Public Notice

1. **TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

2. **APPLICANT:** Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
   P.O. Box 67676
   Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17106-7676

3. **LOCATION:** The Project is located from the U.S. Route 22 Findlay Connector (previously PA Turnpike 579) interchange in Washington County (40.424141/-80.318590) to Interstate 79 in Cecil Township, Washington County near the Allegheny County/Washington County line between Bridgeville and Canonsburg, PA (40.319935/-80.146756). Specific waterbodies found within this location include; Little Raccoon Run, Robinson Run, Millers Run, Chartiers Creek and their unnamed tributaries, located in Robinson, McDonald, Mt. Pleasant and Cecil Townships in Washington County and North Fayette and South Fayette Townships in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Five full interchanges will be provided at: U.S. Route 22, Beech Hollow Road (S.R. 4010) and State Route 980 in Robinson Township, Washington County; State Route 50 in South Fayette Township, Allegheny County; Interstate 79 and Morganza Road (S.R. 1009) in Cecil Township, Washington County.

4. **PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The purpose of this project is to provide transportation mobility and safety improvements, encourage and serve economic development plans, and to improve mobility in the circumferential corridor south and west of the City of Pittsburgh. The identified needs for the Southern Beltway U.S. Route 22 to Interstate 79 project area are: there is poor circumferential mobility to adjacent job and planned growth areas; only two-lane roads, many of which do not meet current design criteria, are available for traveling in an east-west direction through the corridor; there is poor east-west mobility for auto, transit, and truck travel; the transportation network is inadequate to serve economic development plans; and, there are safety concerns because of the deficient roadway network. The project, addressed in the original permit application, which was made available for public review on December 31, 2004, is one of three independent Southern Beltway projects that comprise a 28-mile roadway system. The project’s environmental impact statement describes the full range of alternatives which have been considered for this project and summarizes the environmental impacts (natural, socioeconomic and cultural) associated with each of the alternatives studied in detail. The applicant proposes to construct approximately 13 miles of four-lane wide, divided, limited access, tolled expressway between U.S. Route 22 and Interstate 79.
The project was previously public noticed in 2007 under Public Notice # 05-07. Since this original public notice, a reverification of the project impacts has been executed. The overall Project, as of August 2016, expects to permanently impact and mitigate for an estimated 22,160.50 linear feet of perennial, 5,096.80 linear feet of intermittent, and 7,863 linear feet of ephemeral stream lengths. Additionally, this Project expects to impact 8.006 acre of wetlands.

**Mitigation of Stream Impacts**

The Buck Run Restoration Site Permittee-Responsible Mitigation site will be constructed prior to or concurrent with stream impacts associated with the construction of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission Southern Beltway U.S. 22 to I-79 project in order to mitigate for all stream loss.

**Mitigation of Wetland Impacts**

The Burgetts Fork Wetland Mitigation Replacement Site Permittee-Responsible Mitigation site, Section 55W, is designated to replace lost principal wetland functions and values exhibited by the impacted wetlands on the Project site.

Wetland mitigation will be conducted at a ratio of 1:1 acre for impacted emergent wetlands, 1.5:1 acres for scrub/shrub wetlands, and 2:1 acres for forested wetlands.

Plans of the proposed project are attached to this notice.

5. **ENCROACHMENT PERMIT:** The applicant must obtain a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

   *Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection*
   *Southwest Regional Office*
   *Waterways and Wetlands Section*
   *400 Waterfront Drive*
   *Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745*

   *Telephone: 412-442-4000*

6. **IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES:** The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, this Public Notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).
7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

9. EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. RESPONSES: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is
made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be
directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Matthew Gilbert at the above address, by telephoning
(412) 395-7189, or by e-mail at matthew.c.gilbert@usace.army.mil.
Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2001-132 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

/signed/

Scott A. Hans
Chief, Regulatory Branch
SOUTHERN BELTWAY
US-22 TO I-79 (S.R. 576)
CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

**55-A1**
Bid: November 27, 2013
Construction: Winter 2014 - Spring 2015

**55-A1**
Bid: 2nd Quarter, 2016
Construction: Summer 2016 - Summer 2017

**55-A2**
Bid: 3rd Quarter, 2017
Construction: Summer 2017 - Summer 2019

**55-B**
Bid: 3rd Quarter, 2016
Construction: Fall 2016 - Fall 2018

**55-C1**
Bid: 3rd Quarter, 2016
Construction: Summer 2017 - Summer 2019

**55-C2**
Bid: 3rd Quarter, 2017
Construction: Summer 2017 - Summer 2019

**55-W**
Bid: 4th Quarter, 2015
Construction: Winter 2016 - Fall 2016

**55-C2-1**
Bid: 4th Quarter, 2016
Construction: Summer 2017 - Summer 2019

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<tr>
<th>Design Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Final Designer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55-A1</td>
<td>3 mi of roadway improvements</td>
<td>US-22 to I-79 interchange</td>
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