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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Game Commission

2001 ELMERTON AVENUE HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9797

"To manage all wild birds, mammals and their habitats for current and future generations."

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June 8, 2016 **PGC ID Number: 201312180001 (Update)**

Preston Smith
Tetra Tech
661 Anderson Drive, Foster Plaza
Pittsburgh, Pa 15220
preston.smith@tetratech.com

Re: Sunoco Pipeline, LP – Pennsylvania Pipeline Project (*Update*)
State Game Lands Nos. 46, 52, 71, 118, 147, 198, and 276
Large Project PNDI Review
Washington, Westmoreland, Indiana, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Perry, Cumberland, Lebanon, Lancaster, Berks, and Chester Counties, PA

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you for submitting your Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Large Project Environmental Review request. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources of concern under PGC responsibility, which includes birds and mammals only. This is an update to the PNDI letter that was issued on August 18, 2015 based on the additional information provided to the PGC.

Potential Impact Anticipated

PNDI records indicate species or resources of concern are located in the vicinity of the project. The PGC has received and thoroughly reviewed the information that you provided to this office as well as PNDI data, and has determined that potential impacts to threatened, endangered, and species of special concern may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures are necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
Myotis sodalis	Indiana Bat	ENDANGERED	ENDANGERED
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED
Myotis leibii	Eastern Small-footed Bat	THREATENED	NA
Neotoma magister	Allegheny Woodrat	THREATENED	NA
Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	THREATENED	NA
Lasionycteris noctivagans	Silver-haired Bat	SPECIAL CONCERN	NA

Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat

Indiana and Northern long-eared bats are a federally listed species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, our agency defers comments on potential impacts to Indiana and Northern long-eared bats to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Eastern Small-footed Bat

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential eastern small-footed bat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC requested eastern small-footed bat habitat surveys be completed within these areas. Eastern small-footed bat habitat surveys were conducted in 2014 and 2015 to identify and delineate suitable roosting habitat. Rocky areas deemed suitable as eastern small-footed bat day roosts were identified within the project area. Mitigation for impacts to these rocky areas will consist of the construction and monitoring of 20 replacement roost structures following the details described in the approved mitigation plan.

Allegheny Woodrat

The PGC has identified portions of the proposed project where potential Allegheny woodrat habitat may exist, and could be impacted by the proposed project. The PGC requested Allegheny woodrat habitat surveys be completed within these areas. Allegheny woodrat habitat surveys were conducted in 2014 and 2015 to identify and delineate suitable woodrat habitat. Two areas surveyed contained suitable habitat with evidence of woodrat presence within the vicinity of the project area. Mitigation for impacts to these areas will consist of revegetation plantings, replacement travel corridors, and replacement rock structures following the details described in the approved mitigation plan.

Northern Harrier

In its March 14, 2014 response letter, the PGC requested a seasonal restriction in select areas to protect nesting northern harriers that have been documented in the vicinity of the proposed project. A habitat survey was conducted in 2014 which revealed the current land conditions at the areas in question are not suitable northern harrier habitat. Based on this information impacts to northern harriers is not likely. Therefore, no further coordination with the PGC is necessary for this species at this time.

Silver-haired Bats

Silver-haired bats are species of special concern, and therefore, not target species for additional surveys. However, because of their ecological significance, the PGC recommends that to the greatest extent practicable, all trees or dead snags greater than 5 inches in diameter at breast height that need to be harvested to facilitate the project (including any access roads or off-ROW work spaces) should be cut between November 1st and March 31st.

Potential Bat Hibernacula

In its March 14, 2014 response letter, the PGC requested potential bat hibernacula investigations. Desktop analysis revealed 12 potential bat hibernacula in the vicinity of the project. These 12

features were in investigated during 2014 during which no bats were captured. Therefore no further coordination with the PGC is necessary for these features.

State Game Lands

Portions of the proposed project are located on State Game Lands Nos. 46, 52, 71, 118, 147, 198, and 276. Please contact Mr. Scott Tomlinson, Southwest Region Land Management Supervisor, at 724-238-9523 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 276, Mr. Robert Einodshofer, Southcentral Region Land Management Supervisor, at 814-643-1831 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 71, 118, 147, and 198, and Mr. Dave Mitchell, Southeast Region Land Management Supervisor, at 610-926-3136 to discuss and coordinate the project on SGL 46 and 52.

Wetlands

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located within the proposed project area. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest extent practicable, any adverse impacts to these resources and their associated wildlife habitat.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is <u>valid for two</u> (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on site. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered.

Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter, please resubmit the project to the PGC at the following address as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map):

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

If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements by the PGC for an additional 2 years.

This finding applies to impacts to birds and mammals only. To complete your review of state and federally-listed threatened and endangered species and species of special concern, please be sure that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and/or the PA Fish and Boat Commission have been contacted regarding this project as directed by the online PNDI ER Tool found at www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us.

Please be sure to include the above-referenced PGC ID Number on any future correspondence with the PGC regarding this project.

Sincerely,

John Taucher

Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3632

Fax: 717-787-6957

E-mail:jotaucher@pa.gov

A PNHP Partner



JWT/jwt

cc: Anderson

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Ms. Pamela Shellenberger, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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