

**AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS,
INCORPORATED
A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY**

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

**LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE SWITCH REPLACEMENT
PROJECT
OPSB CASE NO.: 24-0302-EL-BNR**

May 21, 2024

**American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
76 South Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308**

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE
LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE
SWITCH REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The following information is being provided in accordance with the procedures in the Ohio Administrative Code (“OAC”) Chapter 4906-6 for the application and review of Accelerated Certificate Applications. Based upon the requirements found in Appendix A to OAC Rule 4906-1-01, this Project qualifies for submittal to the Ohio Power Siting Board (“OPSB”) as a Construction Notice application.

4906-6-05: ACCELERATED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

4906-6-05: Name and Reference Number

Name of Project: Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line Switch Replacement Project (“Project”)

Reference Number: 2092-2

4906-6-05 (B)(1): Brief Description of the Project

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated (“ATSI”), a FirstEnergy company, proposes to replace two existing switches on the Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line immediately adjacent to the Holmes Wayne Electric Cooperative’s Reedsburg Substation. The Project will include replacement of existing switches A-130 and A-132 with new switches A-681 and A-682, respectively, supported by wood poles, with new switches on single-circuit steel monopole structures on a concrete foundation adjacent to the current structure location. The Project is located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio.

The general location of the Project is shown in Exhibit 1, a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Wayne County OH, Quad Map. Exhibit 2 is a partial copy of ESRI aerial imagery of the Project area. The general layout is shown in Exhibit 3.

4906-6-05 (B)(1): Construction Notice Requirement

The Project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice application because the Project is within the types of projects defined by Item (2)(a) of the Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines, Appendix A of OAC Rule 4906-1-01. This item states:

(2) Adding new circuits on existing structures designed for multiple circuit use, replacing conductors on existing structures with larger or bundled conductors, adding structures to an existing line or replacing structures with a different type of structure, for a distance of:

(a) two miles or less

The proposed Project is within the requirements of Item (2)(a) as it involves replacing structures with a different type of structure for a distance of less than 2 miles.

4906-6-05 (B)(2): Need for the Project

The Project is needed to replace two (2) manually operated switches on the Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line. Existing switches A-130 and A-132, supported by structures 12730 and 12732, respectively, need replacement due to emerging condition concerns and the need to improve operational reliability. The design and assembly of these switches is subject to dimensional changes in the supporting structure such as warping or deflection. These changes can result in mis-operation with the potential for unintended arcing, thereby increasing the risk exposure for switchmen. The new proposed switches are of a unitized design with SCADA controlled motor operators. An engineering evaluation of the existing structures #12730 and #12732 indicates that the wood poles do not meet design criteria to support switching equipment that would be required for this Project. After considering multiple options, replacing the existing structures, as well as the switches, is the most efficient method based on constructability, reliability, and lifecycle cost.

4906-6-05 (B)(3): Location of the Project Relative to Existing or Proposed Lines

The location of the Project relative to existing or proposed lines is shown in the ATSI Transmission Network Map, included as part of the confidential portion of the FirstEnergy Corp. 2024 Long-Term Forecast Report. This map was submitted to the PUCO in Case No. 24-0504-EL-FOR under Rule 4901:5-5:04 (C)(2)(b) of the Ohio Administrative Code. The map is incorporated by reference only. This map shows ATSI's 345 kV and 138 kV transmission lines and transmission substations including the Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line. The Project is not included in ATSI's LTFR filed in 2024 because the Project does not entail any topology or rating change. The general location and layout of the project area is shown in Exhibits 1 and 2. The general layout is shown in Exhibit 3.

4906-6-05 (B)(4): Alternatives Considered

- No action – Continue to maintain: Leaving the existing equipment in its present state and attempting repetitive maintenance is not preferred. Unknown changes between maintenance cycles could potentially result in a mis-operation, thereby exposing a switchman to unintentional arcing.
- Install only motor operators and supporting equipment while reutilizing existing structures: Although initially considered, this option was rejected due to remaining structure strength not meeting design standards. It also fails to address the possibility of a mis-operation due to alignment of switch parts.

4906-6-05 (B)(5): Public Information Program

ATSI's manager of External Affairs will advise local officials of features and the status of the proposed Project as necessary. ATSI will maintain a Project website and will continue to work with property owners concerning the proposed Project. The website address is: https://www.firstenergycorp.com/about/transmission_projects/ohio.html.

Finally, during all phases of this Project, ATSI will maintain the transmission projects hotline at 1-888-311-4737 or via email at: transmissionprojects@firstenergycorp.com where the public may ask questions or leave comments on the Project for ATSI.

4906-6-05 (B)(6): Construction Schedule

The construction schedule for this Project is expected to begin as early as September 1, 2024, and to be completed by December 31, 2024.

4906-6-05 (B)(7): Area Map

Exhibit 1 and 2 depict the general location of the Project. Exhibit 1 provides a partial copy of the United States Geologic Survey, Wayne County OH, Quad Map. Exhibit 2 is a copy of ESRI aerial imagery of the Project area.

4906-6-05 (B)(8): Property Owner List

The Project is located entirely within property (Parcel No. 41-00052.005) owned by Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc., within an existing easement. No easements will be required for completion of this Project.

4906-6-05 (B)(9): TECHNICAL FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

4906-6-05 (B)(9)(a): Operating Characteristics

The transmission line construction will have the following characteristics:

Voltage:	138 kV
Conductors:	605 kcmil 24/7 ACSR (Existing and New)
Static Wire:	134.6 kcmil 12/7 ACSR (Existing) 7#8 Alumoweld (New)
Insulators:	Porcelain
ROW Width:	100'
Structure Types:	Exhibit 4: Steel Pole Switch Structure on Concrete Foundation, two (2) structures needed.

4906-6-05 (B)(9)(b): Electric and Magnetic Fields

There are no occupied residences or institutions within 100 feet from the proposed transmission line centerline and therefore no Electric and Magnetic Field (“EMF”) calculations are required by this subsection.

4906-6-05 (B)(9)(c): Estimated Cost

The estimated cost for the proposed Project is \$898,000. Although not statutorily required for approval, at the request of OPSB Staff, ATSI confirms that ATSI’s costs will be captured and allocated via FERC formula rates for the ATSI Transmission Zone, Attachment H-21 in the PJM OATT.

4906-6-05 (B)(10): SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(a): Land Uses

The Project is in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio. The main land use around the Project area is open field and zoned as commercial. No significant changes or impacts to the current or future land use are anticipated.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(b): Agricultural Land

Agricultural land (primarily cultivated cropland) exists within the Project’s Area of Potential Effect (“APE”), though none of the parcels are designated as Agricultural Districts. Agricultural land surrounds the parcel, but there are no crops on the parcel where construction will take place. All work is limited to the substation parcel (zoned commercial).

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(c): Archaeological or Cultural Resources

As part of the investigation for this Construction Notice, TRC requested database information from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) on April 22, 2024, to identify the presence of previously recorded significant historic properties, including above-ground historic resources and/or archeological sites, mapped within one (1)-mile (mi) of the Project Study Area (Area of Potential Effect or APE). On May 21, 2024, the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) replied to the request, attached as Exhibit 5. SHPO concluded that no historic properties, districts, or archaeological sites are located within or adjacent to the affected Project area (APE). Therefore, based on this information, it is the SHPO’s opinion that no cultural resource studies are warranted for the Project.

Furthermore, as proposed, the Project will have no effect upon historic properties. No further coordination is required for this Project unless the scope of work changes or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the Project. A map of the surveyed APE is also attached as part of Exhibit 5.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(d): Local, State, and Federal Requirements

No additional government agency authorizations or permits are required for this Project.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(e): Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species Investigation

TRC submitted a request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to conduct an Environmental Review of the Project area on February 2, 2024. As part of the Environmental Review, the ODNR Office of Real Estate conducted a search of the ODNR Division of Wildlife's (DOW) Natural Heritage Database to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, or rare species within one (1) mile of the Project area. The ODNR's response on March 4, 2024, indicated that there is one (1) record of state and/or federally listed plants or animals (sandhill crane; *Antigone canadensis*) within one mile of the Project Study Area. Additionally, the Project is within the range of nine (9) state and/or federally listed plants or animal species. A copy of ODNR's response is included as Exhibit 6. A list of all endangered, threatened, and rare species, as identified by ODNR, within a one-mile radius of the Project is provided in Table 1 and a list of all endangered, threatened, and rare species, within the range of the Project as identified by ODNR, is provided in Table 2. TRC also submitted a request to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for an Ecological Review to research the presence of any endangered, threatened, rare, or designated species within one (1) mile of the Project Study Area. A copy of USFWS's response, dated February 6, 2024, is included as Exhibit 7. The response indicated that the proposed Project is in the range of the Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and tricolored bat. Seasonal tree clearing is recommended by USFWS to avoid any adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. No tree-clearing is anticipated within the Project Study Area. However, if minor tree clearing is needed as a result of this Project, it will take place within the USFWS recommended tree clearing dates (October 1 – March 31).

Table 1. List of Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species within a 1-mile radius of Project Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listed Status	State Listed Status	Affected Habitat
Birds				
Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>	N/A	Threatened	Winter in agricultural fields. Roost in shallow, standing water, or moist bottomlands. Nest in large tracts wet meadows, shallow marshes, or bogs.

Table 2. List of Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species within range of Project Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	State Listed Status	Federal Listed Status	Affected Habitat
Birds				
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	Endangered	N/A	Large marshes and grasslands.
Fish				
Lake chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	Threatened	N/A	Freshwater perennial streams.
Mammals				
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Trees and forests.
Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Endangered	N/A	Trees and forests.
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Trees and forests.
Tricolored Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Endangered	N/A	Trees and forests.
Reptiles				
Eastern massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	Endangered	Threatened	Upland and wetland habitat depending on the season. Massasaugas hibernate in low wet areas, primarily in crayfish burrows. In the summer, upland open areas adjoining wetlands.
Smooth greensnake	<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>	Endangered	N/A	Prairie; marshy meadows and roadside ditches.
Kirtland's snake	<i>Clonophis kirtlandii</i>	Threatened	N/A	Wet meadows and other wetlands.

The Project is within the range of the lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*), a state threatened fish. Since no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, the Project will not impact these or other aquatic species.

The Project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species, the smooth greensnake (*Opheodryx vernalis*), a state endangered species and the state threatened Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*). Due to the location, the type of habitat within the Project Study Area as compared to the species habitat listed in Table 2 and the type of work proposed, this Project is not likely to impact this species.

The Project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. Due to this habitat type being avoided during construction, this Project is not likely to impact this species.

4906-6-05 (B)(10)(f): Areas of Ecological Concern

TRC conducted a wetland and stream delineation of the Project area. The TRC investigation focused on an approximately 5.17-acre Project Study Area, on March 20, 2024. During field investigations, a total of one (1) wetland was identified and labeled as Wetland W-EKG-1 within the Project Study Area. Wetland W-EKG-1 is a Palustrine Emergent/Palustrine Scrub-Shrub (PEM/PSS) wetland that is 1.95-acres within the Project Study Area and was evaluated with the OEPA ORAM form as a Modified Category 2 (43.5). No other regulated water resources were identified. Impacts to Wetland W-EKG-1 will be avoided by the utilization of timber matting for access to existing structures within the Project Study Area. No impacts to Wetland W-EKG-1 are expected as result of the switch replacement Project. All timber matting will be removed upon completion of construction and wetlands restored to preexisting conditions.

The Project Study Area consists of existing, maintained utility ROW and substation, surrounded by agricultural and commercial land use. During the field investigation, TRC did not observe the presence of any of the ODNR listed species due to the highly maintained nature of the utility right-of-way. A copy of the Wetland Delineation Report is included as Exhibit 8. A review of the National Conservation Easement Database (www.conservationeasement.us) revealed no conservation easements located within the Project Study Area.

The Project work limits do not include any in-stream activities or encroach on any regulated flood plains based on a review of online FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Mapping.

4906-6-05(B)(10)(g): Other Information

Construction and operation of the proposed Project will be in accordance with the requirements specified in the latest revision of the National Electrical Safety Code as adopted by the PUCO and will meet all applicable safety standards established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

No other or unusual conditions are expected that will result in significant environmental, social, health or safety impacts.

4906-6-07: Documentation of Construction Notice Transmittal and Availability for Public Review

This Construction Notice application is being provided concurrently to the following officials in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio:

Wayne County

Commissioner Jonathan Hofstetter
Wayne County Board of
Commissioners
428 West Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691

Commissioner Ron Amstutz
Wayne County Board of
Commissioners
428 West Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691

Commissioner Sue Smail
Wayne County Board of
Commissioners
428 West Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691

Mr. Bill Cletzer, Chairman
Wayne County Planning
Commission
428 West Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691

Mr. Scott A. Miller, P.E., P.S.
Wayne County Engineer
3151 W Old Lincoln Way
Wooster, OH 44691

Plain Township

Ed Flinner, Trustee
Plain Township
3026 South Elyria Road
Wooster, OH 44691

Bruce Sigler, Trustee,
Plain Township
3026 South Elyria Road
Wooster, OH 44691

David McMillen, Trustee
Plain Township
3026 South Elyria Road
Wooster, OH 44691

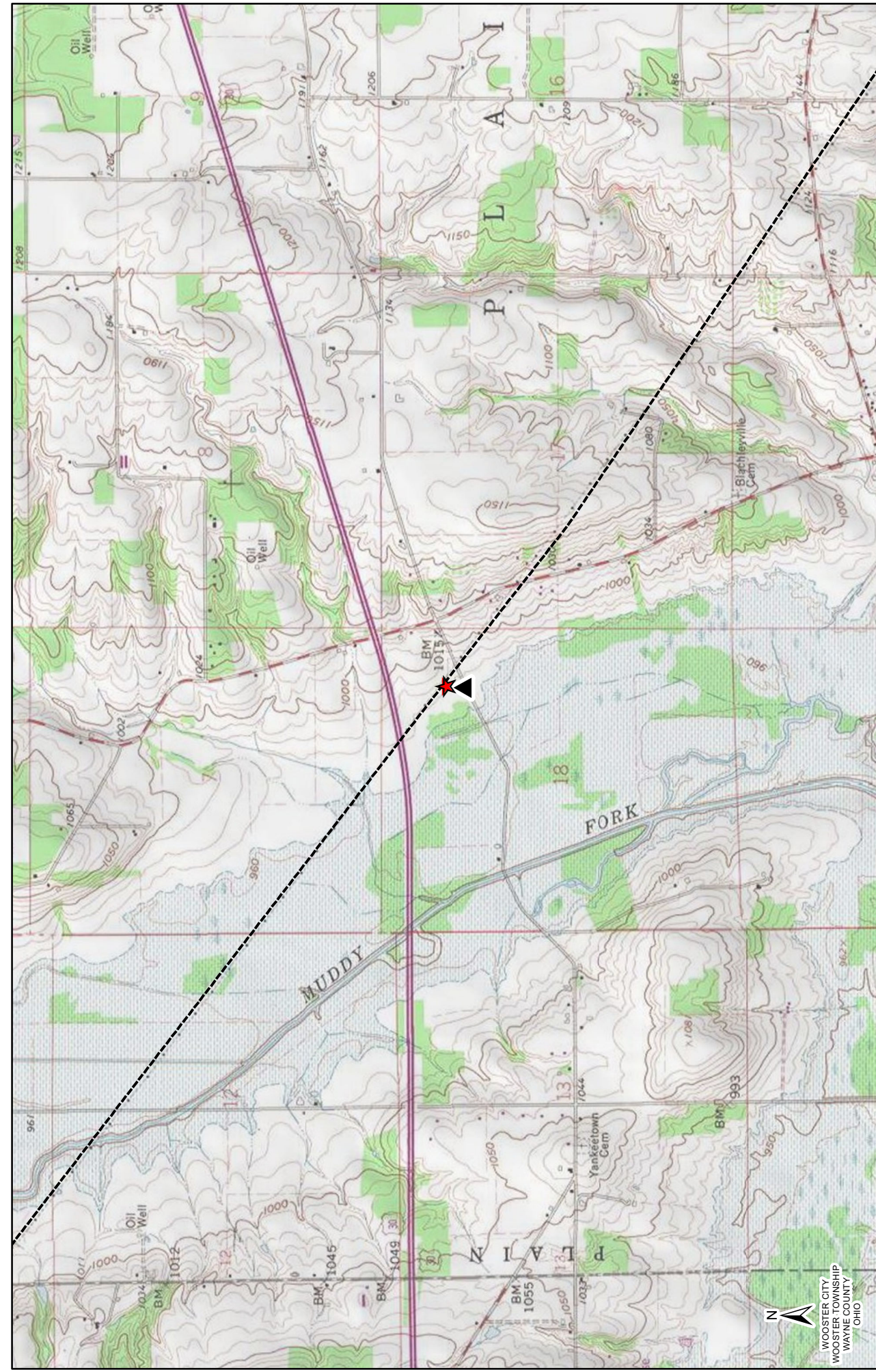
Mr. Kevin Schmid,
Fiscal Officer, Plain Township
3026 South Elyria Road
Wooster, OH 44691

Library

Ms. Jennifer Shatzer, Director
Wayne County Public Library
220 West Liberty Street
Wooster, OH 44691

Per OAC Rule 4906-6-07(B), an exemplar copy of the notice letters sent to local government officials and to the library have been included with this application as proof of compliance with requirements of OAC Rules 4906-6-07(A)(1) and 4906-6-07(A)(2).

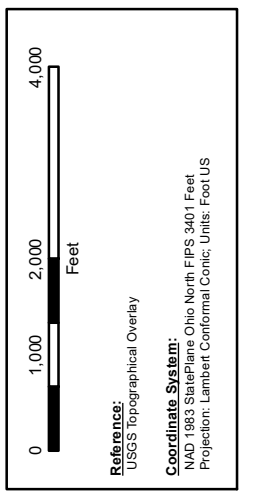
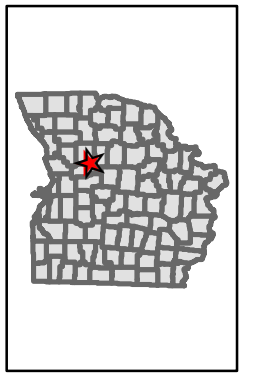
Information is posted at www.firstenergycorp.com/about/transmission_project/ohio.html on how to request an electronic or paper copy of this Construction Notice application. The link to this website is being provided in accordance with OAC Rule 4906-6-07(B), which requires ATSI to provide the OPSB with proof of compliance for in OAC Rule 4906-6-07(A)(3).



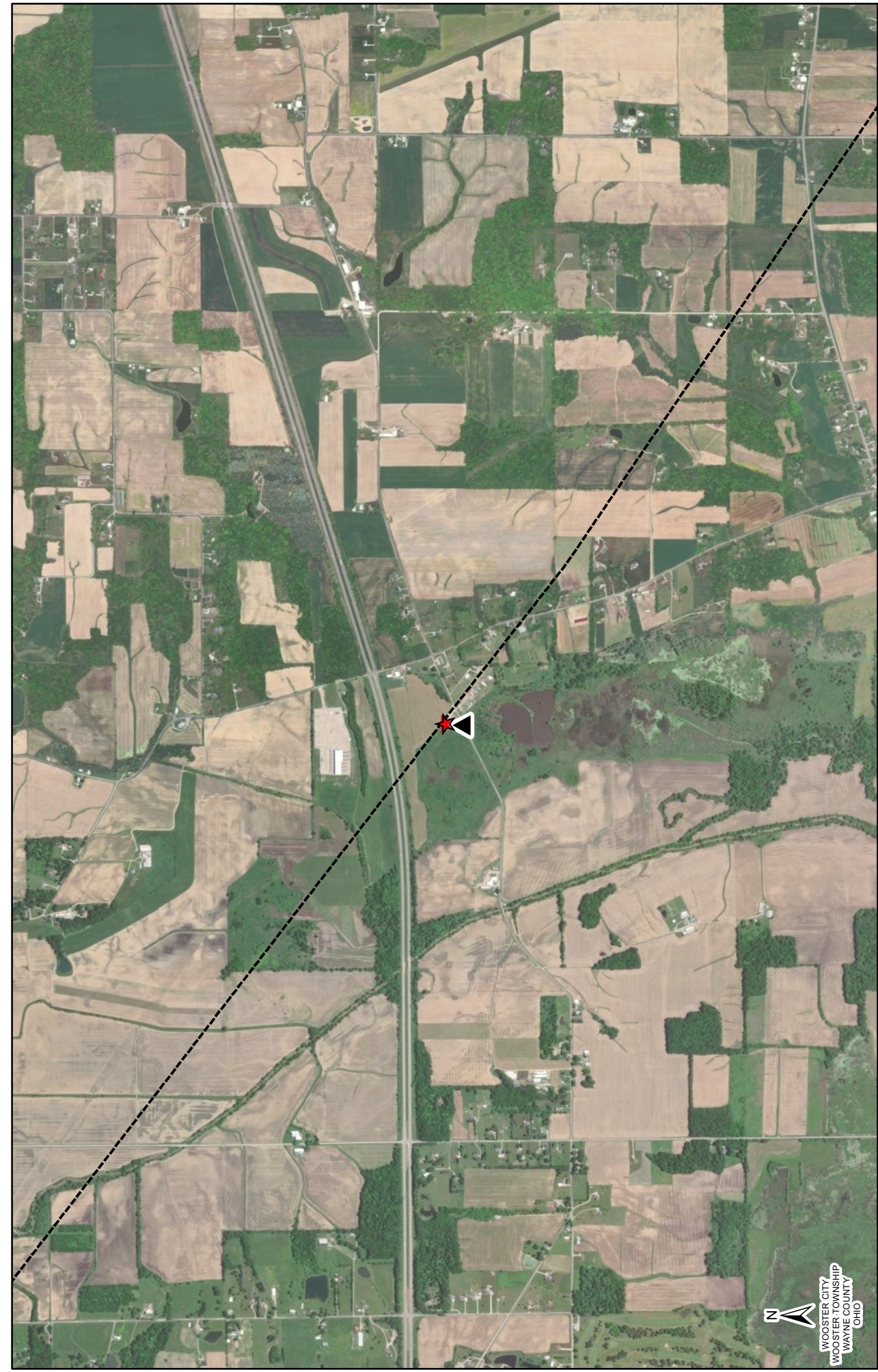
ATSI
 American Transmission Systems, Inc.
 a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

EXHIBIT 1

**Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line
 Switch and Structures Replacement Project**




- LEGEND:**
- ★ Project Location
 - ▲ Substation
 - 138 kV Transmission Line





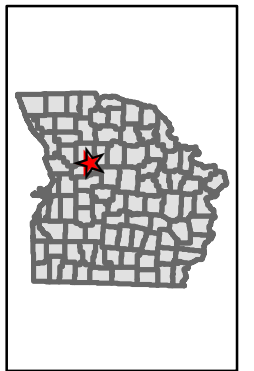
 WOOSTER CITY
 WOOSTER TOWNSHIP
 WAYNE COUNTY
 OHIO

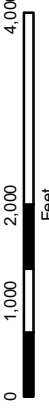


ATSI[®]
 American Transmission Systems, Inc.
a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp.

EXHIBIT 2

Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line
 Switch and Structures Replacement Project






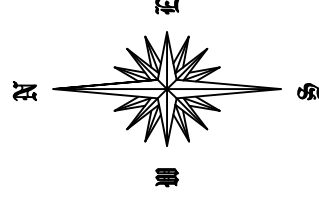
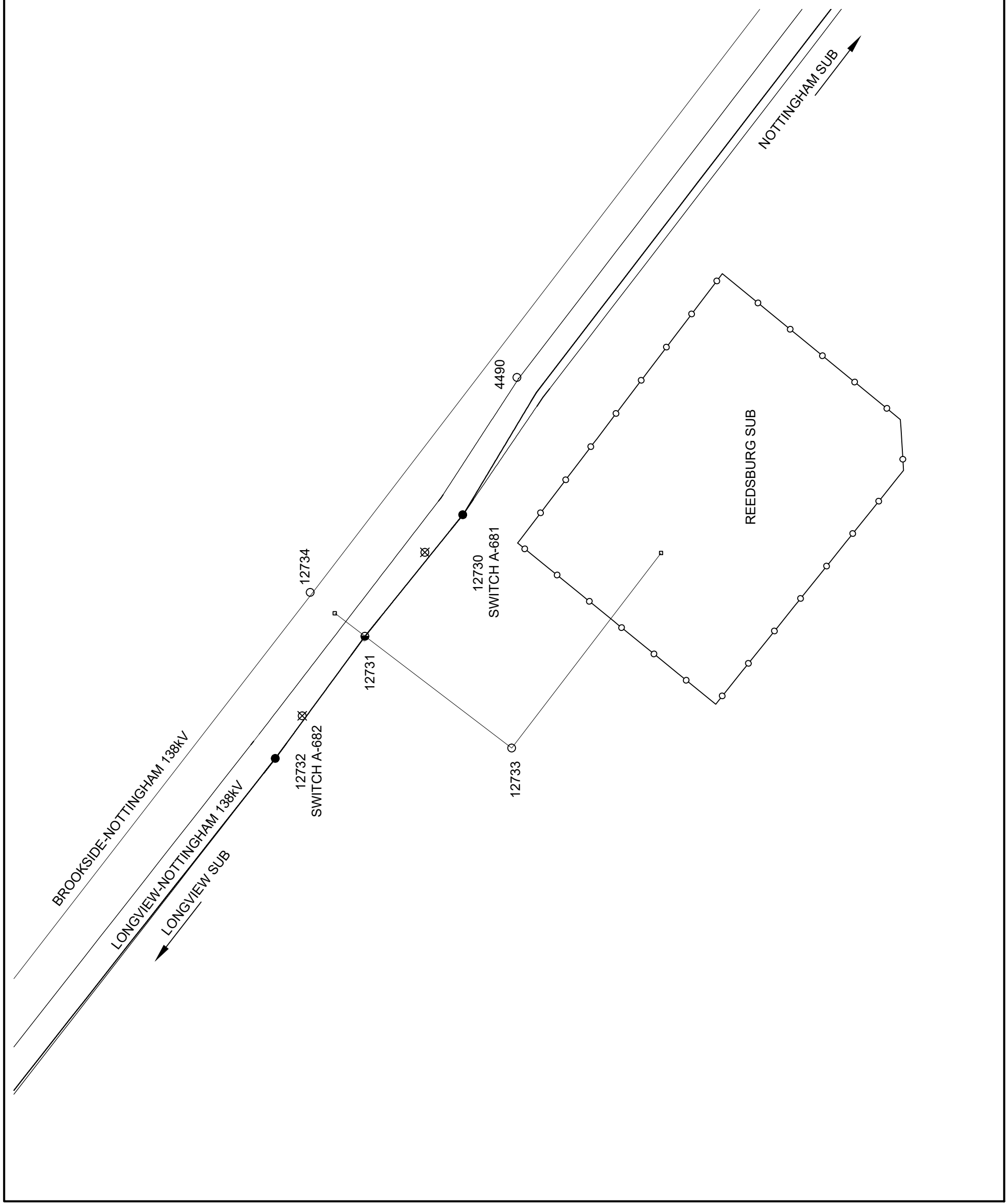


 0 1,000 2,000 4,000
 Feet

Reference: ESRI Imagery; ODOT
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North FIPS 3401 Feet
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic; Units: Foot US

LEGEND:

-  Project Location
-  Substation
-  --- 138 kV Transmission Line



WAYNE COUNTY, OH

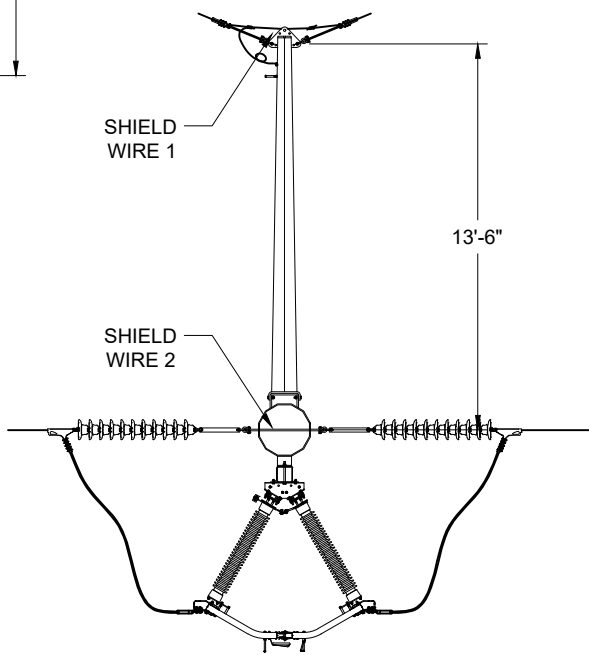
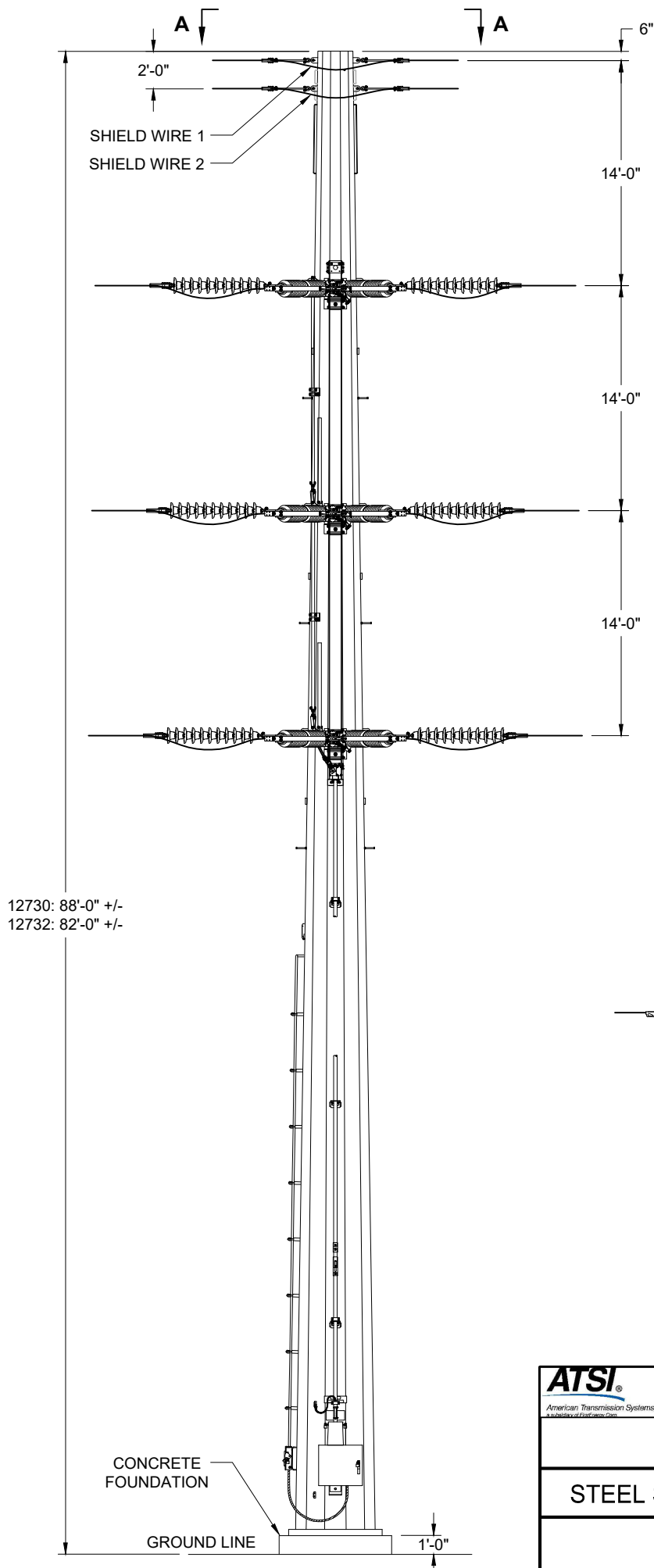
- LEGEND**
- EXISTING STRUCTURE TO REMAIN
 - ⊗ EXISTING STRUCTURE TO BE REMOVED
 - EXISTING STRUCTURE TO BE MODIFIED
 - PROPOSED NEW STRUCTURE LOCATION



**LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138kV
TRANSMISSION LINE SWITCH
REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

GENERAL LAYOUT

EXHIBIT 3



SECTION A-A

SCALE: NTS

	<p>LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV TRANSMISSION LINE SWITCH REPLACEMENT PROJECT</p>
	<p>STEEL SWITCH STRUCTURES 12730 & 12732</p>
	<p>EXHIBIT 4</p>



In reply refer to:
2024-WAY-61071

May 21, 2024

Justin McKissick, MA, RPA
Project Archaeologist/Field Director
TRC Environmental Corporation
317 E Carson Street, Suite 113
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Email: JMcKissick@trccompanies.com

RE: Section 106 Review: Longview-Nottingham 138kV A-130 & A-132 Switch Project, Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio

Dear Mr. McKissick:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on April 22, 2024, regarding the above reference project in Wayne County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code (O.R.C.) and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project. The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The proposed project involves disconnecting and removal of switches A-130 and A-132 along the Longview-Nottingham 138kV transmission line. Based on information submitted by you, which included a Project Summary Form, no historic properties, districts, or archaeological sites are located within the direct Area of Potential Effect (APE), as defined by you. Therefore, based on this, it is the SHPO's opinion that no cultural resource studies are warranted for the project. Furthermore, as proposed, the project will have no effect on historic properties. No further coordination is required for this project unless the scope of work changes or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted as required by 36 CFR § 800.13. If you have any questions concerning this review, please contact either myself via email at sbiehl@ohiohistory.org or Ms. Joy Williams at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen M. Biehl".

Stephen M. Biehl, Project Reviews Coordinator (archaeology)
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No. 1102825



**OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:
RESOURCE PROTECTION AND REVIEW**

Section 106 Review - Project Summary Form

For projects requiring a license from the Federal Communications Commission, please use FCC Forms 620 or 621. DO NOT USE THIS FORM.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

All contact information provided must include the name, address and phone number of the person listed. Email addresses should also be included, if available. Please refer to the Instructions or contact an OHPO reviewer (mailto:Section106@ohiohistory.org) if you need help completing this Form. Unless otherwise requested, we will contact the person submitting this Form with questions or comments about this project.

Date: 04/19/2024

Name/Affiliation of person submitting form: Justin McKissick, MA, RPA

Mailing Address: 317 E. Carson Street, Suite 113, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone/Fax/Email: 412.660.7937/jmckissick@trccompanies.com

A. Project Info:

1. This Form provides information about:

New Project Submittal:

YES

Additional information relating to previously submitted project:

NO

OHPO/RPR Serial Number from previous submission:

2. Project Name (if applicable): **Longview-Nottingham 138kV A-130 & A-132 Switch Project**

3. Internal tracking or reference number used by Federal Agency, consultant, and/or applicant to identify this project (if applicable): **429847.0022.0039**

- B. Project Address or vicinity: **The Study Area (40.782869, -82.094762) is located approximately 826 feet (ft) west from the intersection of Angling Road (CR 18) and South Elyria Road (CR 149) (Figures 1 and 2). The Study Area fronts Angling Road at the southern extent while the northern extent of the Study Area is adjacent to US Route 30 (West Lincoln Way). Muddy Fork drainage flows west of the Study Area.**
- C. City/Township: **Plain Township**
- D. County: **Wayne County**
- E. Federal Agency and Agency Contact. *If you do not know the federal agency involved in your project, please contact the party asking you to apply for Section 106 Review, not OHPO, for this information. HUD Entitlement Communities acting under delegated environmental review authority should list their own contact information.* **N/A**
- F. Type of Federal Assistance. *List all known federal sources of federal funding, approvals, and permits to avoid repeated reviews.* **N/A**
- G. State Agency and Contact Person (if applicable): **Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB)**
- H. Type of State Assistance: **N/A**
- I. Is this project being submitted at the direction of a state agency **solely** under Ohio Revised Code 149.53 or at the direction of a State Agency? *Answering yes to this question means that you are sure that no federal funding, permits or approvals will be used for any part of your project, and that you are seeking comments only under ORC 149.53.*
NO
- J. Public Involvement- Describe how the public has been/will be informed about this project and its potential to affect historic properties. Please summarize how they will have an opportunity to provide comments about any effects to historic properties. (This step is required for all projects under 36 CFR § 800.2):
- K. Please list other consulting parties that you have contacted/will contact about this project, such as Indian Tribes, Certified Local Governments, local officials, property owners, or preservation groups. (See 36 CFR § 800.2 for more information about involving other consulting parties). Please summarize how they will have an opportunity to provide comments: **N/A**

SECTION 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

Provide a description of your project, its site, and geographical information. You will also describe your project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). Please refer to the Instructions or contact an OHPO reviewer if you need help with developing the APE or completing this form.

For challenging projects, provide as much information as possible in all sections, and then check the box in Section 5.A. to ask OHPO to offer preliminary comments or make recommendations about how to proceed with your project consultation. This is recommended if your project involves effects to significant historic properties or if there may be challenging procedural issues related to your project. Please note that providing information to complete all Sections will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

A. Does this project involve any Ground-Disturbing activity: **YES**

(If **Yes**, you must complete all of Section 2.A. If **No**, proceed directly to Section 2. B.)

1. General description of width, length and depth of proposed ground disturbing activity:

The Limits of Disturbance (LOD) which corresponds to the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for direct effects, will be completely within the Study Area, which measures approximately 5.17 acres (ac) in size (Figure 2). The Study Area extends from Angling Road approximately 1,145 ft to the northwest. The Study Area measures approximately 350 ft at its widest point and 85 ft at its narrowest point. There will be surficial ground disturbances associated with access within the existing, disturbed ROW for the switch removals. All work will be contained within the existing right-of-way. Timber matting will be utilized at the surface for any necessary wetland crossings. The proposed Project Study Area does not contain forested habitat; therefore, tree clearing and grubbing is not anticipated.

2. Narrative description of previous land use and past ground disturbances, if known:
Historically, the landscape was likely agricultural fields or wooded landscapes with development occurring predominately throughout the twentieth and into the twenty-first centuries.

3. Narrative description of current land use and conditions:
The modern aerial imagery shows a developing suburban and semi-rural landscape with the Study Area composed of an existing access drive, parking area, laydown area, and substation adjacent to the transmission line ROW. The Study Area is surrounded by wooded areas, overgrown brush, a highway, and an agricultural field. Development in the area includes a junkyard, residential properties, and a commercial warehouse. General overview photographs are provided as Attachment 1.

4. Does the landowner know of any archaeological resources found on the property?
YES NO If yes, please describe: **Unknown**

B. Submit the exact project site location on a USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map for all projects. Map sections, photocopies of map sections, and online versions of USGS maps are acceptable as long as the location is clearly marked. Show the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). It should be clearly distinguished from other features shown on the map:

1. USGS Quad Map Name: New Pittsburgh, OH
2. Township/City/Village Name: **Plain Township**

C. Provide a street-level map indicating the location of the project site; road names must be identified and legible. Your map must show the exact location of the boundaries for the project site. Show the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). It should be clearly distinguished from other features shown on the map: **See Figure 2**

D. Provide a verbal description of the APE, including a discussion of how the APE will include areas with the potential for direct and indirect effects from the project. Explain the steps taken to identify the project's APE, and your justification for the specific boundaries chosen:

The APE will include all areas in which construction activities associated with the proposed Project will take place. The surficial ground disturbances will primarily be associated with vehicle access within the disturbed ROW to complete the switch removals. The APE will also include a viewshed that will be based on LIDAR data,

vegetation, topography, and buildings, which will reduce the APE to areas with positive visibility of the Project infrastructure within 0.25 miles (mi) of the undertaking. There are no buildings adjacent to the Study Area that are over 50 years of age; moreover, removal of switches will not create new visual impacts.

- E. Provide a detailed description of the project. This is a critical part of your submission. Your description should be prepared for a cold reader who may not be an expert in this type of project. The information provided must help support your analysis of effects to historic properties, not other types of project impacts. Do not simply include copies of environmental documents or other types of specialized project reports. If there are multiple project alternatives, you should include information about all alternatives that are still under active consideration:

The proposed Project will involve disconnection and removal of switches A-130 and A-132 on the Longview-Nottingham 138kV transmission line. All work will be contained within existing ROW.

SECTION 3: IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Describe whether there are historic properties located within your project APE. To make that determination, use information generated from your own Background Research and Field Survey. Then choose one of the following options to report your findings. Please refer to the Instructions and/or contact an OHPO reviewer if you are unsure about how to identify historic properties for your project.

TRC performed a desktop review based on data received from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office's (OHPO) on April 5, 2024, to identify the presence of previously recorded significant historic properties, including above-ground historic resources and/or archeological sites, mapped within one (1)-mi of the Study Area. The file review revealed there are no historic properties (buildings, structures, sites, districts, and/or objects listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP) within the Study Area or mapped within one (1)-mi of the Study Area (Figure 3). There is one (1) above-ground historic resource that has not been formally evaluated for NRHP eligibility mapped 0.24 mi northeast of the proposed Project. There are three (3) Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) Cemeteries mapped within one (1)-mi of the proposed Project, located 0.85 mi northeast, 0.65 mi east, and 0.95 mi southeast.

No formal archaeological surveys have been completed within one (1)-mi of the Study Area. From local informants, there are nine (9) archaeological sites recorded within one (1)-mi. The sites include six (6) prehistoric open sites of unknown function, two (2) prehistoric camp sites, and one (1) multi-component open prehistoric and nineteenth century residential site. The two (2) camp sites have yielded diagnostic artifacts that range from the Early Archaic to the Middle and Late Woodland Periods. The nearest of these sites is mapped 0.2 mi to the north.

A review of available historic maps was conducted to determine the presence of potential historic structures and buildings (50 years of age or older) and other possible historic features within or adjacent to the Study Area that may be impacted by the proposed Project. Plain Township was established in 1817. By 1856, public land in the area had been disposed by sale, and the region had been settled with residential buildings and agricultural buildings. The Study Area is on parcels attributed to *C. Wilson in 1856* (Attachment 2, Image 1). Mapping from 1873 shows that the Study Area is within the parcel owned by *M. Stair* (Attachment 2, Image 2). In mapping from 1906, the Study Area is adjacent to a flood plain of the Mohicanville Reservoir and buildings are not mapped at this location (Attachment 2, Image 3). After the turn of century and into the mid-twentieth century, the region remained relatively rural with modest development along the established roadways. By 1961, the existing transmission lines and a modern highway had been constructed through and proximal to the Study Area (Attachment 2, Image 4). New development primarily included small housing plots, commercial buildings, and manufacturing facilities in

discrete locations throughout the mid-twentieth and into the twenty-first century.

If you read the Instructions and you're still confused as to which reporting option best fits your project, or you are not sure if your project needs a survey, you may choose to skip this section, but provide as much supporting documentation as possible in all other Sections, then check the box in Section 5.A. to request preliminary comments from OHPO. After reviewing the information provided, OHPO will then offer comments as to which reporting option is best suited to document historic properties for your project. Please note that providing information to complete this Section will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

Recording the Results of Background Research and Field Survey:

- A. **Summary of discussions and/or consultation with OHPO** about this project that demonstrates how the Agency Official and OHPO have agreed that no Field Survey was necessary for this project (typically due to extreme ground disturbance or other special circumstances). Please **attach copies** of emails/correspondence that document this agreement. You must explain how the project's potential to affect both archaeological and historic resources were considered. **N/A**

- B. **A table that includes the minimum information** listed in the OHPO Section 106 Documentation Table (which is generally equivalent to the information found on an inventory form). This information must be printed and mailed with the Project Summary Form. To provide sufficient information to complete this Section, you must also include summary observations from your field survey, background research and eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated in the project APE. **N/A**

- C. **OHI (Ohio Historic Inventory) or OAI (Ohio Archaeological Inventory) forms-** New or updated inventory forms may be prepared using the OHI pdf form with data population capabilities, the Internet IForm, or typed on archival quality inventory forms. To provide sufficient information to complete this Section, you must include summary observations from your field survey and background research. You must also include eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated in the project APE. **N/A**

- D. **A historic or archaeological survey report** prepared by a qualified consultant that meets professional standards. The survey report should meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification and OHPO Archaeological Guidelines. You may also include new inventory forms with your survey or update previous inventory forms. To complete this section, your survey report must include summary observations from your field survey, background research and eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated within the APE. **N/A**

- E. **Project Findings.** Based on the conclusions you reached in completing Section 3, please choose one finding for your project. There are (mark one):
 - Historic Properties Present in the APE: **N/A**

 - No Historic Properties Present in the APE: **N/A**

SECTION 4: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

This information must be provided for all projects.

- A. Photographs must be keyed to a street-level map and should be included as attachments to this application. Please label all forms, tables, and CDs with the date of your submission and project name, as identified in Section 1. You must present enough documentation to clearly show existing conditions at your project site and convey details about the buildings, structures or sites that are described in your submission. Faxed or photocopied photographs are not acceptable. See

Instructions for more info about photo submissions or 36 CFR § 800.11 for federal documentation standards.

1. Provide photos of the entire project site and take photos to/from historic properties from/towards your project site to support your determination of effect in Section 5. **See Attachment 1 - Photographs**
 2. Provide current photos of all buildings/structures/sites described.
- B. Project plan, specifications, site drawings and any other media presentation that conveys detailed information about your project and its potential to affect historic properties.
- C. Copies or summaries of any comments provided by consulting parties or the public.

SECTION 5: DETERMINATION OF EFFECT

- A. **Request Preliminary Comments.** For challenging projects, provide as much information as possible in previous sections and ask OHPO to offer preliminary comments or make recommendations about how to proceed with your project consultation. This is recommended if your project involves effects to significant historic properties, if the public has concerns about your project's potential to affect historic properties, or if there may be challenging procedural issues related to your project. Please be aware that providing information in all Sections will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

1. We request preliminary comments from OHPO about this project:

YES

2. Please specify as clearly as possible the particular issues that you would like OHPO to examine for your project (for example- help with developing an APE, addressing the concerns of consulting parties, survey methodology, etc.):

Please review the provided information and respond with your determination relative to the potential effects to cultural resources, if any.

- B. **Determination of Effect.** If you believe that you have gathered enough information to conclude the Section 106 process, you may be ready to make a determination of effect and ask OHPO for concurrence, while considering public comments. Please select and mark one of the following determinations, then explain the basis for your decision on an attached sheet of paper:

No historic properties will be affected based on 36 CFR § 800.4(d) (1).
Please explain how you made this determination:

No Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(b)] on historic properties. This finding cannot be used if there are no historic properties present in your project APE. Please explain why the Criteria of Adverse Effect, [36 CFR Part 800.5(a) (1)], were found not to be applicable for your project:

Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(d) (2)] on historic properties. Please explain why the criteria of adverse effect, [36 CFR Part 800.5(a) (1)], were found to be applicable to your project. You may also include an explanation of how these adverse effects might be avoided, reduced or mitigated:

Please send completed form and supporting documentation to our office through the

section106@ohiohistory.org e-mail address. Note that file size is limited to 30 MB. The Ohio SHPO has a federally mandated review time of 30 calendar day. To check your submission was received and logged in for our review, please visit <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office/hpreviews/section-106-project-status>.

REFERENCES

Caldwell, J. A.

1873 "Plain" in *Caldwell's Atlas of Wayne County, Ohio*. Published by JA Caldwell, Sunbury, Ohio. Electronic document, https://www.ohiohistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Caldwell-s_Atlas_of_Wayne_County_1873.pdf, accessed April 18, 2024.

Lorey, William, and J. Hein

1856 "Plain" in *Baker's Map of Wayne County, Ohio*. Published by Baker & Gager, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Electronic document, <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4083w.la000687/?r=0.197,0.341,0.107,0.084,0>, accessed April 18, 2024.

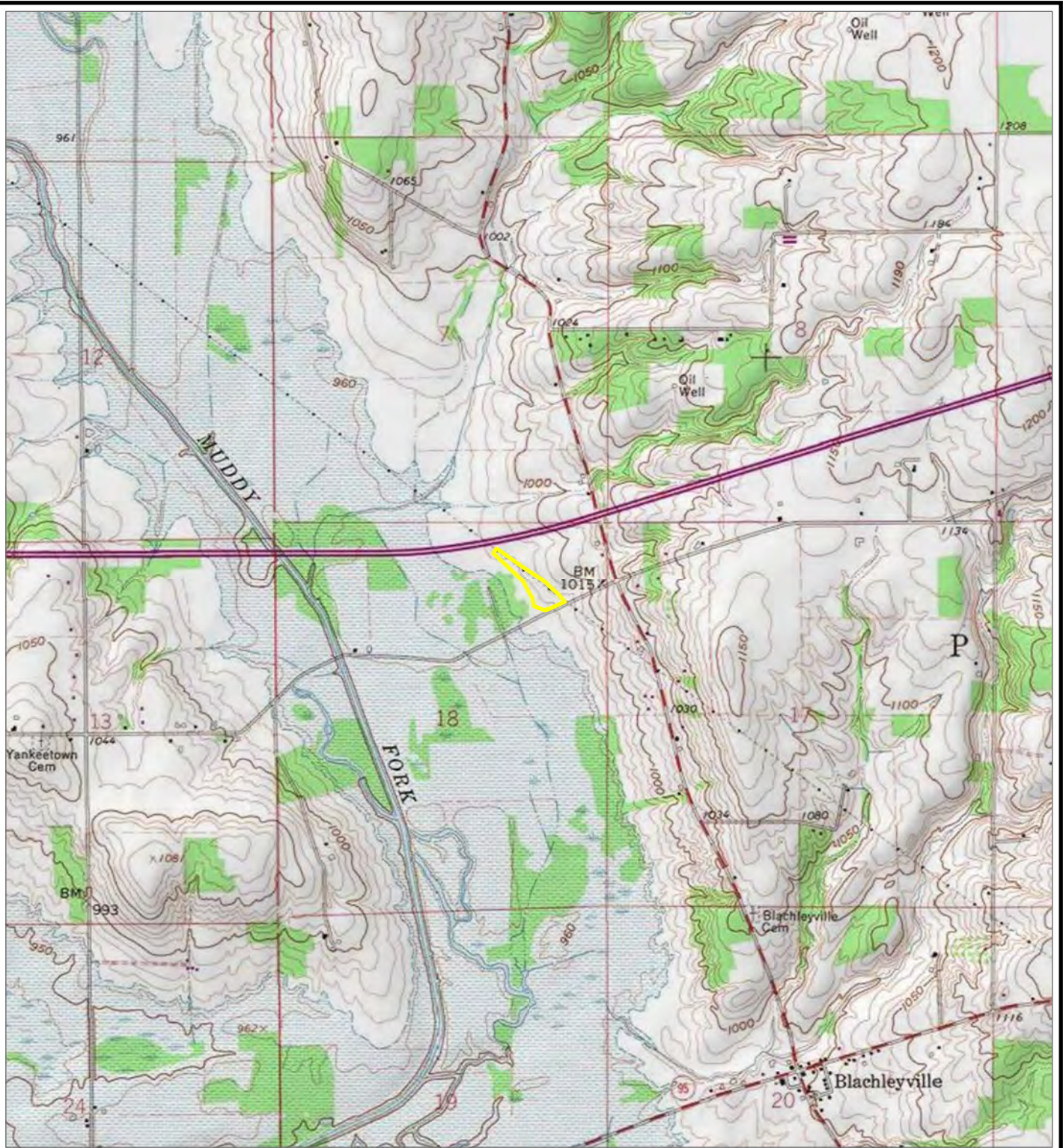
United States Geographical Survey


1906 *West Salem, OH*, 15-minute series topographic series. Electronic document, <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#14/40.7829/-82.0948>, accessed April 17, 2024.

United States Geographical Survey

1961 *New Pittsburgh, OH*, 7.5-minute series topographic series. Electronic document, <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#14/40.7829/-82.0948>, accessed April 17, 2024.



COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 STATEPLANE OHIO NORTH RIPS 3401 FEET, MAP ROTATION: 0
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 PROJECT STUDY AREA

BASE MAP: USA TOPO MAPS MAP SERVICE , NEW PITTSBURG QUAD


0 1,000 2,000
 FEET
 1:24,000 1" = 2,000'

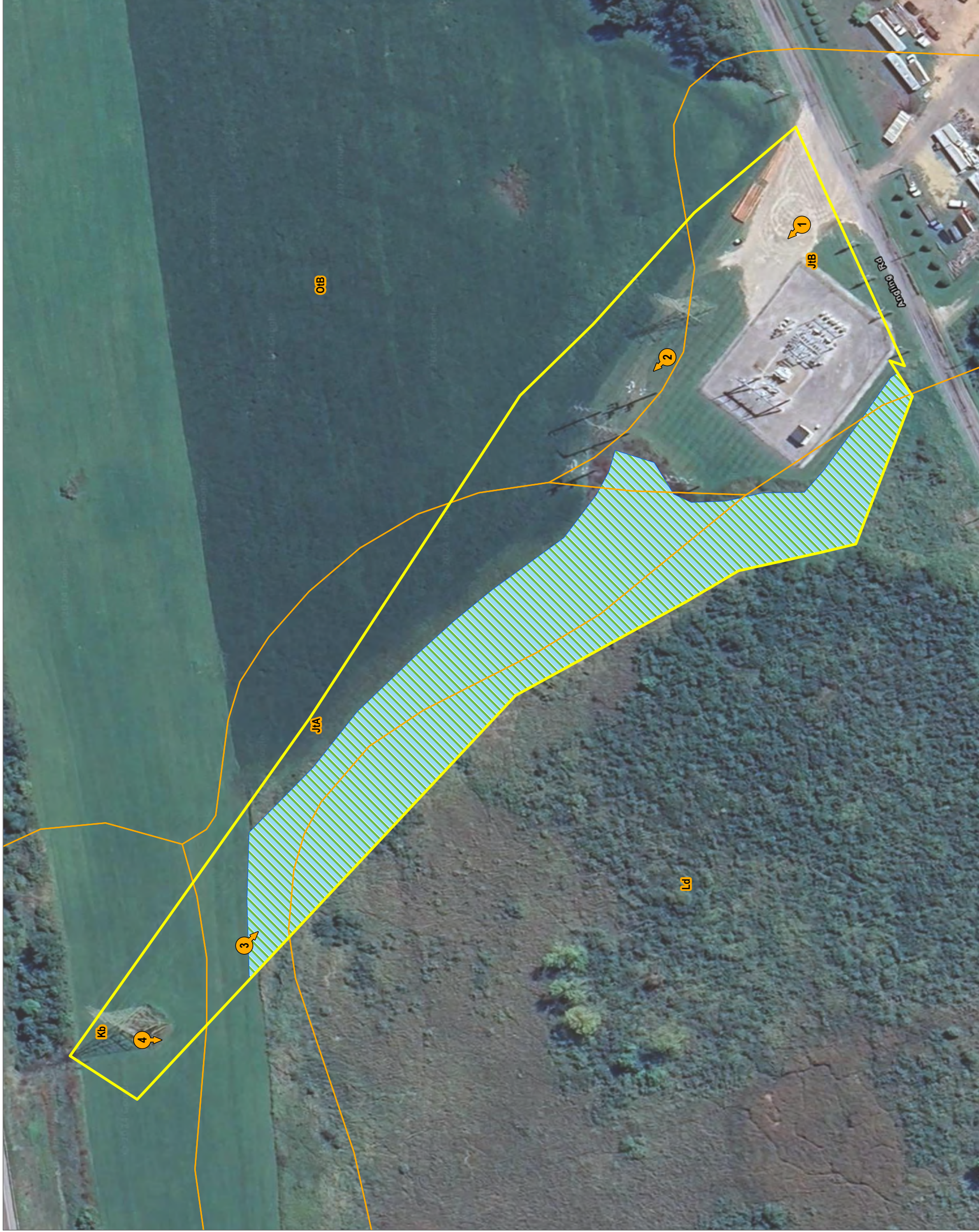
PROJECT: **FIRSTENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
 A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
 WAYNE COUNTY, OH**





TITLE: **PROJECT LOCATION MAP**

DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: J. MCKISSICK	FIGURE 1
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	
DATE: APRIL 2024	

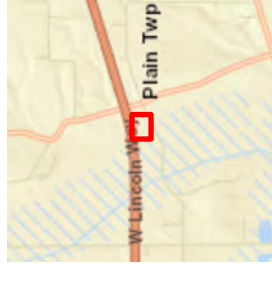
 1382 WEST NINTH STREET
 SUITE 400
 CLEVELAND, OH 44113
 PHONE: 216-344-3072

FILE: FORM106



-  PROJECT STUDY AREA
-  DELINEATED WETLAND
-  MAPPED SOIL UNITS
-  PHOTO LOCATION

BASE MAP: GOOGLE MAPS.



1:1,200
1" = 100'

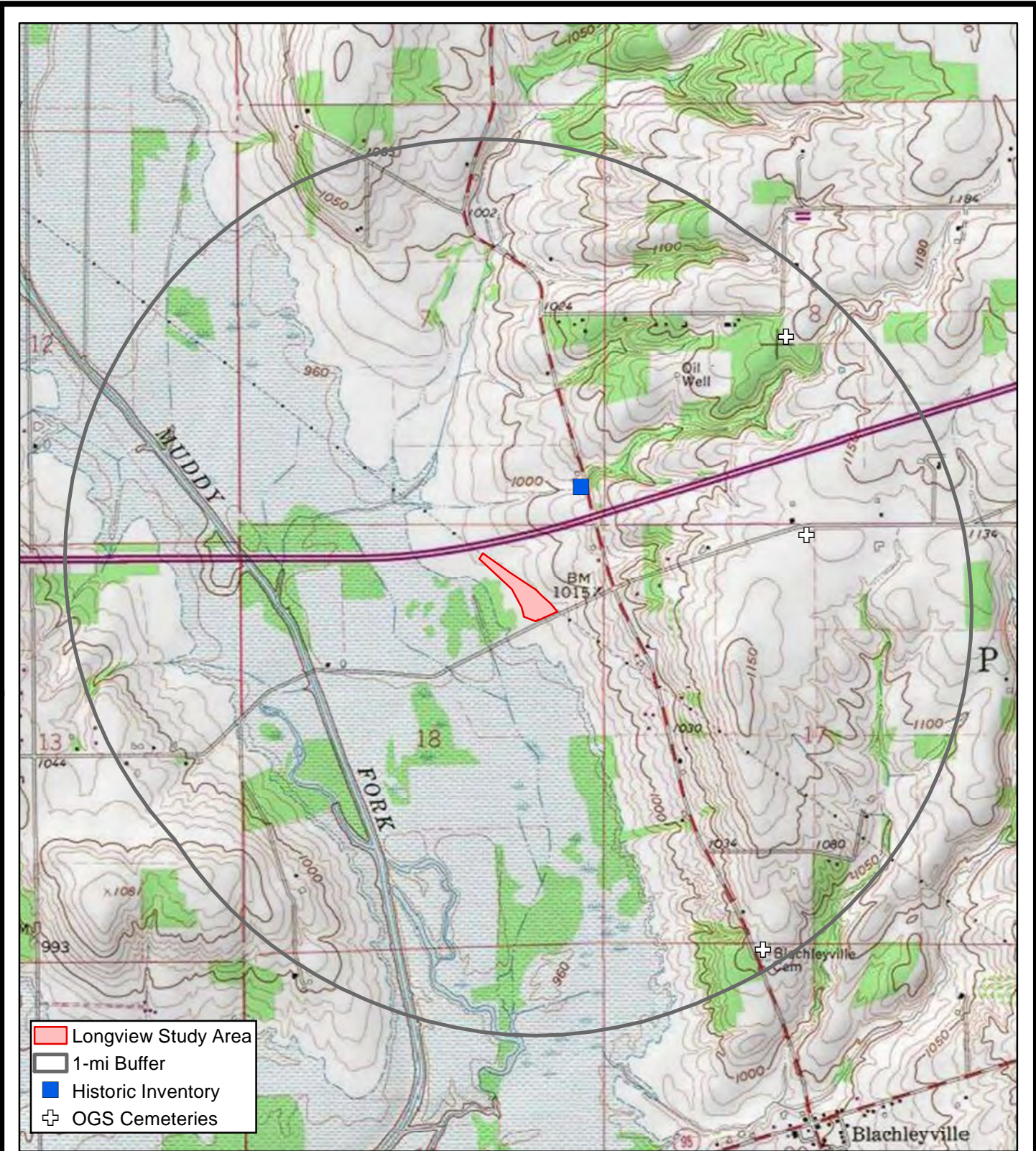


PRSTENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
WAYNE COUNTY, OH

TITLE: AERIAL BASEMAP WITH PHOTO LOCATIONS	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: J. MCKISSICK	
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	
DATE: APRIL 2024	FIGURE 2

TRC
1382 WEST NINTH STREET
SUITE 400
CLEVELAND, OH 44113
PHONE: 216-344-3072


FILE:
Form106.aprx



- Longview Study Area
- 1-mi Buffer
- Historic Inventory
- OGS Cemeteries

N
 1" = 1,758' 0 500 1,000
 1:21,097 FEET

BASE MAP FROM USGS 7.5-MINUTE SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE

 317 E. Carson Street Suite 113 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 <small>TRC - GIS</small>	PROJECT: <h3 style="text-align: center;">Longview-Nottingham 138KV A-130 and A-132 Switch Project</h3>	DRAWN BY: JUSTIN MCKISSICK CHECKED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH APPROVED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH
	TITLE: <h3 style="text-align: center;">OHC Online Database Search Results Map</h3>	DATE: APRIL 2024 PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039 FILE: Longview.mxd
		Figure 3



ATTACHMENT 1
Photographs

Client Name: FirstEnergy Corporation	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No. 429847.0022.0039
--	---	--


Photo No. 1.	
Date: March 20, 2024	
Description: Facing north, viewing the existing substation access location at the southern extent of the Study Area.	

Photo No. 2.	
Date: March 20, 2024	
Description: Facing northwest, viewing the existing utility corridor within the south-central portion of the Study Area.	

Client Name: FirstEnergy Corporation	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No. 429847.0022.0039
--	---	--


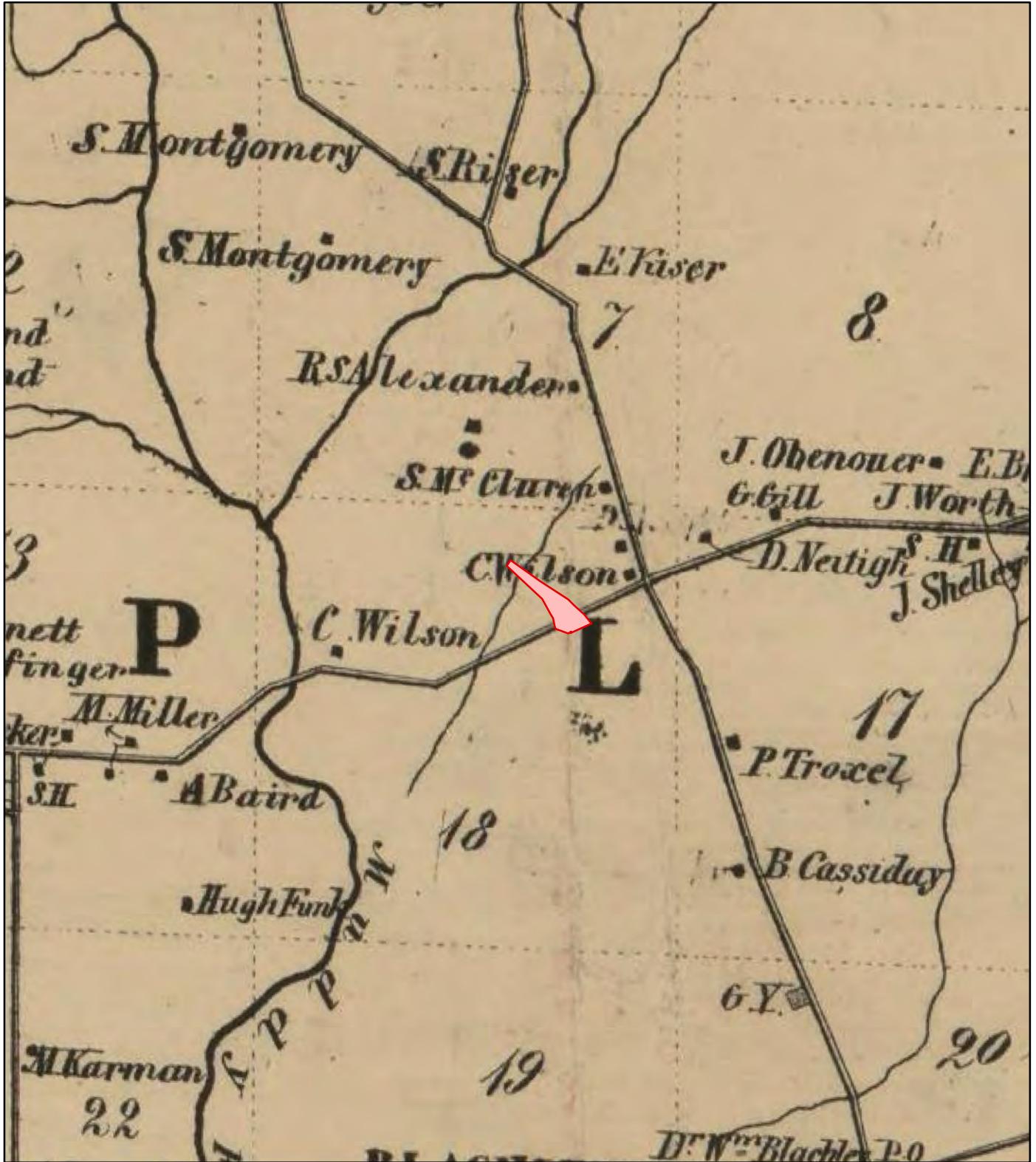
Photo No. 3.	
Date: March 20, 2024	
Description: Facing southeast, viewing the existing utility corridor from the northern portion of the Study Area.	

Photo No. 4.	
Date: March 20, 2024	
Description: Facing south, viewing the structure on which the switch removal will take place.	

ATTACHMENT 2
Historic Map Images



N
 1" = 1,667' 0 500 1,000
 1:20,000 FEET

BASE MAP FROM BAKER'S MAP of WAYNE CO., OHIO
 *Image overlay is approximate



317 E. Carson Street
 Suite 113
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

PROJECT:

**Longview-Nottingham 138KV
 A-130 and A-132 Switch Project**

TITLE:

Project Area circa 1856 (Lorey and Hein)

DRAWN BY: JUSTIN MCKISSICK

CHECKED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

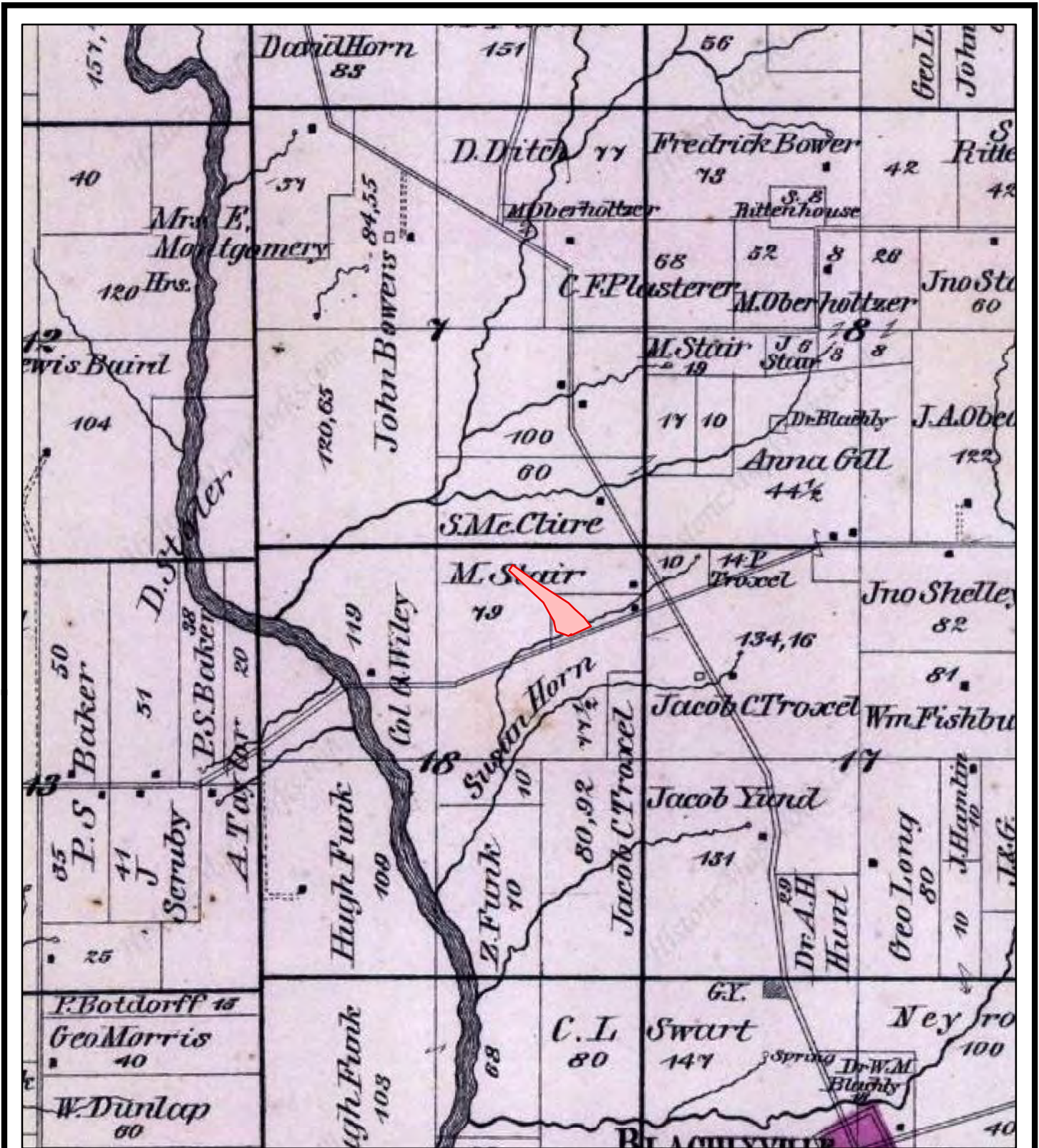
APPROVED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

DATE: APRIL 2024

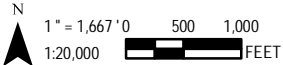
PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039

FILE: Longview.mxd

Attachment 2 - Image 1



BASE MAP FROM CAMPBELL'S ATLAS of WAYNE CO., OHIO
 *Image overlay is approximate



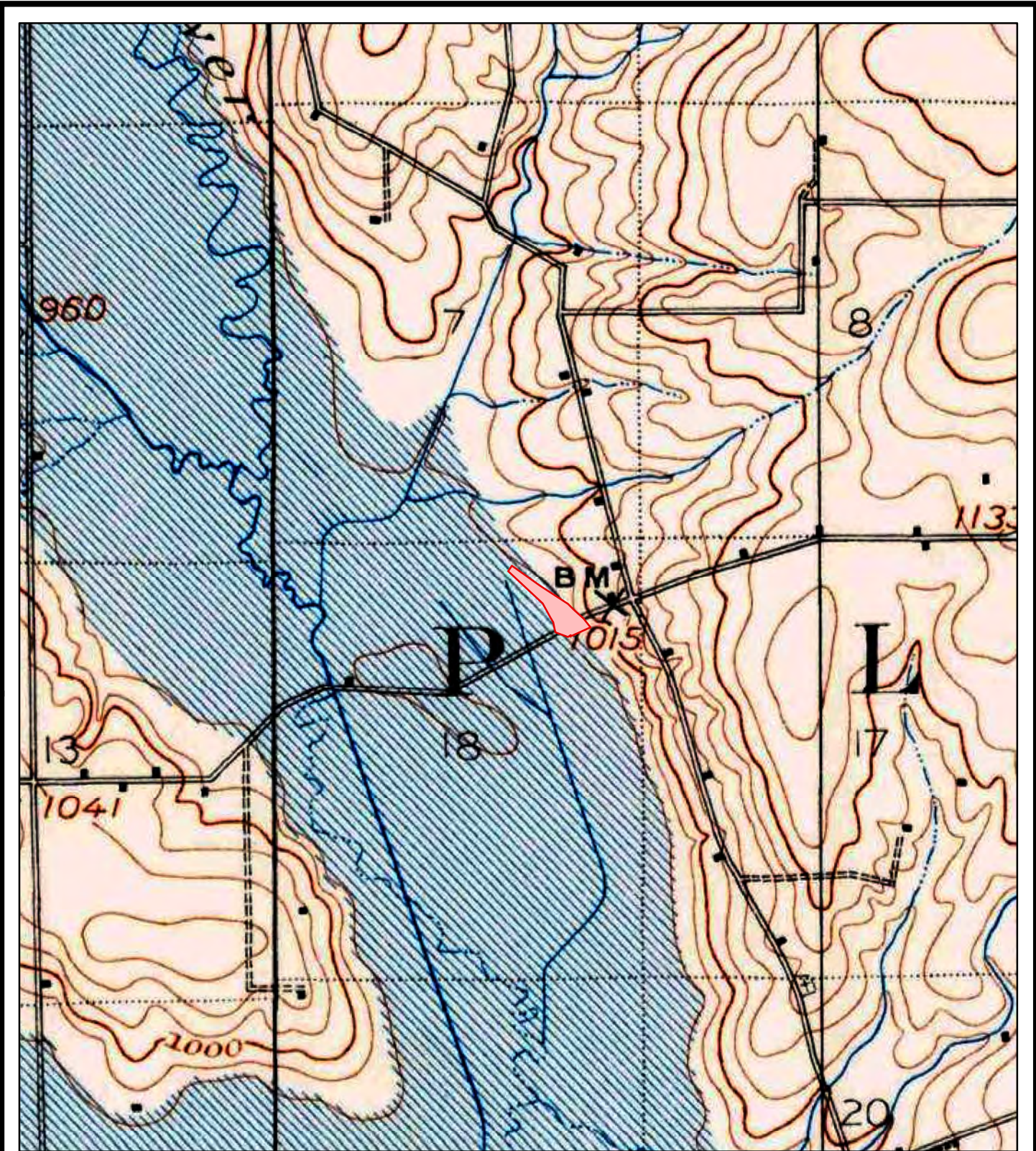
TRC

317 E. Carson Street
 Suite 113
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

TRC - GIS

PROJECT:	Longview-Nottingham 138KV A-130 and A-132 Switch Project
TITLE:	Project Area circa 1873 (Caldwell)

DRAWN BY:	JUSTIN MCKISSICK
CHECKED BY:	CURTIS BIONDICH
APPROVED BY:	CURTIS BIONDICH
DATE:	APRIL 2024
PROJ. NO.:	429847.0022.0039
FILE:	Longview.mxd
Attachment 2 - Image 2	



N
 1" = 1,667' 0 500 1,000
 1:20,000 FEET

BASE MAP FROM USGS 15-MINUTE SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE
 *Image overlay is approximate



317 E. Carson Street
 Suite 113
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

PROJECT:

**Longview-Nottingham 138KV
 A-130 and A-132 Switch Project**

TITLE:

Project Area circa 1906 (USGS)

DRAWN BY: JUSTIN MCKISSICK

CHECKED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

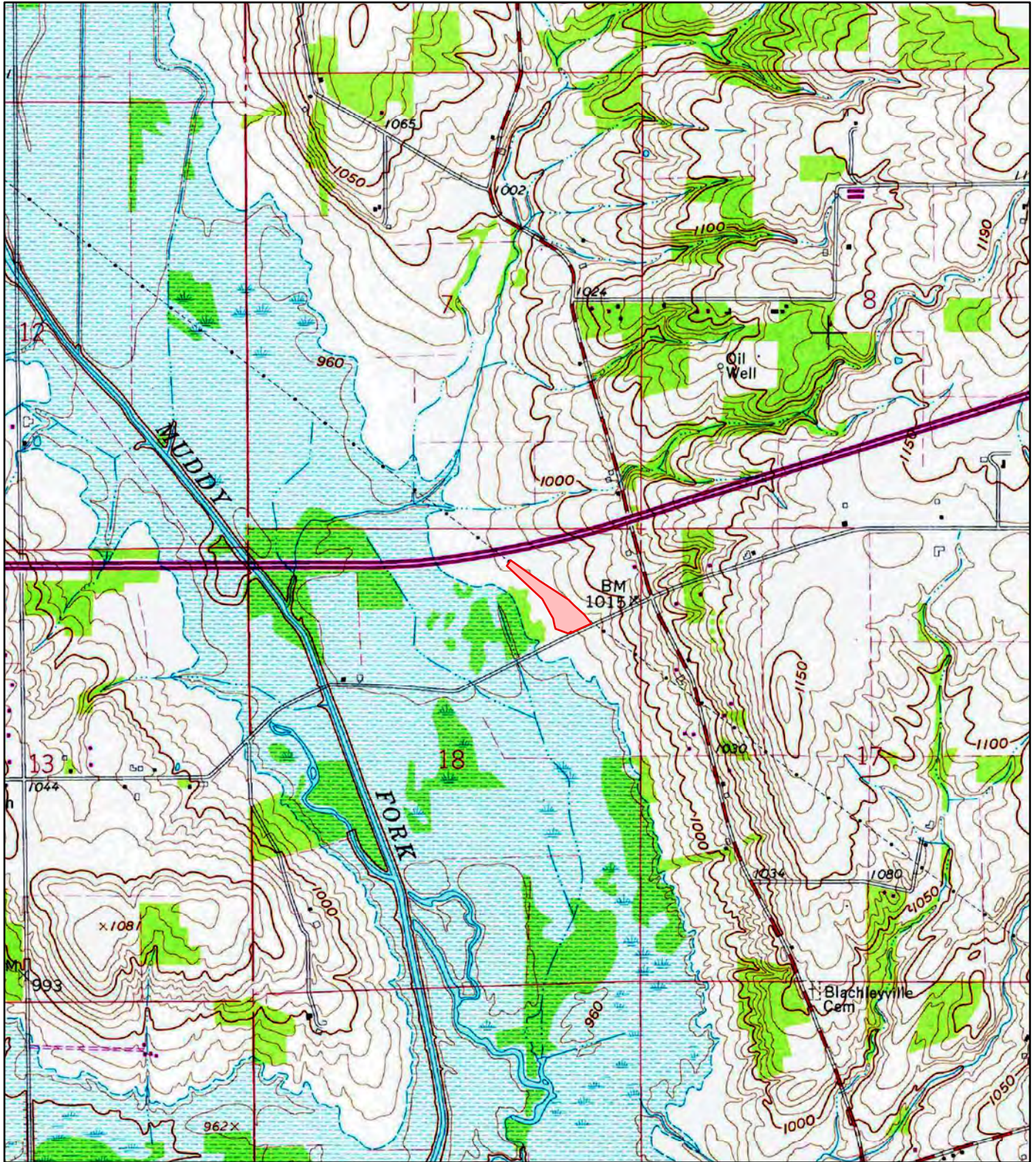
APPROVED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

DATE: APRIL 2024

PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039

FILE: Longview.mxd

Attachment 2 - Image 3



N
 1" = 1,667' 0 500 1,000
 1:20,000 FEET

BASE MAP FROM USGS 7.5-MINUTE SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE
 *Image overlay is approximate



317 E. Carson Street
 Suite 113
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

PROJECT:

**Longview-Nottingham 138KV
 A-130 and A-132 Switch Project**

TITLE:

Project Area circa 1961 (USGS)

DRAWN BY: JUSTIN MCKISSICK

CHECKED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

APPROVED BY: CURTIS BIONDICH

DATE: APRIL 2024

PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039

FILE: Longview.mxd

Attachment 2 - Image 4



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MIKE DeWINE, GOVERNOR

MARY MERTZ, DIRECTOR

Office of Real Estate
Tara Paciorek, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, Ohio 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6661
Fax: (614) 267-4764

March 4, 2024

Maggie Molnar
TRC Companies, Inc.
1382 West 9th Street, Suite 400
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Re: 24-0209_Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-130 - A-132 Switch

Project: The proposed project involves the disconnection and removal of switch A-130 and A-132 on the Longview-Nottingham 138 kV Transmission Line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has completed a review of the above referenced project. These comments were generated by an inter-disciplinary review within the Department. These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Ohio Revised Code and other applicable laws and regulations. These comments are also based on ODNR's experience as the state natural resource management agency and do not supersede or replace the regulatory authority of any local, state, or federal agency nor relieve the applicant of the obligation to comply with any local, state, or federal laws or regulations.

Natural Heritage Database: The Natural Heritage Database has the following data within one mile of the project area:

Sandhill Crane (*Antigone canadensis*), T

Conservation status abbreviations are as follows: E = state endangered; T = state threatened; P = state potentially threatened; SC = state species of concern; SI = state special interest; U = state status under review; X = presumed extirpated in Ohio; FE = federally endangered, and FT = federally threatened. The review was performed on the specified project area as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. Features searched include locations of rare and endangered plants and animals determined to be of value to the conservation of their species, high quality plant communities, animal breeding assemblages, and outstanding geological features.

The species listed above is not recorded within the boundaries of the specified project area. However, please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for an area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

Fish and Wildlife: The Division of Wildlife (DOW) has the following comments.

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "[OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING](#)". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31. However, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "[RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES](#)." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federally threatened snake species. The eastern massasauga uses a range of habitats including wet prairies, fens, and other wetlands, as well as drier upland habitat. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the smooth greensnake (*Opheodrys vernalis*), a state endangered species. This species is primarily a prairie inhabitant, but also found in marshy meadows and roadside ditches. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet meadows and other wetlands. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

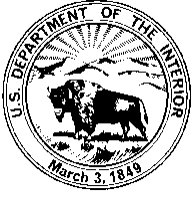
Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The [local floodplain administrator](#) should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994



February 6, 2024

Project Code: 2024-0044291

Dear Maggie Molnar:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: Due to the project type, size, location, and the proposed implementation of seasonal tree cutting (clearing of trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height between October 1 and March 31) to avoid impacts to the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and the proposed endangered tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant

species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Hicks". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Scott Hicks
Acting Field Office Supervisor

Surface Water Delineation Report

Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-
130 & A-132 Switch Project

April 10, 2024

Plain Township, Wayne County,
Ohio

Prepared For:



FirstEnergy Corporation
341 White Pond Drive, Building B3
Akron, Ohio 44320

Prepared By:
TRC Companies, Inc.
1382 West Ninth Street, Suite 400
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

TRC Project Number: 429847.0022.0039



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APPENDICES

- Appendix A Figures
- Appendix B Photographic Record
- Appendix C Data Forms

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

1987 Manual	United States Army Corps of Engineers 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAC	Facultative
FACU	Facultative Upland
FACW	Facultative Wetland
FirstEnergy	FirstEnergy Corporation
GPS	Global Positioning System
HHEI	Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
NHD	National Hydrography Dataset
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
NWP	Nationwide Permit
OAC	Ohio Administrative Code
OBL	Obligate Wetland
OEPA	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
ORAM	Ohio Rapid Assessment Method
PCN	Pre-Construction Notification
Project	Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-130 & A-132 Switch Project
Project Study Area	5.17-acres, located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio
QHEI	Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index
Redox	Redoximorphic Concentrations
Regional Supplement	Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0)
Report	Surface Water Delineation Report
TNM	The National Map
TRC	TRC Companies, Inc.
UPL	Obligate Upland
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA-NRCS	United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WQC	Water Quality Certification

1.0 Introduction

On behalf of FirstEnergy Corporation (FirstEnergy), TRC Companies, Inc. (TRC) performed a surface water delineation for Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-130 & A-132 Switch Project (Project). The proposed Project Study Area is approximately 5.17-acres, located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio. The proposed Project involves the disconnection and removal of switch A-130 and A-132 on the Longview-Nottingham 138kV Transmission Line. On behalf of FirstEnergy, TRC has prepared this Surface Water Delineation Report (Report) for the Project. A Site Location Map of the Project Study Area can be found in **Appendix A, Figure 1**.

On March 20th, 2024, TRC personnel performed field investigations to evaluate and delineate surface water resources (i.e., wetlands and streams) located within the Project Study Area. The delineations were conducted by qualified wetland scientists in accordance with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) parameters. The objective was to evaluate and delineate potential surface water resources within the Project Study Area, such that the resources could be considered during each phase of the Project. This Report describes the surface water delineation methodology implemented and the existing surface water resources identified within the Project Study Area during field investigations.

The Project Study Area is located at the following approximate coordinates: 40.784426, -82.096872 (northwest terminus) and 40.782367, -82.093471 (southeast terminus); located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio. The Project Study Area occurs within maintained utility right-of-way, surrounded by agricultural, residential, and commercial land use and upland habitat. **Appendix A, Figure 1** and **Figure 2**, provides further information on the location of the proposed Project Study Area.

2.0 Methodology

To complete the surface water delineation and evaluation of the Project Study Area, TRC followed the guidelines and methods outlined by the USACE and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), as described within this section.

2.1 Wetland Parameters

The *USACE 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual (1987 Manual)* (USACE, 1987) and *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0) (Regional Supplement)* (USACE, 2012), and the March 6, 1992 guidance memorandum (Williams, 1992) emphasize a three parameter approach to wetland boundary determination in the field. This approach involves the following:

- i. Evidence of wetland hydrology;
- ii. Presence of hydric soils; and
- iii. Predominance of hydrophytic vegetation as defined by *The National Wetland Plant List: 2020 Wetland Ratings* (USACE, 2020).

Positive indicators of all three parameters are normally present in wetlands and serve to distinguish between both dry land and transitional plant communities.

2.1.1 Hydrology

The *1987 Manual and Regional Supplement* provides guidelines for determining the presence of wetland hydrology. Criteria for wetland hydrology are met if the area is inundated or saturated at the soil surface during the growing season for a time sufficient to develop hydric soils and to support hydrophytic vegetation.

2.1.2 Hydric Soils

Hydric soils are defined as soils “that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part of the soil” (Federal Register, 1994). Hydric soil indicators described in the *Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States: A Guide for Identifying and Delineating Hydric Soils Version 8.2* (USDA, NRCS, 2018) were used to identify and document hydric soils as described in the *Regional Supplement*.

2.1.3 Hydrophytic Vegetation

To determine the presence of hydrophytic vegetation, the dominant and non-dominant species in each major vegetative stratum (e.g., tree, shrub/sapling, herbaceous, and woody vine) were identified and recorded.

Plants are placed into indicator status categories depending on their probability of occurring in a wetland in accordance with the USACE’s *The National Wetland Plant List: 2020 wetland ratings* (USACE, 2020). There are five indicator status categories for plants:

1. Obligate wetland plants (OBL): plants that occur almost always (>99%) in wetlands in natural conditions, but which may also occur rarely (<1%) in non-wetlands;
2. Facultative wetland plants (FACW): plants that occur usually (>67-99%) in wetlands but also occur (1-33%) in non-wetlands;
3. Facultative plants (FAC): plants with a similar likelihood (33-67%) of occurring in both wetlands and non-wetlands;
4. Facultative upland plants (FACU): plants that occur sometimes (1-<33%) in wetlands, but occur more often (>67-99%) in non-wetlands; and
5. Obligate upland plants (UPL): plants that occur rarely (<1%) in wetlands but occur almost always (>99%) in non-wetlands under natural conditions.

A prevalence of dominant species that are FAC, FACW, and/or OBL indicates the presence of hydrophytic vegetation.

2.2 USACE Wetland Delineation

Qualified wetland scientists from TRC conducted surface water field investigations on March 20th, 2024. The surface water field investigations were conducted within the predetermined Project Study Area that was developed in accordance with the Project location information provided by FirstEnergy (**Appendix A, Figure 2**). Surface water delineations were conducted using the Federal Routine Determination Method presented in the *1987 Manual* and *Regional Supplement*, including clarifications and interpretations provided in the March 6, 1992, guidance memorandum, and the USACE and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance on jurisdictional forms (USEPA, USACE, 2007).

Hydrology was determined based on a number of indicators that are divided into two categories, primary and secondary. The *1987 Manual* defines hydrology as present when at least one (1) primary indicator (i.e., surface water, saturation, etc.) or two (2) secondary indicators (i.e., geomorphic position, stunted or stressed plants, etc.) are identified. One (1) primary indicator is sufficient to determine if hydrology is present; however, if these are absent then two (2) or more of the secondary indicators are required to determine hydrology. If other probable hydrologic evidence was found, then this was subsequently documented on the data form.

Soils were examined in the field by using a tile spade, generally to a depth of at least 22 inches below the soil surface, until refusal, or positive hydric soil indicators were met below 22 inches, whichever was shallower. Soil coloration was identified using a *Munsell Soil Color Chart* (Munsell Color Company, 2009). Other characteristics, such as the presence of redoximorphic (Redox) concentrations and depletions and soil texture were also recorded. Redox concentrations and depletions are created when the soil is saturated and has anaerobic conditions (without oxygen gas) which leads to changes in the chemical processes in the soil that produce visible color changes in the soil. Hydric characteristics such as organic soil layers, depleted matrix, gleying, and hydrogen sulfide odor, were noted when observed. Soils at both wetland (if present) and dry land data plot locations were characterized and recorded on the data form.

The presence of hydrophytic vegetation was determined using the procedures described in the *Regional Supplement* and recorded on the data form. Vegetation in both dry land and wetland communities was characterized using a real dominance method, with a radius of 30-feet around the soil sample location for trees and woody vines, 15-foot radius for saplings and shrubs, and a 5-foot radius for herbaceous plants. Plant communities meeting the “50/20” Rule or meeting one of the other indicators set forth in the *1987 Manual*, *Regional Supplement*, and guidance memorandums are considered hydrophytic for the purposes of the wetland classification criteria. In areas where the vegetation was disturbed or not identifiable due to seasonal conditions, soil and hydrology characteristics, and professional judgment/experience were utilized in assessing the primary determining factors for classification as wetlands.

If the soils, hydrology, and vegetation characteristics at a survey point indicated that it was within a wetland, the boundary of the wetland was determined, and the approximate boundary was flagged using wetland flagging and recorded using a handheld Juniper Systems Geode with sub-meter accuracy. Areas observed to have problematic or difficult situations were delineated

utilizing the procedures identified in the *Regional Supplement*, Section 5 – “Difficult Wetland Situations in the Midwest Region.” Data from the Global Positioning System (GPS) survey was downloaded and integrated into a Geographic Information System database for the proposed work areas and used to make the accompanying figures. Identified wetlands were classified according to Cowardin et al. (Cowardin, Carter, Golet, & LaRoe, 1979). Photographs are included in **Appendix B**.

2.3 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s Ohio Rapid Assessment Method

According to the Ohio Wetland Water Quality Standards, a wetland quality category (Category 1, Category 2, or Category 3) must be assigned for each wetland if a project will require discharge of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands. In general, Category 1 wetlands are considered to be of “low quality”, Category 2 wetlands are considered to be of “moderate quality” and Category 3 wetlands are considered to be of “high quality.”

The OEPA has developed the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM), which can be utilized to evaluate wetland habitat quality based on the apparent functions and values of the wetland resource. The two primary components of the ORAM are the Narrative Rating and the Quantitative Rating. Each delineated wetland resource received a provisional category designation based on the results of the ORAM Narrative and Quantitative Ratings and review of narrative criteria in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-1-54(C) (Mack, 2000).

2.4 USACE Waterbody Identification

During field investigations, other waterbody features including streams, ponds, lakes, etc. were investigated. Streams within the Project Study Area were identified by the presence of an ordinary high water mark and scoured channel or defined bed and banks. All streams identified in the Project Study Area that were wider than five feet were demarcated via GPS from bank-to-bank. Streams that were less than five feet wide had the centerline demarcated.

Identified streams were evaluated utilizing OEPA approved methods for stream habitat assessment which include the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI) (Ohio EPA, 2006) and/or the Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index (HHEI) (Ohio EPA, 2020) assessment method. These approved assessment methods provide an empirical, quantified evaluation of streams as required by the State of Ohio for permitting and mitigation purposes. These methods assess stream habitat to provide a qualitative index (or score) to determine the level of compensatory mitigation that may be needed for impacts to waters of the U.S. (i.e., streams).

Use of the QHEI or HHEI assessment method is determined based on the size of the stream’s drainage area and/or the stream’s pool depths. Where coverage was available, the drainage area was calculated using automated basin characteristics from StreamStats v 4.19.4: Ohio (USGS, 2021).

Following OEPA guidance, streams with a drainage area of greater than 1.0 square mile (2.6 square kilometers) or which have pools with maximum depths over 15.8 inches (40.0 centimeters), as determined by measuring pool depth within the stream, were evaluated using

the QHEI. Data on these streams were collected on the QHEI form provided by the OEPA. The QHEI is composed of six (6) principal metrics: substrate, instream cover, channel morphology, riparian zone and bank erosion, pool/glide and riffle-run quality, and map gradient. Each metric is scored separately and summed to obtain the total QHEI score. Using the scoring methods associated with these forms, the stream is placed into the following general narrative ranges, dependent on stream size; for smaller streams (≤ 20 sq. mi): Excellent >70 , Good 55-69, Fair 43-54, Poor 30-42, and Very Poor <30 ; for larger streams (>20 sq. mi): Excellent >75 , Good 60-74, Fair 45-59, Poor 30-44, and Very Poor <30 .

The HHEI was utilized to score streams with a drainage area of <1.0 square mile (2.6 square kilometers). Data on these streams were collected on the HHEI forms, provided by the OEPA. Observational data regarding the physical nature of the stream corridor including stream flow, riparian zone land use and buffer width, and channel modification were recorded. Measurements included bankfull width, maximum pool depth and substrate composition.

Streams identified during the course of the investigation were classified as perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral waterways in accordance with the rationale defined by the USACE Huntington District.

The Project Study Area was also investigated for areas that were considered “open water” by the USACE. According to the USACE an open water is any area that in a year with normal patterns of precipitation has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an ordinary high-water mark can be determined. Aquatic vegetation within the area of flowing or standing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered to be open waters. Examples of “open waters” may include rivers, lakes, and ponds. Artificial “open water” features may include stormwater retention basins, fish hatchery ponds, drainage tile pump stations, etc.

3.0 Results

3.1 Site Description

The Project Study Area is approximately 5.17-acres located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio; within the Lower Muddy Fork watershed (12-Digit Hydrologic Unit Code [HUC]: 050400020503) (USGS, 2022).

The Project Study Area is shown on the New Pittsburgh, Ohio (2019) United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle (**Appendix A, Figure 1**).

The United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA-NRCS, 2016) was used to identify the soil types contained within the Project Study Area (**Appendix A, Figure 3**). **Table 1** provides a summary of the soils identified within proposed Project Study Area.

Table 1. Soils Type Summary

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Hydric Status	Acres Within Study Area ¹	Percent Cover in Study Area
JtA	Jimtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	1.71	33.1%
JtB	Jimtown loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	1.48	28.6%
Kb	Killbuck silt loam, frequently flooded	Hydric	0.35	6.7%
Ld	Linwood muck	Hydric	1.04	20.0%
OtB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Non-Hydric	0.59	11.6%
TOTAL			5.17	100%

Notes:
 Accessed online April 2024 at: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>.
¹: Total acres within the study area may vary slightly due to rounding.

There is one (1) United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) feature mapped within the Project Study Area, a freshwater emergent wetland (**Appendix A, Figure 4**) (USFWS, 2022).

The USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) (USGS, 2018) Downloadable Data Collection from The National Map (TNM) is a comprehensive set of digital spatial data that encodes information about naturally occurring and constructed bodies of surface water (e.g., lakes, ponds, and reservoirs), paths through which water flows (e.g., canals, ditches, streams, and rivers) and related entities such as point features (e.g., springs, wells, stream gages, and dams). There are no NHD streams mapped within the Project Study Area (**Appendix A, Figure 4**).

According to Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map (Panel No.: 39169C0200E, effective date: 8/18/2009), the proposed Project is not located within a regulated 100-year floodplain (**Appendix A, Figure 4**) (FEMA, 2021).

3.2 Surface Water Resource Field Delineations

TRC performed the field investigation on March 20th, 2024. Weather conditions were normal for the season, with temperatures ranging between 25 degrees to 40 degrees Fahrenheit, and partly cloudy skies. Native and non-native herbaceous vegetation was observed within the Project Study Area. The USACE maintains the final authority that determines jurisdiction; therefore, statements about jurisdiction within this Report are preliminary and subject to final determination by the USACE and OEPA.

3.2.1 Wetlands

During the field investigation, one (1) wetland was identified and delineated within the Project Study Area. The delineated wetland boundaries and sample points are shown on **Figure 5** in **Appendix A**. Representative photographs of sample points and other areas of interest are provided in **Appendix B**. Data was collected and recorded on the USACE Wetland Determination Data Forms – Midwest Region and wetland functional assessments were completed for the delineated wetland using the ORAM (**Appendix C**). The delineated wetland within the Project Study Area is summarized in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Delineated Wetland Feature Summary Table

Resource ID ¹	Cowardin Classification ²	Connection ³	Provisional Jurisdictional Status ⁴	ORAM Score	ORAM Category ⁵	Approximate Delineated Area within Project Study Area ⁶ (acres)
W-EKG-1	PSS	Abutting	USACE Jurisdictional Wetland	43.5	Modified Cat. 2	1.95
					Total	1.95
¹ TRC resource identification. ² Cowardin Wetland Classification (approximation based upon field identification and delineation) (Cowardin, Carter, Golet, & LaRoe, 1979): PEM – Palustrine Emergent. ³ Connection to a jurisdictional waterway: Isolated, Abutting, or Adjacent as determined by TRC; subject to USACE verification. Wetland connection is pending an update from OEPA and USACE based on the EPA vs. Sackett case. ⁴ Jurisdiction status is based upon field observations and mapping review of apparent connectivity or adjacency of the resource to Waters of the United States and the assumption that a preliminary jurisdictional determination process will be utilized for the project. ⁵ ORAM Category based on scoring breakpoints from Table 2 of the ORAM v. 5.0 Quantitative Score Calibration; scores falling within a “gray zone” or “modified” category were rounded up. ⁶ Area is rounded to nearest 0.01-acre, based upon GPS data.						

3.2.2 Waterbodies

During the field investigations, no waterbodies were delineated within the Project Study Area. Representative photographs of the Project Study Area are provided in **Appendix B**.

4.0 Permitting Considerations

It is anticipated that due to the nature of the Project, jurisdictional resource will not be impacted by the proposed Project activities. As currently proposed, it is TRC’s understanding that this Project would fall under Nationwide Permit (NWP) 57 – Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities. Current regulations allow temporary impacts to jurisdictional resources under NWP 57. Nationwide Permit Regional General Conditions were reviewed regarding this Project. This Project is located in Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio, which is within the USACE Huntington Regulatory District. All townships in Wayne County are listed in Appendix 1 to Regional General Condition 5(a) (Endangered Species and Threatened Species). Therefore, if any jurisdictional resources will be impacted by the proposed project, a Section 404 Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) will be required.

4.1 USACE Verification

The USACE has the authority to determine and/or verify the geographical boundaries of Waters of the United States in accordance with 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 328 and 33 CFR 329; therefore, the results of this Report are termed “preliminary” until verified and accepted by the USACE. This verification is part of the Jurisdictional Determination process, which is required for approval under Section 404 Clean Water Act, Section 401 WQC, and/or isolated wetland permitting process through OEPA. It is the responsibility of any party that intends to discharge dredge or fill material into Waters of the United States to comply with all applicable regulations.

5.0 Limitations

This Report is limited in scope to the specific terms of the Agreement previously entered into between TRC and FirstEnergy. This Report represents the conditions within the Project Study Area identified herein, as of the inspection dates.

Should the Project change from the scope described herein, TRC should be immediately notified such that additional investigations may be conducted to amend the content of the Report herein. Human-induced and/or natural changes within the Project Study Area may occur after the date of this investigation and may result in changes to the presence, extent, and classification of the surface water resources identified within this Report.

6.0 References

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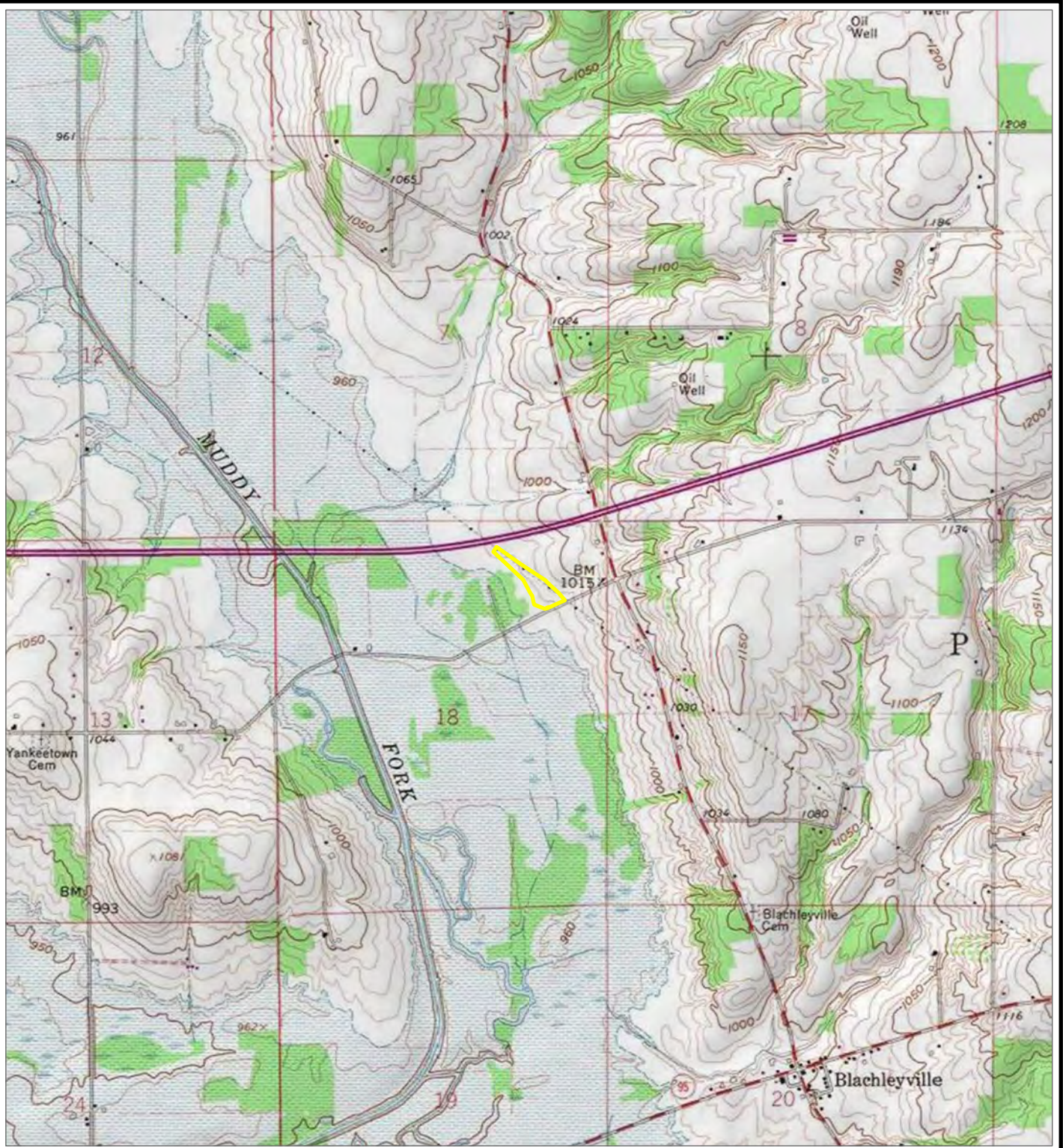
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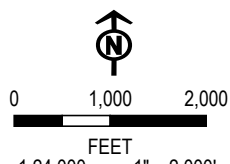
Appendix A

Figures


COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 STATEPLANE OHIO NORTH RIPS 3401 FEET, MAP ROTATION: 0
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 PROJECT STUDY AREA



BASE MAP: USA TOPO MAPS MAP SERVICE , NEW PITTSBURG QUAD

PROJECT: FIRSTENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT WAYNE COUNTY, OH	
TITLE: SITE LOCATION MAP	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: E. GIVEN	FIGURE 1
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	
DATE: APRIL 2024	
	
1382 WEST NINTH STREET SUITE 400 CLEVELAND, OH 44113 PHONE: 216-344-3072	
FILE:	WDR



- PROJECT STUDY AREA
- SWITCH LOCATION
- EXISTING STRUCTURE

BASE MAP: GOOGLE MAPS.



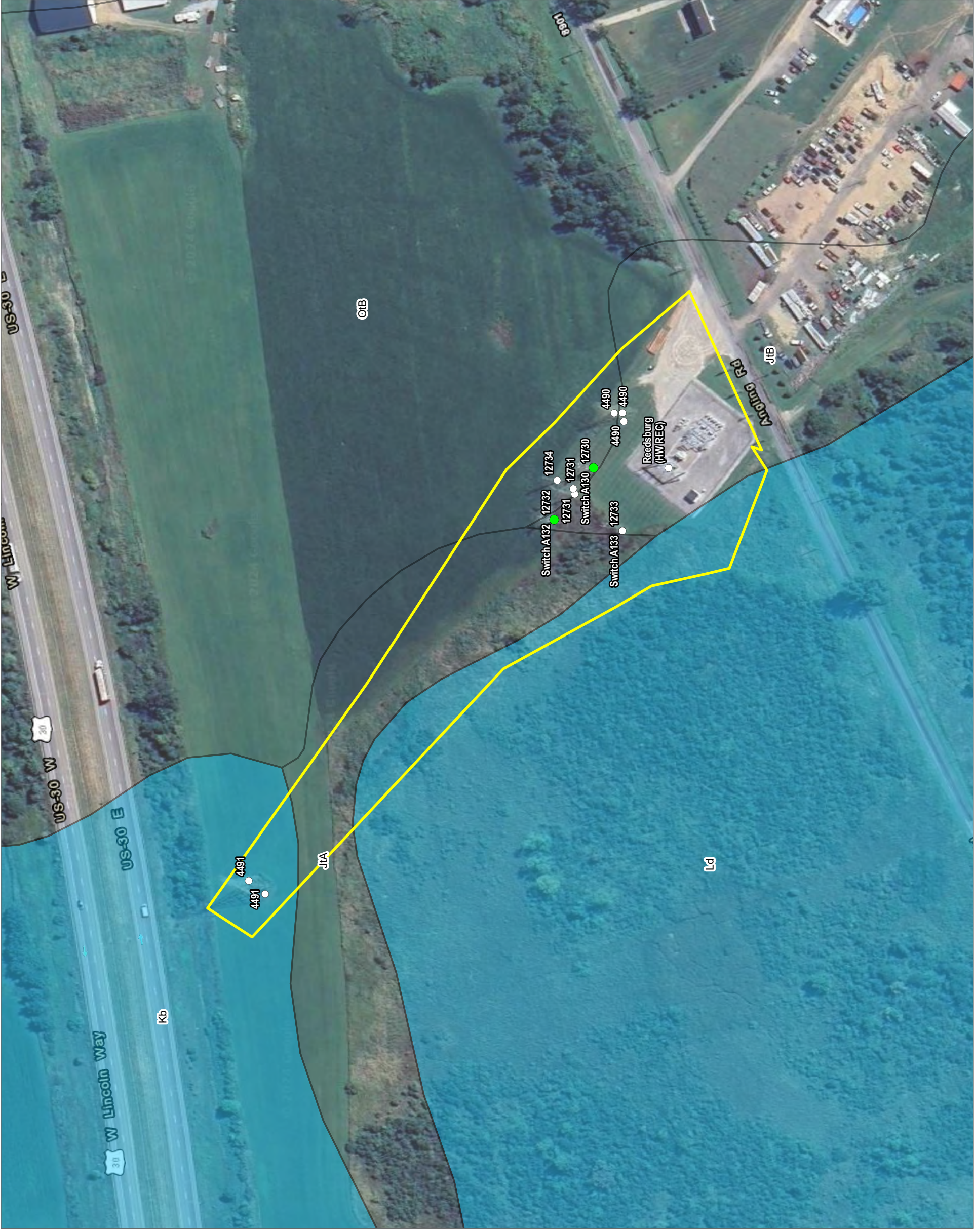
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1" = 150'



**PROJECT ENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
WAYNE COUNTY, OH**

TITLE: AERIAL MAP	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: E. GIVEN	
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	FIGURE 2
DATE: APRIL 2024	

1382 WEST NINTH STREET
SUITE 400
CLEVELAND, OH 44113
PHONE: 216-344-3072

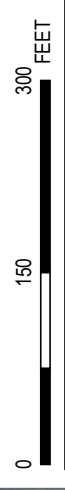


- PROJECT STUDY AREA
- SWITCH LOCATION
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- HYDRIC SOIL
- NON-HYDRIC W/ HYDRIC INCLUSIONS SOIL
- NON-HYDRIC SOIL

BASE MAP: GOOGLE MAPS.
 DATA SOURCES: SOILS DATA ACQUIRED FROM USDANRCS SSURGO DATABASE.



1:1,800
 1" = 150'



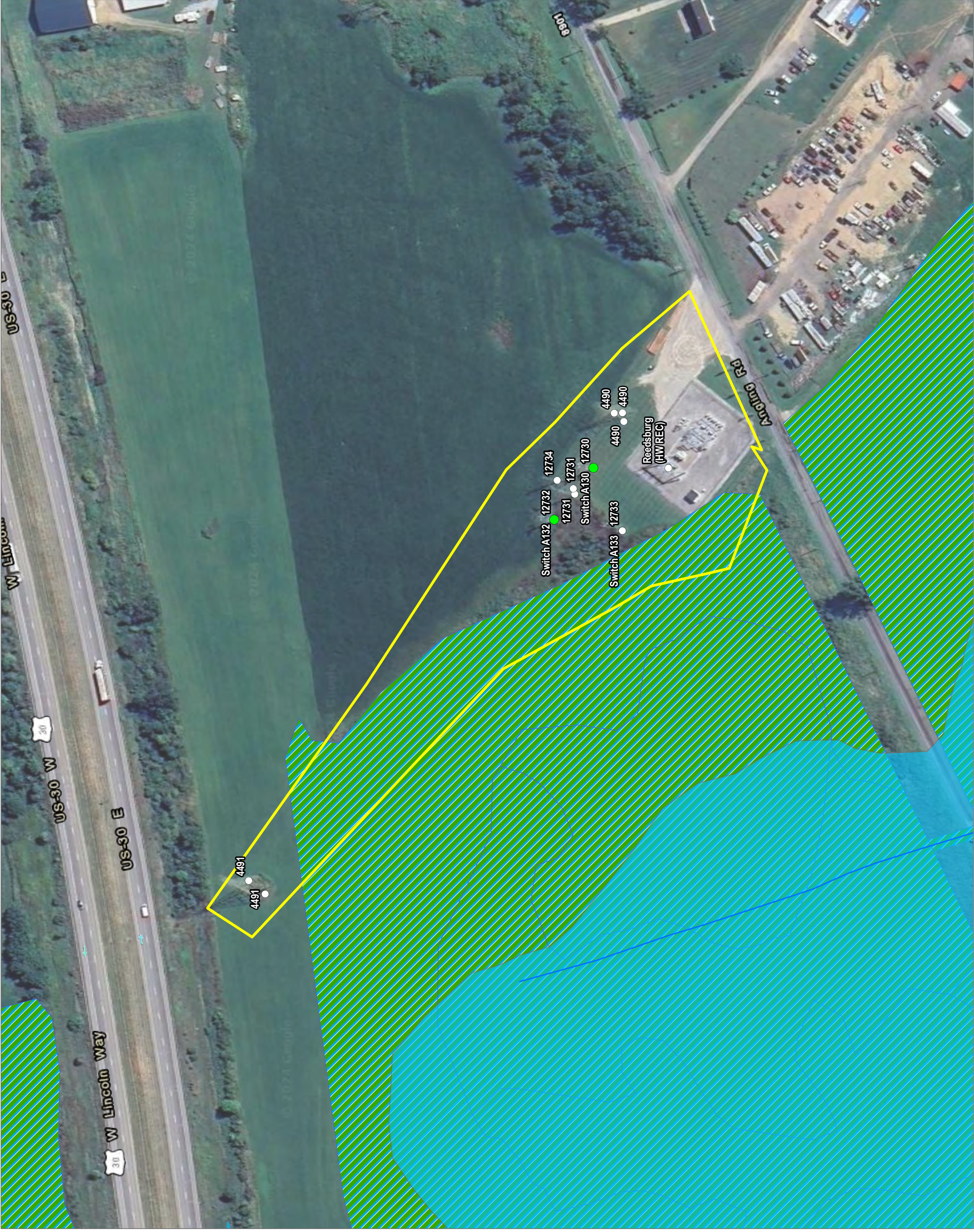
PRSTENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
 A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
 WAYNE COUNTY, OH

SOILS MAP	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: E. GIVEN	
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	
DATE: APRIL 2024	FIGURE 3

1382 WEST NINTH STREET
 SUITE 400
 CLEVELAND, OH 44113
 PHONE: 216-344-3072

FILE: WDR.aprx

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Ohio North FIPS 3401 Feet; Map Relation: 0
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- PROJECT STUDY AREA
- SWITCH LOCATION
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHY DATASET (NHD) STREAM
- NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY (NWI) FEATURE
- 100-YEAR FLOOD ZONE

BASE MAP: GOOGLE MAPS.
 DATA SOURCES: WETLAND DATA ACQUIRED FROM U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE; NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY (NWI). STREAM DATA ACQUIRED FROM USGS. NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHY DATASET (NHD). FLOOD DATA ACQUIRED FROM FEMA, NATIONAL FLOOD HAZARD LAYER (NFHL).



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 1" = 150'

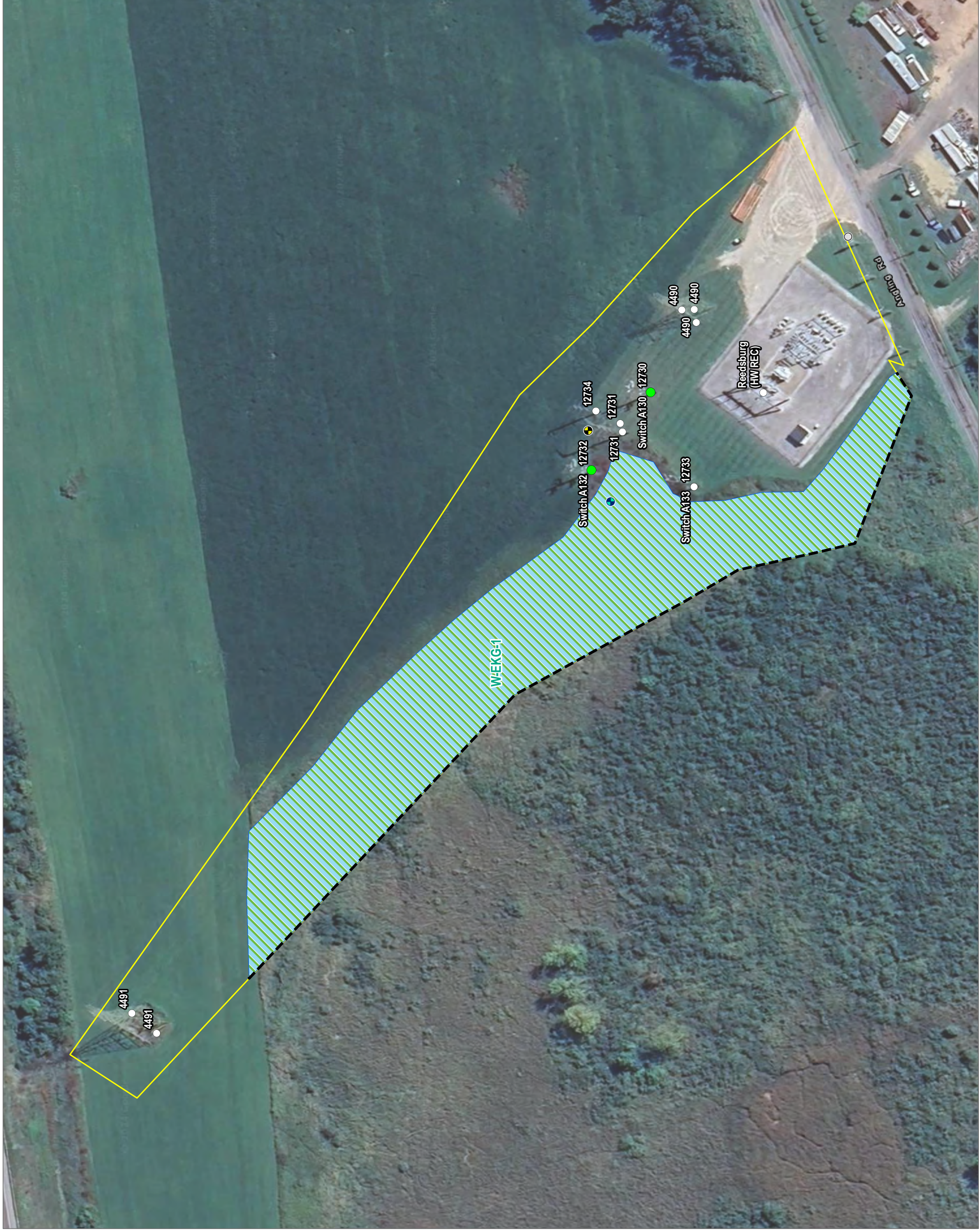


**PROJECT ENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
 A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
 WAYNE COUNTY, OH**

TITLE: NHD, NWI AND FEMA FLOODPLAIN MAP	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: E. GIVEN	
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	FIGURE 4
DATE: APRIL 2024	

TRC
 1382 WEST NINTH STREET
 SUITE 400
 CLEVELAND, OH 44113
 PHONE: 216-344-3072

FILE: WDR.aprx



- PROJECT STUDY AREA
- SWITCH LOCATION
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- CULVERT
- PEM WETLAND
- WETLAND CONTINUITIES
- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT

BASE MAP: GOOGLE MAPS.
 DATA SOURCES: TRC WETLAND DELINEATION COMPLETED MARCH 20, 2024.



1:1,200
 1" = 100'

0 100 200 FEET

**PRSTENERGY - LONGVIEW-NOTTINGHAM 138KV
 A-130 & A-132 SWITCH PROJECT
 WAYNE COUNTY, OH**

TITLE: DELINEATED RESOURCES MAP	
DRAWN BY: M. OPEL	PROJ. NO.: 429847.0022.0039
CHECKED BY: E. GIVEN	
APPROVED BY: B. FALKINBURG	FIGURE 5
DATE: APRIL 2024	

TRC
 1382 WEST NINTH STREET
 SUITE 400
 CLEVELAND, OH 44113
 PHONE: 216-344-3072

FILE: WDR.aprx

Appendix B

Photographic Record

Client Name: FirstEnergy	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No.: 429847.0022.0039
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Photo No. 1.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:
Photo of Wetland W-EKG-1, facing north.



Photo No. 2.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:
Photo of Wetland W-EKG-1, facing east.



Client Name: FirstEnergy	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No.: 429847.0022.0039
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Photo No. 3.
Photo Date: 03/20/2024
Description: Photo of Wetland W-EKG-1, facing south.



Photo No. 4.
Photo Date: 03/20/2024
Description: Photo of Wetland W-EKG-1, facing west.



Client Name: FirstEnergy	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No. 429847.0022.0039
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Photo No. 5.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:
Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing north.



Photo No. 6.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:
Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing east.



Client Name: FirstEnergy	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No.: 429847.0022.0039
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Photo No. 7.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:

Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing south, showing surrounding commercial land use.



Photo No. 8.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:

Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing west.



Client Name: FirstEnergy	Site Location: Plain Township, Wayne County, Ohio	Project No.: 429847.0022.0039
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Photo No. 9.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:

Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing northeast, showing surrounding agricultural and residential land use.



Photo No. 10.

Photo Date:
03/20/2024

Description:

Representative photo of the Project Study Area, facing north.



Appendix C

Data Forms

**USACE Wetland Determination Data Forms –
Midwest Region**

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-130 & A-132 Sw City/County: Plain Township, Wayne County Sampling Date: 2024-3-20
 Applicant/Owner: FirstEnergy State: OH Sampling Point: W-EKG-01_PEM-1
 Investigator(s): Jenna Slabe, Emma Given Section, Township, Range: 18 19N 14W
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc): Depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave
 Slope (%): 0 to 1 Lat: 40.7828907333 Long: -82.09483605 Datum: WGS84
 Soil Map Unit Name: Jimtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI Classification: None
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Remarks: Covertypes is PEM. Based on the presence of all three parameters, this area is a wetland.	

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status																																	
Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 ft radius</u>)																																				
1. <u><i>Alnus incana</i></u>	10	Yes	FACW	Dominance Test worksheet: Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>5</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>5</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100%</u> (A/B)																																
2. _____																																				
3. _____																																				
4. _____																																				
5. _____																																				
10			= Total Cover	Prevalence Index worksheet: <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">Total % Cover of:</td> <td align="center" colspan="2">Multiply by:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OBL species</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td align="center">x 1 =</td> <td align="center">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACW species</td> <td align="center">80</td> <td align="center">x 2 =</td> <td align="center">160</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAC species</td> <td align="center">0</td> <td align="center">x 3 =</td> <td align="center">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACU species</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td align="center">x 4 =</td> <td align="center">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPL species</td> <td align="center">0</td> <td align="center">x 5 =</td> <td align="center">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals:</td> <td align="center">100</td> <td align="center">(A)</td> <td align="center">210 (B)</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="4">Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>2.1</u></td> </tr> </table>	Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:		OBL species	10	x 1 =	10	FACW species	80	x 2 =	160	FAC species	0	x 3 =	0	FACU species	10	x 4 =	40	UPL species	0	x 5 =	0	Column Totals:	100	(A)	210 (B)	Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>2.1</u>			
Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:																																		
OBL species	10	x 1 =	10																																	
FACW species	80	x 2 =	160																																	
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0																																	
FACU species	10	x 4 =	40																																	
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0																																	
Column Totals:	100	(A)	210 (B)																																	
Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>2.1</u>																																				

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>15 ft radius</u>)																																				
1. <u><i>Alnus incana</i></u>	25	Yes	FACW	Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0 ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> 4 - Morphological Adaptations ¹ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet) <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation ¹ (Explain) ¹ Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.																																
2. <u><i>Cornus amomum</i></u>	15	Yes	FACW																																	
3. <u><i>Fagus grandifolia</i></u>	5	No	FACU																																	
4. _____																																				
5. _____																																				
45			= Total Cover																																	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 ft radius</u>)																																				
1. <u><i>Phalaris arundinacea</i></u>	20	Yes	FACW	Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>																																
2. <u><i>Juncus effusus</i></u>	10	Yes	OBL																																	
3. <u><i>Solidago gigantea</i></u>	5	No	FACW																																	
4. <u><i>Onoclea sensibilis</i></u>	5	No	FACW																																	
5. <u><i>Rubus allegheniensis</i></u>	5	No	FACU																																	
6. _____																																				
7. _____																																				
8. _____																																				
9. _____																																				
10. _____																																				
45			= Total Cover																																	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 ft radius</u>)																																				
1. _____				Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>																																
2. _____																																				
0			= Total Cover																																	

Remarks:
 The criterion for hydrophytic vegetation is met.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Longview-Nottingham 138 kV A-130 & A-132 Sw City/County: Plain Township, Wayne County Sampling Date: 2024-3-20
 Applicant/Owner: FirstEnergy State: OH Sampling Point: U-EKG-1
 Investigator(s): Jenna Slabe, Emma Given Section, Township, Range: 18 19N 14W
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc): Hillslope Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex
 Slope (%): 1 to 3 Lat: 40.78294215 Long: -82.0945658833 Datum: WGS84
 Soil Map Unit Name: Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes NWI Classification: None
 Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Remarks: Covertypes is UPL. Based on the absence of all three parameters, this area is an upland.	

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status																													
Tree Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 ft radius</u>)				Dominance Test worksheet: Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>1</u> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>5</u> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>20%</u> (A/B)																												
1. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
2. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
3. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
4. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
5. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
0 = Total Cover																																
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: <u>15 ft radius</u>)				Prevalence Index worksheet: <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">Total % Cover of:</td> <td align="center" colspan="2">Multiply by:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OBL species</td><td align="center">0</td> <td>x 1 =</td><td align="center">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACW species</td><td align="center">0</td> <td>x 2 =</td><td align="center">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAC species</td><td align="center">25</td> <td>x 3 =</td><td align="center">75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FACU species</td><td align="center">60</td> <td>x 4 =</td><td align="center">240</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UPL species</td><td align="center">15</td> <td>x 5 =</td><td align="center">75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals:</td><td align="center">100</td><td align="center">(A)</td><td align="center">390 (B)</td> </tr> </table> Prevalence Index = B/A = <u>3.9</u>	Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:		OBL species	0	x 1 =	0	FACW species	0	x 2 =	0	FAC species	25	x 3 =	75	FACU species	60	x 4 =	240	UPL species	15	x 5 =	75	Column Totals:	100	(A)	390 (B)
Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:																														
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0																													
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0																													
FAC species	25	x 3 =	75																													
FACU species	60	x 4 =	240																													
UPL species	15	x 5 =	75																													
Column Totals:	100	(A)	390 (B)																													
1. <u>Rosa multiflora</u>	15	Yes	FACU																													
2. <u>Lonicera morrowii</u>	10	Yes	FACU																													
3. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
4. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
5. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
25 = Total Cover																																
Herb Stratum (Plot size: <u>5 ft radius</u>)																																
1. <u>Festuca rubra</u>	35	Yes	FACU																													
2. <u>Setaria pumila</u>	25	Yes	FAC																													
3. <u>Daucus carota</u>	15	Yes	UPL																													
4. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
5. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
6. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
7. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
8. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
9. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
10. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
75 = Total Cover																																
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: <u>30 ft radius</u>)																																
1. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
2. _____	_____	_____	_____																													
0 = Total Cover																																

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0¹
 4 - Morphological Adaptations¹ (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
 Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation¹ (Explain)
¹Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes No

Remarks:
 The criterion for hydrophytic vegetation is not met.

SOIL

Sampling Point: U-EKG-1

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)								
Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0 to 5	7.5YR 4/4	98	7.5YR 7/2	2	D	M	Sandy Clay Loam	

OEPA ORAM Data Form

Background Information

Name: EmmaLeigh Given, Jenna Slabe	
Date: 03/20/2024	
Affiliation: TRC Companies, Inc.	
Address: 1382 West Ninth Street, Suite 400, Cleveland, Ohio 44113	
Phone Number: 330-446-0265	
e-mail address: EGiven@TRCCompanies.com	
Name of Wetland: W-EKG-1	
Vegetation Communit(ies): PEM and PSS	
HGM Class(es): Depression (I)	
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc. See Report	
Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	40.78287, -82.094967
USGS Quad Name	New Pittsburgh
County	Wayne
Township	Plain
Section and Subsection	S18
Hydrologic Unit Code	050400020503
Site Visit	03/20/2024
National Wetland Inventory Map	See Report
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	See Report
Soil Survey	See Report
Delineation report/map	See Report

Name of Wetland: W-EKG-1	
Wetland Size (acres, hectares):	~37-acres
Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc. See Report	
Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:	
Final score : 43.5	Category: Mod. 2

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the “scoring boundaries” of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the “jurisdictional boundaries.” For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland’s jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland.* In determining a wetland’s scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	X	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	X	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	X	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.	X	
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		X
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.	X	

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap>. The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	Critical Habitat. Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 2
2	Threatened or Endangered Species. Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 3
3	Documented High Quality Wetland. Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 4
4	Significant Breeding or Concentration Area. Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 5
5	Category 1 Wetlands. Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and hydrologically isolated and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> , <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> , or <i>Phragmites australis</i> , or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 6
6	Bogs. Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly <i>Sphagnum</i> spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 7
7	Fens. Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 8a
8a	"Old Growth Forest." Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO Go to Question 8b

8b	Mature forested wetlands. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO Go to Question 9a
9a	Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	NO Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 10
10	Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO Go to Question 11
11	Relict Wet Prairies. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	Oak Opening species	wet prairie species
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	<i>Zygadenus elegans</i> var. <i>glaucus</i>	<i>Calla palustris</i>	<i>Carex cryptolepis</i>	<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	<i>Cacalia plantaginea</i>	<i>Carex atlantica</i> var. <i>capillacea</i>	<i>Carex lasiocarpa</i>	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>
<i>Najas minor</i>	<i>Carex flava</i>	<i>Carex echinata</i>	<i>Carex stricta</i>	<i>Carex atherodes</i>
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	<i>Carex sterilis</i>	<i>Carex oligosperma</i>	<i>Cladium mariscoides</i>	<i>Carex buxbaumii</i>
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	<i>Carex stricta</i>	<i>Carex trisperma</i>	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>	<i>Carex pellita</i>
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	<i>Chamaedaphne calyculata</i>	<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	<i>Carex sartwellii</i>
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i>	<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>	<i>Eriophorum viridicarinarum</i>	<i>Eriophorum virginicum</i>		<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	<i>Gentianopsis</i> spp.	<i>Larix laricina</i>		<i>Liatris spicata</i>
<i>Typha xglauca</i>	<i>Lobelia kalmii</i>	<i>Nemopanthus mucronatus</i>		<i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i>
	<i>Parnassia glauca</i>	<i>Scheuchzeria palustris</i>		<i>Lythrum alatum</i>
	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	<i>Sphagnum</i> spp.		<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>
	<i>Rhamnus alnifolia</i>	<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>		<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>
	<i>Rhynchospora capillacea</i>	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>		<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
	<i>Salix candida</i>	<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>		<i>Spartina pectinata</i>
	<i>Salix myricoides</i>	<i>Woodwardia virginica</i>		<i>Solidago riddellii</i>
	<i>Salix serissima</i>	<i>Xyris difformis</i>		
	<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>			
	<i>Tofieldia glutinosa</i>			
	<i>Triglochin maritimum</i>			
	<i>Triglochin palustre</i>			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: FirstEnergy, Longview-Nottingham ... **Rater(s):** Emma Given, Jenna Slabe **Date:** 2024-03-20

5 **5**
max 6 pts. subtotal

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

RESOURCE ID: W-EKG-01
TYPE: PEM and PSS
Continues Offsite? yes

Select one size class and assign score.

- >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

6 **11**
max 14 pts. subtotal

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

14.5 **25.5**
max 30 pts. subtotal

Metric 3. Hydrology.

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- High pH groundwater (5)
- Other groundwater (3)
- Precipitation (1)
- Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- 100 year floodplain (1)
- Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one/dbl check avg.

- Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- Seasonally inundated (2)
- Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- None or none apparent (12)
- Recovered (7)
- Recovering (3)
- Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed	
<input type="checkbox"/> ditch	<input type="checkbox"/> point source (nonstormwater)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tile	<input type="checkbox"/> filling/grading
<input type="checkbox"/> dike	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> road bed/RR track
<input type="checkbox"/> weir	<input type="checkbox"/> dredging
<input type="checkbox"/> stormwater input	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

12 **37.5**
max 20 pts. subtotal

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- None or none apparent (4)
- Recovered (3)
- Recovering (2)
- Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- Excellent (7)
- Very good (6)
- Good (5)
- Moderately good (4)
- Fair (3)
- Poor to fair (2)
- Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- None or none apparent (9)
- Recovered (6)
- Recovering (3)
- Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mowing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> shrub/sapling removal
<input type="checkbox"/> grazing	<input type="checkbox"/> herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
<input type="checkbox"/> clearcutting	<input type="checkbox"/> sedimentation
<input type="checkbox"/> selective cutting	<input type="checkbox"/> dredging
<input type="checkbox"/> woody debris removal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> farming
<input type="checkbox"/> toxic pollutants	<input type="checkbox"/> nutrient enrichment

37.5
subtotal this page

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37.5
subtotal first page

0 **37.5** **Metric 5. Special Wetlands.**
max 10 pts. subtotal

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- Bog (10)
- Fen (10)
- Old growth forest (10)
- Mature forested wetland (5)
- Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

6 **43.5** **Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersions, microtopography.**
max 20 pts. subtotal

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- Aquatic bed
- Emergent
- Shrub
- Forest
- Mudflats
- Open water
- Other: _____

6b. Horizontal (plan view) Interspersion. Select only one.

- High (5)
- Moderately high (4)
- Moderate (3)
- Moderately low (2)
- Low (1)
- None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- Vegetated hummocks/tussocks
- Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

Invasives present:
hybrid cattail, narrow-leaved cattail, reed canary grass

43.5 **Modified Category 2**

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1. Critical Habitat	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, Category 3
Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input checked="" type="radio"/>	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.	
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	5	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	6	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	14.5	
	Metric 4. Habitat	12	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	0	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersions, microtopography	6	
	TOTAL SCORE	43.5	Category based on score breakpoints Mod 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one	Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
<p>Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions:</p> <p>Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>Is quantitative rating score <i>less</i> than the Category 2 scoring threshold (<i>excluding</i> gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM</p>
<p>Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions:</p> <p>Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.</p>
<p>Did you answer "Yes" to</p> <p>Narrative Rating No. 5</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>Is quantitative rating score <i>greater</i> than the Category 2 scoring threshold (<i>including</i> any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM</p>
<p>Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.</p>
<p>Does the quantitative score fall with the "gray zone" for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).</p>
<p>Does the wetland otherwise exhibit <i>moderate OR superior</i> hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was <i>not</i> categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form</p>	<p>NO</p> <p>Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.</p> <p>A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.</p>

Final Category

Choose one
Category 1
Category 2
Category 3

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.