

Robert J. Schmidt, Jr.
rschmidt@porterwright.com

Porter Wright
Morris & Arthur LLP
41 South High Street
Suites 2800-3200
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6194

Direct: 614-227-2028
Fax: 614-227-2100
Toll free: 800-533-2794

www.porterwright.com

porterwright

CINCINNATI
CLEVELAND
COLUMBUS
DAYTON
NAPLES
WASHINGTON, DC

January 5, 2016

Ms. Barcy F. McNeal
Docketing Division
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Letter of Notification
Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission Line
Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project
Case No. 15-2081-EL-BLN
Docketing of Cultural Resources and Wetland and Stream Reports

Dear Ms. McNeal:

In accordance with Administrative Rule Code Chapter 4906-6, the attached reports are being docketed as part of the Application for the above-referenced project. These reports are being provided to comply with provisions of Administrative Code Rule 4906-6-05(B)(10)(c) and (f), and should be considered part of the Application submitted in this case.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Robert J. Schmidt, Jr.

RJS:csr

cc: Jim O'Dell, w/attachments
Mr. Patrick Donlon, Executive Director. OPSB, w/attachments

COLUMBUS/1793870v.1

January 4, 2016

Project C151681.00

Mr. Theodore R. Krauss
FirstEnergy Service Corporation
76 South Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308-1817

Letter Report
Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission Tap to
Nature Fresh Farms Project
Cultural Resources Background Research
Fulton County, Ohio
FirstEnergy Companies

Dear Mr. Krauss:

GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI), on behalf of American Transmission Systems, Incorporated and Toledo Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies), conducted cultural resources research for FirstEnergy Company's (FE's) proposed Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission Line Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project (Project) in York Township, Fulton County, Ohio (Figure 1). The Project includes the construction of approximately 4,200 feet of transmission tap line consisting of a 60-foot right-of-way (ROW) and 2,400 feet of access roads within a 50-foot study corridor. This constitutes the Project's Limit of Disturbance (LOD). The proposed transmission line crosses one set of railroad tracks on the Northstar Bluescope Steel, LLC property and another railroad track east of this property and two streams (Photographs 1 and 2). In addition, the proposed transmission line also crosses Alt. U.S. 20/SR 2 near its northern extent.

GAI anticipates that the information provided in this letter report will be sufficient for FE to include, within Section (D) (3) Archaeological and Cultural Resources, in a Letter of Notification (LON) form submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB). GAI conducted online research and a walkover of the project APE to collect the information provided below.

The cultural resources background research served two purposes: (1) to determine the presence of previously identified cultural resources within the Project Area of Potential Effect (APE); and (2) to determine the Project's potential to contain intact archaeological sites and/or architectural resources within the proposed APE. The APE for archaeological sites was restricted to the LOD, while the APE used for architecture/historic resources was expanded to consider potential architecture/historic resources within 0.5 mi of the LOD. This report details the results of the cultural resources background research.

Background Research

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office's (OHPO) online mapping system was consulted to determine the presence of previously recorded cultural resources within a 0.5-mile buffer of the Project. The OHPO database includes all Ohio listings on the National Register of Historic Places, previous cultural resources

surveys, and previously recorded resources, including districts, archaeological sites, buildings, structures, and objects. The desktop review indicated that there were four recorded archaeological sites, two of which are isolated finds, and no architectural resources located within the 0.5-mile study radius but not within the Project area (Figure 2). None of these archaeological resources are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The four archaeological sites (33FU0154, 33FU0155, 33FU0156, and 33FU0180) are prehistoric sites or unknown temporal period (Table 1).

There were four previous cultural resources surveys conducted within 0.5-mile radius (Table 2). Two of these surveys (Survey # 13210 and Survey # 16951) did not result in identification of any cultural resources. A prior archaeological survey (Survey #19089) for a wastewater lagoon covering 66 acres east of SR 109 and north of the current study area resulted in the identification of two small lithic scatters and a lithic isolated find (sites 33FU0154, 33FU0155, and 33FU0156). A prior archaeological survey (Survey #19125) for an expansion area for a possible railroad spur north of the study area and east of SR 109 resulted in the identification of one prehistoric isolated find (33FU0180). None of the previous fall within the Project area.

GAI also conducted map and aerial photograph research. This research was used to identify the potential for architectural/historic resources that may be over 50 years of age within an approximate 0.5-mile radius of the project limits (Figure 3). This research identified two railroad lines that were constructed more than 50 years ago. A line running northeast-southwest, located along the southern Project limits appears on a map dating to 1888 (Figure 4). The north-south trending railroad line appears on a 1943 map (Figure 5). In addition, there were 17 houses and / or farm complexes that appear within 0.5 miles on the USGS topographic map dating to 1960 and 1971 that could require documentation during a Phase I cultural resources survey, if necessary (see Figure 3). Railroad overpasses and other associated railroad features meeting the age requirement may need documentation during a Phase I cultural resources survey, if required.

Map and aerial photograph research was used to identify changes to the landscape over time. Construction of the Northstar Bluescope Steel, LLC resulted in significant ground disturbing activities in the immediate Project vicinity to the west of the north-south trending railroad grade along the east side of the Project LOD, including creation of wetlands. Also, Rt. 109, at its intersection with Alt. U.S. 20/SR 2, formerly had turn lanes on the north side of the intersection (within the LOD) that is evident in a 1943 map (see Figure 5). Modern aerial photographs indicate that these turn lanes are no longer extant but do indicate prior ground disturbing activities within the Project LOD.

Field Reconnaissance

A preliminary field view (pedestrian reconnaissance) was conducted to determine the Project's potential to contain intact archaeological sites within the proposed APE. Based on this reconnaissance, over half of the Project LOD was previously disturbed and has a low to no potential for intact archaeological sites (Figure 6). Some areas with intact soils are located on the periphery of a wetland and have low to moderate potential for archaeological sites but the soils in these loci were water saturated at the time of the field reconnaissance. Two loci north of US 20 and one location at the northeast intersection of the two railroad grades have moderate to high potential for intact archaeological deposits.

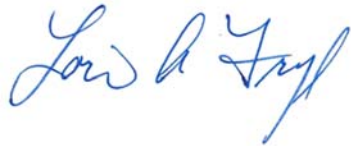
Additional Considerations

The above information is based on desktop research, available maps and aerial photographs, and a pedestrian reconnaissance to provide background cultural resources information for the LON form. The potential for archaeological and architectural resources could change based on actual field conditions, including identification of the viewshed for architectural and historic resources.

We appreciate the opportunity to perform the preliminary background research and field reconnaissance for potential cultural resources for the proposed Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission Line Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project in Fulton County. Please contact Lori Frye at l.frye@gaiconsultants.com or 412-399-5262 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

GAI Consultants, Inc.



Lori A. Frye, M.A., RPA
Senior Project Archaeologist

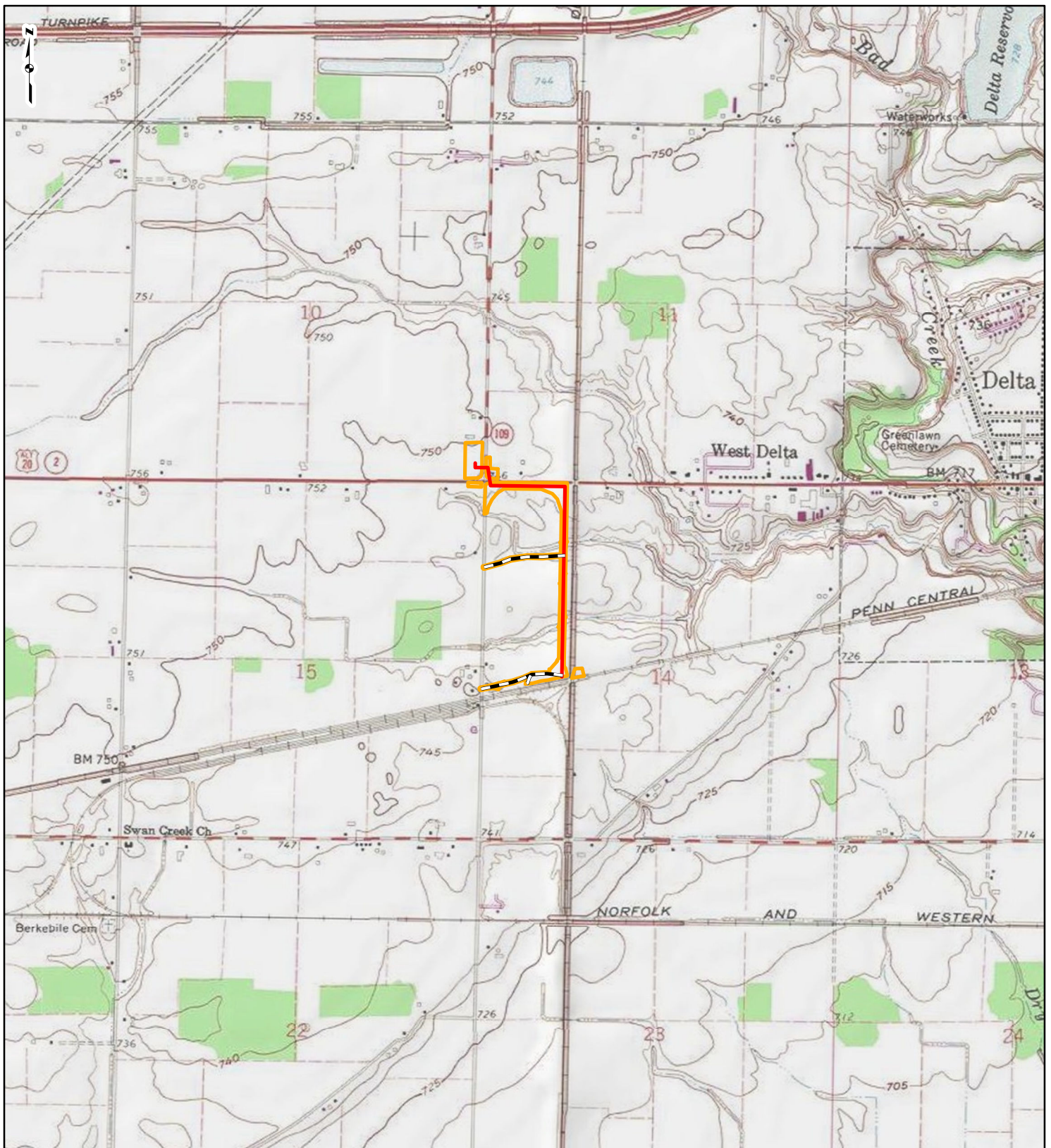
LAF:LJK/das

Attachments: Figures
 Tables
 Photographs



Lisa J. Keck, EIT
Sr. Civil Technical Manager

FIGURES



PROJECT LOCATION



FULTON COUNTY, OHIO

LEGEND

- PROPOSED NATURE FRESH TAP
- - - PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD
- STUDY AREA

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

FIGURE 1

PROJECT LOCATION MAP

DELTA - WAUSEON 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT
AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS,
INCORPORATED (ATSI) AND TOLEDO EDISON
COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)



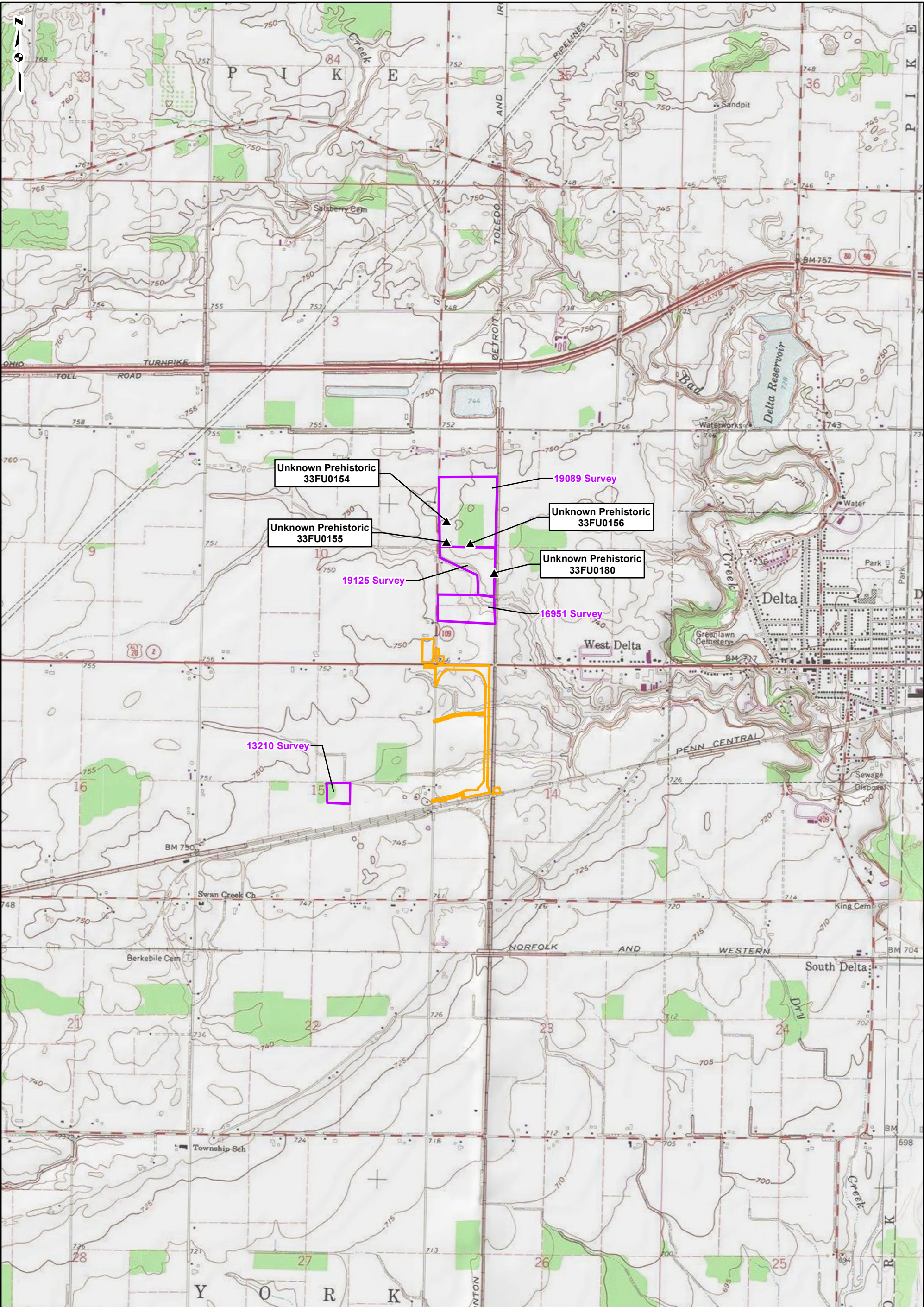
DRAWN BY: AEK

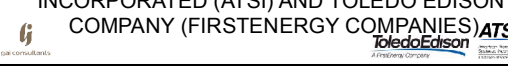
DATE: 1/4/2016

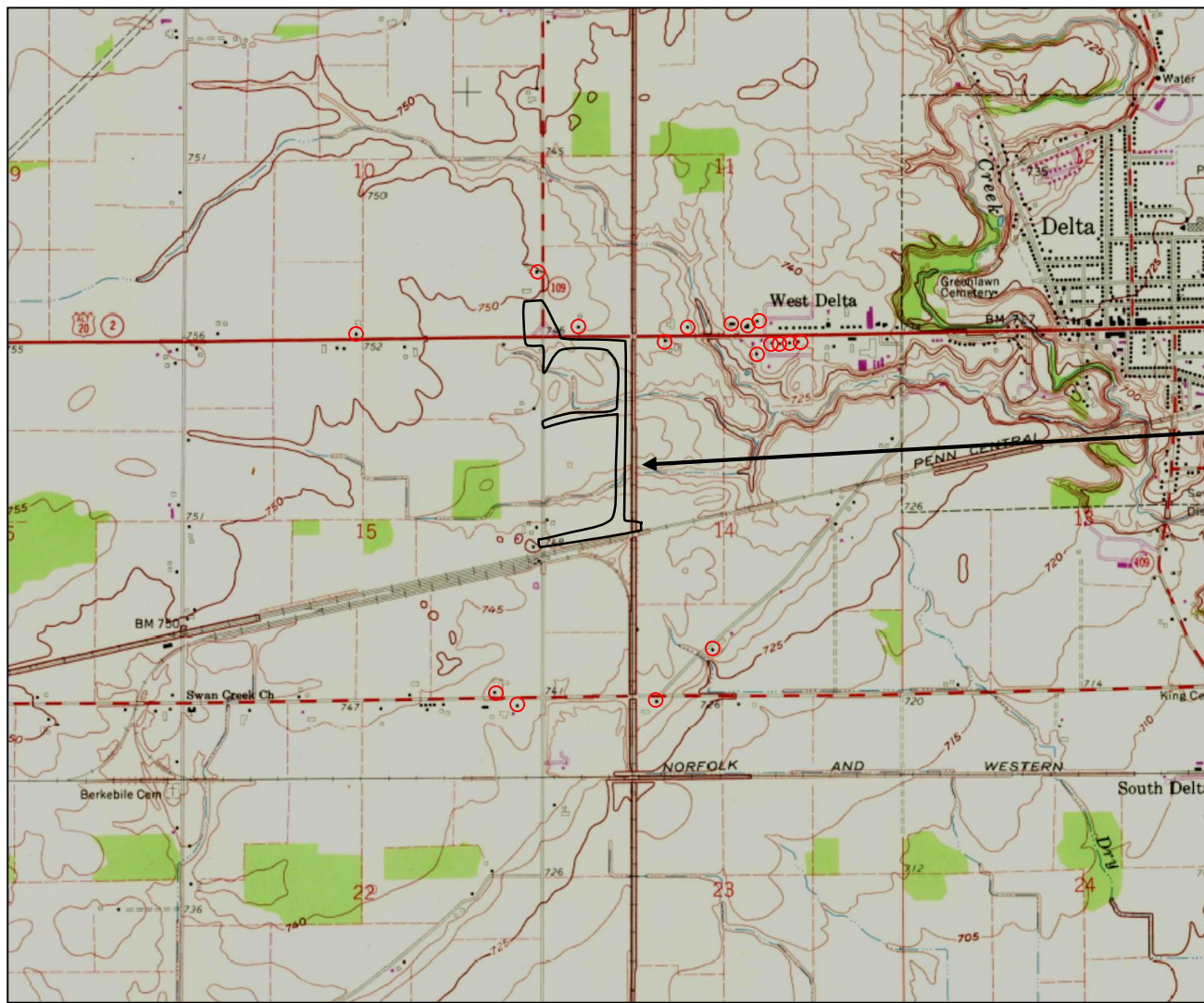
CHECKED: SWW

APPROVED: LJP

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE: DELTA (1972), OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 01/2016.



PROJECT LOCATION  FULTON COUNTY, OHIO	REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES: DELTA (1972) AND SWANTON (1972), OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 01/2016, CULTURAL DATA, OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, ONLINE FILES, ACCESSED 12/2015.	LEGEND ▲ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE LOCATION ▭ ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY LOCATION ▭ PROJECT APE 0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet	FIGURE 2: CULTURAL RESOURCES BACKGROUND RESEARCH RESULTS DELTA - WAUSEON 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED (ATSI) AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)  DRAWN BY: AEK DATE: 1/4/2016 CHECKED: EFJ APPROVED: LAF
--	---	---	---



APPROXIMATE PROJECT
LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC
QUADRANGLE: DELTA, OHIO
(PHOTOREVISED 1971)

○ POTENTIAL HOUSE OR FARM COMPLEX
OVER 50 YEARS OF AGE

FIGURE 3. PROJECT AREA SHOWING POTENTIAL ARCHITECTURAL
RESOURCES OVER 50 YEARS OF AGE WITHIN 0.5 MILE RADIUS

SCALE

0 MI 0.5 MI 1.0 MI

DELTA - WAUSEON 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE

TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT

AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED (ATSI)

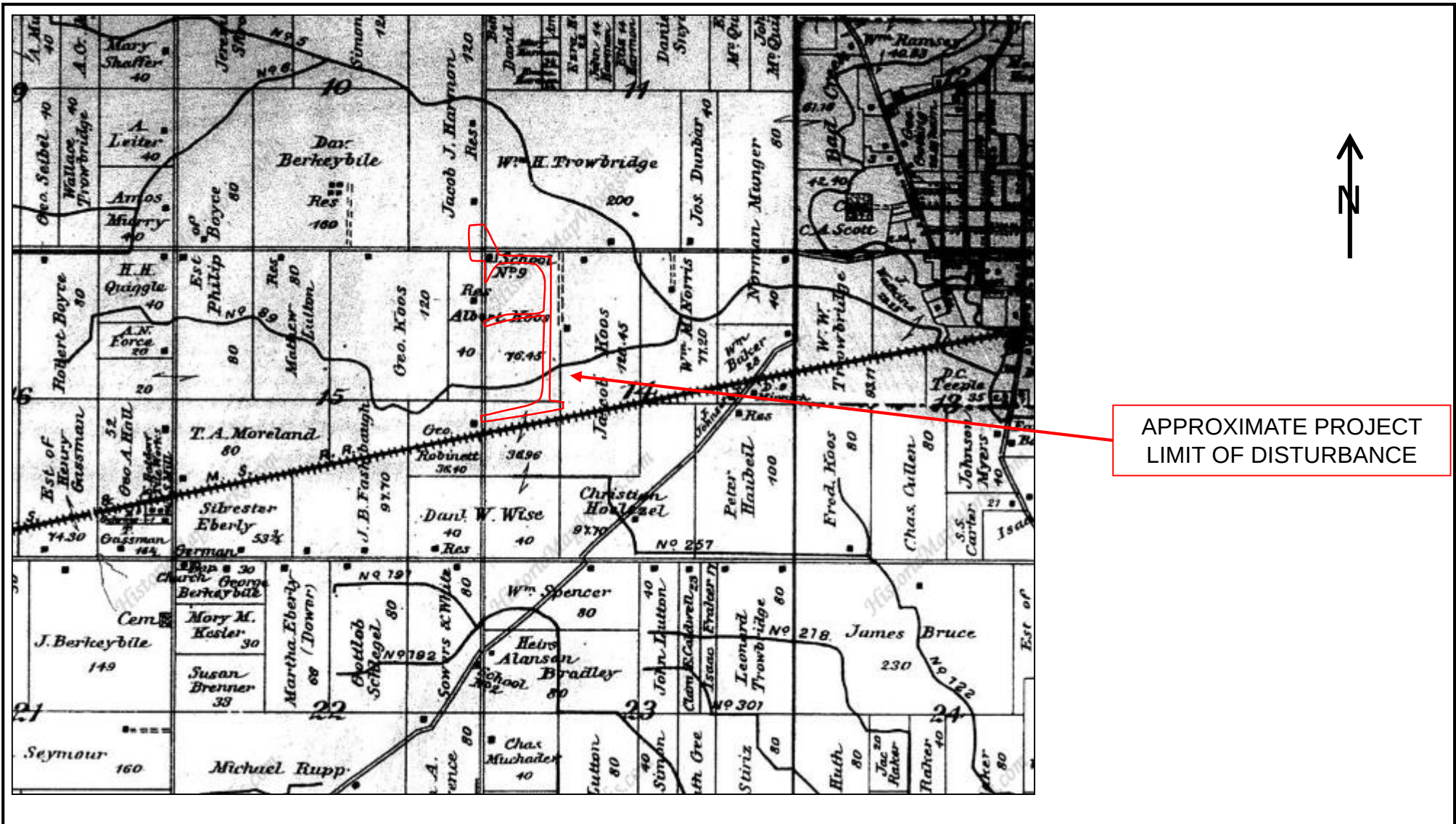
AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)

FULTON COUNTY, OHIO



DRWN: LAF
CHECKED: EPS

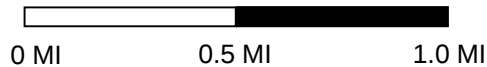
DATE: 01/04/2016
APPROVED: 01/04/2016



REFERENCE: GRIFFING, GORDON & CO. ATLAS OF FULTON COUNTY, OHIO, 1888.

FIGURE 4. PROJECT AREA DEVELOPMENT IN 1888.

SCALE

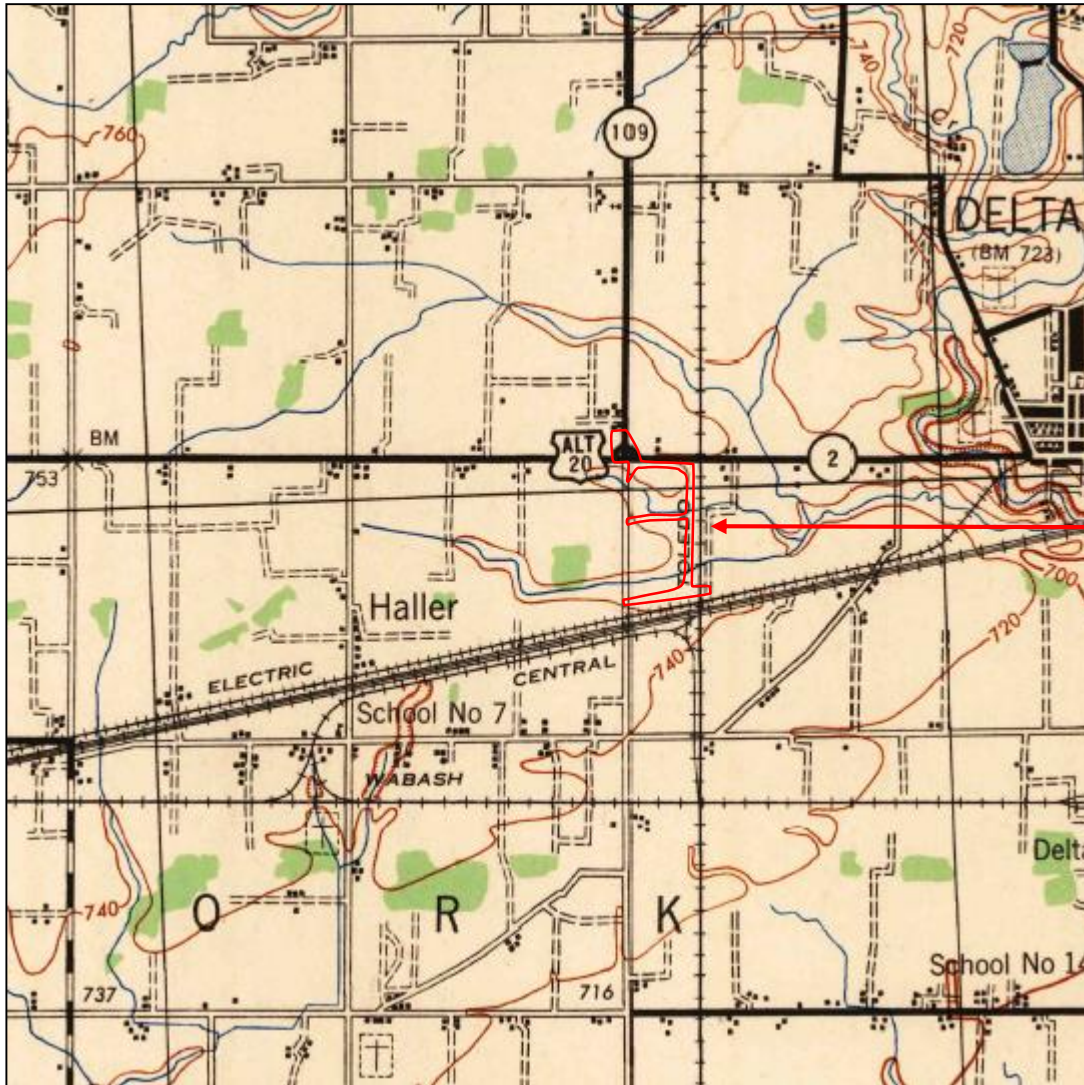


DELTA - WAUSEON 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE
TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT

AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED (ATSI) **ATSI**
AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO

DRWN: LAF
CHECKED: EPS

DATE: 01/04/16
APPROVED: 01/04/16



APPROXIMATE PROJECT
LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE

REFERENCE: USGS 15' TOPOGRAPHIC
QUADRANGLE: WAUSEON, OHIO 1943

FIGURE 5. PROJECT AREA DEVELOPMENT IN 1943.

SCALE

0 MI 0.5 MI 1.0 MI

DELTA - WAUSEON 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE

TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT

AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED (ATSI) **ATSI**

AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)

FULTON COUNTY, OHIO



DRWN: LAF

DATE: 01/04/16

CHECKED: EPS

APPROVED: 01/04/16



FIGURE 6.
CULTURAL RESOURCES RESULTS OF PEDESTRIAN RECONNAISSANCE



PROJECT APE



DISTURBED OR WETLAND;
NO SUBSURFACE TESTING
RECOMMENDED



DELTA - WAUSEON 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE
TAP TO NATURE FRESH FARMS PROJECT
AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED (ATSI)
AND TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (FIRSTENERGY COMPANIES)
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO



DRWN: LAF
CHECKED: EPS

DATE: 01/04/2016
APPROVED: 01/04/2016

TABLES

Table 1
RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WITHIN A 0.5 MILE BUFFER OF PROJECT AREA

Site Number	Cultural Affiliation	Site Type	Report Recommendations
33FU0154	Unassigned Prehistoric	Lithic Scatter	Does not meet minimum criteria for the National Register of Historic Places
33FU0155	Unassigned Prehistoric	Lithic Scatter	Does not meet minimum criteria for the National Register of Historic Places
33FU0156	Unassigned Prehistoric	Isolated Find	Does not meet minimum criteria for the National Register of Historic Places
33FU0180	Unassigned Prehistoric	Isolated Find	Does not meet minimum criteria for the National Register of Historic Places

Table 2
CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS WITHIN A 0.5 MILE BUFFER OF PROJECT AREA

Survey #	Location	Resources Identified
13210	Section 15, York Township	None
16951	Section 11, York Township	None
19089	Section 11, York Township	Two low density and diffuse lithic scatters and one isolated lithic find
19125	Section 11, York Township	One isolated lithic find

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph 1. Railroad Overpass, Facing Southwest.



Photograph 2. Stream Crossing in Project Area, Facing Northwest.

Wetland Delineation and Stream Identification Report

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
and Toledo Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies)
Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission
Line Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project
Fulton County, Ohio

GAI Project Number: C151681.00, Task 001
December 2015



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



Prepared by: GAI Consultants, Inc.
Pittsburgh Office
385 East Waterfront Drive
Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120-5005

Prepared for American Transmission
Systems, Incorporated and Toledo
Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies)
76 South Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308-1812

Wetland Delineation and Stream Identification Report

American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
and Toledo Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies)
Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission
Line Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project
Fulton County, Ohio

GAI Project Number: C151681.00, Task 001

December 2015

Prepared for:
American Transmission Systems, Incorporated
and Toledo Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies)
76 South Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308-1812

Prepared by:
GAI Consultants, Inc.
Pittsburgh Office
385 East Waterfront Drive
Homestead, Pennsylvania 15120-5005

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	5
2.0	Methods	5
2.1	Wetlands	5
2.1.1	Preliminary Data Gathering	5
2.1.2	Onsite Inspection	5
2.2	Waterbodies	7
2.2.1	Preliminary Data Gathering	7
2.2.2	Onsite Inspection	7
3.0	Results	8
3.1	Wetlands	8
3.1.1	Preliminary Data Gathering	8
3.1.2	Onsite Inspection	8
3.2	Waterbodies	8
3.2.1	Preliminary Data Gathering	8
3.2.2	Onsite Inspection	8
4.0	Conclusion	9
5.0	References	9
Table 1	Wetlands Identified Within the Project Study Area	
Table 2	Waterbodies Identified Within the Project Study Area	
Figure 1	Project Location Map	
Figure 2	Resource Location and Soils Map	
Appendix A	Wetland Photographs	
Appendix B	Waterbody Photographs	
Appendix C	Wetland and Stream Summaries	
Appendix D	Wetland Determination Forms, Ohio Rapid Assessment Method Forms, and Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Forms	
Appendix E	Resume of the Individual Conducting the Wetland Delineations	

1.0 Introduction

GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI), on behalf of American Transmission Systems, Incorporated and Toledo Edison Company (FirstEnergy Companies) completed a wetland delineation and stream identification survey for the Delta-Wauseon 138 kV Transmission Line Tap to Nature Fresh Farms Project (Project).

The Project includes the construction of approximately 4,200 feet of electric transmission tap line consisting of a 60-foot right-of-way (ROW) and 2,400 feet of access roads. The Project is located in York Township, Fulton County, Ohio. (OH) (Figure 1). This report details the survey of right-of-way (ROW) and access roads associated with the Project to determine the existence of jurisdictional aquatic resources within the Project area.

The wetland delineation and stream identification survey of the Project was conducted in December 2015. The study area consisted of a 60-foot study corridor in the ROW and a 50-foot corridor centered on the access roads, as shown in Figure 2.

The Project is located in the Lower Bad Creek Watershed [United States Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrologic Unit Code No. 041000090302].

This report provides a discussion of the methods and results of the wetland delineation and stream identification survey. Photographs of identified wetland and waterbody features are included in Appendices A and B, respectively, and summaries of identified features are included in Appendix C.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetland Determination Forms, OH Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) Forms, and Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index (HHEI) Forms are provided in Appendix D, and the resume of the individual conducting the wetland delineations is provided in Appendix E.

2.0 Methods

2.1 Wetlands

Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act as well as state regulations protect wetlands in OH.

2.1.1 Preliminary Data Gathering

The preliminary data gathering was used to compile and review information that may be helpful in identifying wetlands and/or areas that warrant further inspection during the investigation. The preliminary data gathering included a review of the following:

- ▶ USGS 7.5-minute topographic mapping: Delta, OH (USGS, 1972) (Figure 1);
- ▶ United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapping (USFWS, 2014) (Figure 2); and
- ▶ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS, 2015) soil mapping (Figure 2).

Topographic mapping was used to identify mapped streams and the overall shape of the landscape in the Project area to determine potential locations for wetlands, such as floodplains and depressions. NWI mapping was used to determine locations where probable wetlands are located based on infrared photography. Soil mapping was reviewed to determine the location and extent of mapped hydric soils that have a high probability of containing wetlands.

2.1.2 Onsite Inspection

The methodology described in the USACE Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) as well as the appropriate USACE Regional Supplement identifies areas

meeting the definition of jurisdictional wetland by evaluating three parameters: hydrology, vegetation, and soil. During the onsite inspection, GAI staff trained in the USACE method of identifying and delineating wetlands, traversed the Project study area on foot to determine if any indicators of wetlands were present, including wetland hydrology, hydrophytic vegetation, and/or hydric soils. When indicators of wetlands were observed, an observation point was established, and a Wetland Determination Data Form (Data Form) was completed to determine if all three wetland requirements were present.

The presence of wetland hydrology was determined by examining the observation point for primary and secondary indicators of wetland hydrology. The presence of any primary indicator signified the presence of wetland hydrology, and the presence of two or more secondary indicators signified the presence of wetland hydrology.

Vegetation was characterized by four different strata. This included trees [more than three inches in diameter at breast height (DBH)], saplings/shrubs (less than three inches DBH and more than 3.28 feet tall), herbs (less than 3.28 feet tall), and woody vines. The area vegetation was sampled varied for each stratum. Trees and woody vines were sampled within a 30-foot radius. Saplings and shrubs were sampled within a 15-foot radius. Herbs were sampled within a five-foot radius.

When evaluating an area for the presence of hydrophytes, classification of the indicator status of vegetation was based on The National Wetland Plant List: 2014 Update of Wetland Ratings (Lichvar and Kartesz, 2014). The list of possible indicator statuses for plants is as follows:

- ▶ Obligate Wetland (OBL): Obligate wetland plants occur in standing water or in saturated soils.
- ▶ Facultative Wetland (FACW): Facultative wetland plants nearly always occur in areas of prolonged flooding or require standing water or saturated soils but may on rare occasions, occur in non-wetlands.
- ▶ Facultative (FAC): Facultative plants occur in a variety of habitats, including wetland and mesic to xeric non-wetland habitats but often occur in standing water or saturated soils.
- ▶ Facultative Upland (FACU): Facultative upland plants typically occur in xeric or mesic non-wetland habitats but may frequently occur in standing water or saturated soils.
- ▶ Obligate Upland (UPL): Obligate upland plants almost never occur in water or saturated soils.

Presence of hydrophytic vegetation was determined by using a Dominance Test or Prevalence Index. Hydrophytic vegetation was considered present based on the Dominance Test if over 50 percent of dominant species are FAC, FACW, and/or OBL. The Prevalence Index weighs the total percent of vegetation cover based on the indicator status of each plant. Hydrophytic vegetation was considered present when the Prevalence Index is less than or equal to three.

To determine the presence of hydric soils, soil data was collected by digging a 16-inch soil pit. The soil profile was studied and described, while possible hydric indicators were examined. Soil indicators described in the USACE Wetlands Delineation Manual and Regional Supplements were used to determine the presence of hydric soils. The presence of any of these indicators signified hydric soil.

If all three parameters including wetland hydrology, a dominance of hydrophytic vegetation, and hydric soils were identified at a single observation point, the area was determined to be a wetland. Once a wetland was identified, the boundary was delineated.

Wetland boundaries were determined by looking for locations in which one of the three wetland indicators would transition into an upland characteristic. When the transition was identified, a Data Form was completed in the Upland Area. Wetland boundaries were then marked in the field using pink flagging labeled "wetland boundary." The locations of the flags were recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS). Each wetland was codified with a unique identifier indicating the type of feature, state where the feature is located, initials of the field personnel, and number. For example, the first wetland delineated for a project in OH by an individual with the initials "TCW" would be coded WOH-TCW-001.

Wetlands were then classified using the Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin et al., 1979) as modified for NWI Mapping Convention. This system classifies wetlands based on topographic position and vegetation type. Palustrine system wetlands found in the study area are classified as Palustrine Emergent (PEM), Palustrine Forested (PFO), Palustrine Scrub-Shrub (PSS), and Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom (PUB) based on aerial coverage of the vegetative community across the extent of the wetland within the study area (Cowardin et al., 1979).

As regulated by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules 3745-1-50 through 3745-1-54, wetlands were also evaluated using the ORAM for wetlands to determine the appropriate wetland category. Any wetland score that fell within a zone between categories was scored one of two ways. Either the wetland was assigned to the higher of the two categories or it was assessed using a non-rapid method to determine its quality (Mack, 2001). The category assigned to a particular wetland determines the requirement, if any, for additional levels of protection administered by the OH Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA).

2.2 Waterbodies

As with wetlands, Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act and state regulations protect waterbodies in OH. Generally, waterbodies are defined as environmental features that have defined beds and banks, an ordinary high water mark (OHWM), and contain flowing or standing water for at least a portion of the year.

2.2.1 Preliminary Data Gathering

During the preliminary data gathering, USGS 7.5-minute topographic mapping was examined for the presence of mapped waterbodies including perennial and intermittent streams. In addition, the topographic mapping was used to identify areas likely to contain unmapped waterbodies including ephemeral streams (USGS, 1972) (Figure 1).

2.2.2 Onsite Inspection

During the onsite inspection, the study area was traversed, concurrently with wetland inspection, and waterbodies were identified. Waterbodies were identified based on the morphological and hydrologic characteristics of the channel and the presence of aquatic macroinvertebrates.

When a waterbody was identified, field measurements were collected. The measurements included bank-to-bank width and depth, OHWM width and depth, pool depth, and substrate composition. The data was recorded in a field notebook. Waterbodies were then delineated using white flagging marked with the GAI stream code including the state, initials of the delineator, and number of the identified feature (e.g., SOH-TCW-001). The top of each bank

for streams wider than 10 feet were delineated, and the centerline of smaller streams were delineated. The locations of the flags were recorded using a GPS. Additionally, a HHEI Form was completed for each delineated stream.

3.0 Results

3.1 Wetlands

3.1.1 Preliminary Data Gathering

Desktop review of the available USFWS NWI digital data for the Project revealed that there are no previously mapped wetlands located within the Project study area (USFWS, 2014).

According to the USDA-NRCS soil mapping indicates that the site is covered by moderately well drained to very poorly drained soils. Six soil mapping units are located within the study area (Figure 2). The mapping units include:

- ▶ Haskins loam, zero to three percent slopes (HkA), predominantly nonhydryc;
- ▶ Hoytville clay loam, zero to one percent slopes (HoA), predominantly hydric;
- ▶ Mermill loam (Mf), predominantly hydric;
- ▶ Nappanee loam, zero to two percent slopes (NnA), predominantly nonhydryc;
- ▶ Ottokee fine sand, zero to six percent slopes (OtB), predominantly nonhydryc; and
- ▶ Rimer loamy fine sand, zero to three percent slopes (RnA), predominantly nonhydryc.

A soil is considered "Hydric" if 100 percent of the components listed for the map unit are rated as being hydric. "Predominantly hydric" means components that comprise 66 to 99 percent of the map unit are rated as hydric. "Partially hydric" means components that comprise 33 to 66 percent of the map unit are rated as hydric. "Predominantly nonhydryc" means components that comprise up to 33 percent of the map unit are rated as hydric. "Nonhydryc" means that none of the components are rated as hydric.

3.1.2 Onsite Inspection

Indicators of wetlands were observed during the onsite inspection. Four wetlands were identified and delineated within the study area; three PEM wetlands and one PSS/ PFO wetland complex. Information on the delineated wetlands can be found in Table 1. A narrative description of each wetland is provided in Appendix C. Wetland and Upland Data Forms are included in Appendix D.

3.2 Waterbodies

3.2.1 Preliminary Data Gathering

Desktop review of the available USGS National Hydrography Dataset for the Project revealed that two unnamed tributaries (UNTs) to Bad Creek are located within the Project study area (USGS, 2015).

3.2.2 Onsite Inspection

Two stream segments were identified and delineated during the onsite inspection. Both stream segments were classified as having perennial flow regimes. Information on the delineated streams and their classifications can be found in Table 2.

4.0 Conclusion

Wetland delineation and waterbody identification was conducted within the Project study area in December 2015. A total of four wetlands and two stream segments were identified within the Project study area. Summaries of the delineated features are provided in Tables 1 and 2, and a map of their locations is provided in Figure 2. Narrative descriptions and data forms documenting the investigation are provided in Appendices C and D of this report, respectively. The resume of the individual conducting the survey is provided in Appendix E.

5.0 References

- Cowardin, D. M., V. Carter, F. C. Golet, and E. T. La Roe. 1979. *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States*. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. Publication No. FWS/OBS 79/31. Washington, D.C.
- Environmental Laboratory. 1987. *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual*. United States Department of the Army, United States Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station. Technical Report Y-87-1. Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- Lichvar, R. W. and J. T. Kartesz. 2014. *The National Wetland Plant List, Version 3.2* (https://wetland_plants.usace.army.mil). United States Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, Hanover, New Hampshire; and BONAP, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
- Mack, John J. 2001. *Ohio Rapid Assessment Methods for Wetlands Manual for Using Version 5.0*. Ohio EPA Technical Bulletin Wetland/2001-1-1. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Surface Water, 401 Wetland Ecology Unit, Columbus, Ohio.
- Ohio Administrative Code. 2008. *State of Ohio: Water Quality Standards, Chapter 3745-1*.
- Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. *Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database for Fulton County, Ohio*. Available online at <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>.
- United States Army Corps of Engineers. 2012. *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region Version 2.0*. Editors: J. F. Berkowitz, J. S. Wakeley, R. W. Lichvar, and C. V. Noble. ERDC/EL TR-12-9. Vicksburg, Mississippi: United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center.
- United States Army Corps of Engineers. 2007. *Jurisdictional Determination Form Instructional Guidebook*. Available from http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/regulatory/cwa_guide/jd_guidebook_051207final.pdf
- United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2013. *Soil Survey Geographic Database for Fulton County, Ohio*. Fort Worth, Texas. <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>. Accessed December 2015. Washington, D.C.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2014. *National Wetlands Inventory for Ohio*. Washington, D.C.: United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation. Available from <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>
- United States Geological Survey. 1972. Delta, Ohio 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle (1:24,000).

TABLES

Table 1
Wetlands Identified Within the Project Study Area

Feature Designation ¹	Latitude ²	Longitude ²	Cowardin Classification ³	ORAM v 5.0 Score ⁴	ORAM Category ⁵	Approximate Size (acres) ⁶
WOH-TCW-001	41.565222	-84.036654	PEM	12	I	0.17
WOH-TCW-002	41.565902	-84.033419	PFO/PSS	39	Modified 2	1.58
WOH-TCW-003	41.569372	-84.033283	PEM	19	1	0.02
WOH-TCW-004	41.569851	-84.033200	PEM	18	1	0.04

Notes:

¹ GAI map designation.

²Coordinates provided in NAD 83.

³ Palustrine system wetlands were classified as emergent (PEM), forested (PFO), or scrub-shrub (PSS) (Cowardin et al. 1979)

⁴ Interim scoring breakpoints for wetland regulatory categories for ORAM v 5.0 Score: Category 1 score 0 - 29.9; Category 1 or 2 gray zone ORAM score 30 - 34.9; Category modified 2 ORAM score 35 - 44.9; Category 2 ORAM score 45 - 59.9; Category 2 or 3 ORAM score 60 - 64.9; Category 3 ORAM score 65 - 100. OEPA Ecology Unit Division of Surface Water. ORAM v. 5.0 Qualitative Score Calibration. Dated August 15, 2000. http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/401/oram50sc_s.pdf.

⁵ OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) defines Category 1 wetlands as wetlands which "...support minimal wildlife habitat, and minimal hydrological and recreation functions," and as wetlands which have "...hydrologic isolation, low species diversity, a predominance of non-native species, no significant habitat or wildlife use, and limited potential to achieve beneficial wetland functions." Category 2 wetlands are defined as wetlands which "...support moderate wildlife habitat, or hydrological or recreational functions," and as wetlands which are "...dominated by native species but generally without the presence of, or habitat for, rare, threatened or endangered species; and wetlands which are degraded but have a reasonable potential for reestablishing lost wetland functions." Degraded but Restorable Category 2 Wetlands are according to OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) states that wetlands that are assigned to Category 2 constitute the broad middle category that "...support moderate wildlife habitat, or hydrological or recreational functions," but also include "...wetlands which are degraded but have a reasonable potential for reestablishing lost wetland functions."

⁶ Extent of wetland within study area.

Table 2
Waterbodies Identified Within the Project Study Area

Feature Designation¹	Latitude²	Longitude²	Waterbody Name	Stream Type	USACE Classification³	Channel Width (feet)⁴	Approximate Length in Study Area (feet)
SOH-TCW-001	41.567876	-84.033289	UNT to Bad Creek	Perennial	RPW	12	191
SOH-TCW-002	41.571075	-84.033226	UNT to Bad Creek	Perennial	RPW	8	85

Notes:

- ¹ GAI map designation.
- ² Coordinates provided in NAD 83.
- ³ RPW - Relatively Permanent Waterbody. Jurisdictional classification must be confirmed by the USACE.
- ⁴ Channel width is the average length, determined by bankfull width, measured in feet.

FIGURES

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/5/2016 5:03:39 PM

in

Case No(s). 15-2081-EL-BLN

Summary: Correspondence transmitting Cultural Resources and Wetland and Stream Reports for Letter of Notification Application (Part 1 of 4) electronically filed by Mr. Robert J Schmidt on behalf of American Transmission Systems Inc. and The Toledo Edison Company