Resource Report 3 - Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation Equitrans, L.P.
Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project

APPENDIX 3-A Agency Correspondence

Resource Report 3 - Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation Equitrans, L.P.
Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project **United States Fish and Wildlife Service** Pennsylvania Field Office



January 7, 2022 Project R210388.03

Attention: Project Review Request Pennsylvania Ecological Field Office United States Fish and Wildlife Service 110 Radnor Road, Suite 101 State College, Pennsylvania 16801-7987

Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act Coordination Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project, Equitrans, L.P. Greene County, Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) #743054

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) is seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act as amended, authorizing Equitrans to construct and operate the proposed Equitrans Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project (Project) in Greene County, Pennsylvania (PA); Wetzel County, West Virginia (WV); and Monroe County, Ohio (OH).

The purpose of the Project is to meet the needs of current and future customers to serve markets in a timely, cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally sensitive manner that minimizes incremental temporary and permanent impacts.

The scope of facilities is shown on the Project Overview Map (**Attachment 1**) and includes the following proposed pipeline, associated aboveground facilities, access roads, cathodic protection, staging areas, and contractor/laydown yards:

- Addition of two Taurus 70 turbines at the Cygrymus Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the horsepower (HP) increase in Greene County, PA.
- ▶ Addition of one Mars 100 compressor unit to support the existing Mars 100 compressor unit, at the extant Corona Compressor Station, with supplementary mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase in Wetzel County, WV.
- Addition of one Titan 130 to the two existing Taurus 70 compressor units at the Plasma Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase in Monroe County, OH.
- Approximately 0.5-mile of new 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-327) in Greene County, PA.
- Approximately 0.5-mile of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-328) in Greene County, PA
- Approximately 3.7 miles of new 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-326) in Wetzel County, WV.
- ► Approximately 129 feet (0.02 mile) of new eight-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-329) in Wetzel County, WV.
- Approximately 0.7-mile of new 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-330) in Wetzel County, WV.

- Approximately 0.09-mile of new 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-330 Spur) in Wetzel County, WV.
- Approximately 160 feet (0.03-mile) of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (Logansport Spur) in Wetzel County, WV.
- One new deep anode groundbed and rectifier for cathodic protection in Greene County, PA.
- Additional new ancillary facilities, such as a valve yard, taps, and internal inspection device (pig) launchers and receivers in Greene County, PA.
- Additional new ancillary facilities, such as mainline valves, valve yards, measuring equipment, and internal inspection device (pig) launchers and receivers in Wetzel County, WV.
- Use of new and existing temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas, and contractor yards in Greene County, PA and Wetzel County, WV.
- Use of existing permanent access road in Monroe County, OH.

## **PA Project Components**

GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) is performing environmental services for Equitrans, regarding the Project in Greene County, PA (**Project Location Map – Attachment 2**). Project components in Greene County, PA, will include:

- Addition of two Taurus 70 turbines at the Cygrymus Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the horsepower (HP).
- Approximately 0.5 mile of new 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-327).
- ▶ Approximately 0.5 mile of new 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-328).
- One new deep anode groundbed and rectifier for cathodic protection.
- Additional new ancillary facilities, such as a valve yard, taps, and internal inspection device (pig) launchers and receivers.
- New and use of existing temporary and permanent access roads, staging areas, and contractor yards.

#### **Previous Agency Consultation**

GAI uploaded electronic shapefiles of the Project locations in PA as part of the PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review on September 29, 2021, (PNDI #743054). The Project components in PA are within the Rough Creek [Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) #050200050306], Hargus Creek (HUC #050200050301), PA Fork Fish Creek (HUC #050301061101), and PA Fork Dunkard Creek (HUC #050200050103) watersheds. GAI requested technical assistance from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) PA Ecological Field Office regarding Endangered Species Act compliance for Project components in PA on October 21, 2021. As you are aware, GAI and the PA Ecological Field Office of the USFWS are actively coordinating with regards to the PNDI correspondence.

# Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) Coordination

GAI, on behalf of Equitrans, would like to provide your office with the Project's proposed strategies to avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds and Bald and Golden Eagles in accordance with the MBTA (16 U.S.C. 703-712; Ch. 128; July 13, 1918; 40 Stat. 755, as amended) and the BGEPA of 1940 (16 U.S.C. 668-668d, 54 Stat. 250, as amended).

The Project is within the Appalachian Mountains Bird Conservation Region 28 (BCR 28). BCR 28 consists of rugged terrain dominated by deciduous forest types at lower elevations and combinations of pine, hemlock, spruce, and fir at higher elevations. While flatter portions are in agricultural use, most of the region is forested. The vegetation communities in the Project area are utilized by a variety of migratory and non-migratory bird species.

Bird species likely to inhabit the Project area include the American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*), Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*), Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*), American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), and Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*).

Priority forest birds include Cerulean Warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*), Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*), Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*), and Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*). Based on review of the PA Bald Eagle Nesting Locations online mapping tool, no eagle nests have been observed within the PA section of the Project.

#### **MTBA and GBEPA Protection Measures**

Equitrans will implement the following minimization and mitigation measures to minimize impacts to migratory birds during construction and operation of the Project:

- ▶ Where practicable, the Project will utilize existing access roads and contractor yards or locate access roads and contractor yards within previously cleared or disturbed areas.
- ▶ The Project will co-locate the proposed pipeline with existing infrastructure where feasible.
- ▶ In accordance with FERC regulations, Equitrans will not conduct vegetation maintenance over the full width of the permanent right of way (ROW) in wetlands or at waterbodies. A riparian strip at least 25 feet wide, measured from a waterbody's mean high watermark, will be allowed to revegetate with native plant species and will not be maintained.
- ► The width of the permanent, maintained ROW will be minimized to 50 feet with restrictions imposed by FERC.
- ► To facilitate periodic pipeline corrosion/leak surveys in wetlands or at waterbodies, a corridor centered on the pipeline up to 10 feet wide will be maintained in an herbaceous state.
- ► To prevent damage to the pipeline, trees within 15 feet of the pipeline which are greater than 15 feet in height will be selectively cut and removed for the entire length of the permanent ROW.
- No herbicides or pesticides will be used within 100 feet of a wetland or waterbody except as allowed by the applicable land management or state agency.
- ► The frequency of the vegetation maintenance for the entire length of the ROW will not exceed once every three years except for a 10-foot-wide corridor directly over the centerline, which would be maintained annually as needed.
- ► Routine vegetation mowing, and clearing will not take place between April 15 to August 1 of any year, thus avoiding the breeding and nesting season for migratory birds.
- Project construction will adhere to Project-specific erosion and sediment control plans.

No Bald or Golden Eagle nests had been identified during Project field review. If eagles are encountered, the Project will adhere to the general migratory bird avoidance measures outlined above, and USFWS avoidance measures specific to eagles. To prevent "take" under the BGEPA, if eagle nests are discovered during Project activities, Equitrans will coordinate with the USFWS to implement and maintain compliance with the BGEPA.

Equitrans anticipates approximately 48.06 acres of tree clearing for the Project, of which 7.22 acres would occur at PA Project areas. To avoid and minimize impacts to migratory birds because of the Project, Equitrans will implement the clearing of natural habitats (e.g., forests, woodlots) between November 15 to March 31, and semi-natural habitats (e.g., reverting fields, fencerows, shrubby areas) to be conducted between September 1 and March 31. Upon completion of construction, disturbance areas will be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated.

### Conclusion

Equitrans is requesting your comments regarding the Project's proposed avoidance and minimization measures related to the MBTA and BGEPA. Similar letters have been sent to the WV and OH Field Offices of the USFWS.

GAI and Equitrans thank you in advance for your assistance. If you have questions or require further information, contact me at 412.399.5317 or via email at j.broush@gaiconsultants.com.

Sincerely,

**GAI Consultants, Inc.** 

Jennifer Broush

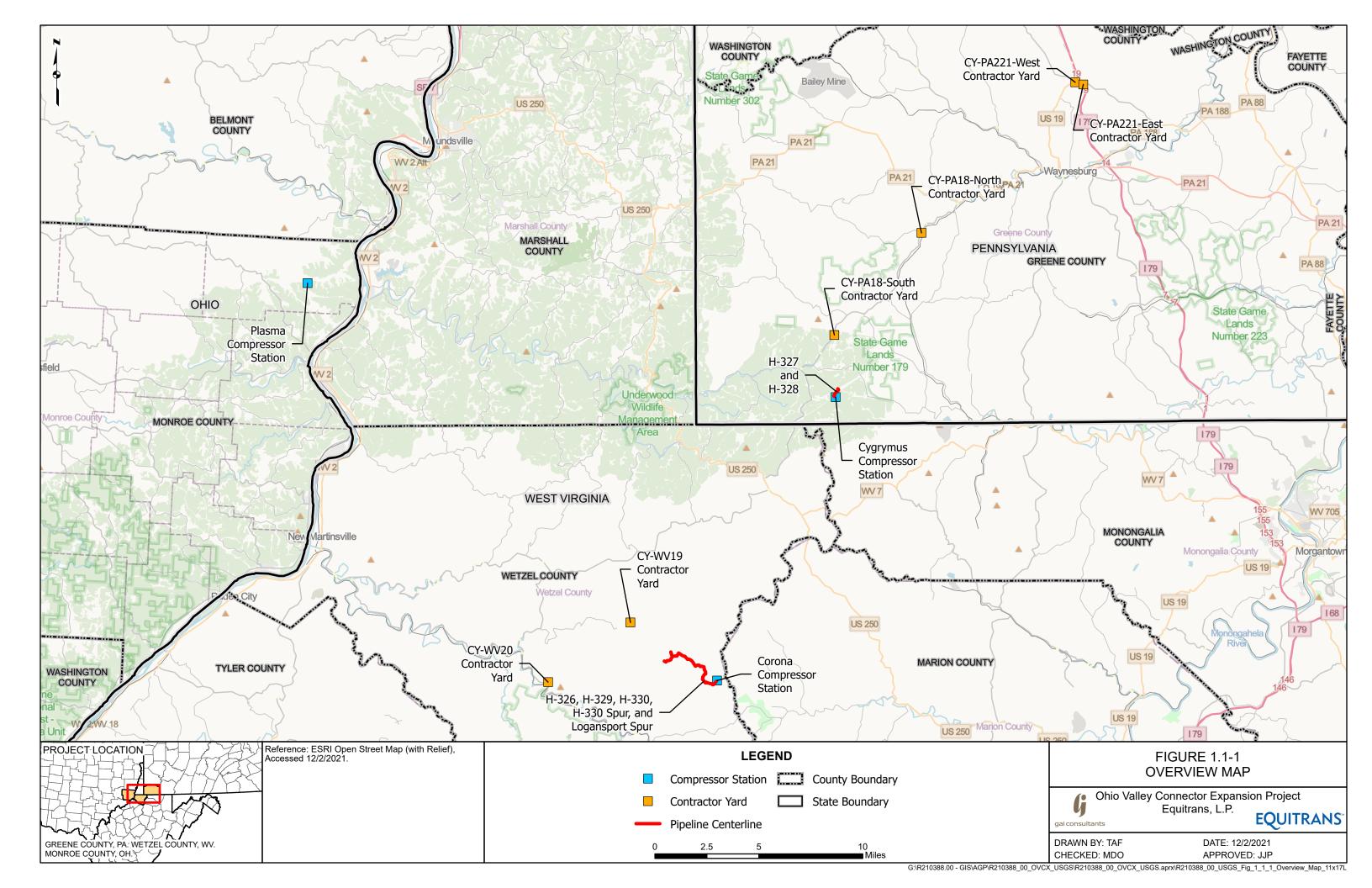
Jennifer C. Broush, MBA Associate/ Director, Environmental and Energy Services

JCB/mms

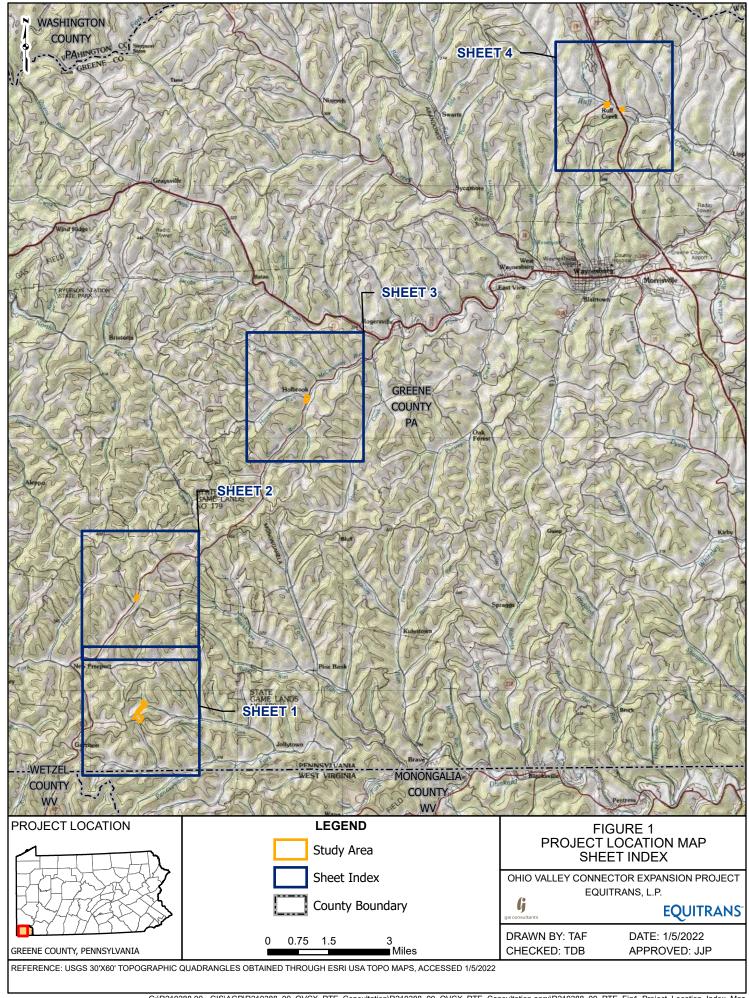
Attachment: Attachment 1 (Project Overview Map)

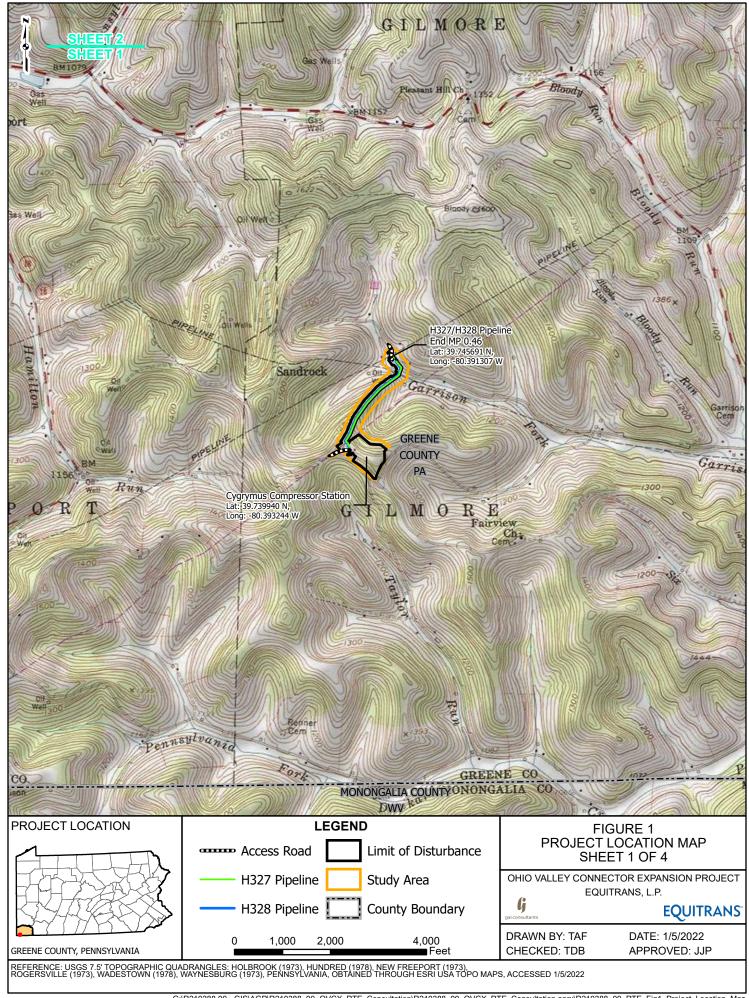
Attachment 2 (Project Location Map)

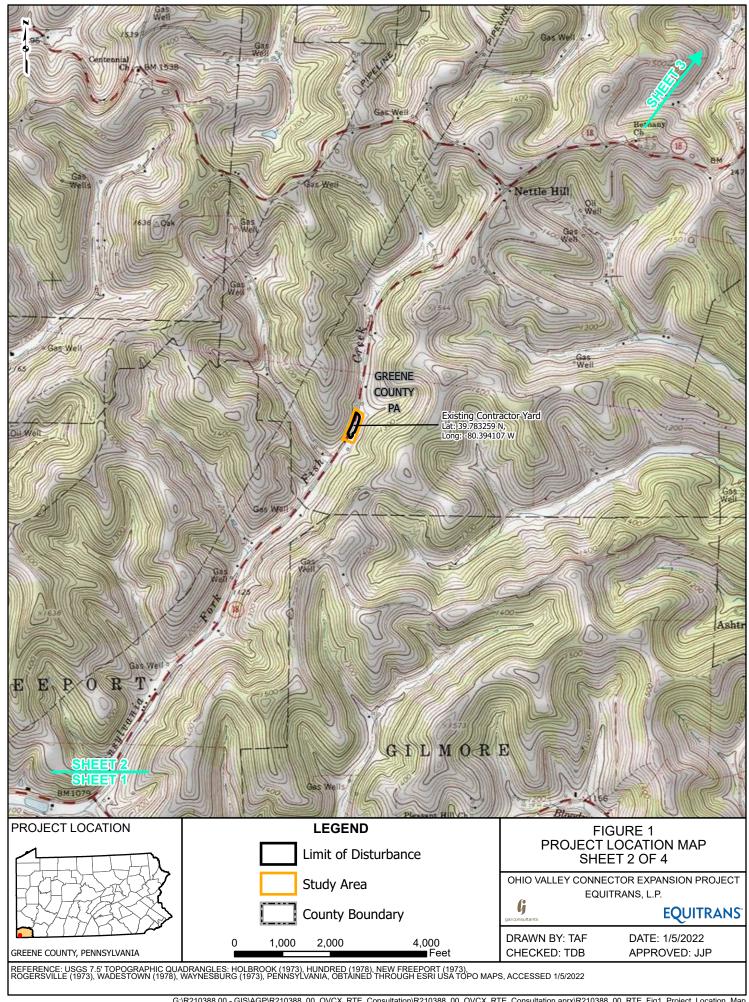
# ATTACHMENT 1 PROJECT OVERVIEW MAP

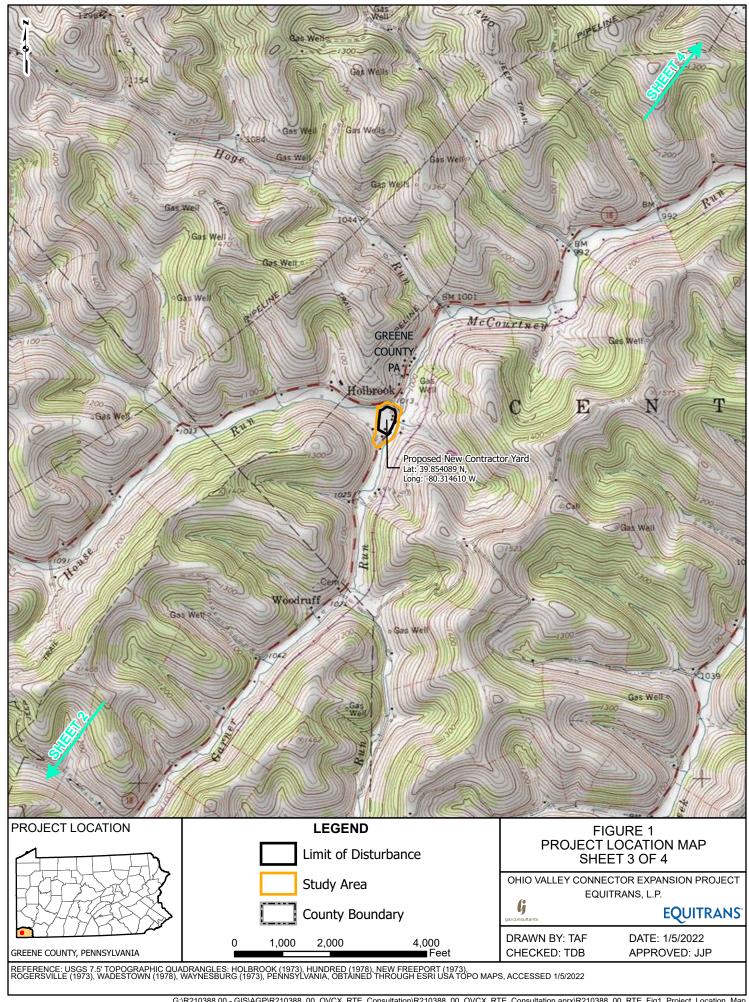


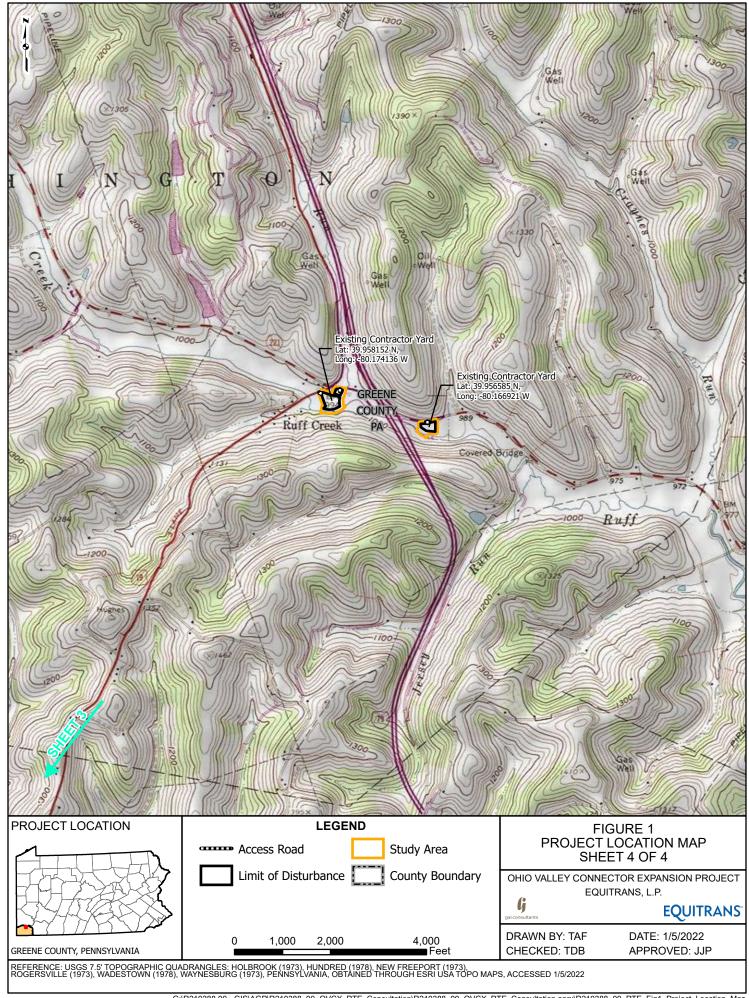
# ATTACHMENT 2 PROJECT LOCATION MAP











From: Hunter Lieb

Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 5:09 PM

**To:** 'Shellenberger, Pamela'

Cc: Jason Palonis; Angela Lundy; Jennifer Broush

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Consultation Status Inquiry - PNDI 743054

Hello again Ms. Shellenberger,

Thank you for your response. Equitrans plans to commit to tree removal in Pennsylvania between November 15<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> for facilities associated with the OVCX Project.

At this time, we would like to know if your office has additional concerns with regard to other federally-listed species in the project area?

Furthermore, we would like to provide your office a coordination request letter in acknowledgement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Would it be acceptable to provide this document via email to avoid delays during these challenging times?

Thank you,

#### W. Hunter Lieb

**D** 412.399.5127 **M** 724.263.7345



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From: Shellenberger, Pamela <pamela shellenberger@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 11:53 AM **To:** Hunter Lieb < H.Lieb@gaiconsultants.com >

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Consultation Status Inquiry - PNDI 743054

## **EXERCISE CAUTION: This is an External Email Message!**

\*\*Think before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding\*\*

Hi Hunter,

I hope you have a good holiday. I am looking at this project now. Your commitment to tree removal between October 1 and March is too broad. Since this is not located within a known maternity area in PA, bats could be swarming nearby in unknown hibernacula between October 1 and November 15. Are you able to commit to only removing trees between November 15 and March 31 in PA?

Thank you,

From: Shellenberger, Pamela <pamela\_shellenberger@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 11:53 AM

To: Hunter Lieb

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Consultation Status Inquiry - PNDI 743054

### **EXERCISE CAUTION: This is an External Email Message!**

\*\*Think before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding\*\*

Hi Hunter,

I hope you have a good holiday. I am looking at this project now. Your commitment to tree removal between October 1 and March is too broad. Since this is not located within a known maternity area in PA, bats could be swarming nearby in unknown hibernacula between October 1 and November 15. Are you able to commit to only removing trees between November 15 and March 31 in PA?

Thank you,	

\_\_\_\_\_

Pamela Shellenberger (she/her)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pennsylvania Field Office
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101
State College, PA 16801
814-234-4090 x7459

http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/

Working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

Note: I am currently teleworking. Email is the best way to contact me. Thank you!

From: Hunter Lieb < <a href="mailto:H.Lieb@gaiconsultants.com">H.Lieb@gaiconsultants.com</a> Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 1:27 PM

**To:** Shellenberger, Pamela pamela shellenberger@fws.gov> **Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Consultation Status Inquiry - PNDI 743054

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello Ms. Shellenberger,

I am reaching out on behalf of GAI Consultants and Equitrans, LP to ask for an update on the status of a project consultation request that we submitted concerning the Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project. The project was reviewed in the PNDI on October 20, 2021, and we sent a letter including the requisite materials to your office on October 21<sup>st</sup>. The PNDI receipt number is 743054. We would like to know what the review status of this submission is, and when we may reasonably expect a response from the USFWS.

I also left a voicemail on your office phone. Please feel free to respond by either phone or email.

Thank you for your time,

#### W. Hunter Lieb

**Environmental Specialist** 

**GAI Consultants**, 6000 Town Center Blvd., Suite 300, Canonsburg, PA 15317 **T** 724.873.3545 **D** 412.399.5127 **M** 724.263.7345

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Southpointe Office 6000 Town Center Blvd Suite 300 Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317

October 21, 2021 Project R210388.03

Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office United States Fish and Wildlife Service 110 Radnor Road, Suite 101 State College, Pennsylvania 16801-7987

PNDI Receipt #743054 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Consultation Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project, Equitrans, L.P. Greene County, Pennsylvania

### To Whom It May Concern:

Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) is seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act as amended, authorizing Equitrans to construct and operate the proposed Ohio Valley Connector Expansion Project (OVCX) located in Greene County, Pennsylvania (PA), Wetzel County, West Virginia (WV), and Monroe County, Ohio (OH).

The purpose of OVCX is to supply an increased volume of natural gas to the Ohio Valley Connector market through which gas is transported to expanding mid-continent and Gulf Coast markets.

The scope of facilities is shown on the Project Overview Map (**Attachment A**) and currently include the following proposed pipeline, associated aboveground facilities, access roads, cathodic protection, staging areas, and contractor/laydown yards:

- Approximately 0.5 mile of 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-327) in Greene County, PA;
- Approximately 0.5 mile of 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-328) in Greene County, PA;
- Approximately 3.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-326) in Wetzel County, WV;
- Approximately 0.02 mile of 8-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-329) in Wetzel County, WV;
- Approximately 0.8 mile of 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-330) in Wetzel County, WV;
- Approximately 0.03 mile of 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (Logansport Spur) in Wetzel County, WV located within existing gravel and fenced facility area;
- Removal of the existing 3606 compressor and addition of two T-70 turbines at the existing Cygrymus
  Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase in
  Greene County, PA;
- One additional M-100 compressor unit at the existing Corona Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase in Wetzel County, WV;
- One additional Titan T130 compressor unit at the existing Plasma Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase in Monroe County, OH;
- One deep well anode groundbed and rectifier for cathodic protection (located within the pipeline easement) in Greene County, PA;
- Additional ancillary facilities, such as a valve yard, taps, and internal inspection device (e.g., pig) launchers
  and receivers in Greene County, PA;
- Additional ancillary facilities, such as mainline valves (MLVs), valve yards, interconnects, measuring equipment, and internal inspection device (e.g., pig) launchers and receivers in Wetzel County, WV; and,
- New and existing temporary and permanent access roads, staging/ parking areas, and contractor yards in Greene County, PA and Wetzel County, WV.

#### **PA Project Components**

GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) is performing environmental services for Equitrans, regarding OVCX located in Greene County, Pennsylvania (**Project Location Map - Attachment B**). In PA, OVCX will include:

- Approximately 0.5 mile of paralleling 16-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-327) and 12-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline (H-328);
- Removal of the existing 3606 compressor and addition of two T-70 turbines at the existing Cygrymus Compressor Station with additional mechanical and electrical equipment to support the HP increase;
- One deep well anode groundbed and rectifier for cathodic protection (located within the pipeline easement);
- Additional ancillary facilities, such as a valve yard, taps, and internal inspection device (e.g., pig) launchers
  and receivers; and,
- New and existing temporary and permanent access roads, staging areas, and contractor yards.

GAI uploaded electronic shapefiles of the OVCX locations as part of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) review on September 29, 2021. The OVCX sites are located within the Rough Creek [Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) #050200050306], Hargus Creek (HUC #050200050301), Pennsylvania Fork Fish Creek (HUC #050301061101), and Pennsylvania Fork Dunkard Creek (HUC #050200050103) watersheds.

Results of the certified PNDI Receipt #743054 (**Attachment C**) indicated that the project was considered a "Large Project" and that further review was required from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) due the distance being greater than 10 miles from the proposed pipelines to the contractor yards.

#### **Tree Clearing**

OVCX anticipates approximately 48.06 acres of tree clearing for the total project, of which 7.22 acres of tree clearing would occur in PA project areas. OCVX will implement tree clearing from October 1 to March 31. Disturbance areas will be restored to pre-construction contours and revegetated upon completion of construction.

#### **Contractor Yards**

Four contractor yards will be utilized for OVCX in PA, of which three of the yards are existing, graveled contractor yards. The fourth yard is abandoned residential land that consists of grass species (lawn) and landscape trees. Topsoil within the new contractor yard will be segregated and stockpiled, and geotextile fabric covered with gravel will be installed. Upon completion of construction, the new contractor yard will be returned to pre-construction contours and revegetated.

#### Conclusion

Equitrans is requesting information and determinations (where applicable) on federally-listed species that may be affected by OVCX within PA, as shown on the Project Location Map (Attachment B). Similar letters have been sent to the USFWS OH and WV Field Offices as well.

GAI and Equitrans thank you in advance for your assistance. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me at 412.399.5317 or via email at j.broush@gaiconsultants.com.

Sincerely,

#### GAI Consultants, Inc.

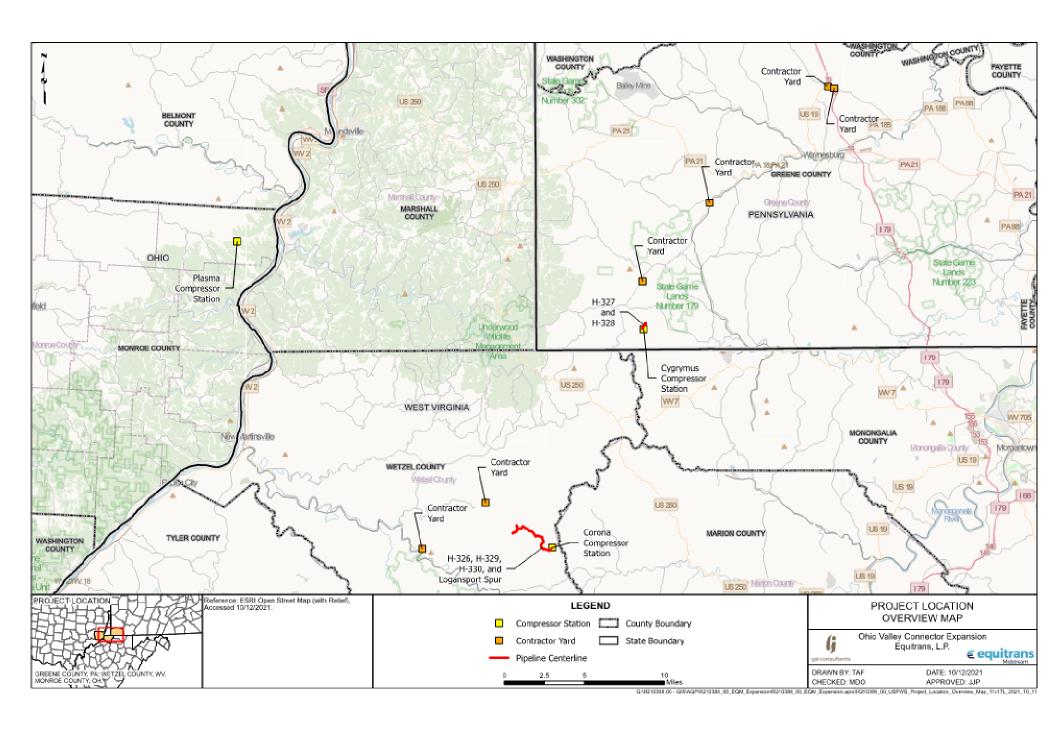
Jennifer Broush Digitally signed by Jennifer Broush
DN: cn=Jennifer Broush, o=GAI
Consultants, Inc., ou,
email=j.broush@gaiconsultants.com,
c=US
Date: 2021.10.21 08:36:33 -04'00'

Jennifer C. Broush, MBA

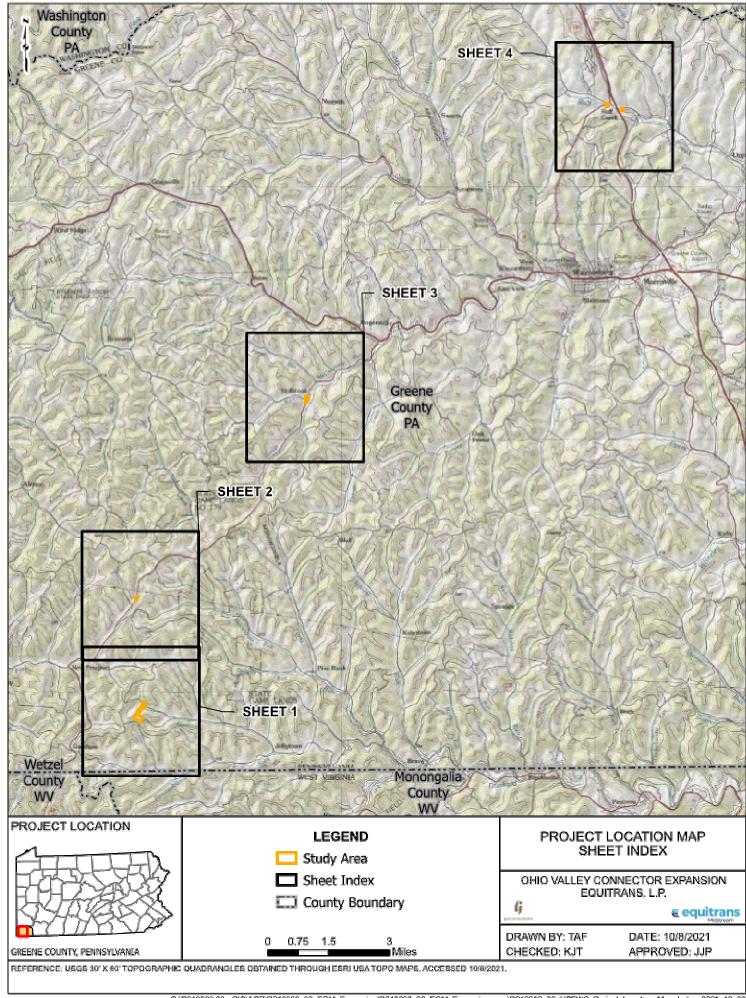
Associate / Director, Environmental and Energy Services

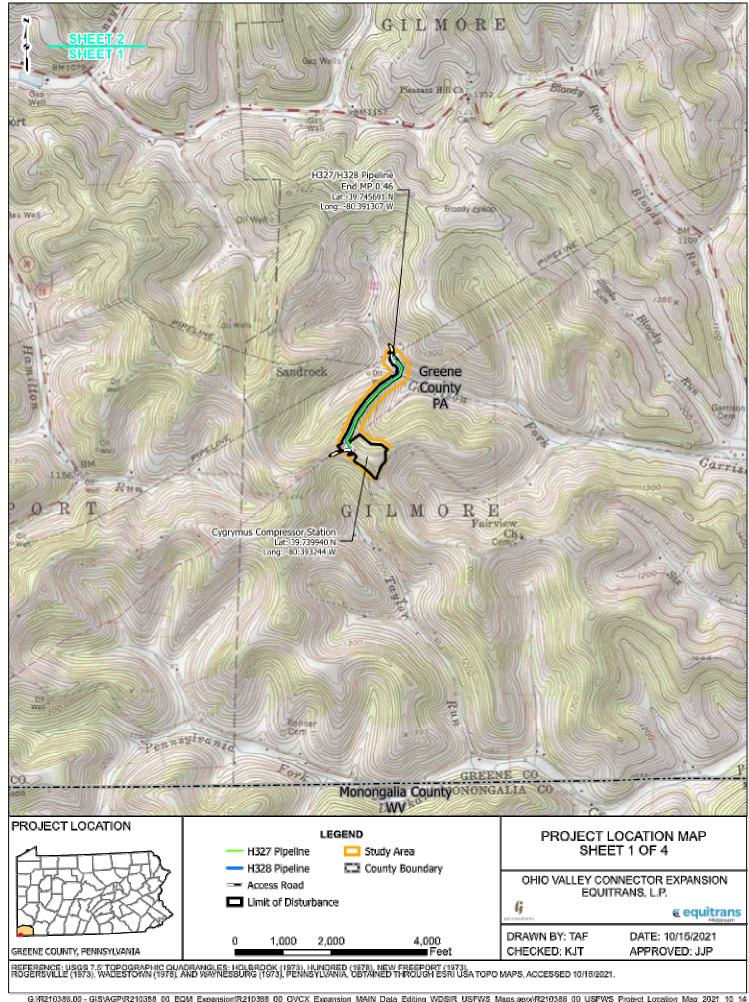
Attachments: Attachment A (Project Overview Map), Attachment B (Project Location Map), Attachment C (Certified PNDI Review Receipt)

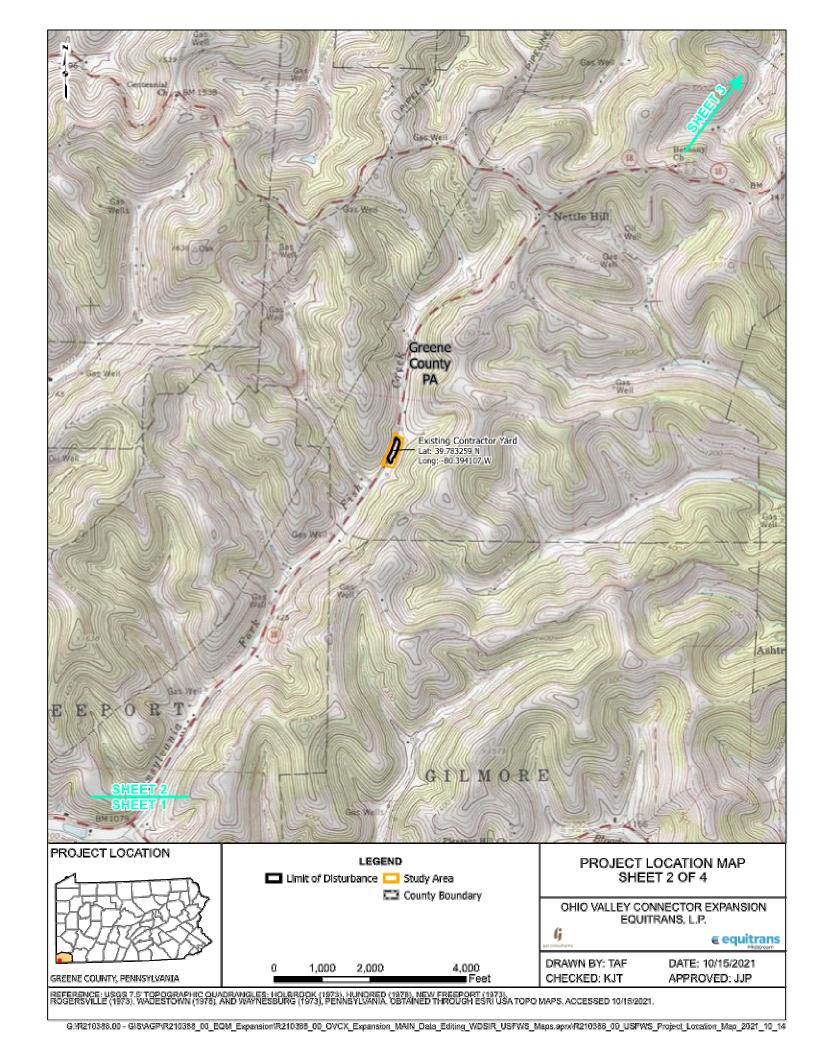
# ATTACHMENT A PROJECT OVERVIEW MAP

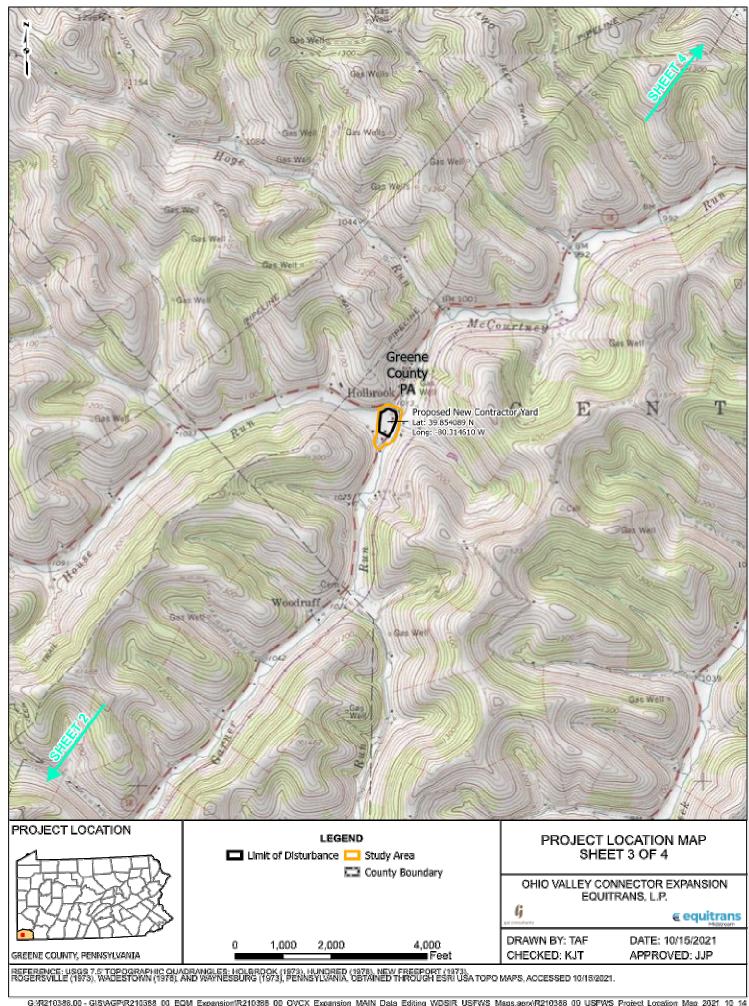


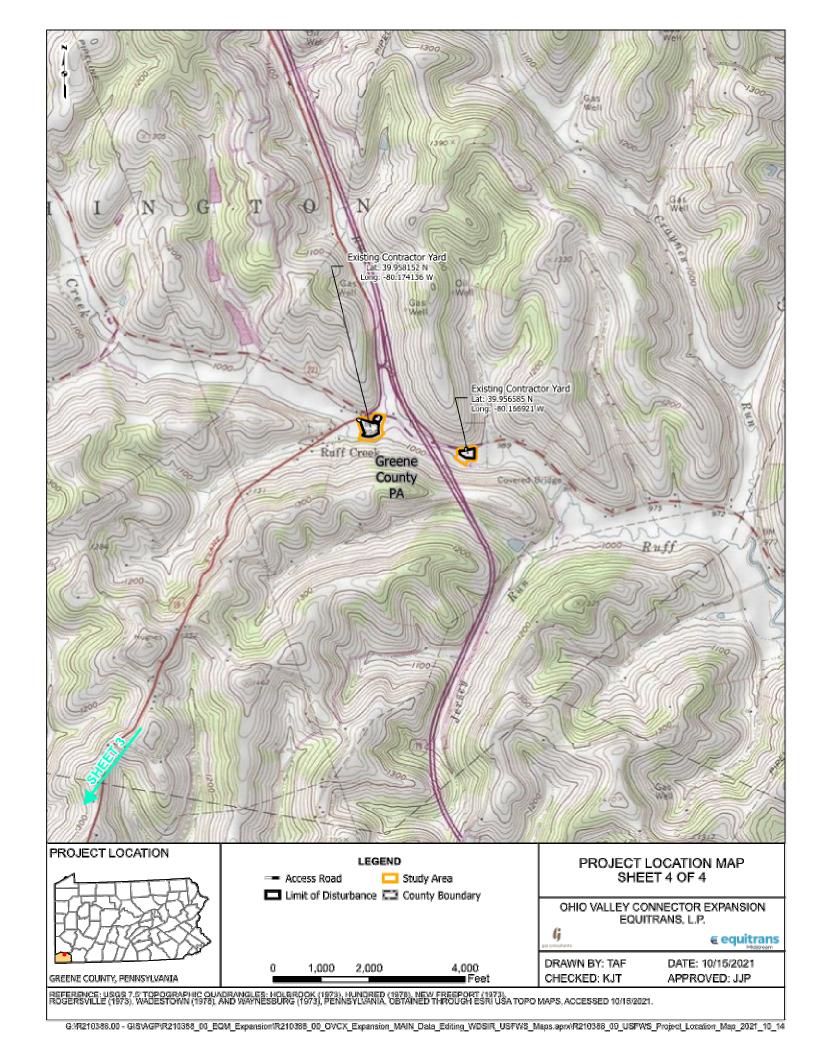
# ATTACHMENT B PROJECT LOCATION MAP











# ATTACHMENT C CERTIFIED PNDI REVIEW RECEIPT

## 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: Ohio Valley Connector Expansion

Date of Review: 10/20/2021 03:47:40 PM

Project Category: Energy Storage, Production, and Transfer, Energy Transfer, Pipeline (e.g., gas, oil) -- NEW

(construction of new line in a new location)

Project Area: 48.87 acres

County(s): Greene

Watersheds HUC 8: Lower Monongahela; Upper Ohio-Wheeling

Watersheds HUC 12: Harqus Creek; Pennsylvania Fork Fish Creek; Pennsylvania Fork-Dunkard Creek; Ruff

Creek

Decimal Degrees: 39.741052, -80.394585

Degrees Minutes Seconds: 39° 44' 27.7879" N, 80° 23' 40.5045" W

# 2. SEARCH RESULTS - LARGE PROJECT

Agency	Results	Response
PA Game Commission	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response

Large Project. The project area is greater than 10 miles and/or 5,165 acres and therefore is categorized as a Large Project, and is not analyzed by the PNDI tool. Coordination is therefore required with the four jurisdictional agencies to determine if potential impacts to threatened and endangered and/or special concern species and resources within the project area. Please see the DEP Information section of the receipt if a PA Department of Environmental Protection Permit is required.

Project Search ID: PNDI-743054

## Project Search ID: PNDI-743054 **LARGE PROJECT**

# Ohio Valley Connector Expansion



Project Boundary

**Buffered Project Boundary** 

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China

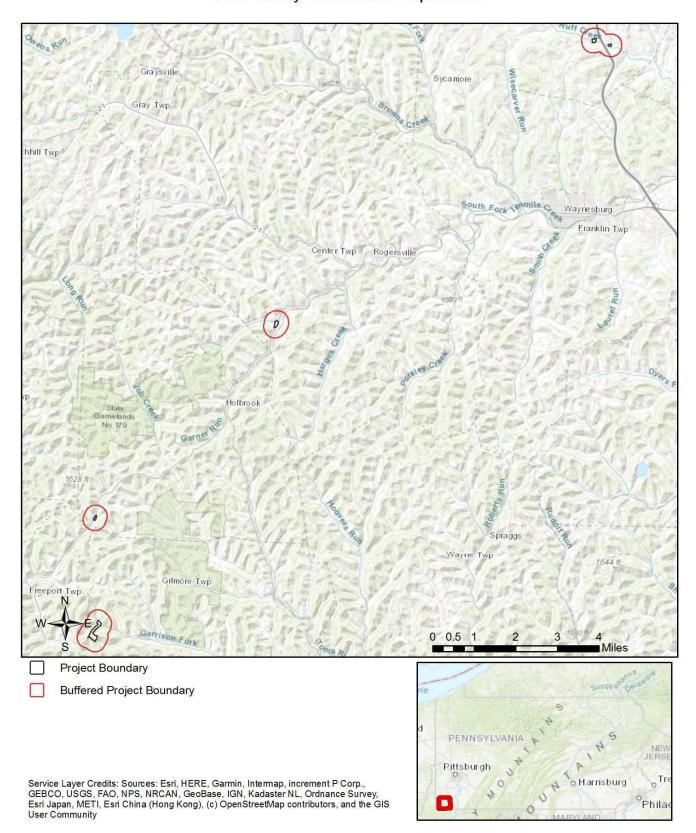
Phila

o Harrisburg

PENNSYLVANI

Pittsburgh

# Ohio Valley Connector Expansion



Project Search ID: PNDI-743054

# 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:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

# PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources RESPONSE:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

# PA Fish and Boat Commission RESPONSE:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service RESPONSE:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

Project Search ID: PNDI-743054

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources PNDI Receipt: project\_receipt\_ohio\_valley\_connector\_exp\_743054\_FINAL\_1.pdf

# WHAT TO SEND TO JURISDICTIONAL AGENCIES

If project information was requested by one or more of the agencies above, upload\* or email the following information to the agency(s) (see AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION). Instructions for uploading project materials can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. This option provides the applicant with the convenience of sending project materials to a single location accessible to all three state agencies (but not USFWS).

\*If information was requested by USFWS, applicants must email, or mail, project information to <a href="mailto:IR1\_ESPenn@fws.gov">IR1\_ESPenn@fws.gov</a> to initiate a review. USFWS will not accept uploaded project materials.

#### **Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:**

onour not or immunant materials to be cubinition.
Project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristic
of the site and acreage to be impacted.
A map with the project boundary and/or a basic site plan(particularly showing the relationship of the project to the
physical features such as wetlands, streams, ponds, rock outcrops, etc.)
In addition to the materials listed above, USFWS REQUIRES the following
SIGNED copy of a Final Project Environmental Review Receipt
The inclusion of the following information may expedite the review process.
Color photos keyed to the basic site plan (i.e. showing on the site plan where and in what direction each photo
was taken and the date of the photos)

Information about the presence and location of wetlands in the project area, and how this was determined (e.g., by a qualified wetlands biologist), if wetlands are present in the project area, provide project plans showing the location of all project features, as well as wetlands and streams.

## 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 <a href="https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/resources">https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/resources</a>.

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# 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 (<a href="www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us">www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us</a>). 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

#### **PA Fish and Boat Commission**

Division of Environmental Services 595 E. Rolling Ridge Dr., Bellefonte, PA 16823

Email: RA-FBPACENOTIFY@pa.gov

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Pennsylvania Field Office Endangered Species Section 110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101 State College, PA 16801 Email: IR1\_ESPenn@fws.gov

**NO Faxes Please** 

#### **PA Game Commission**

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection

2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797

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LARGE PROJECT

Email: RA-PGC PNDI@pa.gov

**NO Faxes Please** 

# 7. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

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Company/Business Name: GAI Consultants	
Address: 6000 Town Center Blvd, Suite 300	
City, State, Zip: Canonsburg, PA 15317	-211
Phone:( 412 ) 399-5127	$\mathcal{M}$
Email: h.lieb@gaiconsultants.com	

# 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.

William Hunter Lieb No. E-H-Lieb@galconsultants.com. CN-William Hunter Lieb No. E-H-Lieb@galconsultants.com. CN-William Hunter Lieb Date: 2021.10.20 16.32:34-04'00'	
applicant/project proponent signature	date