

BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

In the Matter of the Application)	
of Buckeye Wind LLC to Amend its)	Case No. 13-360-EL-BGA
Certificate Issued in)	
Case No. 08-666-EL-BGN)	

**NOTICE OF FILING BUCKEYE WIND LLC'S RESPONSES TO
STAFF'S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS**

Buckeye Wind LLC hereby gives notice that on July 24, 2013, it submitted responses to Staff's First Set of Data Requests. A copy of the responses to Staff are attached for filing on the docket.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was served upon the following parties via electronic mail this 15th day of August, 2013.

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**Application of Buckeye Wind LLC to Amend its Certificate
Case No. 13-0360-EL-BGA**

Applicant's Responses to Staff's First Set of Data Requests

1. Confirm that the size and location of the proposed substation in this proceeding is identical to the size and location for the substation approved in the Buckeye II proceeding. If any differences, provide details.

Response: This statement is confirmed. The size and location of the proposed substation in this proceeding is identical to the size and location for the substation approved in the Buckeye II proceeding.

2. Confirm that the size and location for the three proposed construction staging areas in this proceeding are identical to the size and location for the staging areas approved in the Buckeye II proceeding. If any differences, provide details.

Response: This statement is confirmed. The size and location of the three proposed construction staging areas in this proceeding are identical to the size and location for the staging areas approved in the Buckeye II proceeding.

3. The city of Urbana has expressed concerns regarding the proposed location of a construction staging area in relation to a sewer line extension project.

- a. Does the Applicant believe its proposed construction staging area will impact the sewer line extension project? Explain.

Response: The Applicant does not believe its proposed construction staging area will impact the sewer line extension project. The Applicant believes that the axle weight of equipment entering this staging area that would ride over the sewer extension pipe would be no different than where the same axle weight will cross the same pipe at other location(s). It is typical for projects of this nature to frequently cross utility infrastructure. If necessary, additional mitigation measures (i.e. steel plates) may be put in place to reduce and deflect weight on the sewer extension pipe. In the very unlikely scenario that construction activities damage the sewer line, the Applicant would assume responsibility for repairing the damage.

- b. Has the Applicant had discussions with the city of Urbana to address its concerns? If yes, provide details on the current status of those discussions.

Response: The Applicant has had no discussions with the city of Urbana to address its concerns. The Applicant has on multiple occasions reached out to the city of Urbana to discuss its concerns. Furthermore, the Applicant has attended city council meetings to be present and be able to respond to questions specifically on this issue as recently as May 29, 2013. However, the city of Urbana has yet to respond to the Applicant's efforts

to engage it on this issue. The Applicant will work to avoid any infrastructure or property damage similarly to working elsewhere in the project area.

4. The Champaign County Board of Commissioners raised potential concerns regarding the ability to identify the location of buried electric collection lines.

- a. How, if at all, will the lines be permanently marked for identification in the field?

Response: There are different methods of marking buried collection lines. Typically above ground markers are used and spaced 300 feet apart. However, in agricultural lands where a landowner does not want above ground markers interfering with farming activities, the line location will be collected with a GPS unit and marked with a magnetic marker, trace wire or other means of marking, which can be used to determine the line's location.

- b. Will the exact location of the electric collection lines be communicated to the Ohio Utilities Protection Service? If so, when will this be accomplished?

Response: The Applicant will either communicate the location of the buried electric collection lines to the Ohio Utilities Protection Service or become a member of the Ohio Utilities Protection Service. As a member the Applicant will be notified when a company or person intends to dig in proximity to the Applicant's buried collection lines.

5. With respect to noise during the construction phase of the proposed amendment:

- a. What steps, if any, does the Applicant propose to minimize noise levels from construction machinery?

Response: The Applicant proposes no additional steps in Case No. 13-0360-EL-BGA to minimize noise levels from construction machinery. However, in Section 4906-1307(3)(a) of the Application in Case No. 08-0666-EL-BGN, the Applicant discussed ways in which noise from construction machinery should be minimized such as setbacks and expected timing of construction noise.

- b. Condition 25 in Case No. 08-0666-EL-BGN addresses limitations to construction activities. Is the Applicant proposing any modifications to Condition 25 in this proceeding? If so, describe.

Response: The Applicant is not proposing any modifications to Condition 25 in this proceeding.

6. Figure 4 shows buried interconnection lines, some of which are labeled as "Relocated (Buckeye & Buckeye II shared)". Confirm that these segments (Buckeye & Buckeye II Shared) are identical to the routes approved in the Buckeye II proceeding.

Response: There are 2 locations where the Buckeye & Buckeye II collection is slightly different than what was submitted in the Buckeye II proceeding (See attached Interrogatory Figures 6a and 6b). One shift location is between turbines 15 and 22. The shifts at this location were made to reduce tree clearing, which was a general comment from Staff on their site visit, and to reduce impacts to field drainage and tile based on conversations with the landowner. The second location where the collection line has shifted is just north of turbine 67. This slight shift to the west was made based on the preferences of two landowners and will reduce tree clearing.

7. Figure 4 shows buried interconnection lines, some of which are labeled as “Relocated (Buckeye Only)”.

a. Do the “Relocated - Buckeye Only” segments total 6.35 miles? If not, what is the total?

Response: The “Relocated – Buckeye Only” segments total 6.94 miles.

b. How many stream crossings are there for the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments? And which stream crossing are they (i.e., S12, S19, S28, etc.)?

Response: There are 3 stream crossings for the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments. They are stream crossings S12, S19, S28.

c. How many road crossing are there for the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments? What is the planned burial method at each of the road crossings, if applicable?

Response: There are three road crossings for the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments. These crossings are: between turbines 17 and 36 across Ludlow Road, between turbines 36 and 27 across Ludlow Road, and between turbines 7 and 73 at Urbana Woodstock Pike. It is planned that that collection line burial method will be directional drilling at each of the road crossings.

d. Describe any expected impacts, temporary or permanent, to roads and bridges due to the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments?

Response: No temporary or permanent impacts are expected to roads and bridges due to the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments.

e. What percentage of the “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” segments is active agricultural land, fallow agricultural land, forested, and scrub shrub?

Response: The percentages of “Relocated (Buckeye Only)” buried interconnection lines impacts are: 0.09% (0.02 acres) forest, 12.6% (2.66 acres) scrub shrub, and 87.3% (18.39 acres) active agricultural. The November 2011 aerial photo showed that all agricultural land was active.

8. Figure 4 shows buried interconnection lines, some of which are labeled as “Relocated – Adjacent to Approved Buckeye Overhead”.

Response: To clarify the “Relocated – Adjacent to Approved Buckeye Overhead”:

- a. What is the total length of this segment?

Response: The total length of this segment is 0.56 miles

- b. Is this segment exclusive to Buckeye or shared with Buckeye II as appears to be labeled on Figure 05-2A?

Response: This segment is shared with Buckeye II.

- c. What is the planned burial method for this segment?

Response: The exact method of burial for the segment is not known at this time. The planned burial methods for underground interconnect lines are through use of a cable plow, rock saw and/or trencher (See Section 4906-17-05(B)(1) of the Application for Case No. 13-360-EL-BGA)

9. The amendment includes proposed changes to 4 access roads. Would there be any tree clearing associated with these 4 access road changes? If yes, provide both temporary and permanent tree clearing estimates.

Response: The four relocated access roads are all located in farm fields so no tree clearing is associated with these 4 access road changes.

10. Condition 54 of the certificate issued in 08-0666-EL-BGN prohibited construction of collector lines along the UCC road frontage around Hole No. 11. The proposed amendment appears to have no collector lines in the vicinity of UCC Hole No. 11. Please confirm.

Response: This statement is confirmed. No collector lines are proposed in the vicinity of UCC Hole No. 11. The Applicant will comply with Condition 54 of the certificate issued in Case No. 08-0666-EL-BGN.

11. Page 43 of the application indicates that the clearing of areas enrolled in the CRP will be conducted before March 1 and after July 15.

- a. Will the new access road require any clearing of areas enrolled in the CRP? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: No.

- b. Will the 4 access road changes require any clearing of areas enrolled in the CRP? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: No.

- c. Will the collection line as specified as "Relocated (Buckeye Only)" require any clearing of areas enrolled in the CRP? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: Yes, 5.14 acres of temporary soil disturbance (See Interrogatory Figure 11 for location details).

12. Re: parcels designated as agricultural districts:

- a. Will the new access road have any temporary or permanent impacts to areas designated as agricultural districts? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: Yes, there will be a permanent disturbance of 0.05 acres and a temporary disturbance of 0.21 acres to areas designated as agricultural districts due to the new access road (See Interrogatory Figure 12a for location details).

- b. Will the 4 access road changes have any temporary or permanent impacts to areas designated as agricultural districts? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: Yes, there will be a permanent disturbance of 0.14 acres and a temporary disturbance of 0.58 acres to areas designated as agricultural districts due to the 4 access road changes (See Interrogatory Figure 12b for location details).

- c. Will the collection line as specified as "Relocated (Buckeye Only)" have any temporary or permanent impacts to areas designated as agricultural districts? If yes, provide acreage and details.

Response: Yes, there will be a temporary disturbance of 15.64 acres to areas designated as agricultural districts due to the "Relocated (Buckeye Only)" collection line (See Interrogatory Figure 12c for location details).

13. The Surface Water Evaluation (Appendix C) conducted by Hull & Associates indicates that the delineation "... of wetlands and other surface waters was completed for the proposed relocation of electrical collection lines, three staging areas and a substation ...". Did the surface water evaluation also include the areas proposed for the changes to the 4 access roads and the one new access road? If not, why were these components excluded from the evaluation?

Response: Three of the relocated access roads and the new access road were delineated as part of the delineation fieldwork for Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN. These three relocated access roads and the new access road are in the exact same location as access roads for Case No. 12-0160-EL-BGN. The fourth relocated access road (access road that runs south from Turbine 40) is co-located with a relocated buried electric collection line and therefore the corridor that this access road is located in has been delineated.

14. The Applicant indicates on p. 42 of the application that it will trench most intermittent and ephemeral streams crossed by the electric collection lines during periods when the stream is dry or low flow. However, if water is present in such streams at the time of the planned installation,

the Applicant intends to horizontally directionally drill underneath the stream. How will this flexibility in construction methods be incorporated within the permit process? Propose greatest impact methodology and then potentially shift to a lower impact methodology, based on field conditions at the time?

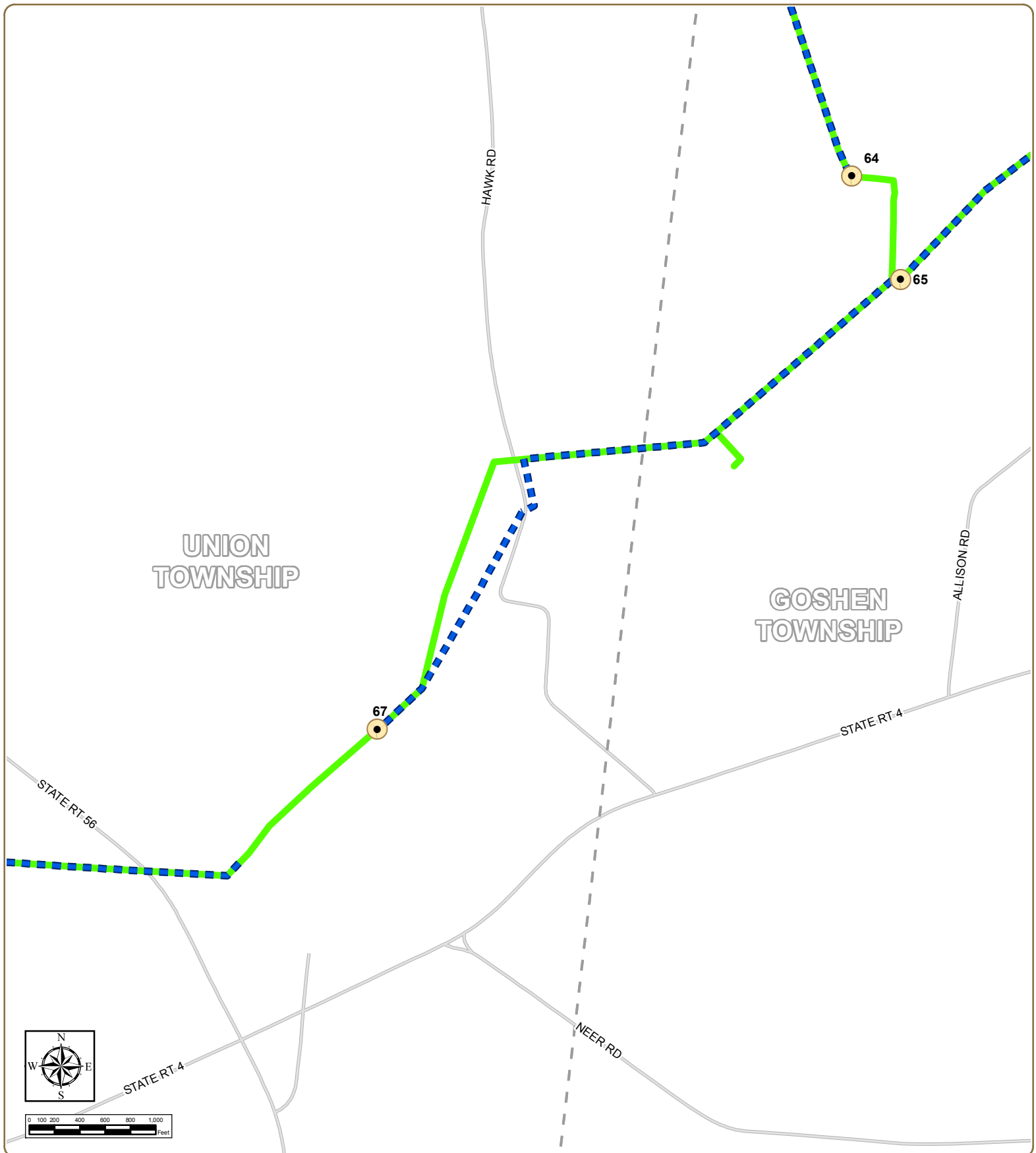
Response: The Applicant believes that the limited impacts of the Facility can be permitted through the Nationwide (NWP) permit program due to the expected level of impact and will receive a water quality certification from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). Thus individual Section 404 and 401 permits will not be necessary. The Applicant would submit these permits based on the assumption that it would be necessary to trench through most intermittent and ephemeral streams besides those which the Applicant has committed to avoiding regardless of their flow regime.

15. Please describe the current status of permit discussions with the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Response: The Applicant has not yet submitted application(s) to the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to permit impacts to waters of the U.S. due to construction and operation of the Project. However, the Corps is well aware of the Project as it has been involved in the National Environmental Policy Act and Habitat Conservation Plan process for the Applicant's application for an Incidental Take Permit from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

16. Please describe the current status of permit discussions with the Ohio EPA.

Response: The Applicant has not yet submitted application(s) to the OEPA to permit impacts to waters of the State due to construction and operation of the Project. The Applicant had preliminary conversations with the OEPA in summer 2009 to introduce the Project and to discuss construction stormwater permit process and expected requirements.



Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

Interrogatory Figure 6a

July 2013



Phase II Approved -- Buried Collection

Phase I Amendment -- Buried Interconnect - Relocated (Buckeye & Buckeye II Shared)

Substation

Temporary Laydown Yard

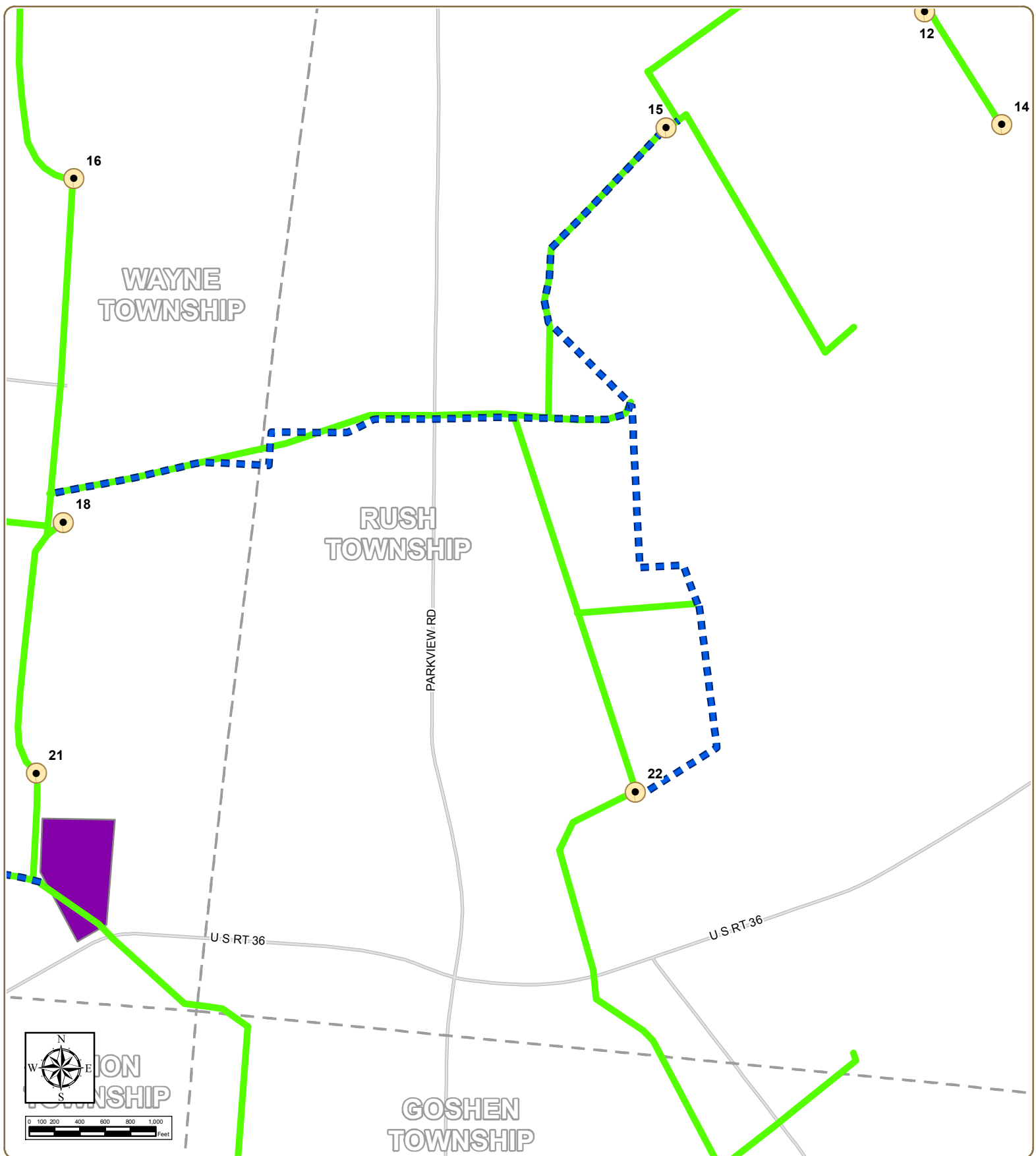
Township Boundary

County Boundary

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Notes:

1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
2. Map Scale: 1:12,000



Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

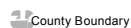
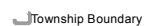
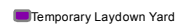
Interrogatory Figure 6b

July 2013



Phase II Approved -- Buried Collection

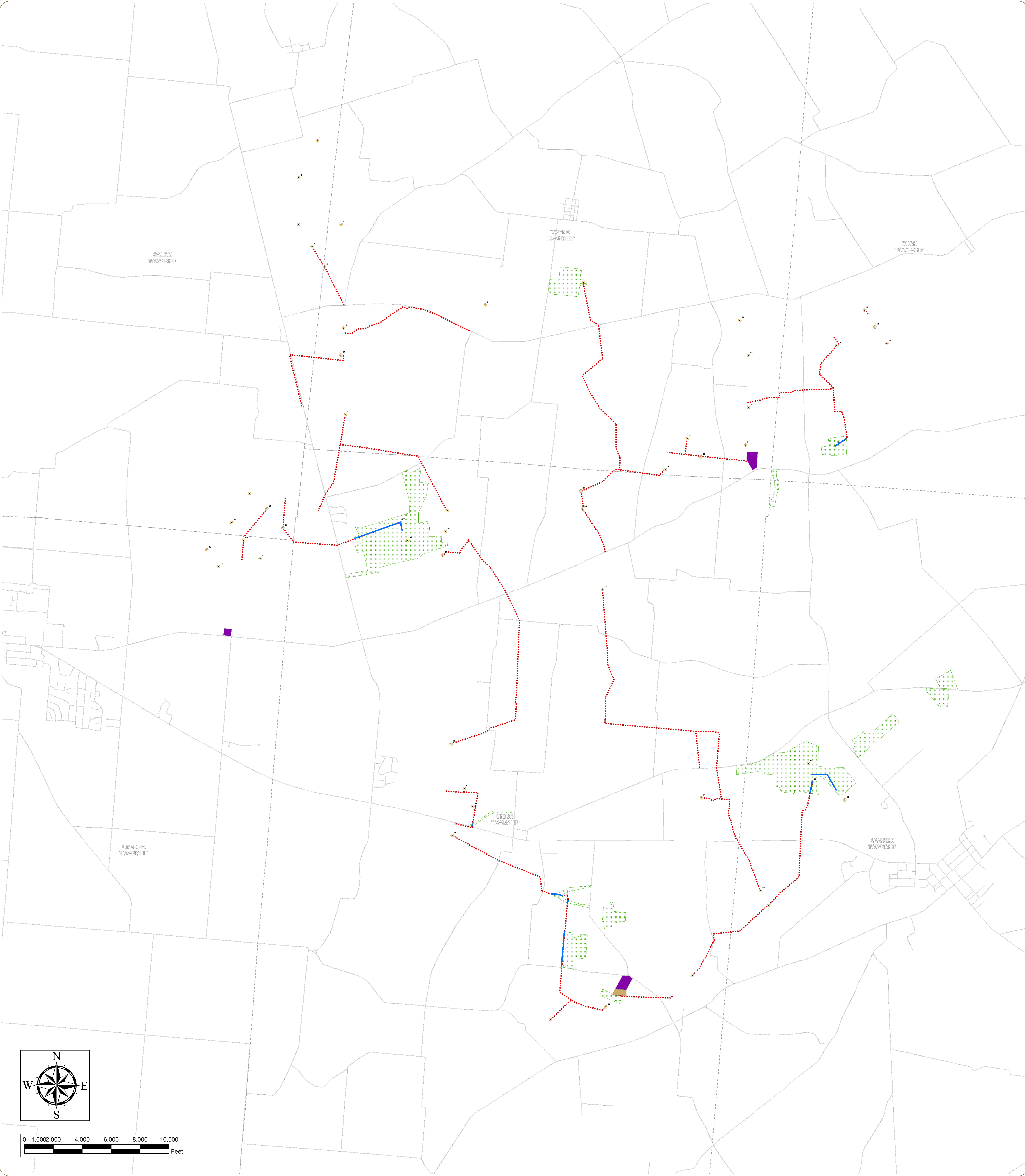
Phase I Amendment -- Buried Interconnect - Relocated (Buckeye & Buckeye II Shared)



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Notes:

1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
2. Map Scale: 1:12,000



Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

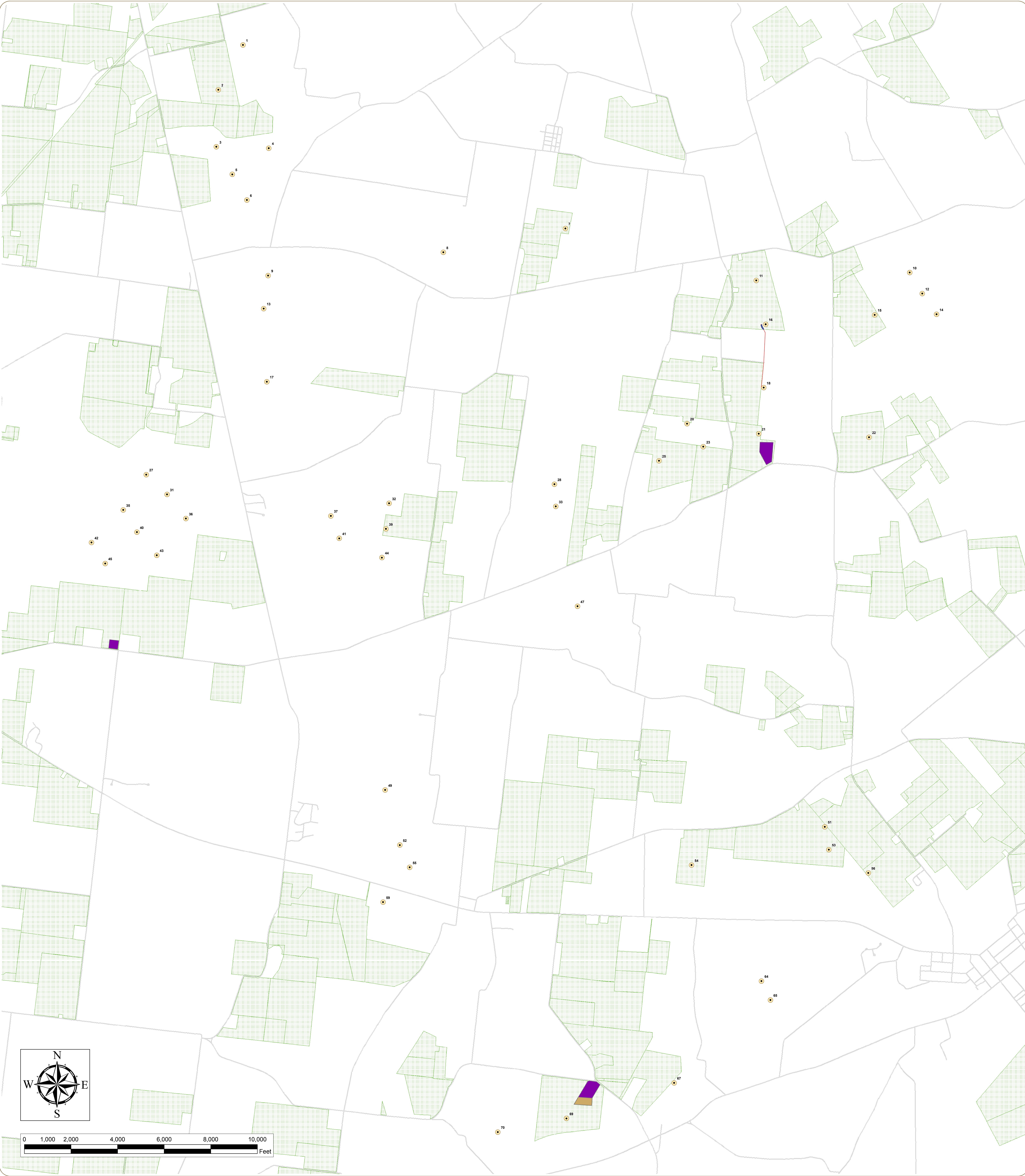
Interrogatory Figure 11

July 2013

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| Wind Turbine | Substation |
| Buried Interconnect - Relocated (Buckeye Only) | Temporary Laydown Yard |
| Temporary Soil Disturbance - CRP Areas - 5.14 acres | Township Boundary |
| CRP_Areas | County Boundary |

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Notes:
1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
2. Map Scale: 1:16,000



Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

Interrogatory Figure 12a

July 2013

- Wind Turbine

New Access Roads

Permanent Disturbance - Agricultural Districts - 0.05 acres

Temporary Disturbance - Agricultural Districts - 0.21 acres
- Substation

Temporary Laydown Yard

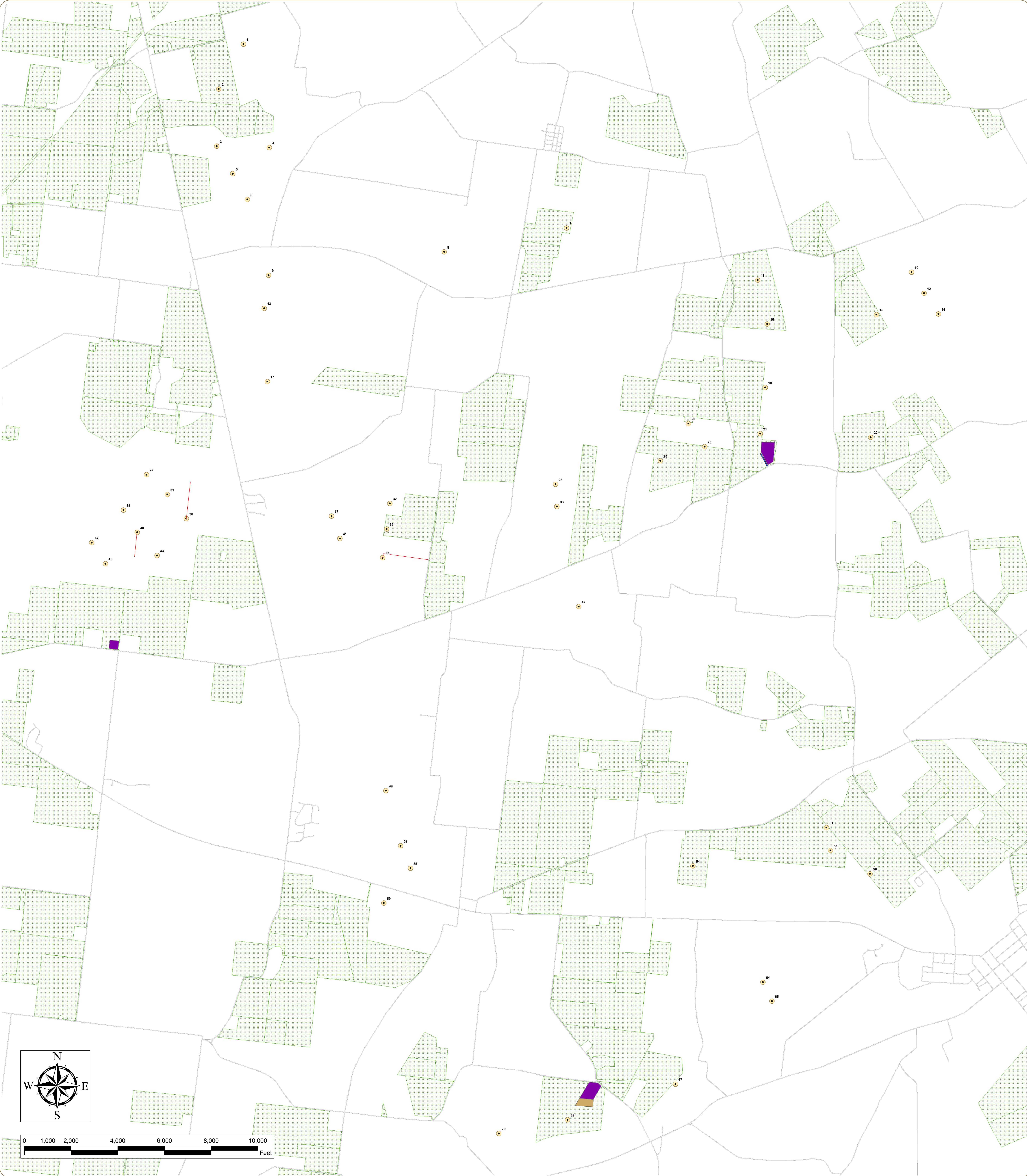
Agricultural Districts

County Boundary

Notes:

1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
2. Map Scale: 1:16,000





Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

Interrogatory Figure 12b

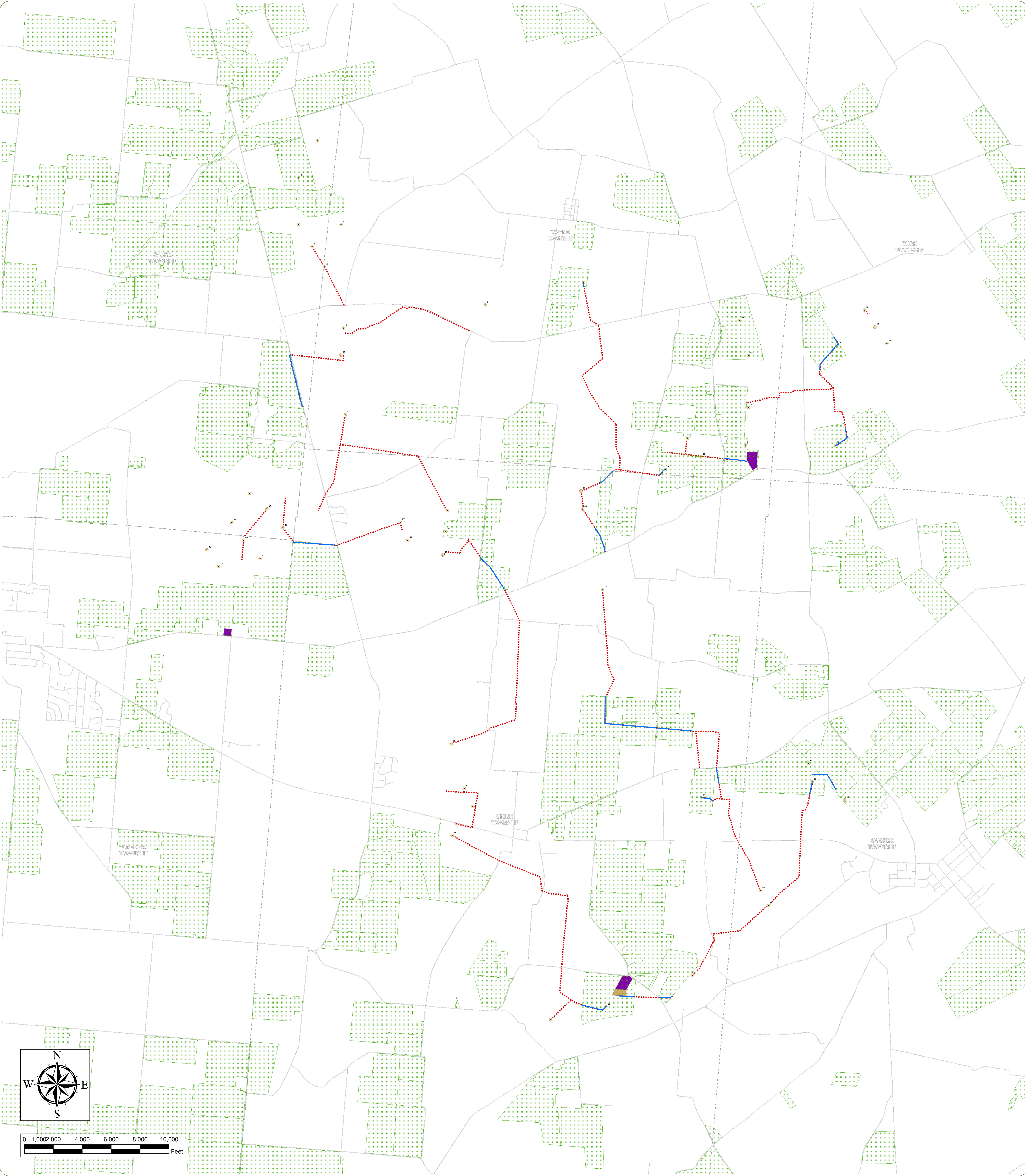
July 2013

- Wind Turbine
- Relocated Access Roads
- Permanent Disturbance - Agricultural Districts - 0.14 acres
- Temporary Disturbance - Agricultural Districts - 0.58 acres
- Substation
- Temporary Laydown Yard
- Agricultural Districts
- County Boundary

Notes:

- 1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
- 2. Map Scale: 1:16,000





Buckeye Wind Project

Goshen, Rush, Union, Urbana, and Wayne Townships - Champaign County, Ohio

Interrogatory Figure 12c

July 2013

- Wind Turbine
- Buried Interconnect - Relocated (Buckeye Only)
- Temporary Disturbance - Agricultural Districts - 15.64acres
- Agricultural Districts
- Substation
- Temporary Laydown Yard
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary



Notes:
1. Project: NAD83 UTM Zone 17
2. Map Scale: 1:16,000

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in

Case No(s). 13-0360-EL-BGA

Summary: Notice of Filing Buckeye Wind LLC's Responses to Staff's First Set of Data Requests electronically filed by Ms. Miranda R Leppla on behalf of Buckeye Wind LLC