- Proposed Force Main
- Proposed LFLP Line
- Proposed Gravity Line
- Proposed Pump Station
- Proposed Sanitary Manhole



REVISIONS			
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY

C:\2017\2017-37\Maps\2017-37-PloI Plan  
6/8

**BETHLEBORO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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**SEWER LINE EXTENSION**

PREPARED FOR

***NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP***

***MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY***

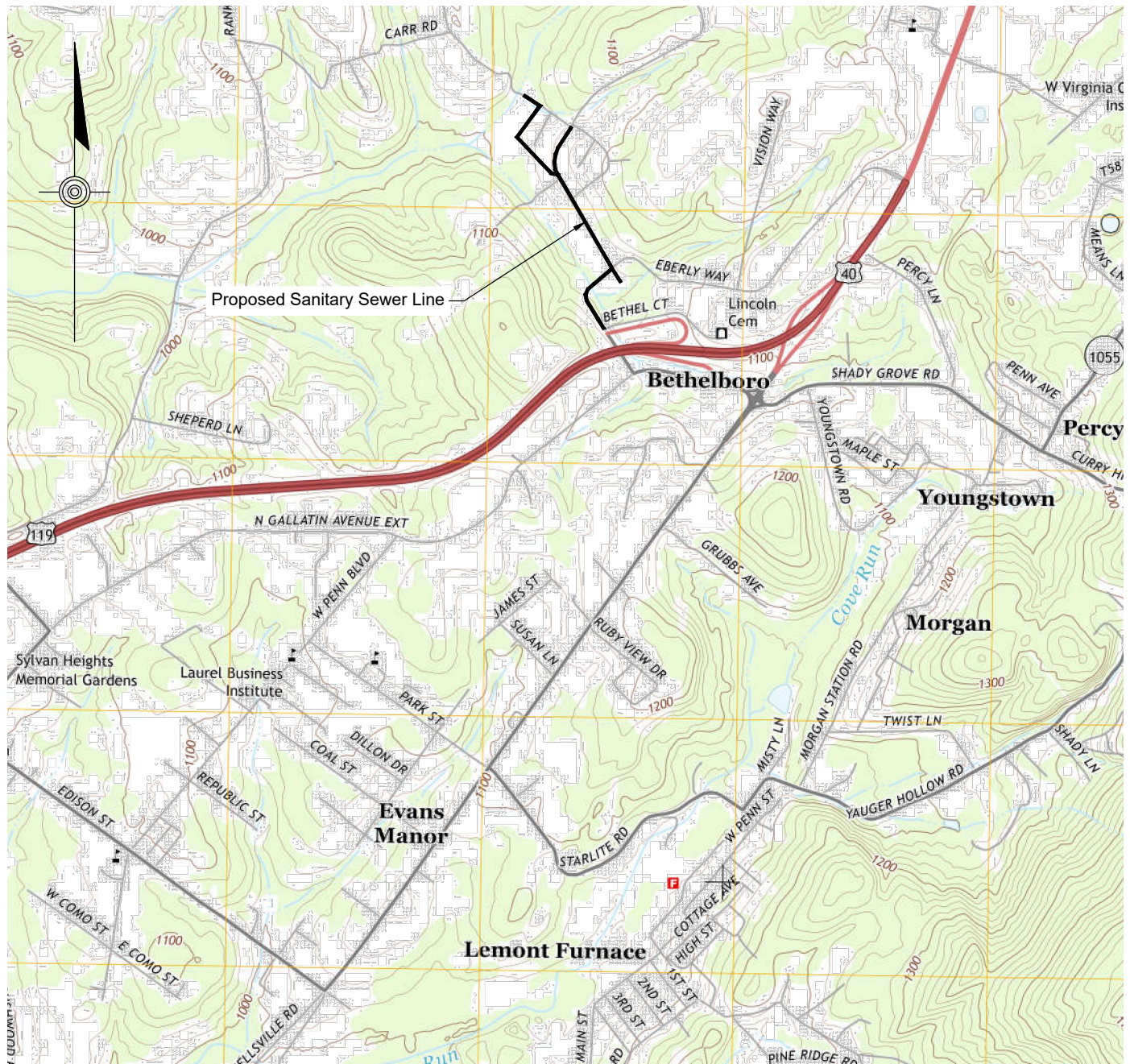
NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA

BOOK NO. N/A		JOB NO. 2018-118	
DRAWN JB	3-9-18	CHECKED JS	*
DESIGN JB	3-9-18	APPROVED TMJR	*
SCALE 1" = 200'			
SHEET NUMBER <b>2 of 2</b>			



## APPENDIX B

### USGS LOCATION MAP



## USGS - LOCATION MAP BETHELBORO SANITARY SEWER PROJECT

PREPARED FOR

### NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY, PA

PREPARED BY



115 Wayland Smith Drive, Uniontown, PA 15401  
Phone: 724-439-8110  
Email: info@mcmilleng.com



Date: 3-6-2020 Job: 2018-118 Scale: 1"=2,000'  
DB: KK CHK: TMJR  
Quadrangle: Uniontown, PA

## APPENDIX C

### SOIL MAP



# Soil Map—Fayette County, Pennsylvania



**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey  
National Cooperative Soil Survey

1/9/2018  
Page 1 of 3

## MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

### Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

### Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

### Water Features



Streams and Canals

### Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

### Background



Aerial Photography

## MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Fayette County, Pennsylvania

Survey Area Data: Version 12, Nov 27, 2017

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Aug 7, 2012—Mar 23, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

## Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CIC	Clarksburg silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	31.6	49.1%
CuB	Culleoka channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	0.5	0.8%
DoC	Dormont silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	27.4	42.7%
DoD	Dormont silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	0.3	0.4%
DrD	Dormont-Culleoka complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	0.0	0.0%
Mn	Melvin and Newark silt loams	2.1	3.3%
UbC	Urban land, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2.3	3.7%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>64.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## APPENDIX D

### NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY MAP

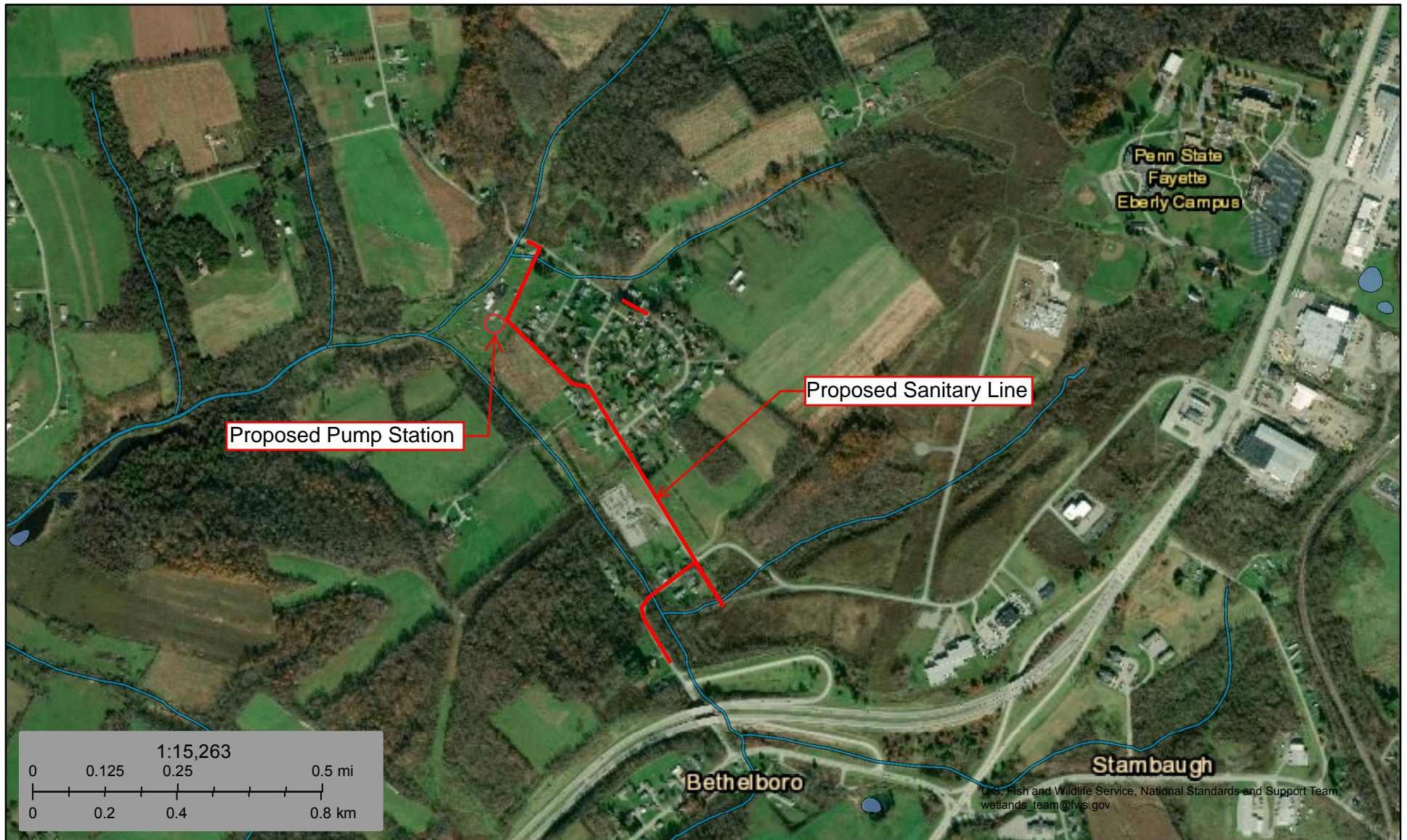




U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# National Wetlands Inventory

## Bethelboro Sanitary Line



March 6, 2020

### Wetlands

	Estuarine and Marine Deepwater		Freshwater Emergent Wetland		Lake
	Estuarine and Marine Wetland		Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland		Other
			Freshwater Pond		Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

APPENDIX E

AGENCY COORDINATION



To: Fayette County Conservation District  
10 Nickman Plaza  
Lemont Furnace PA 15456

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

The North Union Township Municipal Services Authority has been awarded Section 313 funding through the Army Corps of Engineers for the replacement and extension of sewer lines, demolition of an existing sewage treatment plant, and to hire a contractor to camera the existing lines to determine I & I problems.

Enclosed are the following documents:

- Public Notice to Various Agencies
- USGS Plan
- Development Plan
- PNDI

We ask comments are returned within fifteen days to be considered in the Environmental Assessment currently being prepared for the project.

Any questions should be directed to our office at either James Stanton, P.E., Project Engineer or myself at 724-439-8110.



To: Fayette County Office of Planning, Zoning and Community Development  
Sara Rosiek  
61 East Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Uniontown, PA 15401

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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To: PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg PA 17105-8552

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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To: PA Fish and Boat Commission  
Division of Environmental Services  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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Any questions should be directed to our office at either James Stanton, P.E., Project Engineer or myself at 724-439-8110.



To: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
Endangered Species Section  
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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Any questions should be directed to our office at either James Stanton, P.E., Project Engineer or myself at 724-439-8110.



To: PA Game Commission  
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union  
Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

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To: North Union Township  
7 South Evans Station Road  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456

From: Tammy Stenson, AICP, BCO

Date: December 30, 2019

Subject: Bethelboro Sewer Line Replacement and Extensions, North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania

The North Union Township Municipal Services Authority has been awarded Section 313 funding through the Army Corps of Engineers for the replacement and extension of sewer lines, demolition of an existing sewage treatment plant, and to hire a contractor to camera the existing lines to determine I & I problems.

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Any questions should be directed to our office at either James Stanton, P.E., Project Engineer or myself at 724-439-8110.

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**December 30, 2019**

**Section 313**

**North Union Township Municipal Services Authority  
North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania**

McMillen Engineering, Inc. is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the North Union Township Municipal Services Authority (NUTMSA) for the community/area of Bethelboro in North Union Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. NUTMSA's project is to replacement existing lines with I & I issues based on camera results of the lines, extend sewer to those areas currently with individual on-lot systems, and demolition of an existing sewage treatment plant in the community resulting all flows will be conveyed to an existing pump station and treated at the regional system of the Greater Uniontown Joint Sewer Authority Sewage Treatment Plant.

The EA is being prepared under the authority of Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, as amended, which established the South Central Environmental Program. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) under the authority of Section 313 allows them to provide design and construction assistance to non-Federal interests. This assistance is limited to environmental infrastructure actions and is for reimbursement of design and construction costs to non-federal sponsors. This assistance from the ACOE is limited to environmental infrastructure actions occurring subsequent to, or within six years prior to, entering into an agreement with the ACOE.

The EA will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and will document potential impact to the natural or human environment for the proposed project and the no action alternative. It's anticipated the EA will result in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and the NPWA will publish a Notice of Availability.

Interested individuals/parties are asked to submit written comments for consideration within fifteen days of this Public Notice. Any comments received will be reviewed and considered with the preparation of the EA. This Public Notice is being sent to organizations and individuals known to have an interest in this project. We ask you bring this matter to the attention of any other organization or individuals with similar interest who are not included on the attached list. Comments are to be sent to: McMillen Engineering, Inc., Tammy Stenson, AICP, 115 Wayland Smith Drive, Uniontown, PA 15401.

Enclosure

### **Section 313 Public Notice Mail List for North Union Township Municipal Services Authority**

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552

PA Fish and Boat Commission  
Division of Environmental Services  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
Endangered Species Section  
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801

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

Fayette County Office of Planning, Zoning and Community Development  
Sara Rosiek, Director  
61 East Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Courthouse  
Uniontown, PA 15401

North Union Township  
7 South Evans Station Road  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456

Fayette County Conservation District  
10 Nickman Plaza  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456