



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

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

June 11, 2018

**IN REPLY REFER TO
SIR# 49603**

Trant Corporation
Alexander Trant
11279 Perry Highway
Wexford, Pennsylvania 15090

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species
PNDI Search No. 657407_1
Merrion Oil & Gas ET Braddock 1H
ALLEGHENY County: East Pittsburgh Borough, North Braddock Borough, North
Versailles Township**

Dear Alexander Trant:

This responds to your inquiry about a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Internet Database search “potential conflict” or a threatened and endangered species impact review. These projects are screened for potential conflicts with rare, candidate, threatened or endangered species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction (fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic invertebrates only) using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files. These species of special concern are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Wild Resource Conservation Act, and the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Code (Chapter 75), or the Wildlife Code.

Freshwater Mussels and Fish

Rare or protected freshwater mussel and fish species are known from the vicinity of the project area. Freshwater mussels are the most imperiled taxonomic group in North America. Nearly 20% of the species historically known to occur in the Commonwealth are now extirpated (locally extinct). Additionally 60% of Pennsylvania’s remaining species are of conservation concern. We are concerned about direct and indirect (i.e., runoff) effects that the proposed project may have on the species of concern. Freshwater mussel and fish species are extremely vulnerable to physical (i.e., siltation, dredging, trenching, rip-rap) and chemical (i.e., pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, organic contaminants, heavy metals) changes to their aquatic environment. Therefore, we recommend construction techniques that eliminate in-stream work, sedimentation and changes to water quality. I recommend that you avoid any in-stream disturbance or water quality degradation during and after the project installation. Storm sewers and retention basins should be designed so as to minimize/remove all silt from the water before it is released into the stream. Strict erosion and sedimentation control measures, as well as best management practices should be employed. Provided that these recommendations are followed, in-stream work is

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth’s aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

avoided, strict E&S control measures are maintained, and best management practices are employed, we do not foresee any significant adverse impacts from the proposed activity to the freshwater mussel or fish species of concern.

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data and our files and is valid for two (2) years from the date of this letter. An absence of recorded species information does not necessarily imply species absence. Our data files and the PNDI system are continuously being updated with species occurrence information. Should project plans change or additional information on listed or proposed species become available, this determination may be reconsidered, and consultation shall be re-initiated.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact Gary Smith at 814-279-3080 and refer to the SIR # 49603. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary A. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gary Smith
Natural Gas Section

GAS/dn



TRANT CORPORATION

Engineering Permits & Approvals

Environmental
Surveying
Site Civil
Traffic

May 21, 2018

PA Fish and Boat Commission
Division of Environmental Services
595 E. Rolling Ridge Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Re: U.S.S. Mon Valley Works – Edgar Thomson Plant
East Pittsburgh Borough, North Versailles Township, Allegheny County

Dear Sir or Madam,

Trant Corporation is pleased to submit the enclosed documents to the PA Fish and Boat Commission, for an area of ground located within the Edgar Thomson Plant in East Pittsburgh Borough, and North Versailles Township Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. When completing a PNDI for the scope of work proposed to be carried out at the U.S.S. Mon Valley Works – Edgar Thompson Plant, the resulting PNDI receipt showed a potential impact within the PA Fish and Boat Commission. Please find the following included below:

- 1 Copy of the Project Narrative
- 1 Copy of the Site Plan
- 1 Copy of the signed Final Project Environmental Review Receipt
- 1 Copy of Wetland Delineation Report

If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to call.

Respectfully,

Alexander P. Trant

Cc: File #25383

PROJECT NARRATIVE

The current plans for the project includes the construction of an unconventional gas well and pad to supply natural gas to the US Steel facility as well as the access roads, utilities, storm water facilities, etc. necessary for the development.

Work that will be performed will include the installation of a sediment trap, channels, and all necessary storm water structures on site to manage all storm water runoff created. Erosion control such as rock construction entrances, silt socks, and erosion control matting will be placed in the proposed designated areas to ensure stability while earthmoving/grading is performed. Above ground water and gas utility lines, installation of the proposed gas well, drilling pad, access roads, and equipment contaminant area are all proposed to be constructed. Only after all storm water and erosion control measures proposed are in place, will construction of the gas well be allowed to commence.

The current physical characteristics of the site is gentle slopes with some moderate and steep slopes included. The current use of the proposed area is a gravel parking lot, railroad tracks, areas for various equipment storage, slag piles, staging areas, and an existing building. The current proposed area to be impacted is 13.56 acres.

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: **Merrion Oil & Gas ET Braddock 1H**
Date of Review: **5/17/2018 03:26:03 PM**
Project Category: **Mining, Oil or Gas (including roads and pipelines), New Well**
Project Area: **14.89 acres**
County(s): **Allegheny**
Township/Municipality(s): **EAST PITTSBURGH; NORTH BRADDOCK; NORTH VERSAILLES**
ZIP Code: **15104; 15112; 15137**
Quadrangle Name(s): **BRADDOCK**
Watersheds HUC 8: **Lower Monongahela**
Watersheds HUC 12: **Sawmill Run-Turtle Creek**
Decimal Degrees: **40.393331, -79.845723**
Degrees Minutes Seconds: **40° 23' 35.9905" N, 79° 50' 44.6044" 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	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required

As summarized above, Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) records indicate there may be potential impacts to threatened and endangered and/or special concern species and resources within the project area. If the response above indicates "No Further Review Required" no additional communication with the respective agency is required. If the response is "Further Review Required" or "See Agency Response," refer to the appropriate agency comments below. Please see the DEP Information Section of this receipt if a PA Department of Environmental Protection Permit is required.

Merrion Oil & Gas ET Braddock 1H

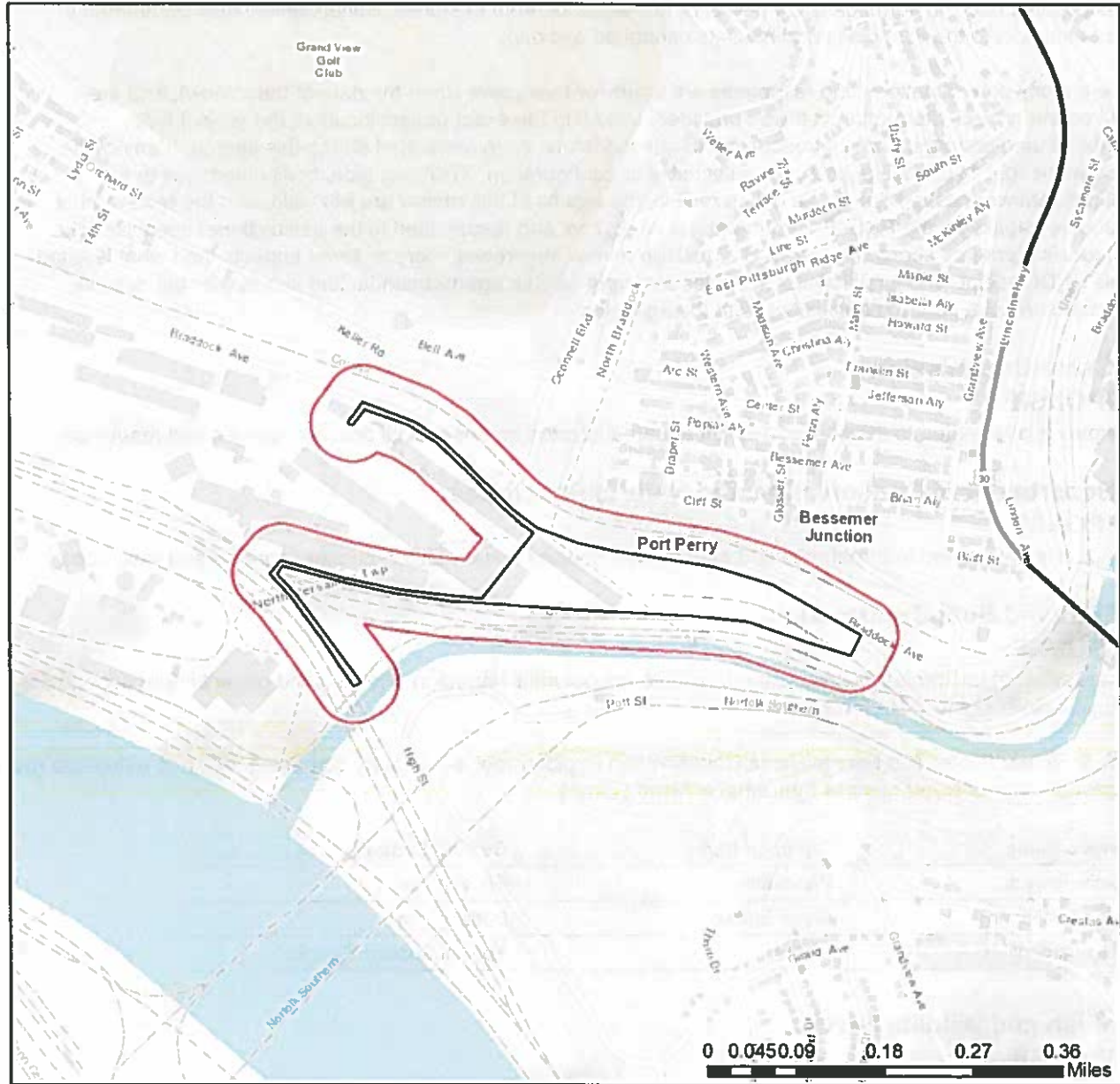


- Project Boundary
- Buffered Project Boundary



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
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Merrion Oil & Gas ET Braddock 1H



- 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:

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).

PFBC Species: (Note: The Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer tool is a primary screening tool, and a desktop review may reveal more or fewer species than what is listed below.)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Current Status
Lepomis gulosus	Warmouth	Endangered
Notropis buchmanii	Ghost Shiner	Endangered
Toxolasma parvum	Lilliput	Special Concern Species*

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.

* Special Concern Species or Resource - Plant or animal species classified as rare, tentatively undetermined or candidate as well as other taxa of conservation concern, significant natural communities, special concern populations (plants or animals) and unique geologic features.

** Sensitive Species - Species identified by the jurisdictional agency as collectible, having economic value, or being susceptible to decline as a result of visitation.

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). Instructions for uploading project materials can be found [here](#). This option provides the applicant with the convenience of sending project materials to a single location accessible to all three state agencies. Alternatively, applicants may email or mail their project materials (see AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION).

*Note: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requires applicants to mail project materials to the USFWS PA field office (see AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION). USFWS will not accept project materials submitted electronically (by upload or email).

Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:

Project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristics 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 <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). 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

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

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
NO Faxes Please

7. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

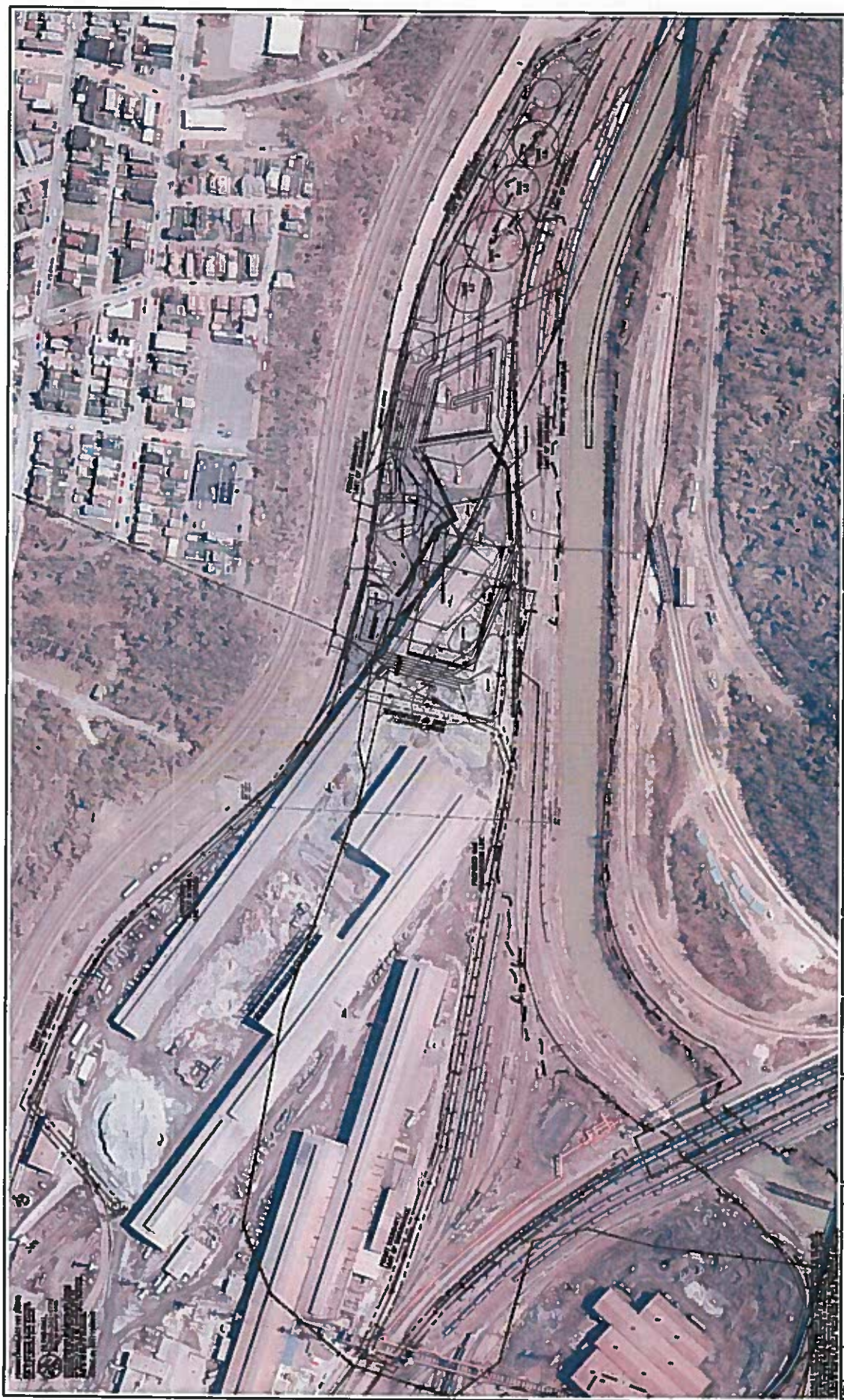
Name: Alex Trant
Company/Business Name: Trant Corporation
Address: 11279 Perry Hwy, suite 206
City, State, Zip: Wexford, PA 15090
Phone: (724) - 935 - 7900 Fax: ()
Email: aptrant@trantcorp.com

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.

Alex P. Trant
applicant/project proponent signature

5-18-18
date



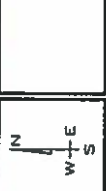
SHEET NO.
C103

PROJECT NO. 23333 DATE: 05-21-2004
OVERALL SITE PLAN OVERLAY

MERRION OIL & GAS ET BRADDOCK 1H
BRADDOCK BOROUGH - ALLEGHENY COUNTY - PA

Environmental
 Surveying
 Site Cost
 Traffic
 PHONE: (724) 688-7000
 FAX: (724) 688-0000
 EMAIL: info@trant.com

7 TRANT
CORPORATION
 Engineering Permits & Approvals
 One Center Parkway Suite 206
 Mellottown, PA 15869



DATE	BY	CHKD	DATE

DATE	BY	CHKD	DATE