

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Speedway Sanitary Force Main Installation Project
Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania
August 2016

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District (hereafter “District”), under the authority of 10 U.S.C Section 2668, is considering approval of an easement permitting Speedway LLC to install a 2-inch diameter sanitary sewer force main in a 4-inch conduit along S.R. 22 (William Penn Highway) via horizontal directional drilling to connect a proposed Speedway store to be located at 107 Operators Way in New Alexandria Borough with the existing municipal treatment plant in Derry Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. The length of the installation is approximately 3,161 linear feet, crossing federal lands administered by the District at Loyalhanna Lake and its Tributary No. 6 in two separate areas. Surface disturbance on federal land is limited to an 8,800-square-foot area to be cleared as a temporary construction storage easement.

The proposed Project will help support the need for sewage transportation/disposal and create infrastructure that could, in the future, provide opportunities for other businesses or residences in the eastern portion of Salem Township and west of Loyalhanna Lake to connect with the portion of the force main off of USACE-managed lands. It is anticipated that the Project will eliminate much of the discharge associated with septic systems in the vicinity of Loyalhanna Lake by providing a method of transporting, treating, and disposing of sewage.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the District completed an Environmental Assessment entitled *Speedway Sanitary Force Main Installation Project – Westmoreland County* and a Finding of No Significant Impact in October 2016. Coordination was made with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to meet the requirements of the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act and the Endangered Species Act. Coordination was also made with the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission under the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed action will not have any adverse impacts to any threatened or endangered species, or to cultural resources.

Three alternatives were considered during project formulation and presented in the Environmental Assessment, including the No Action. The Preferred Alternative proposes construction of a new force main line of approximately 3,161 linear feet to connect to the municipal treatment plant in Derry Township. Alternative B entails a westward extension of an existing sewer line; however, this proposal is less desirable because it requires an additional 6 miles of pipeline to connect to the next closest sewage treatment plant and would necessitate eight separate stream crossings, thereby causing adverse effects to undisturbed lands. The No-Action Alternative was determined unacceptable as it did not address the needs for sewage transportation and the elimination of discharges from nearby septic systems.

The proposed project would enhance the quality of life for residents in Derry Township, Salem Township, and New Alexandria Borough by alleviating health and safety risks posed by discharges of raw sewage into the area surface and ground waters. Potential impacts were addressed with regard to floodplains, vegetation, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality,

wetlands, endangered species, cultural resources, wild and scenic rivers, air quality, noise, socio-economic resources, prime and unique farmland, and transportation. Impacts from Speedway's incremental flow are expected to contribute to water quality impacts, consistent with New Alexandria Sewage Treatment Plant's NPDES permit.

After having carefully evaluated and balanced all beneficial and detrimental aspects of the proposed action, including all regulatory agency input, I have reasonable concluded that the installation of the sanitary force main would not constitute a major federal action significant affecting the quality of the human environment, as defined in the Council on Environmental Quality's current regulations implementing NEPA. Consequently, the preparation of an environmental impact statement for this action is not warranted. The public interest will be best served by the implementation of the proposed action. Further, the proposed work is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. This determination precedes the District's final decision on the proposed action. A copy of this FONSI will be placed at the Loyahanna Lake Project Office in Saltsburg, PA; the New Alexandria Public Library in New Alexandria, PA; and on the District's website:

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

Date

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District Engineer