



**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: 31 July 2019  
Expiration Date: 14 August 2019

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## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**

### **Draft Environmental Assessment**

#### **Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in Cambria and Indiana Counties, PA**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (USACE) is evaluating a Federal funding request for proposed wastewater treatment plant upgrades in Buffington Township, Indiana County, and Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria 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:

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

**Comments can be submitted to the address posted at the top of this notice or to Erin.Stuart@usace.army.mil. Comments must be received by 14 August 2019 to ensure consideration.**

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

### **Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Buffington Township, Indiana County, and Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County, Pennsylvania**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. The **DRAFT** EA, dated July 2019, for the Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements evaluates potential environmental impacts associated with wastewater treatment plant upgrades and electrical upgrades at three existing pump stations proposed for federal funding under the Section 313 program located in Buffington Township, Indiana County, and Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County, Pennsylvania. 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 wastewater treatment plant improvements. The preferred alternative, ultimately the Proposed Federal Action, includes federal funding for wastewater treatment plant upgrades including:

- the construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, a new sludge dewatering system, electrical upgrades, new panel boards, transformers, conduit and raceways, fixtures, two backup generators, site grading, and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing treatment facility, located in Buffington Township, Indiana County and electrical upgrades within three existing pump station buildings in Buffington Township, Indiana County, and Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs in Cambria County.

In addition to the preferred alternative, a “no action” alternative was evaluated. For all alternatives, 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

No stream or wetland impacts are proposed. 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 will have no effect on threatened or endangered species, or 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. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission concurred with this determination on 10 July 2019.

Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, no discharge of dredged or fill material will occur with the proposed project.

A 15-day public comment period will occur from 31 July 2019 to 14 August 2019. 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.

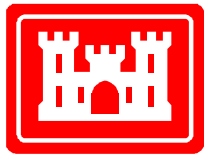
After having carefully evaluated all aspects of the Proposed Federal Action and based on the draft EA, I have reasonably concluded that the Proposed Federal Action does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact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



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Pittsburgh District

# **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

## **BLACKLICK VALLEY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

### **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS**

**BUFFINGTON TOWNSHIP, INDIANA COUNTY**  
**BELSANO AND TWIN ROCKS BOROUGHES, CAMBRIA COUNTY**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**

**JULY 2019**

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***Prepared by:***

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District**  
**1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 2200**  
**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps), prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) for federal funding of the Blacklick Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County and in Buffington Township, Indiana 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. Eligible projects include wastewater treatment and water supply facilities, and surface water resource protection and development.

The Proposed Federal Action includes federal funding for the construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, a new sludge dewatering system, electrical upgrades, new panel boards, transformers, conduit and raceways, fixtures, two backup generators, site grading, and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing treatment facility, located in Buffington Township, Indiana County and electrical upgrades at three existing pump stations located in Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County and Buffington Township, Indiana County.

The Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority (BVMA) owns and operates a wastewater collection and treatment system serving approximately 600 equivalent dwelling units in Vintondale Borough, Blacklick Township, and Jackson Township in Cambria County and in Buffington Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The system was placed into operation in 2003.

Currently, the properties within the proposed project area are served by on-lot sewage disposal systems. The Cambria County Sewage Enforcement Agency issued an On-Lot Sewage Study report in 2012 to the Blacklick Township Supervisors that identified suspected wildcat sewers (pipes which illegally discharge raw sewage into waterways, storm sewers, or to the surface of the ground) and malfunctioning sewage systems in surveyed homes throughout the project area. The findings of the report were used to develop the proposed project to address the current inadequate sewage systems.

An extension of the existing BVMA wastewater collection and treatment system is proposed to expand service to approximately 187 existing residences and businesses and includes improvements at the existing wastewater treatment facility located in Buffington Township. The Proposed Federal Action (wastewater treatment plant improvements) will support the BVMA's overall proposed project, which includes the construction of a wastewater collection system with approximately 57,100 linear feet of gravity wastewater main, two pump stations, and approximately 3,300 linear feet of force main and appurtenances. The Proposed Federal Action and the construction of the wastewater collection system, will eliminate suspected wildcat sewers, reduce raw sewage effluent draining to Blacklick Creek and its tributaries, and reduce potential health and safety risks resulting from malfunctioning on-lot disposal systems.

This EA is prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Corps implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps), is proposing to provide federal funding for the Blacklick Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County and in Buffington Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania.

### **1.1 PROJECT AUTHORITY**

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, which is executed by the Corps and the non-Federal sponsor. The Section 313 Program is a reimbursement program, whereby 75 percent of the total project costs are borne by the government and 25 percent of the costs are borne by the non-federal sponsor, for this project the Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority (BVMA). The non-federal sponsor will remain responsible for operation and maintenance cost at 100 percent.

### **1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND**

The existing wastewater treatment facility is located in Buffington Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania on Wehrum Road in Vintondale (40.484175° N, -78.933014° W). Pump station 1 is located in Belsano Borough, Cambria County (40.518723° N, -78.878157° W), pump station 2 is located in Twin Rocks Borough, Cambria County (40.495627° N, -78.867017° W) and pump station 3 is located in Buffington Township, Indiana (40.484051° N, -78.923308° W). The non-federal sponsor of the proposed project is the BVMA.

The BVMA owns and operates a wastewater collection and treatment system serving approximately 600 equivalent dwelling units in Vintondale Borough, Blacklick and Jackson Townships in Cambria County, and Buffington Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The system was placed into operation in 2003.

Currently, the properties within the service area to be impacted by the proposed project are served by on-lot sewage disposal systems, the majority of which are malfunctioning. The Cambria County Sewage Enforcement Agency issued an On-Lot Sewage Study report in 2012 that identified suspected wildcat sewers and malfunctioning sewage systems in surveyed homes throughout the project area. The consulting engineering firm for the project is Hegemann and Wray Consulting Engineers, who has prepared the designs and applied for applicable permits for the action.



### **1.3 PURPOSE AND NEED**

An extension of the existing system is proposed to expand service to approximately 187 existing residences and businesses including improvements at the existing treatment facility located in Buffington Township. The Proposed Federal Action (wastewater treatment plant improvements) will support BVMA's overall proposed project (construction of the wastewater collection system), which will eliminate suspected wildcat sewers, reduce raw sewage effluent draining to Blacklick Creek and its tributaries, and reduce potential health and safety risks resulting from malfunctioning on-lot disposal systems.

### **1.4 SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

As authorized by Section 313, the Corps proposes to fund the federal share of the construction cost of the Proposed Federal Action. Under the requirements of Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), this proposed funding constitutes a major federal action and an EA is required.

This EA has been prepared by the Pittsburgh District pursuant to NEPA and the regulations for implementing NEPA promulgated by the Council of Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1500-1508) and USACE (33 CFR 230). To assess the impacts of the Corps funding action, the EA evaluates the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts from construction and operation of the BVMA Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. This EA focuses on the component of BVMA's overall project that is being federally funded (i.e. the Proposed Federal Action), which includes the construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, a new sludge dewatering system, electrical upgrades, new panel boards, transformers, conduit and raceways, fixtures, two backup generators, site grading, and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing treatment facility, located in Buffington Township, Indiana County and electrical upgrades at three existing pump stations located in Belsano and Twin Rocks Boroughs, Cambria County and Buffington Township, Indiana County.

### **1.5 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The Corps will provide a copy of this report to the appropriate agencies during the public comment period. A 15-day public comment period will occur from 31 July 2019 to 14 August 2019.

The Corps invites submission of comments of the environmental impact of the approval 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 FEDERAL ACTION**

The Corps' Proposed Federal Action, under the Section 313 Program, is the funding of the federal share of the construction cost of the proposed Blacklick Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. The Proposed Federal Action is to assist in funding the construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, a new sludge dewatering system, electrical upgrades, new panel boards, transformers, conduit and raceways, fixtures, two backup generators, site grading, and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing treatment facility, located in Buffington Township, Indiana County. Electrical upgrades at three existing pump station locations are also included. The location of the wastewater treatment plant and pump stations are shown in Figure 1. Approximately 0.10 acre will be disturbed within the footprint of the existing facility (Appendix A).

The total project cost is \$509,333.33. At 75/25 percent cost-sharing, the federal share is \$382,000, and the non-federal share is \$127,333.33.

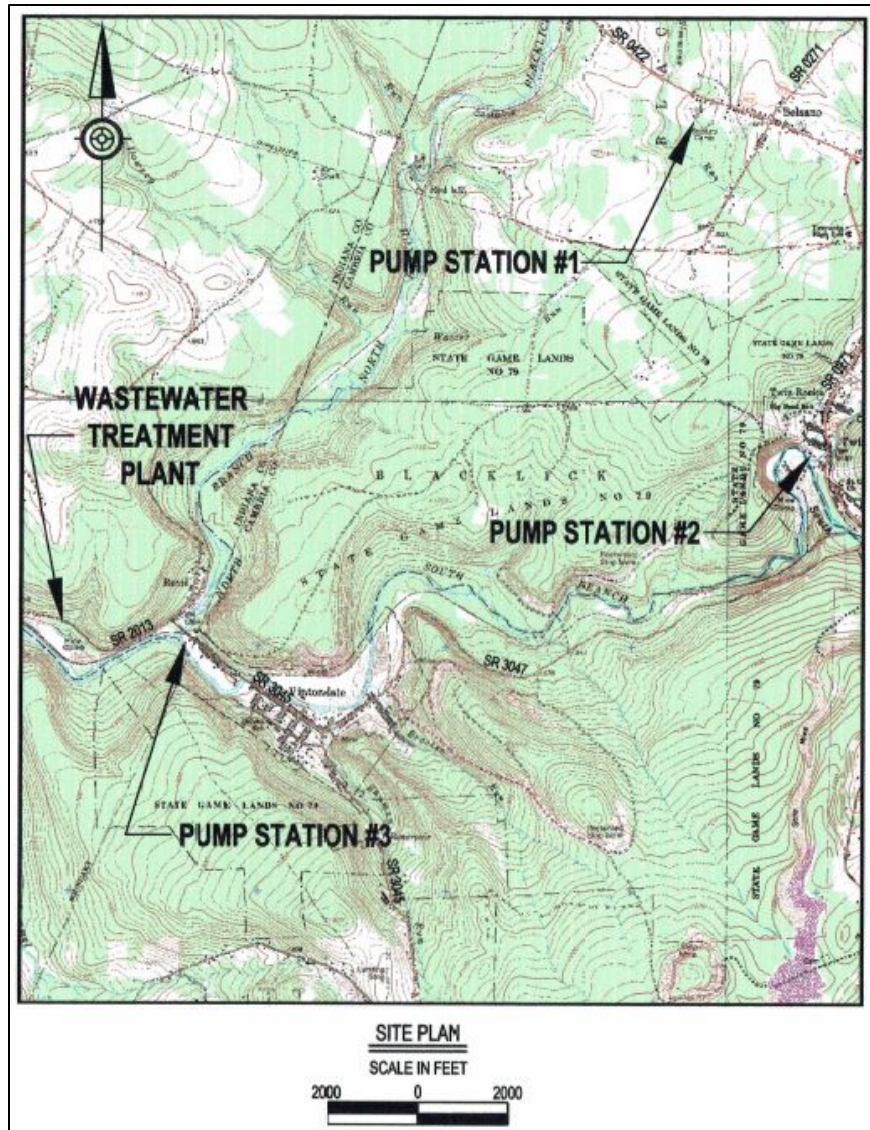


Figure 1. Wastewater Treatment Plant and Pump Station Locations.

### 3.0 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED FEDERAL ACTION

NEPA requires that an EA evaluate all reasonable alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The only alternatives identified for Corps action for this project are the Proposed Federal Action (federal funding under Section 313) and No Action (no federal funding). The Proposed Federal Action is described in Section 2.0.

#### 3.1 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action alternative, the Corps would not assist the non-federal sponsor with federal funding of the proposed project. However, it is assumed for the purposes of

this EA that the non-federal sponsor would construct the project without the Corps' funding by obtaining funding from other sources, likely in the form of loans. The anticipated result of the No-Action alternative is that the project would continue to be constructed; however funding the project with loans would likely increase user fees.

## **4.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS**

### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

This section describes the affected environment and the existing conditions for the natural and socioeconomic resources categories applicable to the area affected by the Blacklick Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. Each environmental, cultural, and social resource category typically considered in an EA (Table 4-1) was reviewed for its applicability to the project to be funded under the Proposed Federal Action. Through this analysis, which is summarized in Table 4-1, resource categories clearly not applicable to the alternatives were screened from further evaluation. Only those affected resources applicable to the Proposed Federal Action are discussed further in this section and in Section 5.0, Environmental Effects.

The Proposed Federal Action also includes work at the three existing pump stations consists entirely of electrical work within the existing generator buildings. No earth disturbance or impacts to any environmental resources will occur with the proposed work at the pump stations.

While the electrical work at the three existing pump stations is part of the Proposed Federal Action, this work will have no effect on any environmental resources and is not directly discussed further in Sections 4 and 5. For the purpose of describing existing conditions and environmental effects of the proposed work at the wastewater treatment plant in Sections 4 and 5 of this EA, the Project Area is defined as the area directly affected by construction of the Proposed Federal Action at the existing wastewater treatment plant, as shown in Figure 2.





*Figure 2. Project Area outlined in blue.*

The primary source of existing conditions for this section includes information provided by BVMA's consultants, Hegemann and Wray Consulting Engineers.

<b>Table 4-1. Existing Conditions and Effects of Proposed Federal Action</b>		
<b>Resource Category</b>	<b>Affected by Proposed Federal Action</b>	<b>Effects Determination Explanation</b>
Aesthetics	Yes	Minor temporary impacts to aesthetics may occur during construction activities. (EA Sections 4.2, 5.2)
Air quality	Yes	Temporary impacts during construction activities are expected to occur, but emissions will be de minimus. (EA Sections 4.3, 5.3)
Aquatic resources/wetlands	No	No waters of the United States present within project area. BVMA's existing NPDES permit shows discharges to Blacklick Creek. No change to the existing NPDES permit limits is required with the expansion of the wastewater collection system nor with the Proposed Federal Action; therefore no

<b>Table 4-1. Existing Conditions and Effects of Proposed Federal Action</b>		
<b>Resource Category</b>	<b>Affected by Proposed Federal Action</b>	<b>Effects Determination Explanation</b>
		change to water quality or volume of water discharged is expected.
Invasive species	No	The project area is the existing wastewater treatment plant. No invasive species are known in the project area, as the construction areas are currently unvegetated, paved areas within the facility.
Fish and wildlife habitat	Yes	Fish habitat not present in project area. Wildlife may be affected by temporary construction noise. (EA Sections 4.4, 5.4)
Threatened and Endangered species	No	Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory Search (PNDI-683049) conducted on 29 April 2019 indicated no known impact to federally listed species within the project area (Appendix A).
Historic properties	No	No historic properties present in project area. (EA Sections 4.5, 5.5)
Other cultural resources	No	No other cultural resources present in project area. (EA Sections 4.5, 5.5)
Floodplains	No	Floodplain will not be impacted by Proposed Federal Action as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette mapping indicates that the project area is not located within the 100-year floodplain (Appendix A).
Hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste	No	No known sources of hazardous, toxic, or radioactive materials are present in the project area (USEPA, 2019c). The Phase I archaeological survey noted coal refuse piles present during the field investigation conducted in 1998. The site does not currently contain any coal refuse piles. The Proposed Federal Action would not use hazardous or toxic materials, other than in minor amounts for routine maintenance. The project is expected to generate minor or no amount of hazardous wastes, which would be disposed of according to state and federal regulations.
Hydrology	No	No waters of the United States present in project area. No impacts to surface or groundwater are expected. No change to the volume of water discharged to Blacklick Creek is expected.

<b>Table 4-1. Existing Conditions and Effects of Proposed Federal Action</b>		
<b>Resource Category</b>	<b>Affected by Proposed Federal Action</b>	<b>Effects Determination Explanation</b>
Land use	No	Land use in the project area consists of the existing wastewater treatment plant and paved access road connecting to Wehrum Road. Existing land use would not change as a result of the construction of the Proposed Federal Action.
Navigation	No	No waters of the United States present in project area.
Noise levels	Yes	Temporary increases in noise are expected during construction activities, but would return to normal levels once construction is completed. Noise resulting from operation of the facility is expected to be similar to current noise levels and no long-term increases in noise levels are expected. (EA Sections 4.6, 5.6)
Public infrastructure	Yes	The Proposed Federal Action will make improvements to existing public infrastructure (wastewater treatment plant). (EA Sections 4.7, 5.7)
Socio-economics	Yes	Minor benefits to socio-economics may occur during construction activities. (EA Sections 4.8, 5.8)
Environmental justice	No	No impacts to environmental justice will occur. (EA Sections 4.9, 5.9)
Soils	Yes	Temporary impacts to soils will occur during construction activities. No permanent or adverse impacts are expected. (EA Sections 4.10, 5.10)
Tribal trust resources	No	Tribal trust resources will not be impacted by the Proposed Federal Action.
Water quality	No	No waters of the United States are present in the project area. BVMA's existing NPDES permit shows discharges to Blacklick Creek. No change to the existing NPDES permit limits is required with the expansion of the wastewater collection system nor the Proposed Federal Action; therefore no change to water quality nor the volume of water discharged is expected.
Climate change	No	No effects to climate change are expected.
Child Health and Safety	No	No impacts to child health and safety will occur. (EA Sections 4.11, 5.11)

## **4.2 AESTHETICS**

The project area is located at the existing wastewater treatment plant, comprised of an existing control building, waste digester, batch reactors, roadway and parking within a fenced in area. The plant is surrounded by rural, wooded areas.

## **4.3 AIR QUALITY**

The project area is located within Indiana County, Pennsylvania. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Indiana County is designated as a non-attainment area for Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) (USEPA, 2019a). The primary sources of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are from industrial coal and oil burning facilities (PADEP, 2017).

## **4.4 FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT**

The Proposed Federal Action is located within the footprint of the existing wastewater treatment facility, which is enclosed by fencing. Construction will occur on areas that are currently paved. The surrounding wooded, rural area contains more suitable wildlife habitat. The temporary, minor increase in noise during construction activities may result in wildlife temporarily dispersing from the surrounding area; however it is expected that wildlife would return to the surrounding areas once construction activities are complete.

## **4.5 HISTORIC PROPERTIES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

There are no historic properties or cultural resources present within the project area. A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted at the project area prior to the construction of the existing wastewater treatment plan. The survey report, dated February 1999, stated that the project area had been impacted by activities associated with area mining and “there is no potential of encountering archaeological sites in [the] disturbed area” (Phase I Archaeological Survey, 1999).

## **4.6 NOISE LEVELS**

Noise levels typical to the project area would involve noise generated by the operation of the existing wastewater treatment plant along with some noise generated by passing traffic along Wehrum Road. No change in noise levels resulting from operation of the existing plant is expected with the Proposed Federal Action.

## **4.7 PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

Public infrastructure in the area includes the existing wastewater treatment plant and the adjacent Wehrum Road (State Route 2013).

## **4.8 SOCIO-ECONOMICS**

According to 2010 census data, the population of Vintondale Borough totaled 414 individuals, and for the 15961 zip code where the wastewater treatment plant is located totaled 854 individuals (USCB, 2010). The population of Indiana County at the 2010



census was 88,880 with a median household income of \$46,306 and approximately 16.6 percent of individuals below the poverty level, as estimated by the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (USCB, 2017).

Vintondale Borough population estimates for 2012-2016 totaled 375 individuals with 3 percent of the population identified as minority. According to data from the American Community Survey 2013-2017 estimates, the median household income from 2013-2017 in Vintondale Borough was \$32,292 with approximately 18.8 percent of individuals below the poverty level.

#### **4.9 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

Executive Order (EO) 12898, Environmental Justice, requires federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, "disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations."

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has oversight of the federal government's compliance with EO 12898 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). CEQ, in consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other affected agencies, developed NEPA guidance for addressing requirements of the EO.

Minority populations exist when the percentage of minorities in an affected area exceeds 50 percent or when the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than in the general population. According to data from EPA's EJSCREEN tool, Vintondale Borough contains a minority population of 3 percent of the total population.

The U.S. Census Bureau defines poverty areas as census tracts or block numbering areas where at least 20 percent of residents are below the poverty level. In Vintondale Borough, approximately 18.8 percent of individuals are below the poverty level.

#### **4.10 SOILS**

Soils present in the project area consist of Hazleton channery sandy loam and Itmann extremely channery loam (APPENDIX A).

#### **4.11 CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, was signed on April 21, 1987. It requires federal agencies to (1) make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children and (2) ensure that its policies, programs, activities and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks and safety risks.

The project area is located within an existing wastewater treatment plant surrounded by a rural wooded area. Children are not present nor would they be impacted by activities at the existing facility.

## 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

### 5.1 DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND SUMMARY

Environmental assessment of the Proposed Federal Action was based on an evaluation of the impacts from construction and operation of the proposed project. For the assessment of environmental effects of the No Action Alternative (no federal funding), it was assumed that the non-federal sponsor would proceed with the proposed project even without federal funding; therefore the environmental effects of the No-Action alternative are the same as those described below for the Proposed Federal Action. Only those elements of the project that are being considered for Section 313 funding are evaluated in Chapter 5.0.

Environmental effects of the proposed project were determined from previous project documentation, agency coordination, and analysis of construction activities necessary to implement the project. Operation of the project was also considered to determine potential long-term impacts after construction is completed.

Table 5-1 summarizes the degree of impact, if any, expected from the Proposed Federal Action and the No Action Alternative for all resource categories.

<b>Table 5-1: Summary of Effects of the Proposed Federal Action and the No-Action Alternative</b>		
<b>Resource</b>	<b>Proposed Federal Action</b>	<b>No-Action Alternative</b>
Aesthetics	Minor effect	Minor effect
Air quality	Minor effect	Minor effect
Aquatic resources/wetlands	No effect	No effect
Invasive species	No effect	No effect
Fish and wildlife habitat	Minor effect	Minor effect
Threatened and Endangered species	No effect	No effect
Historic properties	No effect	No effect
Other cultural resources	No effect	No effect
Floodplains	No effect	No effect
Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Substances	No effect	No effect
Hydrology	No effect	No effect
Land use	No effect	No effect
Navigation	No effect	No effect
Noise levels	Minor effect	Minor effect

<b>Table 5-1: Summary of Effects of the Proposed Federal Action and the No-Action Alternative</b>		
<b>Resource</b>	<b>Proposed Federal Action</b>	<b>No-Action Alternative</b>
Public infrastructure	Minor effect	Minor effect
Socio-economics	Minor effect	Minor effect
Environmental justice	No effect	No effect
Soils	Minor effect	Minor effect
Tribal trust resources	No effect	No effect
Water quality	No effect	No effect
Climate change	No effect	No effect
Child Health and Safety	No effect	No effect

## **5.2 AESTHETICS**

Minor temporary effects to aesthetics may occur during project construction; however as all work will be conducted within the footprint of the existing wastewater treatment plant, no significant impacts will occur.

## **5.3 AIR QUALITY**

Temporary, localized, increases in dust and emissions may occur during construction activities; however emissions will be de minimus. No significant impacts are expected.

## **5.4 FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT**

No fish habitat exists in the project area. No impact to wildlife habitat is expected as the proposed project is within the footprint of the existing wastewater treatment plant. Minor noise from construction activities may result in the temporary displacement of wildlife from the surrounding area; however it is expected that wildlife would return once construction activities are complete.

## **5.5 HISTORIC PROPERTIES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

No historic properties or cultural resources are present within the Proposed Federal Action area. A Phase I archaeological survey was completed at the WWTP property in February 1999, prior to the construction of the existing WWTP. The findings in the report indicate that the site had been previously disturbed and no further archaeological studies were recommended. The Proposed Federal Action will occur entirely within the existing footprint of the WWTP. The Corps determined that the Proposed Federal Action will have no effect on historic properties or cultural resources. The Corps submitted a no effect determination letter to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) dated 12 June 2019. PHMC concurred that the project will have no effect on historic properties on 10 July 2019 (APPENDIX A).

## **5.6 NOISE LEVELS**

Minor temporary and localized increases in noise levels will occur during project construction from truck deliveries of supplies, construction activities and operation of heavy construction equipment. The project is located in a rural area surrounded by woods so no significant impacts from noise levels are expected. The nearest residences are located approximately 0.5 miles east of the WWTP. Noise levels would return to normal conditions once construction activities are complete.

## **5.7 PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Proposed Federal Action will contribute to an improvement in public infrastructure with the upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant. Minor beneficial effects will occur with the plant upgrades.

## **5.8 SOCIO-ECONOMICS**

The project is expected to have short-term minor benefits during project construction that results from a temporary increase in the construction workforce.

## **5.9 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

The Proposed Federal Action will not cause a disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects to minority or low-income populations.

## **5.10 SOILS**

No permanent impacts to soils are expected from the Proposed Federal Action. The area has been disturbed by past construction activities and only minor (0.10 acre) earth disturbance is proposed. Temporary impacts to soils will occur during construction activities but are not expected to be significant or adverse.

## **5.11 CHILD HEALTH AND SAFETY**

There are no schools, daycares or other locations where children would be present within the project area. The proposed construction will occur within the footprint of the existing wastewater treatment plant, which is enclosed within fencing. No impacts to child health and safety will occur.

## **5.12 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

A cumulative impact is defined as “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 (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions” (40 CFR Part 1508.7). Such impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Evaluations of cumulative impacts include consideration of the Proposed Federal Action with known past and present actions, as well as reasonably foreseeable future actions.

The Proposed Federal Action is part of a larger project to expand the existing wastewater collection system. Construction of the wastewater collection system may occur at the same time as the Proposed Federal Action or in the future. Impacts expected include temporary minor impacts to aesthetics, air quality, fish and wildlife habitat, soils, and noise during construction activities. Temporary minor impacts to aquatic resources, floodplains and wetlands may occur; however the appropriate permits will be obtained prior to construction activities. Minor permanent benefits include improvements to water quality and aquatic resources with the elimination of wildcat sewers, and improvements to public infrastructure. Minor temporary benefits during construction activities include an increase in socio-economics. All impacts resulting from the construction of the wastewater collection system are not expected to be significant.

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.

### **5.13 PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS CONSIDERED, WHERE APPLICABLE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH NEPA**

#### **Public Laws:**

American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. 1996 et seq.  
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 469 et seq.  
Archeological Resources Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 470aa-11, et seq.  
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 668, et seq.  
Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1857h-7, et seq.  
Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1251 et seq.  
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 – 9675.  
Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.  
Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 U.S.C. 4201, et seq.  
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 2901-2911, et seq.  
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 U.S.C. 661, et seq.  
Historic Sites Act, 16 U.S.C. 461-467, et seq.  
Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, 16 U.S.C. 460/-460/-11, et seq.  
National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.  
National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470a, et seq.  
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.  
Noise Control Act of 1972, 42 U.S.C. 4901-4918.  
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.  
Rivers and Harbors Act 33, U.S.C. 401 et seq.  
Safe Drinking Water Act 42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.  
Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. 2601 – 2671.  
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. 1271, et seq.

**Executive Orders:**

- 11514 Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality
- 11593 Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment
- 11988 Floodplain Management
- 11990 Protection of Wetlands
- 12088 Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards
- 12114, Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions
- 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

**Regulations:**

- Advisory Council on Historic Properties, Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties (36 CFR Part 800 et seq.).
- Council on Environmental Quality, Regulation for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508).
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ER 200-2-2, Procedures for Implementing NEPA (33 CFR 230).
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, EC 1165-2-220, Water Resources Policies and Authorities, Policy and Procedural Guidance for Processing Requests to Alter US Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Projects, Pursuant to 33 USC 408.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Regulations for Implementing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 CFR 658).
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Air Act Implementing Regulations (40 CFR Part 50 et seq.).
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Criteria and Standards for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (40 CFR Part 125).

**6.0 CONCLUSION**

The Corps prepared this EA for federal funding of the BVMA Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades in Cambria and Indiana Counties, Pennsylvania, as authorized under Section 313 of the WRDA. Under the Proposed Federal Action, the Corps would provide 75 percent of construction costs of the construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, a new sludge dewatering system, electrical upgrades and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing treatment facility and pump stations.

Benefits that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposed project were balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All natural and social environmental factors that may be relevant to the Proposed Federal Action, including the cumulative effects thereof, were considered.

Short-term minor impacts from the Proposed Federal Action include aesthetics, dust, air emissions, wildlife, soil and noise from earthmoving and construction activities. Short-

term minor benefits to socio-economics during construction and long-term minor benefits to public infrastructure are also expected.

Based on this evaluation of environmental effects, no significant impacts were identified, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been prepared for the Proposed Federal Action.

## 7.0 REFERENCES

Council on Environmental Quality. 1997. *ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the EPA has developed a series of environmental justice resources including: Final Guidance for Consideration of Environmental Justice in Clean Air Act 309 Reviews, July 1999, and Policy and Procedures for the Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment.*

Davis, Christine. January 1999. *Phase I Archaeological Survey.* Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority Wastewater Project, Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2019. *National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMETTE.* Retrieved: 3 May 2019, from <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>

National Register of Historic Places  
<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com>

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). 2017. *State Implementation Plan Revision: Attainment Demonstration and Base Year Inventory. Indiana, PA Nonattainment Area for the 2010 1-Hour Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard.*

United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. *Soil Survey of Indiana County, Pennsylvania.* Retrieved 21 May 2019, from <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

United States Census Bureau (USCB). 2010 *U.S. Census statistics.* Retrieved: 7 May 2019, from <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

United States Census Bureau (USCB). 2017. *American Community Survey, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.* Retrieved 7 May 2019, from <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

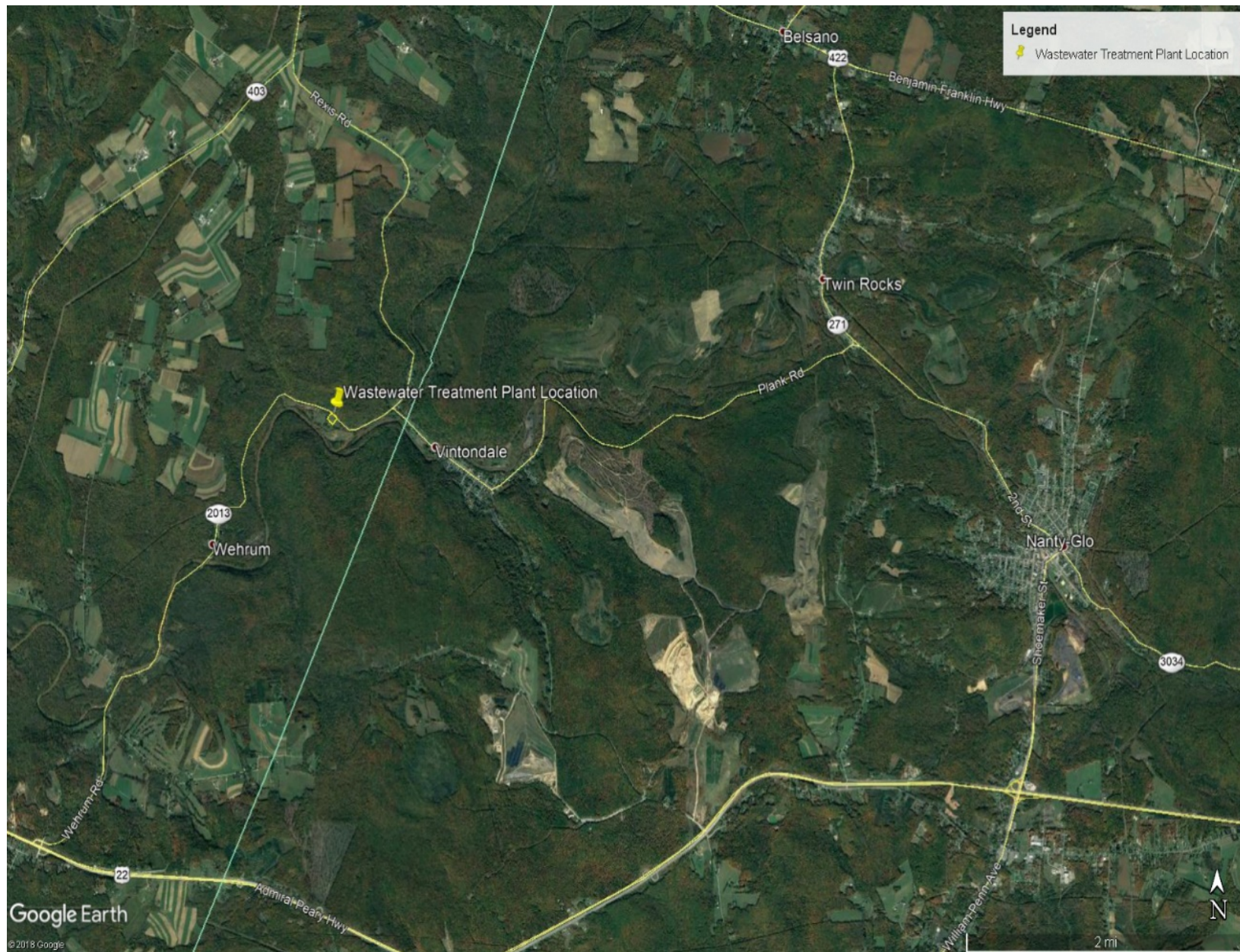
United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2019a. *Details of Criteria Pollutant Nonattainment Area Summary Report.* Retrieved: 6 May 2019, from <https://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/anc12.html>

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2019b. *EJSCREEN.* Retrieved: 17 May 2019, from <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>

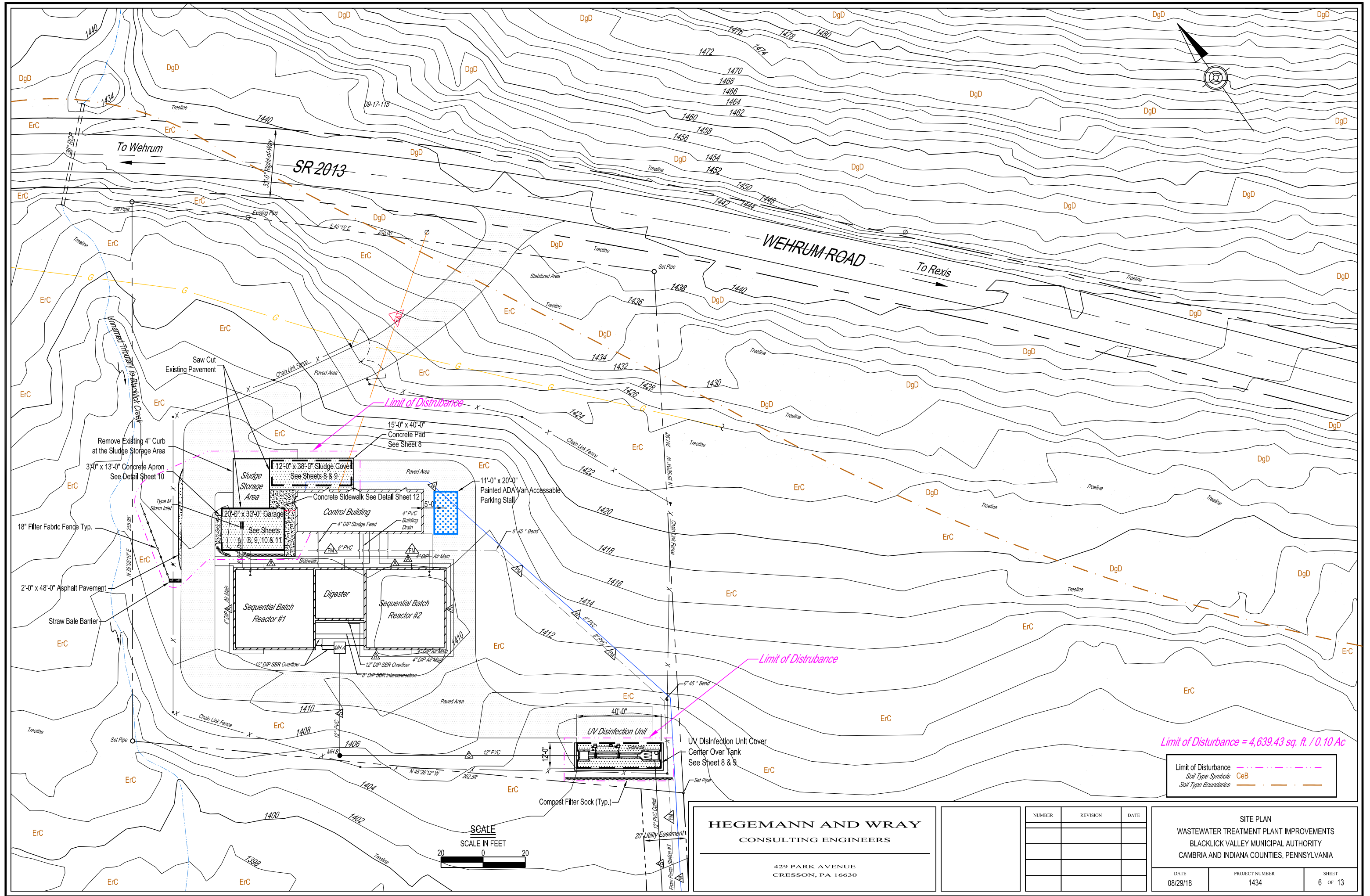
United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2019c. *Enviromapper for Envirofacts*. Retrieved: 21 May 2019, from <https://www.epa.gov/emefdata/em4ef.home>



# APPENDIX A







## 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: **Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority - Section 313**

Date of Review: **4/29/2019 01:40:23 PM**

Project Category: **Development, Additions/maintenance to existing development facilities**

Project Area: **0.68 acres**

County(s): **Indiana**

Township/Municipality(s): **BUFFINGTON**

ZIP Code: **15961**

Quadrangle Name(s): **VINTONDALE**

Watersheds HUC 8: **Conemaugh**

Watersheds HUC 12: **Mardis Creek-Blacklick Creek**

Decimal Degrees: **40.483969, -78.932852**

Degrees Minutes Seconds: **40° 29' 2.2893" N, 78° 55' 58.2660" W**

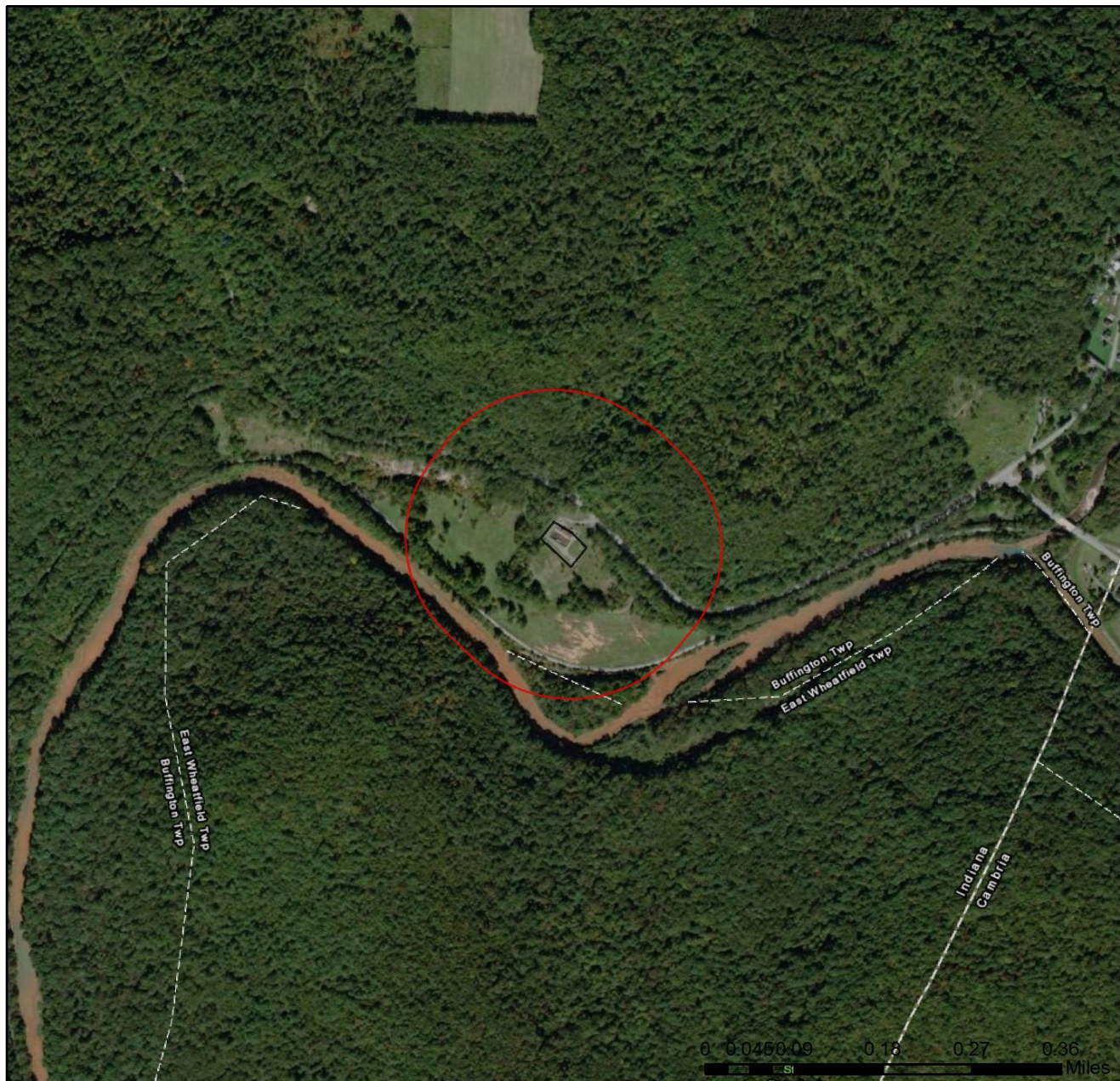
## 2. SEARCH RESULTS

Agency	Results	Response
PA Game Commission	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required
PA Fish and Boat Commission	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required

As summarized above, Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) records indicate no known impacts to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources within the project area. Therefore, based on the information you provided, no further coordination is required with the jurisdictional agencies. This response does not reflect potential agency concerns regarding impacts to other ecological resources, such as wetlands.

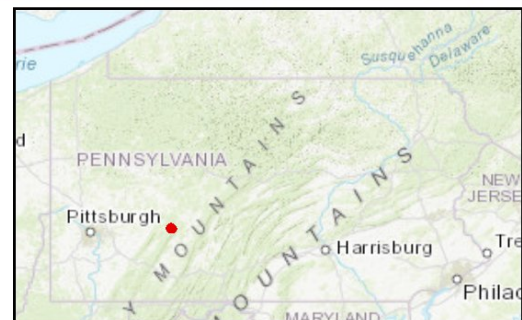


## Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority - Section 313



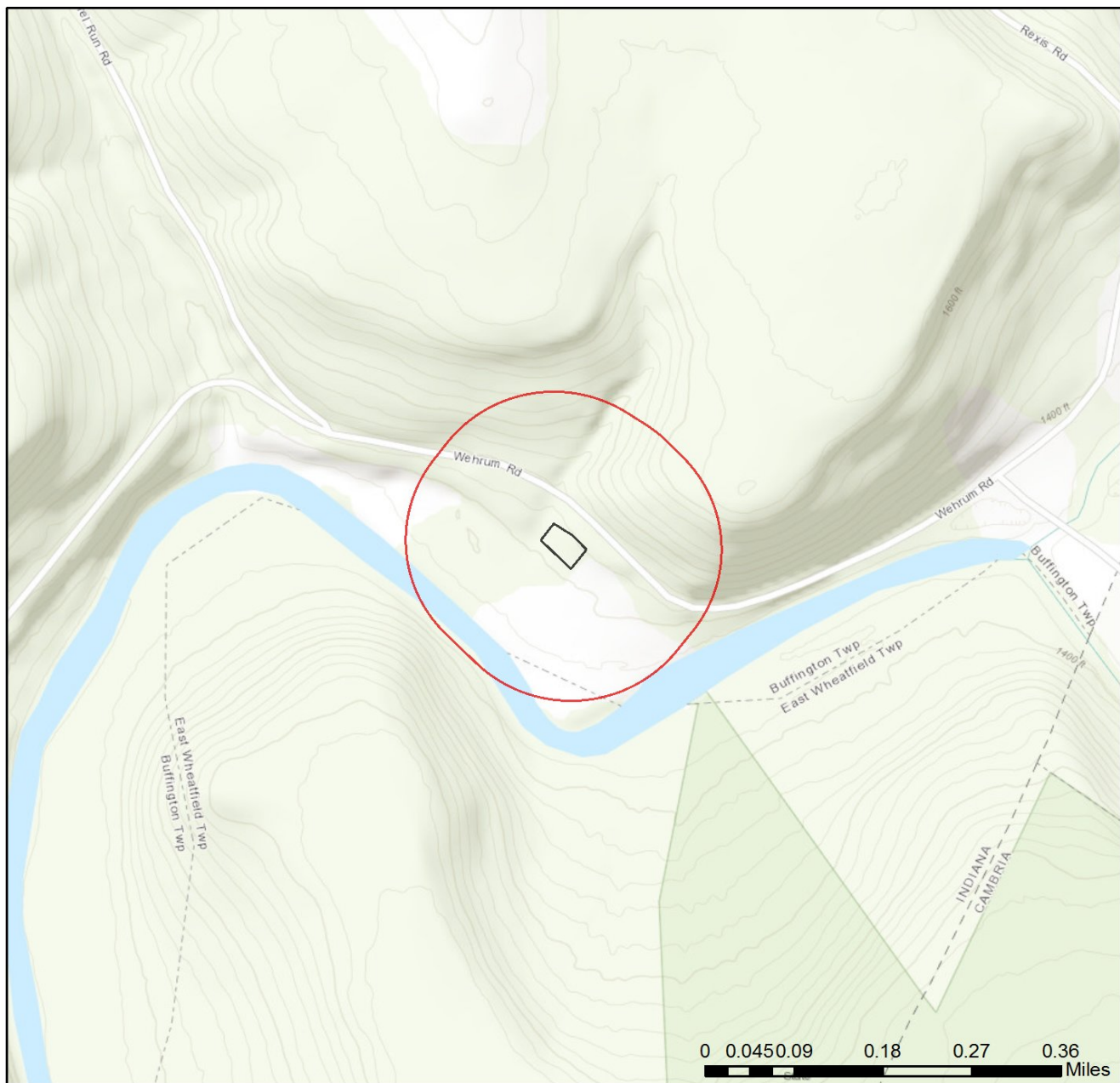
- ☐ Project Boundary
- ☐ Buffered Project Boundary

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

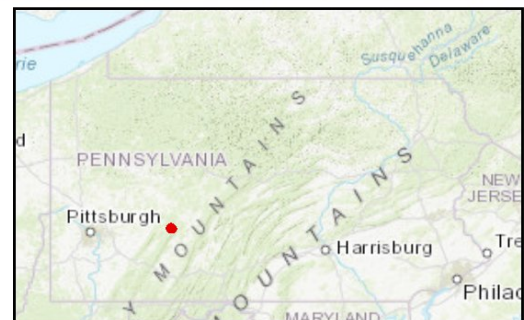




## Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority - Section 313



- ☐ Project Boundary
- ☐ Buffered Project Boundary



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community  
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS,

### 3. AGENCY COMMENTS

Regardless of whether a DEP permit is necessary for this proposed project, any potential impacts to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources must be resolved with the appropriate jurisdictional agency. In some cases, a permit or authorization from the jurisdictional agency may be needed if adverse impacts to these species and habitats cannot be avoided.

These agency determinations and responses are **valid for two years** (from the date of the review), and are based on the project information that was provided, including the exact project location; the project type, description, and features; and any responses to questions that were generated during this search. If any of the following change: 1) project location, 2) project size or configuration, 3) project type, or 4) responses to the questions that were asked during the online review, the results of this review are not valid, and the review must be searched again via the PNDI Environmental Review Tool and resubmitted to the jurisdictional agencies. The PNDI tool is a primary screening tool, and a desktop review may reveal more or fewer impacts than what is listed on this PNDI receipt. The jurisdictional agencies **strongly advise against** conducting surveys for the species listed on the receipt prior to consultation with the agencies.

#### PA Game Commission

##### RESPONSE:

No Impact is anticipated to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources.

#### PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

##### RESPONSE:

No Impact is anticipated to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources.

#### PA Fish and Boat Commission

##### RESPONSE:

No Impact is anticipated to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources.

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

##### RESPONSE:

No impacts to **federally** listed or proposed species are anticipated. Therefore, no further consultation/coordination under the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. is required. Because no take of federally listed species is anticipated, none is authorized. This response does not reflect potential Fish and Wildlife Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities.

### 4. DEP INFORMATION

The Pa Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires that a signed copy of this receipt, along with any required documentation from jurisdictional agencies concerning resolution of potential impacts, be submitted with applications for permits requiring PNDI review. Two review options are available to permit applicants for handling PNDI coordination in conjunction with DEP's permit review process involving either T&E Species or species of special concern. Under sequential review, the permit applicant performs a PNDI screening and completes all coordination with the appropriate jurisdictional agencies prior to submitting the permit application. The applicant will include with its application, both a PNDI receipt and/or a clearance letter from the jurisdictional agency if the PNDI Receipt shows a Potential Impact to a species or the applicant chooses to obtain letters directly from the jurisdictional agencies. Under concurrent review, DEP, where feasible, will allow technical review of the permit to occur concurrently with the T&E species consultation with the jurisdictional agency. The applicant must still supply a copy of the PNDI Receipt with its permit application. The PNDI Receipt should also be submitted to the appropriate agency according to directions on the PNDI Receipt. The applicant and the jurisdictional agency will work together to resolve the potential impact(s). See the DEP PNDI policy at <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/resources>.

## 5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The PNDI environmental review website is a preliminary screening tool. There are often delays in updating species status classifications. Because the proposed status represents the best available information regarding the conservation status of the species, state jurisdictional agency staff give the proposed statuses at least the same consideration as the current legal status. If surveys or further information reveal that a threatened and endangered and/or special concern species and resources exist in your project area, contact the appropriate jurisdictional agency/agencies immediately to identify and resolve any impacts.

For a list of species known to occur in the county where your project is located, please see the species lists by county found on the PA Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) home page ([www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us)). Also note that the PNDI Environmental Review Tool only contains information about species occurrences that have actually been reported to the PNHP.

## 6. AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

### PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section  
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552  
Email: [RA-HeritageReview@pa.gov](mailto:RA-HeritageReview@pa.gov)

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Pennsylvania Field Office  
Endangered Species Section  
110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101  
State College, PA 16801  
NO Faxes Please

### PA Fish and Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services  
595 E. Rolling Ridge Dr., Bellefonte, PA 16823  
Email: [RA-FBPACENOTIFY@pa.gov](mailto:RA-FBPACENOTIFY@pa.gov)

### PA Game Commission

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management  
Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection  
2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797  
Email: [RA-PGC\\_PNDI@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PGC_PNDI@pa.gov)  
NO Faxes Please

## 7. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Erin Stuart  
Company/Business Name: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Address: 1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 2200  
City, State, Zip: Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: Erin.Stuart@usace.army.mil

## 8. CERTIFICATION

I certify that ALL of the project information contained in this receipt (including project location, project size/configuration, project type, answers to questions) is true, accurate and complete. In addition, if the project type, location, size or configuration changes, or if the answers to any questions that were asked during this online review change, I agree to re-do the online environmental review.

Erin Stuart

applicant/project proponent signature

29 April 2019

date



# National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



## Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
OTHER FEATURES		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
MAP PANELS		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped



The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 5/3/2019 at 7:24:20 AM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

40°29'16.71"N



USGS The National Map: Orthoimagery. Data refreshed October, 2017.

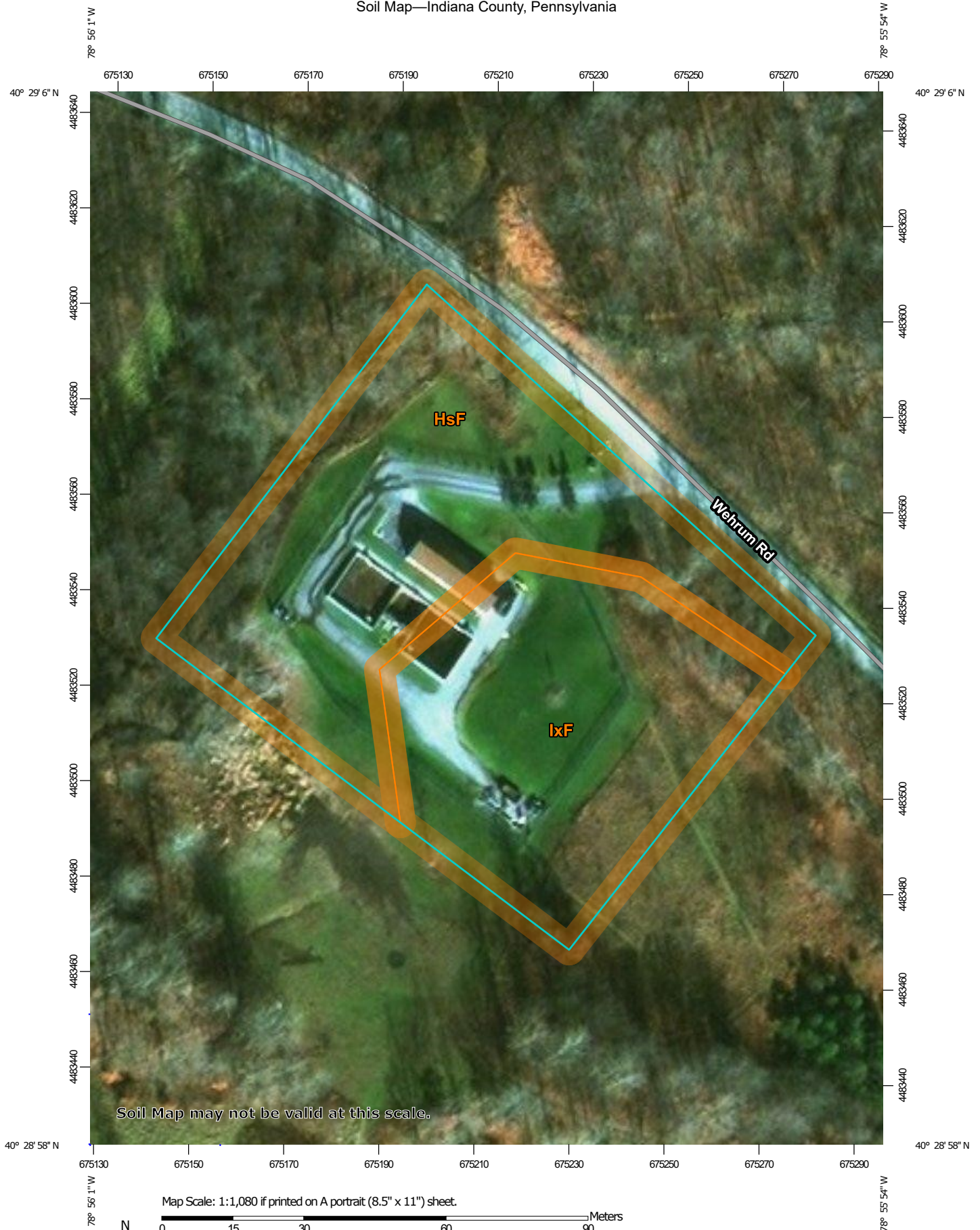
0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet 1:6,000

40°28'49.35"N

78°55'40.12"W




# Soil Map—Indiana County, Pennsylvania





## 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: Indiana County, Pennsylvania

Survey Area Data: Version 15, Sep 18, 2018

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

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Nov 6, 2010—Mar 8, 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
HsF	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, extremely stony	1.3	56.1%
IxF	Itmann extremely channery loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	1.1	43.9%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>2.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



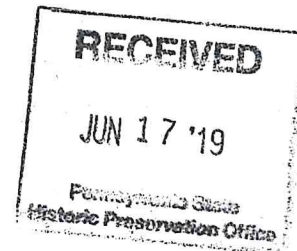


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
PITTSBURGH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD FEDERAL BUILDING  
1000 LIBERTY AVENUE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15222-4186

June 12, 2019

Environmental and Cultural Resources Section

Mr. Douglas McLearen  
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second Floor  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0093



Dear Mr. McLearen,

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (Corps) is evaluating a federal funding request for proposed upgrades to the Blacklick Valley Municipal Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Buffington Township, Indiana County, Pennsylvania. The project is being performed under the authority of Section 313 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, as amended, which provides design and construction assistance to non-federal interests in south central Pennsylvania for environmental infrastructure actions.

Proposed work includes construction of a new metal garage, a sludge system metal shelter, a disinfection metal shelter, and other miscellaneous improvements at the existing wastewater treatment facility. Earth disturbance totals 0.10 acre. A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted prior to the construction of the facility by Christine Davis Consultants (ER#98-0689-042-E). Work is also proposed at three existing pump stations; however this work consists entirely of electrical work within the existing pump station generator buildings and no earth disturbance is proposed. Enclosed are project plans, location maps, and other project information.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108), the Corps has reviewed the proposed project for effects to historic properties. The Corps has determined that there are no historic properties present and the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Stuart, at 412-395-7517, or by e-mail at [Erin.Stuart@usace.army.mil](mailto:Erin.Stuart@usace.army.mil).

ER No. 1998-0689-042-6

The project will have  
**NO EFFECT**  
on historic properties

Date 7/10/19 Reviewer Cathy Hannon

Sincerely,

Marc A. Glowczewski, P.E., PMP  
Chief, Planning and Environmental Branch

Enclosures

# **Appendix B**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**