



Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

Appendix S2 - 3

PNDI Receipts and Correspondences

Leidy South Project

August 2019

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

PNDI RECEIPT

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: **Leidy South Project**

Date of Review: **8/21/2019 03:20:44 PM**

Project Category: **Energy Storage, Production, and Transfer, Energy Transfer, Other**

Project Area: **439.65 acres**

County(s): **Clinton; Columbia; Luzerne; Lycoming; Schuylkill; Wyoming**

Watersheds HUC 8: **Lower Susquehanna-Penns; Lower West Branch Susquehanna; Middle West Branch Susquehanna; Upper Susquehanna-Lackawanna; Upper Susquehanna-Tunkhannock**

Watersheds HUC 12: **Beaver Run; Drury Run; Fishing Creek-Susquehanna River; Hall Run-West Branch Susquehanna River; Hans Yost Creek-Deep Creek; Headwaters Huntington Creek; Kline Hollow Run-Little Fishing Creek; Left Branch Young Womans Creek; Lower South Branch Tunkhannock Creek; Middle Kettle Creek; Mud Run-Green Creek; Paddy Run; Rattlesnake Run-West Branch Susquehanna River; West Creek; Young Womans Creek-West Branch Susquehanna River**

Decimal Degrees: **41.412205, -77.798676**

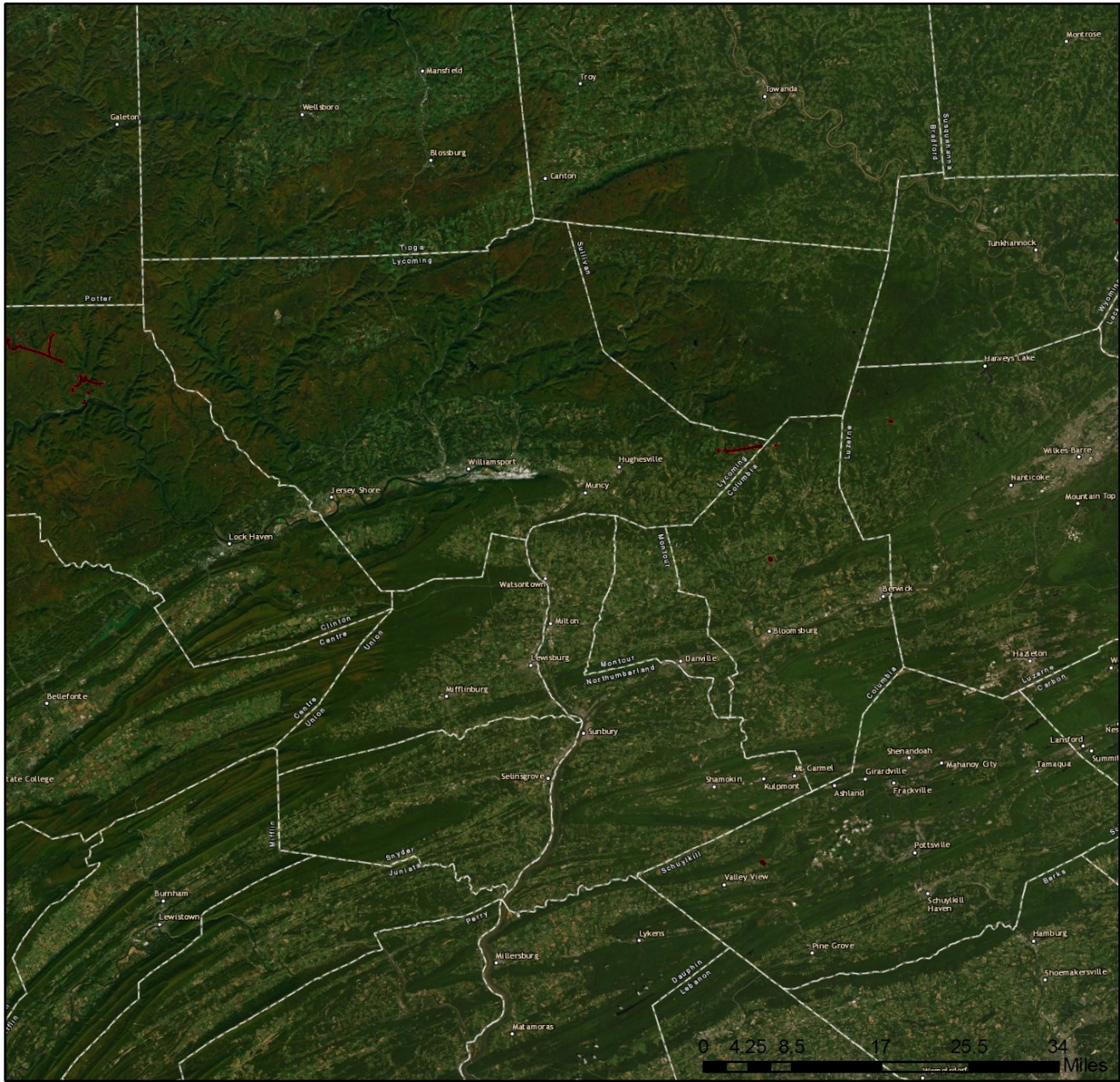
Degrees Minutes Seconds: **41° 24' 43.9387" N, 77° 47' 55.2322" W**



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.

Leidy South Project

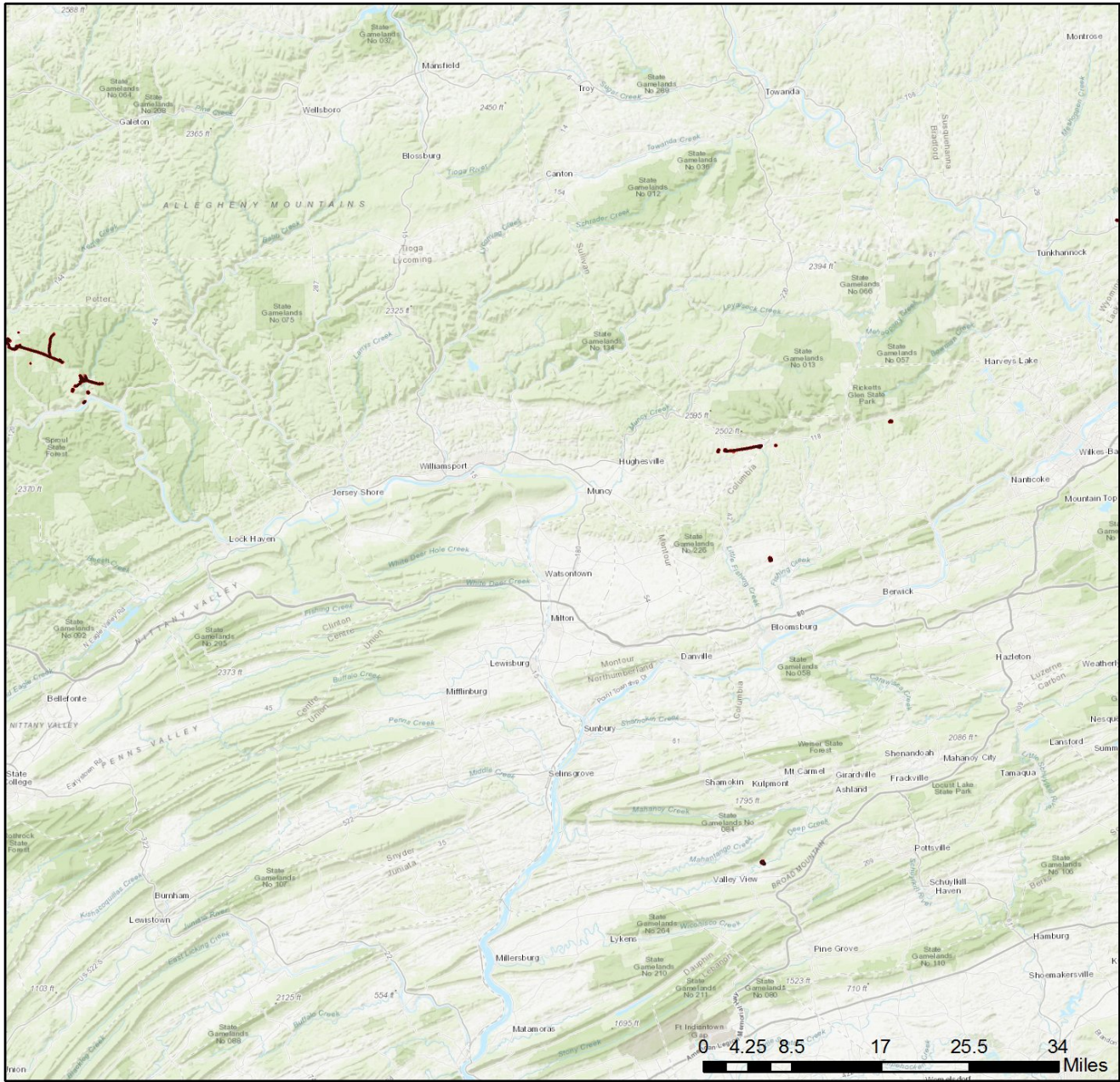


-  Project Boundary
-  Buffered Project Boundary



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
Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Leidy South Project



- 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:

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).

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: Kevin M. Clark
Company/Business Name: WHM Consulting, Inc
Address: 2525 Green Tech Drive; Suite B
City, State, Zip: State College, PA 16803
Phone: (814) 689-1650 Fax: (814) 689-1557
Email: kevinc@whmgroup.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.



applicant/project proponent signature

8/22/19

date

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

**PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

June 3, 2019

PNDI Number: 670193

Version: Final_1; 10/31/18

Kevin Clark

WHM Consulting, Inc.

2525 Green Tech Dr., Suite B

State College, PA 16803

Email: kevinc@whmgroup.com (hard copy will not follow)

Re: Leidy South Project

Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne, Lycoming, Shuylkill, PA

Dear Mr/Ms Doe,

Thank you for the submission of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Receipt Number 670193 (Final_1) for review. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources screened this project for potential impacts to species and resources under DCNR's responsibility, which includes plants, terrestrial invertebrates, natural communities, and geologic features only.

Potential Impact Anticipated

PNDI records indicate species or resources under DCNR's jurisdiction are located in the project vicinity. Based on a detailed PNDI review, DCNR determined potential impacts to the following threatened or endangered species or species of special concern.

Station 607 Maransky and Station 607 Hayfield:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Current Status	PA Proposed Status
<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	Northeastern Bulrush	Endangered	Threatened
<i>Streptopus amplexifolius</i>	White Twisted-stalk	Threatened	Endangered
<i>Ribes lacustre</i>	Swamp Currant	Special Concern	Endangered
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping Snowberry	Rare	Rare

Leidy Line D 36" Hensel Replacement:

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Current Status	PA Proposed Status
<i>Sorbus decora</i>	Showy Mountain-ash	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Carex bebbii</i>	Bebb's Sedge	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Carex disperma</i>	Soft-leaved Sedge	Rare	Rare
<i>Galium latifolium</i>	Purple Bedstraw	None	Special Concern

Survey Request

DCNR requests a survey for the following species:

- ***Scirpus ancistrochaetus* (Northeastern Bulrush):** documented in pipeline ROW and shallow emergent wetland; suitable habitat includes vernal ponds and mudholes; fruits in July, and persists through January
- ***Streptopus amplexifolius* (White Twisted-stalk):** documented in a moist shaded ravine; suitable habitat includes cool ravines; Flowers May-June

- ***Ribes lacustre* (Swamp Currant)**: documented in a moist shaded ravine; suitable habitat includes swamps and cold, wet woods; Flowers May - June
 - ***Gaultheria hispidula* (Creeping Snowberry)**: documented in flat wet woods; suitable habitat includes hummocks and tree stumps in bogs and swamps; Flowers June, fruits September
 - ***Sorbus decora* (Showy Mountain-ash)**: documented in a tamarack swamp; suitable habitat includes rocky slopes; Flowers May, fruits September – October
 - ***Carex bebbii* (Bebb’s Sedge)**: documented in sphagnum meadow; suitable habitat includes pond edges, boggy pastures, and moist sand flats, Fruits June – July
 - ***Carex disperma* (Soft-leaved Sedge)**: documented in a tamarack swamp; suitable habitat includes swampy woods, bogs, and rhododendron swamps; fruits May-August
 - ***Galium latifolium* (Purple Bedstraw)**: documented along Hensel Fork creek; suitable habitat includes woods, rocky slopes and roadsides; Flowers June-July
- ✓ A botanical survey for the above species should be conducted by a qualified botanist at the appropriate time of year. Please submit the resulting report to our office for review. Contact our office prior to the survey for detailed information about the species or for a list of qualified surveyors.
- ✓ **Your botanist should carefully review the new DCNR Botanical Survey Protocols available at <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/survey-protocols>.** These protocols are recommended to ensure that all necessary information is collected and that survey reports are prepared properly. It is the expectation of DCNR that these protocols will be followed when conducting surveys for species under our jurisdiction.
- ✓ All target and non-target state-listed species found during the botanical survey should be reported to our office. **Please submit a completed Botanical Field Survey Form for each occurrence or population identified: <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/PNDI/2015%20Field%20Survey%20Form.pdf>.** Mitigation measures and monitoring may be requested if state-listed species are found on or adjacent to the site.
- ✓ If preferred habitat does not exist on site, a survey may not be necessary. Please submit a habitat assessment report which describes the current land cover, habitat types, and species found on site.

This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (2) years only. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter and a permit has not been acquired, please resubmit the project to this agency as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative, description of project changes and accurate map). As a reminder, this finding applies to potential impacts under DCNR’s jurisdiction only. Visit the PNHP website for directions on contacting the Commonwealth’s other resource agencies for environmental review.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Alexander Dogonniuck, Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-783-3913) or via email (c-adogonni@pa.gov).

Sincerely



Greg Podnieszinski, Section Chief
Natural Heritage Section

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From: [Kevin Clark](#)
To: ["Dogonniuck, Alexander"](#)
Cc: ["Henry, Josh"](#); [Richardson, Devyn](#); [Wardwell, Lindsay](#); ["Sheppard, Evan"](#)
Subject: RE: PNDI-670193 Leidy South Project
Date: Thursday, November 29, 2018 9:28:00 AM
Attachments: [Station_607_Hayfield_Photo_Documentation_112018.pdf](#)
[Station_607_Maransky_Photo_Documentation_112018.pdf](#)

Alex,

Thank you for your response regarding the Leidy South Project (Project). The Project is still in the initial phases and the siting of the potential 607 compressor station has not yet been finalized. Transco will stress avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands, streams, and forested areas to the maximum extent practicable. Wetlands delineations have not been completed at this time. Site photographs of the current potential 607 compressor station locations have been provided for your review. Additional data will be provided once surveys of these areas are completed.

Thanks,

Kevin Clark | PWS
Project Manager
WHM Consulting, Inc.
2525 Green Tech Drive, Suite B
State College, PA 16803
(814) 689-1650 ext. 105



From: Dogonniuck, Alexander <c-adogonni@pa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Kevin Clark <kevinc@whmgroup.com>
Subject: PNDI-670193 Leidy South Project

Hello Mr. Clark,

I have received your project and am reviewing it for potential impacts on threatened, endangered, and special concern species or resources. I am particularly interested in knowing more about the New Grassroots Compressor Station 607 (Luzerne) and Station 620 (Schuylkill). Have wetland delineations or surveys been conducted for the potential project areas. Do you have any site photos on file?

I am more concerned about Station 607 because it will be located in a wooded habitat and there are streams and wetland running through the site.

Please send any additional information you may have on these locations

Thanks,
Alex

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

November 29, 2018

PNDI Number: 670193

Version: Final_1; 10/31/18

Kevin Clark

WHM Consulting, Inc.

2525 Green Tech Dr., Suite B

State College, PA 16803

Email: kevinc@whmgroup.com (hard copy will not follow)

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P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17015-8552 717-787-3444 (fax) 717-772-0271

- ***Ribes lacustre* (Swamp Currant)**: documented in a moist shaded ravine; suitable habitat includes swamps and cold, wet woods; Flowers May - June
 - ***Gaultheria hispidula* (Creeping Snowberry)**: documented in flat wet woods; suitable habitat includes hummocks and tree stumps in bogs and swamps; Flowers June, fruits September
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-
- ✓ A botanical survey for the above species should be conducted by a qualified botanist at the appropriate time of year. Please submit the resulting report to our office for review. Contact our office prior to the survey for detailed information about the species or for a list of qualified surveyors.
 - ✓ **Your botanist should carefully review the new DCNR Botanical Survey Protocols available at <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/survey-protocols>.** These protocols are recommended to ensure that all necessary information is collected and that survey reports are prepared properly. It is the expectation of DCNR that these protocols will be followed when conducting surveys for species under our jurisdiction.
 - ✓ All target and non-target state-listed species found during the botanical survey should be reported to our office. **Please submit a completed Botanical Field Survey Form for each occurrence or population identified: <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/PNDI/2015%20Field%20Survey%20Form.pdf>.** Mitigation measures and monitoring may be requested if state-listed species are found on or adjacent to the site.
 - ✓ If preferred habitat does not exist on site, a survey may not be necessary. Please submit a habitat assessment report which describes the current land cover, habitat types, and species found on site.

This response represents the most up-to-date review of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (2) years only. If project plans change or more information on listed or proposed species becomes available, our determination may be reconsidered. Should the proposed work continue beyond the period covered by this letter and a permit has not been acquired, please resubmit the project to this agency as an “Update” (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative, description of project changes and accurate map). As a reminder, this finding applies to potential impacts under DCNR’s jurisdiction only. Visit the PNHP website for directions on contacting the Commonwealth’s other resource agencies for environmental review.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Alexander Dogonniuck, Ecological Information Specialist, by phone (717-783-3913) or via email (c-adogonni@pa.gov).

Sincerely



Greg Podnieszinski, Section Chief
Natural Heritage Section

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*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

**DCNR & USFWS BOTANICAL SURVEY REPORT
(PRIVILEGED)**

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

From: [Kevin Clark](#)
To: olbraun@pa.gov
Cc: [Henry, Josh](#); [Richardson, Devyn](#); [Wardwell, Lindsay](#)
Subject: RE: Leidy South Project - PGC Request for Additional Information (PGC ID # 201811010501)
Date: Friday, January 11, 2019 12:52:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[Hilltop Loop Topo Project Location 010219.pdf](#)
[HILLTOP LOOP - Aerial and Photograph Location Map 011019.pdf](#)
[HILLTOP LOOP - Photographic Documentation.pdf](#)

Olivia,

Tree removal will be required to accommodate construction of the Leidy Line D 36" Hilltop Loop. Based on the currently proposed alignment and workspace requirements, ±25 acres of tree removal is anticipated along the pipeline ROW. In addition, some of the existing access roads proposed to be utilized for the project will likely require some minor tree clearing to allow for access of heavy equipment. Mapping has been provided that outlines the proposed Limits of Disturbance which includes: temporary workspace, permanent workspace, access roads and staging/support areas. In addition, photographic documentation has been provided to represent habitat within the area proposed to be impacted.

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Braun, Olivia <olbraun@pa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2018 12:57 PM
To: Kevin Clark <kevinc@whmgroup.com>
Cc: devyn.richardson@williams.com; Henry, Josh <Josh.Henry@williams.com>; Wardwell, Lindsay <LWardwell@ene.com>
Subject: RE: [External] RE: Leidy South Project - PGC Request for Additional Information (PGC ID # 201811010501)

Hi Kevin,
Thanks for this additional information. It's very helpful and has provided much of the clarification we were hoping for.

However, according to the project narrative provided in October 2018, the pipeline facilities are going to be co-located within/adjacent to the existing Transco ROW and temporary and/or permanent ROW will need to be widened at varying widths to accommodate the construction of the loops and replacement. Can you provide additional information pertaining to the ROW needs for the Leidy Line D 36" Hilltop Loop? Will tree removal be required (if so, how much and where) and what is the existing and proposed width of the ROW going to be to accommodate this construction? Also, please provide any mapping that may be available to illustrate the temporary vs. permanent ROW and access roadways for this construction. Finally, if you have color photographs of the habitat within the area that is to be impacted by this loop and could provide them with a photo location map, it would be very helpful as well.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Olivia A. Braun

Pennsylvania Game Commission
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3128

From: Kevin Clark <kevinc@whmgroupp.com>

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2018 8:52 AM

To: Braun, Olivia <olbraun@pa.gov>

Cc: devyn.richardson@williams.com; Henry, Josh <Josh.Henry@williams.com>; Wardwell, Lindsay <LWardwell@ene.com>

Subject: [External] RE: Leidy South Project - PGC Request for Additional Information (PGC ID # 201811010501)

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

Olivia,

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC proposes to utilize the *Manual Project* for the review of this Project. The following information has been attached to this email:

1. USGS mapping including GPS coordinates for the center of the project area for compressor station locations and the eastern and western terminus for the pipeline segments; and
2. USGS map outlining the abutting Maransky and Hayfield Properties
 - a. Polygon shapefiles submitted for the Maransky and Hayfield properties are abutting. When viewed on the PNDI online mapper, these features show as only one polygon; however two shapefiles were submitted. A map has been provided for clarification purposes.

Work being proposed at Compressor Station 605 will not involve earth disturbance, but is considered part of the overall project. Please include a review of this location based on the scope of work proposed.

Thanks and let me know if you need any additional information to complete your initial review, and if hard copies are required of the initial submittal and updated mapping. Once further project information is obtained and field surveys are completed, the additional information will be provided

for your review.

Kevin Clark | PWS
Project Manager
WHM Consulting, Inc.
2525 Green Tech Drive; Suite B
State College, PA 16803
(814) 689-1650 ext. 105



From: Braun, Olivia <olbraun@pa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2018 2:43 PM
To: devyn.richardson@williams.com; Kevin Clark <kevinc@whmgroup.com>
Subject: Leidy South Project - PGC Request for Additional Information (PGC ID # 201811010501)

Good Afternoon,

The PGC is in the process of reviewing the above referenced project and would like to request some additional information. At your earliest convenience, please provide the following information so that we may continue our review of this project.

- Both a PNDI receipt and a Manual Project submission form have been submitted for this project. Please confirm if the Applicant would like the PGC to handle this project as a Manual Project (by using the Manual Project submission form) or an online submission (by using the online PNDI Receipt # 670193). Then depending on whether the Applicant chooses to utilize the Manual Project Submission Form or the online PNDI submittal method, please provide the following information.
 - *Manual Project* – Please provide updated USGS mapping that includes the GPS coordinates for each location where work is anticipated or being considered.
 - *Online PNDI Submittal with PNDI Receipt # 670193* – Please update the polygon that was submitted into PNDI to include each location where work is anticipated or being considered. For example, the cover letter provided discusses 9 locations where work is anticipated or being considered. However, the PNDI polygon(s) reflect only 7 of those locations. Once the additional locations are included, please re-finalized the PNDI receipt so that all areas are included in the review.
- The PGC recognizes that as of the submittal date, field surveys have not yet been completed for this project. However, if established, please provide mapping and/or GIS shapefiles illustrating where tree removal, ROW widening, permanent or temporary workspaces, access roads, etc. are to be located for the activities included in this review.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Olivia A. Braun

Pennsylvania Game Commission
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3128



January 22, 2019

PGC ID Number: 201811010501

Mr. Kevin Clark
WHM Consulting, Inc.
2525 Green Tech Drive, Suite B
State College, Pennsylvania 16803
kevinc@whmgroup.com

Re: *Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) - Leidy South Project*
PNDI Manual Project Submission
Multiple Townships, Multiple Counties, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Clark,

Thank you for submitting the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Manual Project Submission Form for review. 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.

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 the following threatened, endangered, and species of special concern birds and mammals may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures may be necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below.

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	THREATENED	THREATENED

Next Steps

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

This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is valid for two (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 this agency as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map). If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements under this agency for two additional 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.

Sincerely,



Olivia A. Braun
Environmental Planner
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3128
Fax: 717-787-6957
E-mail: Olbraun@pa.gov

A PNHP Partner



OAB/oab

cc: Pamela Shellenberger, USFWS
Schnupp
Brauning
Turner
Librandi Mumma
Figured
Wenner
File



May 30, 2019

PGC ID Number: 201811010501 - Revision

Mr. Kevin Clark
WHM Consulting, Inc.
2525 Green Tech Drive, Suite B
State College, Pennsylvania 16803
kevinc@whmgroup.com

Re: *Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) - Leidy South Project*
PNDI Receipt File: *project_receipt_leidy_south_project_670193_FINAL_3.pdf*
Multiple Townships, Clinton, Columbia, Luzerne, Lycoming, Schuylkill and Wyoming
Counties, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Clark,

Thank you for submitting the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Receipt File *project_receipt_leidy_south_project_670193_FINAL_3.pdf* for review. 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.

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 the following threatened, endangered, and species of special concern birds and mammals may be associated with your project. Therefore, additional measures may be necessary to avoid potential impacts to the species listed below.

Scientific Name	Common Name	PA Status	Federal Status
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared Bat	ENDANGERED	THREATENED
N/A	Winter Bat Colony	SPECIAL CONCERN	N/A

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

Winter Bat Colony: The following should be performed for the *Central Penn South Potential Compressor Station 620 Options C and G* so that a more accurate determination of impacts can be made:

- *Winter Hibernacula Habitat Assessment:* In order for the PGC to determine potential impacts to winter bat colonies located on and adjacent to the project area, a winter hibernacula habitat assessment is to be conducted on and within 1,000 feet (within 1/4 mile, if blasting is proposed) of the project area, following the *PGC Protocol for Assessing Abandoned Mines/Caves for Bat Surveys* which can be found in Appendix B of the attached *PGC Eastern Small-footed Bat Environmental Review Guidance Document*. Results of the winter hibernacula habitat assessment are to be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31st of the year the survey is conducted for review.
- Any openings identified during the Winter Hibernacula Habitat Assessment that met the criteria as having the potential as bat hibernacula will need to be surveyed in the fall to determine the presence or absence of bat species. A PGC special use permit needs to be obtained by the consultant in order to conduct any surveys that involve the handling of bats. Results of the fall sampling surveys are to be submitted to the PGC no later than December 31st of the year the survey is conducted. Survey results will be used by the PGC to determine what, if any avoidance and minimization measures need to be implemented.
- In addition to the above surveys, the PGC will require documentation regarding the connectivity between each of potential hibernacula located within 1/4 mile of the project area. Since this project may require blasting, the PGC is also concerned that the integrity of potential hibernacula within 1/4 mile of the project area may be jeopardized. Therefore, the Applicant must also provide documentation of how the structure, air flow, humidity, etc. at each potential hibernaculum within the 1,000-foot (1/4-mile, if blasting is required) radius will be maintained.

Central Penn North, Potential Compressor Station Option B appears to be located on or adjacent to **State Game Lands No. 206**. Please contact Mr. Michael Beahm, Land Management Supervisor, at 570-675-1143 to discuss and coordinate the project on State Game Lands.

Conservation Measure(s)

National Wetland Inventory Mapping (NWI) and/or aerial photos suggest that wetlands are located throughout the project area. The PGC is requesting that the final project avoid, or at least minimize to the greatest practical extent, 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 valid for two (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 this agency as an "Update" (including an updated PNDI receipt, project narrative and accurate map). If the proposed work has not changed and no additional information concerning listed species is found, the project will be cleared for PNDI requirements under this agency for two additional 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.

Sincerely,



Olivia A. Braun
Environmental Planner
Division of Environmental Planning & Habitat Protection
Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Phone: 717-787-4250, Extension 3128
Fax: 717-787-6957
E-mail: Olbraun@pa.gov

A PNHP Partner



OAB/oab

Enclosure: *PGC Eastern Small-footed Bat Environmental Review Guidance Document*

cc: Pamela Shellenberger, USFWS
Schnupp
Brauning
Turner
Librandi Mumma
Figured
Wenner
File

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

PENNSYLVANIA FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section
595 E Rolling Ridge Dr.
Bellefonte, PA 16823

November 20, 2018

IN REPLY REFER TO
SIR# 50327

WHM Consulting, Inc.
Kevin Clark
2525 Green Tech Drive
State College, Pennsylvania 16803

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species
PNDI Search No. 670193_1
Leidy South Project
CLINTON County: - COLUMBIA County: - LUZERNE County: - LYCOMING County:
- SCHUYLKILL County:**

Dear Kevin Clark:

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.

Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*, Species of Special Concern)

Timber Rattlesnakes occur in the forested, mountainous regions of the Commonwealth. They prefer forested areas to forage for small mammals (e.g., mice and chipmunks) and southerly-facing slopes for hibernating and other thermoregulatory activities. The Timber Rattlesnake is threatened by habitat loss/alteration, wanton killing, and poaching.

Given the proximity of the project to known Timber Rattlesnake occurrences, we recommend that a habitat assessment be conducted in the project area by a qualified Timber Rattlesnake surveyor to determine if the project is likely to impact the species. The habitat assessment will not be necessary at all project locations included with the PNDI submission but are especially important near the Leidy Line D Hensel Replacement Project in Clinton County, the Hill Top Pipeline Loop Expansion Project in Clinton County and Potential Grass Roots Compressor Station 620-1 location in Schuylkill County. We have included a list of qualified surveyors and habitat assessment protocol for your convenience.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

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

The list is not exhaustive as there may be qualified surveyors who have not asked to be placed on this list. Additionally, it is not mandatory that you use someone on this list. Should you choose to complete the habitat assessment, the qualified surveyor should submit a report to this office for review and comment. The habitat survey report should include color photographs of the project area (keyed to a site map or diagram) and a description of habitats occurring within the immediate area to be developed (including access roads), as well as the surrounding area. Potential Timber Rattlesnake critical habitat (denning/gestating areas) should be photographed and mapped accordingly. In addition, the report should also include detailed project plans and maps with a description of the proposed work (including access roads), project impacts and alternatives. Pending the review of this information, a survey targeting the presence of the Timber Rattlesnake in the project area and/or other project modifications may be requested.

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 Jordan R. Allison at 814-359-5236 and refer to the SIR # 50327. 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 "Jordan Allison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jordan R. Allison, Chief
Natural Gas Section

JRA/dn

From: [Allison, Jordan](#)
To: [Kevin Clark](#)
Subject: RE: [External] PNDI-670193 Update (Leidy South Project)
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 11:03:50 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Kevin,

Thank you for sending notifying us of the updated PNDI for proposed changes to the Leidy South Project. I have reviewed the updated PNDI and have no additional comments/recommendations to offer beyond what was expressed in our November 20th, 2018 letter for SIR# 50327. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to get in touch.

Thanks,

Jordan Allison, Fisheries Biologist
Natural Gas Section
PFBC Centre Region Office
595 E Rolling Ridge DR
Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-359-5236

-The gods do not deduct from man's allotted span the hours spent in fishing-

From: Kevin Clark <kevinc@whmgroup.com>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 3:27 PM
To: Allison, Jordan <jorallison@pa.gov>; Dogonniuck, Alexander <c-adogonni@pa.gov>; Braun, Olivia <olbraun@pa.gov>
Cc: Richardson, Devyn <Devyn.Richardson@williams.com>; Henry, Josh <Josh.Henry@williams.com>
Subject: [External] PNDI-670193 Update (Leidy South Project)

ATTENTION: *This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

To all:

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) is providing an update to the original PNDI Online Large Project Review for the Leidy South Project (Project) submitted on October 31, 2018. This update provides additional project information and details since the previous submission. The information is attached to this email, as well as uploaded on the PNDI website. Should the Project, as presented, indicate the need for additional species-specific field studies or indicate other Project

considerations, please provide a response outlining those requirements.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or require additional Project information, please do not hesitate to contact Devyn Richardson at (713) 215-2781 or Devyn.Richardson@Williams.com. Alternatively, you can contact me at (814) 689-1650 or via e-mail at kevinc@whmgroup.com. I appreciate your assistance and thank you for your attention to this request.

Kevin M. Clark | PWS
Project Manager
WHM Consulting, LLC (dba WHM Consulting, Inc)
(814) 689-1650 ext. 105



*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

**TIMBER RATTLESNAKE PHASE I HABITAT
ASSESSMENT AND PHASE II PRESENCE/
ABSENCE DENNING SURVEY REPORT
(PRIVILEGED)**



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services

Natural Gas Section
595 E Rolling Ridge Dr.
Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 21, 2019

IN REPLY REFER TO
SIR# 50327

WHM Consulting, Inc.
Kevin Clark
2525 Green Tech Drive
State College, Pennsylvania 16803

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species
PNDI Search No. 670193_1
Leidy South Project
CLINTON County: - COLUMBIA County: - LUZERNE County: - LYCOMING County:
- SCHUYLKILL County:**

Dear Kevin Clark:

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.

We have received the results of your Phase I Timber Rattlesnake Habitat Assessment and Phase II Denning which were completed in April and May of this year. Your staff confirmed the presence of Timber Rattlesnakes at six den/gestation sites located on or adjacent to the limit of disturbance for the Hensel Replacement portion of the project and three sites for the Hill Top Loop portion. Of the nine confirmed denning sites all but one, the Hilltop Loop habitat area eight, were able to be avoided. Additionally, impacts to potential and occupied gestation habitat are proposed at multiple locations along the Hensel Replacement portion of the project. No impacts to these habitats are proposed for the Hilltop Loop. In order to avoid impacts to denning Timber Rattlesnakes and mitigate impacts to potential and occupied gestation habitat, the commission recommends the following avoidance measures:

- 1.) All blasting within 50 feet of confirmed denning habitats should occur between May 15th and October 1st to avoid impacts to snakes occupying these sites. If blasting is proposed during this timeframe within 300 feet of a den site, please consult with this office prior to doing so.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

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

- 2.) We recommend that gestation habitat impacted during construction be recreated in accordance with our "Guidelines for Timber Rattlesnake Habitat creation". I have attached a copy of this document for your convenience.

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 Jordan R. Allison at 814-359-5236 and refer to the SIR # 50327. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this important matter of species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Jordan Allison". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

Jordan R. Allison, Chief
Natural Gas Section

JRA/dn

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC
2800 Post Oak Boulevard (77056)
P.O. Box 1396
Houston, Texas 77251-1396
713/215-2000

October 31, 2018

Pamela Shellenberger | Fish & Wildlife Biologist
Endangered Species Program
110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101
State College, PA 16801

**Re: PNDI Project Submission for Environmental Review
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC
Leidy South Project
PNDI Search ID: PNDI-670193**

Dear Ms. Shellenberger:

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) is initiating permitting activities for the proposed Leidy South Project (Project) along Transco's existing natural gas transmission system. The Project is an expansion of Transco's system designed to provide firm transportation capacity of 580,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) from northern and western Pennsylvania to Transco's River Road interconnect in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The target in-service date is December 1, 2021. The Project consists of the following primary components:

Leidy Segments

Table 1 Leidy Segment - Pipeline Facilities			
Facility Type	Township	County	Length (miles)
Leidy Line D Hensel Replacement (L188.51 to L194.00)			
36-inch pipeline	Chapman & Leidy	Clinton	6.09
Leidy Line D Hilltop Loop (L183.55 to L186.01)			
36-inch pipeline	Chapman	Clinton	2.46
Leidy Line D Benton Loop (L116.87 to L120.42)			
42-inch pipeline	Jackson	Lycoming	3.55
Project Total			11.78

The Pipeline Facilities would be co-located within/adjacent to the existing Transco right-of-way (ROW), to the extent possible. The temporary and/or permanent ROW will need to be widened at varying widths to accommodate the construction of the loops and replacement. Mapping depicting the location of the proposed Hensel Replacement, Hilltop Loop, and Benton Loop is provided in Attachment B.

Central Penn North

Table 2 Central Penn North – New Compressor Station & Modification to Existing Compressor Station				
Facility ID	Modifications	Township	County	State
Existing Compressor Station 605*	Uprate the two (2) existing electric motor-driven (EMDs) from 15,000 HP to 21,000 HP each	Clinton	Wyoming	PA
New Grassroots Compressor Station 607	Install two (2) Titan 130 units (23,465 nominal HP at ISO conditions each, 46,930 HP total)	TBD	Luzerne	PA
* no earth disturbance necessary				

Transco is currently assessing sites for Grassroots Compressor Station 607. Sites of interest are located in Luzerne County and consist of two options: 607 Hayfield and 607 Maransky. Modifications at Existing Compressor Station 605 will include additional horsepower/compression but will not involve earth disturbance. Mapping depicting the locations of the property boundaries of the proposed Compressor Station 607 options as well as the location of Compressor Station 605 is provided in Attachment B.

Central Penn South

Table 3 Central Penn South – New Compressor Station & Modification to Existing Compressor Station				
Facility ID	Facility Type	Township	County	State
Existing Compressor Station 610	Install one (1) Titan 250 Unit (31,871 nominal HP at ISO conditions), Re-wheel and uprate two (2) existing EMD units from 20,000 to 21,000 HP, and add unit cooling	Orange	Columbia	PA
New Grassroots Compressor Station 620	Install one (1) Titan 250 Unit (31,871 nominal HP at ISO conditions)	TBD	Schuylkill	PA

Transco is currently assessing sites for Grassroots Compressor Station 620. Sites of interest are located in Schuylkill County and consist of two options: 620-1 and 620-5-1. Modification to Existing Compressor Station 610 will include the installation of additional horsepower/compression and other related modifications which may require additional land disturbance and workspace outside of the existing compressor station footprint. Mapping depicting the locations of the property boundaries of the proposed Compressor Station 620 options, and the approximate location of Existing Compressor Station 610 is provided in Attachment B.

Field surveys have initiated but have not yet been completed for the Project. Temporary and permanent workspaces (e.g. disturbance areas) have not been fully defined at this time. During and following field surveys, the proposed pipeline route and other disturbance areas are subject to refinements in order to avoid various natural resource and land use features along with engineering design requirements. Because the Project design has not been finalized, estimated areas of impact have not been provided on the PNDI Manual Project Submission Form provided in Attachment A.

This correspondence is intended to initiate consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the presence of Threatened, Endangered, and special concern species occurring along or in the vicinity of the Project. An online PNDI review for the Project was completed on October 31, 2018, and is provided in Attachment C.

Should the Project, as presented, indicate the need for additional species-specific field studies or indicate other Project considerations, please provide a response outlining those requirements.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence and information request, or require additional Project information, please do not hesitate to call me at (713) 215-2781 or contact me via e-mail at Devyn.Richardson@Williams.com. Alternatively, you can contact Kevin Clark, Project Manager at WHM Consulting, Inc., at (814) 689-1650 or via e-mail at kevinc@whmgroup.com. I appreciate your assistance and thank you for your attention to this request.

Respectfully submitted,

TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC



Devyn Richardson
Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Attachments: Attachment A: PNDI Manual Project Submission Form
 Attachment B: Project Location Maps
 Attachment C: PNDI Search ID: PNDI-670193

cc: Josh Henry, Transco
 Kevin Clark, WHM Consulting, Inc.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pennsylvania Field Office
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101
State College, Pennsylvania 16801-4850

March 5, 2019

Devyn Richardson
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, L.L.C.
2800 Post Oak Boulevard (77-56)
P.O. Box 1396
Houston, TX 77251-1396

RE: USFWS Project #2019-0122
PNDI Receipt #670193

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Thank you for your letter dated October 31, 2018, requesting information about federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species within the area affected by the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company's proposed Leidy South project, portions of which are Clinton, Columbia, Luzern, Lycoming, Schuylkill, and Wyoming Counties, Pennsylvania. The proposed project is located within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a species that is federally listed as endangered and the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a species that is federally listed as threatened. The project is also within the known range of the northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*), a federally listed, endangered plant.

The proposed project involves infrastructure improvement, construction, or modification along an existing gas pipeline, including seven separate facilities (three sections of pipeline replacement or loop sections comprising approximately 11.78 miles and 4 compressor stations). Project design is preliminary and no information is provided regarding possible habitat effects but you do commit, to the extent possible, that all features will be constructed in the right-of-way of the existing pipeline although widening may be required in some locations.

The following comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened species.

Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat

Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves and mines during the winter months (November through March), and use a variety of upland, wetland and riparian habitats during the

spring, summer and fall. Both bat species usually roost in dead or living trees with exfoliating bark, or living or dead trees with crevices or cavities. The female bats form nursery colonies under the exfoliating bark of dead or living trees, such as shagbark hickory, in upland or riparian areas. However, a variety of tree species such as black birch, red and white oak, and sugar maple are also used. Land-clearing, especially of forested areas, may adversely affect Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats by killing, injuring or harassing roosting bats, and by removing or reducing the quality of foraging and roosting habitat.

Proposed pipeline sections in Clinton County are in proximity to several northern long-eared bat captures. On February 16, 2016, a special conservation rule (i.e., 4(d) rule) was adopted that tailors protections for the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act (81 FR 1900). Incidental take that occurs as a result of tree removal that is not within 0.25 mile of a known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum or within 150 feet from a known, occupied maternity roost tree is not prohibited in accordance with the 4(d) rule.

While take that may occur under the provisions of the 4(d) rule is not prohibited under the Act, when tree removal occurs throughout northern long-eared bat range, and the project is authorized, funded, or permitted by a Federal agency, consultation under section 7 of the Act is required. The Service completed a nationwide biological opinion that fulfills this requirement, provided the conditions of the 4(d) rule are implemented. More information about the programmatic consultation and the streamlined procedures to meet this requirement are detailed at: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/>.

Northeastern bulrush

Potential habitat for this species could be affected if project implementation will directly or indirectly affect wetlands. The northeastern bulrush is typically found in ponds, wet depressions, shallow sinkholes, vernal pools, small emergent wetlands, or beaver-influenced wetlands. These wetlands are often located in forested areas and characterized by seasonally variable water levels.

The Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that a qualified botanist with field experience in the identification of this species conduct a thorough survey¹ of all potentially suitable wetland habitat within any proposed project areas to determine the presence of the northeastern bulrush. Surveys for this species should be conducted between June 1 and September 30, when the flowering/fruitleting culm is present. A survey report should be submitted to the Service for review and comment. A list of botanists skilled in the location and identification of the northeastern bulrush is available here: https://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/pdf/Bulrush_qualified_10302018.pdf.

¹ When suitable habitat for a listed species is present and effects to the species are reasonably foreseeable, the Service recommends species surveys to enable fact-specific analysis of effects and fact-specific development of conservation measures. Rather than conduct habitat and/or species surveys, a project proponent and action agency may choose to assume presence of the species. However, assuming presence usually makes the analysis of effects significantly more difficult (because the specific nature of the species' presence is not known) and can lead to the incorporation of conservation measures that might otherwise not be needed if surveys were to be conducted and the species were not to be found.

Submission of more detailed project information to this office, particularly regarding the extent of forest habitat removal and wetland disturbance, will be necessary in order to determine whether either bat species or northeastern bulrush may be affected, and whether surveys or further consultation is necessary.

This response relates only to endangered and threatened species under our jurisdiction, based on an office review of the proposed project's location. No field inspection of the project area has been conducted by this office. Consequently, this letter is not to be construed as addressing potential Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities.

To avoid potential delays in reviewing your project, please use the above-referenced USFWS project tracking number in any future correspondence regarding this project.

Please contact Robert Anderson of this office at (814) 234-4090 if you have any questions or require further assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonja Jahrsdoerfer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "S" at the beginning.

Sonja Jahrsdoerfer
Project Leader



Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC
2800 Post Oak Boulevard (77056)
P.O. Box 1396
Houston, Texas 77251-1396
713/215-2000

April 15, 2019

Robert Anderson | Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Pennsylvania Field Office
110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101
State College, PA 16801

**Re: Update USFWS Project # 2019-0122; PNDI Receipt#670193
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC
Leidy South Project**

Mr. Anderson,

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) is providing an update to the original PNDI Online Large Project Review for the Leidy South Project (Project) submitted on October 31, 2018. In respect to the overall Project scope, one clarification has been made for the Hensel Replacement; which now includes the abandonment of 3.4 miles of the existing 23.375-inch Leidy Line A. Transco is also evaluating several site alternatives for Compressor Station 620 (Options A, B, C & G). Only one "Option" for Compressor Stations 607 & 620 will be selected.

This update provides additional details since the previous submission, including the information requested in the March 5, 2019, USFWS correspondence letter pertaining to forest habitat removal and wetland disturbance. In addition, a summary of the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) data from the Atlantic Sunrise (ASR) Project is being provided as ASR and the proposed Project have overlapping workspace. As part of ASR, additional mist net surveys were conducted within the vicinity of the proposed Project area.

Project Updates

The following Project information, which summarizes updates since the previous submission, is provided to facilitate your review:

Leidy Segments – Pipeline Facilities

- Defined workspaces associated with pipeline installation;
 - Benton Loop
 - Includes both the proposed alternative and two route alternatives to the south of the proposed pipeline.
 - Hilltop Loop

- Includes the proposed alternative.
- Hensel Replacement
 - Includes the proposed alternative, alternative locations for the valve placement, abandonment workspace, and the alternatives associated with a potential Horizontal Directional Drill through the Tamarack Swamp.
- Contractor Staging Area locations; and,
- Access roads to be utilized for the project.

Central Penn North

- Renamed Potential Compressor Station 607 Maransky as 607 Option A and 607 Hayfield as 607 Option B.

Central Penn South

- Renamed Potential Compressor Station 620-1 as 620 Option A;
- Removed Potential Compressor Station 620-5-1 from consideration; and,
- Added Potential Compressor Station 620 Options B, C & G.

Data Request – Forest Habitat Removal and Wetland Disturbance

Forested habitat removal estimates are based on surveyed treeline data for the Benton & Hilltop Loops. For all other facilities, the most recent aerial imagery was utilized. Wetland disturbance estimates are based on surveyed delineation data for the Benton Loop and CS 607 – Option B. For all other facilities, preliminary wetlands data was based on a desktop evaluation / remote sensing, and/or, where land permission has been granted, a field investigation during the non-growing season with frozen soils present.

The below summary table outlines estimated acreages of forest habitat removal and wetland disturbances based on the proposed Limits of Disturbance (LOD) for Benton Loop, Hilltop Loop, Hensel Replacement, Compressor Station 607 Option A, Compressor Station 620 Option A and Compressor Station 610. For Compressor Station 607 Option B and Compressor Station 620 Options B, C & G preliminary workspaces have not been developed to date; however, forest habitat removal and wetland disturbance will be minimized to the extent practical.

Table 1 - Summary of Estimated Forest Removal & Wetland Disturbance

PROPOSED FACILITIES	COUNTY	FOREST HABITAT REMOVAL (AC)¹	WETLAND IMPACT (AC)²
Benton Loop	Lycoming & Columbia	17.7	1.88
Hilltop Loop	Clinton	27.3	<2
Hensel Replacement	Clinton	22.5	<3
CS 605 ⁴	Wyoming	0	0
CS 607 – Option A ³	Luzerne	<2	<0.5
CS 607 – Option B ³	Luzerne	30 – 40	+/- 1
CS 610	Columbia	0	0

CS 620 – Option A ³	Schuylkill	0.55	0.52
CS 620 – Option B ³	Schuylkill	<1	<1
CS 620 – Option C ³	Schuylkill	<5	<1
CS 620 – Option G ³	Schuylkill	30 – 40	+/- 1
Notes:			
1. Forested habitat removal estimates are based on surveyed treeline data for the Benton & Hilltop Loops. For all other facilities, the most recent aerial imagery was utilized			
2. Wetland disturbance estimates are based on surveyed delineation data for the Benton Loop and CS 607 – Option B. For all other facilities, preliminary wetlands data was based on a desktop evaluation / remote sensing, and/or a field investigation during the non-growing season with frozen soils (where land permission has been granted).			
3. Only one "Option" for Compressor Stations 607 & 620 will be selected.			
4. No earth disturbance proposed at CS 605.			

Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) Data from Atlantic Sunrise (ASR) Project

(PRIVILEGED)

Updated mapping is provided in Attachment A. Also, mapping and Google Earth kmz files have been uploaded on the PNDI website. Should the Project, as presented, indicate the need for additional species-specific field studies or indicate other Project considerations, please provide a response outlining those requirements. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or require additional Project information, please do not hesitate to call me at (713) 215-2781 or contact me via e-mail at Devyn.Richardson@Williams.com. Alternatively, you can contact Kevin Clark, Project Manager, at WHM Consulting, Inc., at (814) 689-1650 or via e-mail at kevinc@whmgroup.com. I appreciate your assistance and thank you for your attention to this request.

Respectfully submitted,

TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC



Devyn Richardson
Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Attachments: Attachment A: Project Location Maps

cc: Olivia Braun, Pennsylvania Game Commission
 Josh Henry, Transco
 Kevin Clark, WHM Consulting, Inc.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pennsylvania Field Office
110 Radnor Road, Suite 101
State College, Pennsylvania 16801-4850

June 24, 2019

Devyn Richardson
Williams Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC
2800 Post Oak Blvd (77056)
P.O. Box 1396
Houston, TX 77251-1396

RE: USFWS Project #2019-0122

Dear Ms. Richardson:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2019, regarding information about federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species within the area affected by Williams Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC's, updates to the Leidy South project that encompasses: Benton Loop, Lycoming and Columbia Counties; Hilltop Loop, Clinton County; Hensel Replacement, Clinton County; Compressor State 605, Wyoming County; Compressor Station 607, Luzerne County (2 potential options being evaluated); Compressor Station 610, Columbia County; and Compressor Station 620, Schuylkill County (4 options being evaluated). The following comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened species and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA, 16 U.S.C. 703-712; Ch. 128; July 13, 1918; 40 Stat. 755, as amended) to ensure the protection of migratory bird species.

The project description consists of updates to the previously submitted project of October 31, 2018.

Federally Listed Species

The proposed project is located within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a species that is federally listed as endangered and the federally threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Additionally, the project is within the known range of the northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*), a federally listed, endangered plant.

Bats

Tree removal

Land-clearing associated with the project may result in the death or injury of roosting Indiana bats if tree-cutting is conducted during the time of year when bats may be present. Due to the potential for Indiana bats to occur within the project area, the Service recommends that measures be implemented to avoid killing or injuring them. This can be accomplished by carrying out tree-cutting activities from November 15 to March 31, during which time bats are hibernating or concentrated near their hibernacula. This seasonal recommendation on tree cutting applies to trees that are greater than or equal to 5 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH). Where possible, retain shagbark hickory trees, dead and dying trees, and large diameter trees (greater than 12 inches DBH) to serve as roost trees for bats. Where possible, also retain forested riparian corridors and forested wetlands.

If you are unable to adopt the tree-cutting restrictions detailed above, a bat survey of the project area should be conducted between May 15 and August 15 by a qualified, Service-approved biologist using the 2019 INDIANA BAT SUMMER SURVEY GUIDELINES, which can be found at the following link: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/pafo/endangered/surveys.html>. Survey results should be submitted to the Service for review and concurrence.

Please advise this office as to whether you intend to conduct bat surveys, or assume bats are present and implement a seasonal restriction on tree-cutting.

4(d) Rule – northern long-eared bats

This project lies within 150 feet of 3 known northern long-eared bat maternity roost trees. These are located at _____ (PRIVILEGED) _____ (Hensel Replacement). These roost trees were discovered during another Williams project in 2014. Roost trees are not proposed to be removed; however, habitat within 150 feet of the roost tree is proposed to be removed between April 1 and November 15.

Federal actions that cause incidental take that is **not** prohibited under the 4(d) rule may still affect individual northern long-eared bats. Under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, a Federal action agency (FERC) must consult with the Service if their action may affect a listed species, which includes effects to individuals. This requirement does not change when a 4(d) rule is implemented. However, for the northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule, the Service has provided a framework to streamline section 7 consultations when Federal actions may affect the northern long-eared bat but not cause prohibited take.

FERC may fulfill its project-specific section 7 responsibilities by using the Service's framework. The framework relies on the finding of a programmatic biological opinion that the Service prepared for the northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule. The Service requests FERC use the online determination key available through our Information Planning and Consultation website

– IPaC (<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>).

Hibernacula

To determine whether this project will affect any potential Indiana bat or northern long-eared bat hibernacula, a ½-mile area around Compressor Station 620 (Options C and G) was surveyed for potential cave and mine openings by Sanders Environmental, Inc¹. Surveys were conducted on April 17, 30, and May 31, 2019, at Option G and 21 openings were considered potential habitat. Surveys were conducted at Option C on June 3, 2019, and no potential hibernacula were identified.

On May 30, 2019, Pam Shellenberger, of my office, met with your company, WHM, FERC, Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), and Sanders Environmental Inc., to discuss Option G. During that time, the Service recommended that impacts to the portals and the area in the immediate vicinity of these openings be avoided. However, if avoidance is not feasible, these portals should be surveyed by a qualified bat surveyor. Surveys should be carried out in accordance with survey protocols and a copy of the survey results should be submitted to the Service and the PGC for review and concurrence. If surveys cannot be conducted, another option is to assume presence of federally listed bats in these portals and FERC would consult with the Service through Section 7 formal consultation. At this time, the company is planning to conduct fall portal surveys.

Prior to conducting any survey, the PGC should be contacted to determine whether or not they have surveyed the cave/mine in the past. If adequate surveys have been conducted in the recent past, this may preclude the need to conduct additional surveys.

Should Indiana bats or northern long-eared bats be found during any survey, further consultation with the Service will be necessary, including the submission of detailed project plans, and an analysis of alternatives to avoid and minimize adverse effects.

Northeastern bulrush

Potential habitat for this species could be affected if the project will directly or indirectly affect wetlands. The northeastern bulrush is typically found in ponds, wet depressions, shallow sinkholes, vernal pools, small emergent wetlands, or beaver-influenced wetlands. These wetlands are often located in forested areas and characterized by seasonally variable water levels.

To conserve northeastern bulrush (if present) and other wetland-dependent species of concern, project-related activities should avoid adversely affecting the surface and groundwater recharge areas. This would include establishment of 300-foot wide upland buffer areas around wetlands, as well as 50-100 foot wide buffers along waterways (perennial and intermittent rivers, streams, creeks and tributaries). When adequately vegetated, these buffers will act to filter pollutants and stabilize streambanks. Earth disturbance, spraying or tree-cutting activities (tree felling, skid

¹ Portal searches only occurred at Compressor Station 620 Options C and G due to the past mining that has occurred under and surrounding these potential sites. The Service did not recommend any other portal searches for the other options or loops in previous correspondence.

trails etc.), should not occur in these wetlands and their buffers. If these buffers are included, implementation of the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect the northeastern bulrush.

If you are unable to adopt the buffers detailed above, we recommend that a qualified botanist with field experience in the identification of this species conduct a thorough survey of all potentially suitable wetland habitat within the proposed project area to determine the presence of the northeastern bulrush before any permits are approved or earth-moving activities begin.

Surveys for this species should be conducted between June 1 and September 30, when the flowering/fruitleting culm is present. A survey report should be submitted to the Service for review and comment.

Please notify this office whether buffers will be adopted as part of this project, or alternatively if surveys will be conducted for this species.

Assessment of Risks to Migratory Birds

The Service is the principal Federal agency charged with protecting and enhancing populations and habitat of migratory bird species. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Department of the Interior.

You have indicated that you plan to minimize potential impacts by scheduling construction during seasons when migratory birds are not present or nesting in the project areas. The Service recognizes that some birds may be killed even if all reasonable measures to avoid take are implemented. Thank you for considering impacts to migratory birds.

To avoid potential delays in reviewing your project, please use the above-referenced USFWS project tracking number in any future correspondence regarding this project.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Pamela Shellenberger of my staff at 814-206-7459.

Sincerely,



Sonja Jahrsdoerfer
Project Leader

cc: David Hanobic – FERC

*Leidy South Project
PA DEP Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application
Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC*

**DCNR & USFWS BOTANICAL SURVEY REPORT
(INCLUDED ABOVE UNDER DCNR COORESPONDENCE)**