

## **Attachment A: Cultural Resource Investigation**



**Cultural Historic Investigations for the Proposed South Field Energy  
Interconnection Facilities,  
Yellow Creek and Madison Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio**

Prepared for:

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher L. Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

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**Christopher L. Nelson  
Principal Investigator**

**November 13, 2015**

**Lead Agency: Ohio Power Siting Board  
Ohio State Historic Preservation Office ID: not assigned**

## **ABSTRACT**

Under contract with Tetra Tech, Inc., Weller & Associates, Inc., conducted a cultural historic survey for the proposed South Field Energy Interconnection Facilities (the Project) in Columbiana County, Ohio. The Project location is approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Wellsville, Ohio. The Project consists of an approximately 3.4-mile right-of-way that will be approximately 300 feet wide, which will include both an aerial electric transmission line and, for a portion of the right-of-way, an underground natural gas pipeline. A partial alternate route is also included in the survey that diverges from the preferred route length by approximately 0.8 miles. Structures within the transmission line corridor will range from approximately 80 to 170 feet above the ground. In addition, approximately 38 acres were also studied, within which a switchyard and laydown area, with an approximately 0.3 mile access road extending west off Sines Road, are proposed. The Project is subject to Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) Application requirements under Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Revised Code. The investigations, including a background literature review and intensive field survey, were conducted in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4906-15-06(F), which concerns socioeconomic and land use impact analysis in applications for certificates for electric transmission facilities through the OPSB.

This report covers the results of the cultural historic survey of the entire area that may be affected by the proposed development of the Project. The cultural historic investigations consisted of a systematic survey of all properties 50 years of age or older that are situated within 1,000 feet of the proposed Project location. .

In total, one individual property 50 years of age or older was identified within the survey area that will have a direct line-of-sight to the Project. The property is a farmstead, with several buildings surrounding the house, located at the extreme western end of the survey area; however, all buildings associated with the farmstead are outside of the Project area. . Following an evaluation of this resource, it was determined to be not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to a lack of association and integrity. Therefore, Weller & Associates, Inc. recommends that no historic properties will be affected by the Project.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Under contract with Tetra Tech, Inc., Weller & Associates, Inc. (Weller), conducted a cultural historic survey for the proposed South Field Energy Interconnection Facilities in Columbiana County, Ohio (the Project). The Project location is approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Wellsville, Ohio (Figures 1-3). The Project consists of an approximately 3.4-mile right-of-way (ROW) that will be approximately 300 feet wide, which will include both an aerial electric transmission line and, for a portion of the ROW, an underground natural gas pipeline. The Project also includes a partial alternate route that diverges from the preferred route for approximately 0.8 miles. Structures within the transmission line corridor will range from approximately 80 to 170 feet above the ground. In addition, the Project includes approximately 38 acres within which a switchyard and associated laydown area, with an approximately 0.3 mile access road extending west off Sines Road, are proposed. The Project is subject to Ohio Power Siting Board Application (OPSB) requirements under Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Revised Code. The investigations, including a background literature review and intensive field survey, were conducted in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 4906-15-06(F), which concerns socioeconomic and land use impact analysis in applications for certificates for electric transmission facilities through the OPSB.

This report covers the results of the cultural historic survey of the entire area that may be affected by the proposed development of the Project. The cultural historic investigations consisted of a systematic survey of all properties 50 years of age or older that are situated within 1,000 feet of the proposed Project..

The proposed transmission line will follow a ROW in a general east-west orientation. It will extend westward from the previously surveyed South Field Energy Facility and terminate at the 38-acre property on which an approximately 3.5-acre switchyard is proposed. The ROW will run through portions of previously mined land, agricultural fields, and forested areas. The entirety of the ROW will run through a rolling, rural landscape dominated by agricultural and intermittent forested areas. The rolling topography and forested areas may block the view to portions of the Project from nearby properties.

The documentation of properties in the field, archival research, and report authoring were conducted by Christopher Nelson, who also served as Principal Investigator for the Project. Mapping for the Project was generated by Josh Engle. The field survey and archival research was conducted on November 3, 2015.

## **RESEARCH DESIGN**

The purpose of the cultural historic portion of the Project was to identify any historic properties in the area that may be affected by the proposed development of the Project. These effects may be direct or indirect. Direct effects occur within the boundaries of the Project, while indirect effects can occur for areas outside the direct boundaries and include visual, audible, and atmospheric effects on cultural resources that are associated with the development of the

Project. Based on the nature of the Project, the cultural historic investigations consisted of a systematic survey of all properties 50 years of age or older that are situated within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the proposed Project (Area of Potential Effect [APE]).

## METHODS

This survey was conducted following the guidelines established in *Archeology and Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* (National Park Service 1983) and *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning. National Register Bulletin No. 24* (National Park Service 1997). When properties are identified, they are subjected to the guidelines outlined in *National Register Bulletin 15, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service 1996).

There are four criteria for eligibility to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Only one of these criteria must be met for a property to be considered eligible for listing, although more than one can be met. The criteria for significance include:

- A. Association with historic events or patterns of events;
- B. Association with persons important to our past;
- C. Exceptional or important architectural characteristics; and/or
- D. Data potential.

Architectural properties typically qualify under Criteria A, B, or C. Criterion D is typically reserved for archaeological sites.

In addition to meeting at least one of the established criteria, in order to be NRHP-eligible, appropriate integrity must also be retained by the resource. There must be integrity of location, design, workmanship, setting, materials, feeling, and association.

Prior to commencing fieldwork, a literature review was conducted to determine if any previously recorded architectural properties, NRHP properties or Ohio Genealogical Society cemeteries were present within the APE. Historic maps were also reviewed to aid in guiding the fieldwork and detecting the possible presence of properties 50 years of age or older within the APE. Background research was conducted in order to establish a historic context of the region. The context was compiled by utilizing materials from the SHPO, archival materials at the respective county courthouses, local libraries, and several online resources. The establishment of the historic context helped to guide the interpretation of the field survey results.

The field survey included a systematic approach to identifying all properties 50 years of age or older within the survey APE (1,000 feet to either side of Project). Some areas will be blocked from having a direct line-of-sight to the proposed Project by topography and forested areas. The locations that did not have a direct line-of-sight to the Project were visually verified in the field but were excluded from further survey. An advantage for this Project is the presence of an existing line which helped to gauge the direct line-of-sight from properties during field verification. The existing line served as a visual target during the survey to confirm visibility from potential resources. Additionally, the existing line lessens the drastic change in the

landscape resulting from installation of the new line. Each property identified within the APE that will have a direct line-of-sight to the Project was photographed and annotated on appropriate mapping and included in this report.. The approach was to identify those properties with NRHP potential, followed by a more intensive documentation and evaluation of those potentially eligible aboveground resources. The comprehensive survey involved recording each property 50 years of age or older to a baseline level of documentation.

For structures greater than 50 years old, Weller focused on the ground plan, the height, and the roof configuration of each structure, noting all visible materials, appendages, extensions or other alterations. Housing types and structural details included in this report, and utilized on OHI forms, follow the terminology used by geographers Jakle, Bastian, and Meyer (1988), architectural historians McAlester and McAlester (1992), and Gordon (1992). Weller then supplemented the field survey data with an examination of available tax records, aerial photographs, and cartographic sources.

A summary and analysis of the field data detailing the overall architectural character of the survey APE is included as a narrative in this report. Photographs of every structure that is 50 years of age or older that were not advanced to detailed study as discussed below are included as an appendix to this report. Weller historians analyzed the data and identified properties that are clearly not eligible for the NRHP due to a lack of significance or loss of integrity, as well as identified potential NRHP properties and advanced them to a more advanced level of documentation and evaluation.

Each property advanced to detailed study was documented on an OHI Form, or revised OHI Form (for those properties that were previously recorded), and submitted to SHPO through their online IForm application once all analyses were completed. The OHI Form includes detailed historical and descriptive information as well as appropriate mapping and photographs. OHI Forms were prepared following guidance provided in the SHPO handbook *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory* (Gordon 1992). Copies of the OHI Form are included in Appendix A. Based on the results of the field survey and archival research, each property was then subjected to the *National Register Criteria for Evaluation* to conclude eligibility for listing in the NRHP. Any property concluded to be eligible to the NRHP was also subjected to application of the *Criteria of Adverse Effects* (36CFR800.5). The descriptions and evaluations are provided in later sections of this report.

### ***Definitions***

Within this report, an *architectural resource* is defined as aboveground buildings or structures that are 50 years of age or older. A *historic property* is defined as a building, structure, object, or site that is listed in, or considered eligible for listing in, the NRHP. An *effect* is defined as an activity associated with the project that alters a characteristic of a historic property that qualified it for inclusion in the NRHP.



## HISTORIC CONTEXT

### *Columbiana County History*

Columbiana County was organized March 25, 1803 from land that originally made up Jefferson and Washington Counties. Governor Edward Tiffin signed the bill officially creating the county on April 16, 1803. Many of the first settlers that came into this area were of English, German, Scotch, Irish, Jewish, Welsh, and Italian decent. The settlers moved into one of five sub-divisions that made up Columbiana County. The original townships were Springfield, Middleton, St. Clair, Salem, and Center. John Quinn, a hunter, who in 1792 moved into St. Clair Township, made the earliest semi-permanent settlement. Around the same time that John Quinn was building a cabin in 1792, Col. Boquet built a base camp in Middleton Township to pursue Native Americans. Also in 1792, a farmer named Mr. Carpenter cleared land near West Point for a farm. Carpenter is probably the first permanent settler in the county (Barth 1926; McCord 1905; Bentley 1902).

The original county seat was located in Fairfield Township in 1803. Courts for the county seat were first held in a barn owned by Mathias Lower. The first sheriff of the County was John Corzer and Reasin Beall was clerk. The first courthouse and jail were log structures located in Lisbon authorized for construction in 1803. These were replaced in 1817 and in 1887, a fire destroyed that courthouse and they built a third (Barth 1926; McCord 1905; Bentley 1902).

In 1828, the Sandy and Beaver Canal Company was created and operated out of New Lisbon (i.e., Lisbon). The company went about raising money through selling stock and land speculators began driving up the costs of property along the proposed canal corridor. This led to a construction boon to several of the smaller communities in Columbiana County including Kensington, Guilford, Hanover, Lisbon, and Dungannon. Part of the difficulty in its construction was the ruggedness of the terrain and the eventual creation of the Big and Little Tunnels that were part of the middle component of the canal corridor. The design, survey, and canal construction was under the initial direction of Major D. B. Douglas and finalized by E. H. Gill. Hanover was essentially considered to be the turning point of the canal venture. Locks and constructions were labeled as being east or west of this community. There are numerous locks (n=90), dams (n=30), and reservoirs positioned along its alignment including a large one that is extant at Guilford. The advent and extensive utilization of the railroad system sealed the fate of the canal era in Ohio.

As an aside, Rebecca Furnace was an early enterprise and construction that was built to the west of Lisbon in about 1807 by Gideon Hughes. Hughes would later open a rolling mill and nail making establishment further up the creek, but would end up in failure. The furnace was later operated by James McKinley, grandfather of the former President. A short-lived railroad line was constructed from the furnace to the nail production area in 1829. This furnace is located on the west/south side of Little Beaver Creek.

Since its inception, Columbiana County has been reduced in size three times while accommodating land to other counties. The first reduction occurred in 1808 when Stark County was created. The second time Carroll County received land for its inception in 1832. The third time occurred in 1845 when Mahoning County was created (Barth 1926).

The county had many drainages, which provided opportunities for grist and saw mills. Joseph Fawcett, on Carpenter's Run, built the first gristmill. John Beaver, on Little Beaver Creek, built the second. Beaver also built the first sawmill. The first paper-mill, named The Ohio Paper Mill, was built in 1805 on little Beaver Creek. The owners were John Beaver and John Coulter. One of the earliest newspapers was *The Ohio Patriot* that was established in 1808 by William D. Lepper. James Bennett, who made Yellow-ware, established the first pottery in 1840. The coal, salt, iron ore, free stone, pottery ware, and wool were all strong industries for the economy. George James established the first salt well in Salineville in 1809. By 1835, there were 20 operating salt wells along Little Yellow Creek.

Another resource was charcoal, which was an industry that became popular in Columbiana after Gideon Hughes started an iron furnace in 1808. Coal became a large industry after 1852 when the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad came through East Palestine. Prior to this date, coal was extracted in small quantities and used for local demands. Columbiana County had 35 operating coal companies by 1903 according to the Ohio State mine report for that year. The first productive oil well in Columbiana County was on the farm of George Hamilton in 1865. He was able to extract heavy oil that was later used for fuel oil. By 1866, there were 15 more wells near Fredericktown and Calcutta producing 100 barrels per day. The oil and gas industry in Columbiana was so extensive that East Liverpool was the first community anywhere to utilize piped gas. By 1885, Columbiana was one of the faster growing counties in Ohio and had a very strong economy. There were 118,656 acres of farmland, 90,692 acres of pasture, 45,065 of woodland, and 14,603 acres were unused. Population growth was a reflection these industries making Columbiana the third largest County. Between 1820 and 1830 the population expanded by 13,473 for a total population of 35,506 inhabitants (McCord 1905; Bentley 1902).

### ***Yellow Creek Township History***

Yellow Creek Township lies in the southeast corner of Columbiana County along the Ohio River. The river has played a large part in the development of the region, through its people, towns, and economy. Its name comes from the two Yellow Creeks, Big and Little, which meander their way through the township emptying into the Ohio River. The township is rife with mineral resources, contains some fertile bottomlands, and is suitably placed for a strong transportation industry (Barth 1926; McCord 1905; The Columbiana County Map & Atlas Company 1902).

The ownership and settlement of the township is an interesting narrative of how these "western" lands were perceived at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Robert Johnston was a surveyor whom the federal government owed a hefty debt upon completion of his work in the Northwest Territory. In 1788, Johnston obtained 30 townships worth of land to settle the debt. This rate works out to \$6 per 100 acres. Yellow Creek was part of his survey and part

of his payment. In 1795, a Pennsylvanian, James Clark bought 304 or 350 acres from Johnston at \$6 per acre. This tract included the land where Wellsville now sits. The following year, in order to escape some financial difficulties, Clark transferred the ownership of much of this parcel to his son-in-law. The new landlord was the man from whom Wellsville takes its name. William Wells came to his Ohio lands in 1797 during the spring in order to clear and plant. He crossed the river every morning to work his land in the wild Ohio Territory and returned to the blockhouse on the Virginia side (now West Virginia) every evening. He was the preeminent man of the township and as such received a commission from Governor St. Clair to serve as the justice of the peace for the area, although few residents existed over whom he had that authority. The year before he arrived, two squatters, Richard Vaughn and George Clark had come to Yellow Creek and built the township's first log cabin. By the time Wells' father-in-law came to live on the remainder of his lands in 1800, there were a handful of other men and families living on the west side of the Ohio. The township was officially organized in 1805 (Barth 1926; McCord 1905).

A large portion of those who came to Yellow Creek Township was of Scottish decent and thus there was a region known as the "Scotch Settlement." It was apparent from the histories that settlers were strong-willed and equal to the task of settling the harsh environment (Barth 1926; McCord 1905; The Columbiana County Map & Atlas Company 1902).

Wellsville is the only developed municipality of the township. Though there were people living on Wellsville land from the very first, the town was not laid out until 1820 and not platted until 1823. Village incorporation came ten years later. Similarly, although nearly all of the original settlers were religious and met together with regularity, it was not until 1833 that the first church edifice was raised in the township; and that year there were three, Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, and Methodist Protestant. Again, education was a priority of the first settlers; teaching took place beginning in 1800 with Richard Boyce's log school. This was a good school for a logged-frame, frontier version mostly because of its financial backing and community support. Robert Dobbins donated some of his farmland to build upon; William Wells volunteered to cover the cost of education for five students per term, and a free black man, Edward Devore, provided for four. However, it was not until the Union School Law passed in 1850 that the community built a tax-funded school, free for all. This was the first "Union School" in the state (Barth 1926; McCord 1905).

In 1902, Yellow Creek Township held some of the world's largest brick and tile manufacturing plants. The townships earliest industries were typical of all Ohio settlements: a tavern in 1800; a gristmill in 1806; and a sawmill in 1815. River transportation was an early benefit to the community of Wellsville. A turnpike (State Route 14) added to the town's vitality once it connected the river to Lake Erie and the markets and ports of Cleveland. Wellsville was also an important midway point between Cleveland, Pittsburg, and the trails to the greater East. For twenty years, Wellsville dominated the trade of Ohio's northeast until 1852 when the railroads rendered river transport all but obsolete. Joseph Wells, William's son, began the region's pottery manufacturing industry in 1826. In 1874, the American Tin Plate Company opened a plant in Wellsville, which was the first of its kind in the country.

US Steel Corp. eventually acquired this plant and provided many jobs and much revenue for the town (Barth 1926; McCord 1905; The Columbiana County Map & Atlas Company 1902).

### ***Madison Township History***

Madison Township was organized in the year 1809. It is situated in the southeastern portion of Columbiana County. The neighboring townships are Elkrum, St. Clair, Yellow Creek, and Wayne. The topography of the township is hilly in the southern portion and more level in the north. The undulated surface of the northern portion allows for rich soils to yield successful crops. Historically, the main products in Madison were wheat, wool, and corn (Howe 1854).

Many of the immigrants to settle in Madison Township came from Scotland. Others were of German and Irish heritage. Andrew McPherson was one of the first to travel to Madison in 1802. It was here he came with his children and settled in the southeast portion of the township. Williamsport, West Point, and Glasgow were some of the earliest villages established in the township (McCord 1905).

Religion was a core element within the culture of Madison Township. The primary form of spirituality was Baptist. Church gatherings gave residents the opportunity to discuss local issues and work together towards a common goal. During this time people used the teachings of the church to guide their private lives and determine policy (Howe 1854).

## **RESULTS**

The records review for this Project indicated that there are no previously recorded OHI within the APE. In addition, no NRHP listed or Determination of Eligibility (DOE) properties are located within the APE.

A majority of the residences within the APE consists of a mixture of older homes as well as modern houses, mobile homes, and modular homes (see maps in Appendix B). Overall, the entirety of the APE was contained within rural areas, including multiple forested areas, which eliminated some of the residential properties from having potential visibility to the Project. The terrain within the APE was undulating and contained several hills and valleys with periodic agricultural fields appearing on the landscape on ridgetop areas. The undulating terrain, in conjunction with the forest canopy, aided in shielding the Project from a vast majority of the architecture in the APE.

The viewshed within the APE includes several modern intrusions. Besides several existing 138 kV transmission lines to the east and a major 345 kV electric transmission corridor to the west, there are multiple additional transmission, telephone, and other types of lines crossing throughout the APE and areas beyond. The APE was largely rural during the nineteenth century as it still is today. A majority of architecture through the rural area post-dates World War II. Construction appears to have gained momentum during the second half of the twentieth century with several mobile homes, modular homes, and modern frame construction occurring within the APE. Many of the modern rural residential areas occur along the outer boundaries of farmlands where farmers have parceled off small lots for modern

residential development. While some older farmsteads remain, a vast majority of the residential properties are modern and often appear in clusters.

In total, one individual property 50 years of age or older was identified within the APE that will have a direct line-of-sight to the Project (Appendix B). The property is a farmstead with several buildings surrounding the house located on the same parcel as the switchyard portion of the Project at the extreme western end of the APE; however, all buildings associated with the farmstead are outside of the Project area.

Because the identified resource exhibited potential NRHP significance, it was advanced to detailed study and is discussed below. The resource was placed within the historic context and Weller evaluated it to determine if it had potential for inclusion in the NRHP. Since Weller did not have access to the interiors of the property, no documentation for any resource interiors are included except to the extent available through archival records.

#### **COL0099814 (Williams House)**

**Location:** 17063 Sines Road, Wellsville, OH

**Construction Date:** ca. 1880

**Description:** COL0099814 is a ca. 1880 house that is situated in a rural setting at 17063 Sines Road approximately 5.2 miles northwest of the City of Wellsville, Columbiana County, Ohio (Appendix B, Map 1). The house is accompanied by multiple agricultural outbuildings on the property. Summary details of the property are provided below. The two-story vernacular house is resting on a cut stone pier foundation (Figures 4-6). At some point in time, the cut stone pier foundation was supplemented with field stone and concrete blocks filling the gaps between the piers. The side gabled roof is covered with slate shingles and fenestration is dominated by double hung one-over-one sash windows. The frame house has an exterior clad with clapboard siding. A three-quarter width shed porch is located across the facade that covers the single front entryway. The porch is enclosed and features double-hung three-over-one sash windows. The porch may be original to the house; however, the enclosing of the porch appears to have been at a later time based on the different size of the clapboard siding compared to that covering the main house. The house features a central brick chimney that pierces the ridgeline of the roof. An addition, which may be original to the house design, extends from the rear of the house providing an L-Plan shape. This addition is two stories high with a gabled roof that sits perpendicular to and attaches to the ridgeline of the roof of the core. The roof of this addition is also covered with slate shingles and the exterior clad with clapboard siding that matches in size to the core of the house. Over the years another smaller addition was added to the first addition of the house. The addition is two stories in height with a shed roof situated perpendicular to the rear addition of the house. The shed roof attaches just below the eave of the first addition. This addition rests upon a full concrete block foundation indicating that it was added later in time than the rest of the house. The addition adds one room to each story. The house is in a state of disrepair and has not been occupied for approximately 20 years, according to the landowners. According to data provided by the Columbiana County Auditor's Office, the two-story house features eight total rooms (3 bedroom / 1 bath) arranged within its 1,612 square feet of living space.

The house is accompanied by six outbuildings, five of which are agricultural in nature. Nearest to the house is a concrete block garage, which is reported to have been constructed during the 1950s (Figure 7). It features a gable front roof and two single bay doors. The garage has experienced damage from settling of the ground beneath the concrete block walls. This has caused large stair step cracks in various portions of the walls. The largest outbuilding on the property is a large frame bank barn (Figures 8-10). The barn features a gambrel roof that is covered with modern metal treatment. A large pair of wooden hinged doors are featured on the front (northern) elevation of the barn on the up slope side. These doors are the main access for the upper portion of the barn. Each end elevation features a single wooden sliding door that allows access into the lower level of the barn. The barn rests on a poured concrete foundation. An original barn stood on the same location, but it burnt during the late 1930s. The current barn was built at that time to replace the older version of the barn. This barn is the best preserved building on the property. Attached to the east and west sides of the barn are a pair of milk houses (Figures 10 and 11). The western milk house was the original and was used for Grade B milk. During the 1950s, the family decided to upgrade to Grade A milk, which necessitated the construction of a larger milk house, so the eastern milk house was constructed at this time. Based on access issues for the truck that was to pick up and transport the Grade A milk, this function was never realized and the milk house went unused. At the southern side of the barn stands a round silo constructed of metal and has a poured concrete foundation (Figure 10). . The roof is no longer present, but once was a domed metal design. The final outbuilding on the property is a small frame corncrib barn (Figure 12). The barn features a central passageway with a crib to either side of the open area. The landowner indicated that the barn was constructed during the 1970s, although it appears to be older based on its leaning sidewall on one side. He indicated that the barn was originally unintentionally constructed in that manner.

**History:** The house rests on a property that is currently 80 acres in size. The land was originally purchased by Samuel Thompson in 1828 from the U.S. Government. In 1843, Thompson sold the property to Edward Powers and his wife Nancy (Columbiana County Deed Book 34:215). After five years, the Powers sold the property to Martin Wilson in 1848 (Columbiana Deed Book 41:165). Martin died in 1888 and the property was left to his son William Wilson. At some point the property transferred to his daughter Sarah E. Wilson. In 1922, Sarah died and she left the property to her niece, Loretta Strudthoff, in her will. Loretta and her husband, John, gave the property to their son, Earl, in 1931. His wife, Ethel, was the sister of William Williams, so this is the first of the Williams family to own the property that is still within the Williams family to this day. Earl and Ethel owned the property until 1944 when it transferred to Clarence and Mary Williams. Their son, Keith, now owns the property.

**NRHP Evaluation:** The house was not found to be substantially associated with events, patterns of events, or individuals important to our history in a manner necessary for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria A and B. Although containing some interesting features, the house is in very poor structural condition due to its vacancy and lack of maintenance over the last 20 years. Its lack of characteristic architectural details and poor structural integrity have diminished it as a good example of vernacular architecture in the area. The associated outbuildings are not dated contemporaneous to the house and range in age from the 1930s to the modern period. The house's lack of historic integrity excludes it as an important example of its type, period, or method of construction, and is not eligible for inclusion under Criterion

C. The building is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A, B or C due to a lack of associative significance and historic integrity.

## CONCLUSIONS

Under contract with Tetra Tech, Inc., Weller conducted a cultural historic survey for the proposed South Field Energy Interconnection Facilities in Columbiana County, Ohio. The Project is located approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Wellsville, Ohio. The Project consists of an approximate 3.4-mile ROW that will be approximately 300 feet wide, and will include both an aerial electric transmission line and an underground natural gas pipeline. Structures within the transmission line corridor will range from approximately 80 to 170 feet above the ground. The Project includes a partial alternate route that diverges from the preferred route by approximately 0.8 miles. In addition, the Project includes approximately 38 acres within which a switch yard and associated laydown area, with an approximately 0.3 mile access road extending west off Sines Road, are proposed. The Project is subject to OPSB Application requirements under Chapter 4906 of the Ohio Revised Code.

This report covers the results of the cultural historic survey of the entire area that may be affected by the proposed development of the Project.

A majority of the residences within the APE consist of a mixture of older homes as well as modern houses, mobile homes, and modular homes (see maps in Appendix B). Overall, the entirety of the APE was contained within rural areas, including multiple forested areas, which eliminated some of the residential properties from having potential visibility to the project. The terrain within the APE was undulating and contained several hills and valleys with periodic agricultural fields appearing on the landscape on ridgetop areas. The undulating terrain, in conjunction with the forest canopy, aided in shielding the Project from a vast majority of the architecture in the area.

The viewshed within the APE includes several modern intrusions. Besides several existing 138 kV transmission lines, there are multiple additional transmission, telephone, and other types of lines crossing throughout the APE and areas beyond. The APE was largely rural during the nineteenth century as it still is today. A majority of architecture through the rural area post-dates World War II. Construction appears to have gained momentum during the second half of the twentieth century with several mobile homes, modular homes, and modern frame construction occurring within the APE. Many of the modern rural residential areas occur along the outer boundaries of farmlands where farmers have parceled off small lots for modern residential development. While some older farmsteads remain, a vast majority of the residential properties are modern and often appear in clusters.

In total, one individual property 50 years of age or older was identified within the APE that will have a direct line-of-sight to the Project. The property is located on the same parcel as the switchyard portion of the Project at the extreme western end of the APE; however, all buildings associated with the farmstead are outside of the Project area. The property is a farmstead with several buildings surrounding the house. Following evaluation of the resource, it was determined to be not eligible for listing in the NRHP through a lack of association and

integrity. Therefore, Weller recommends that no historic properties will be affected by the Project.



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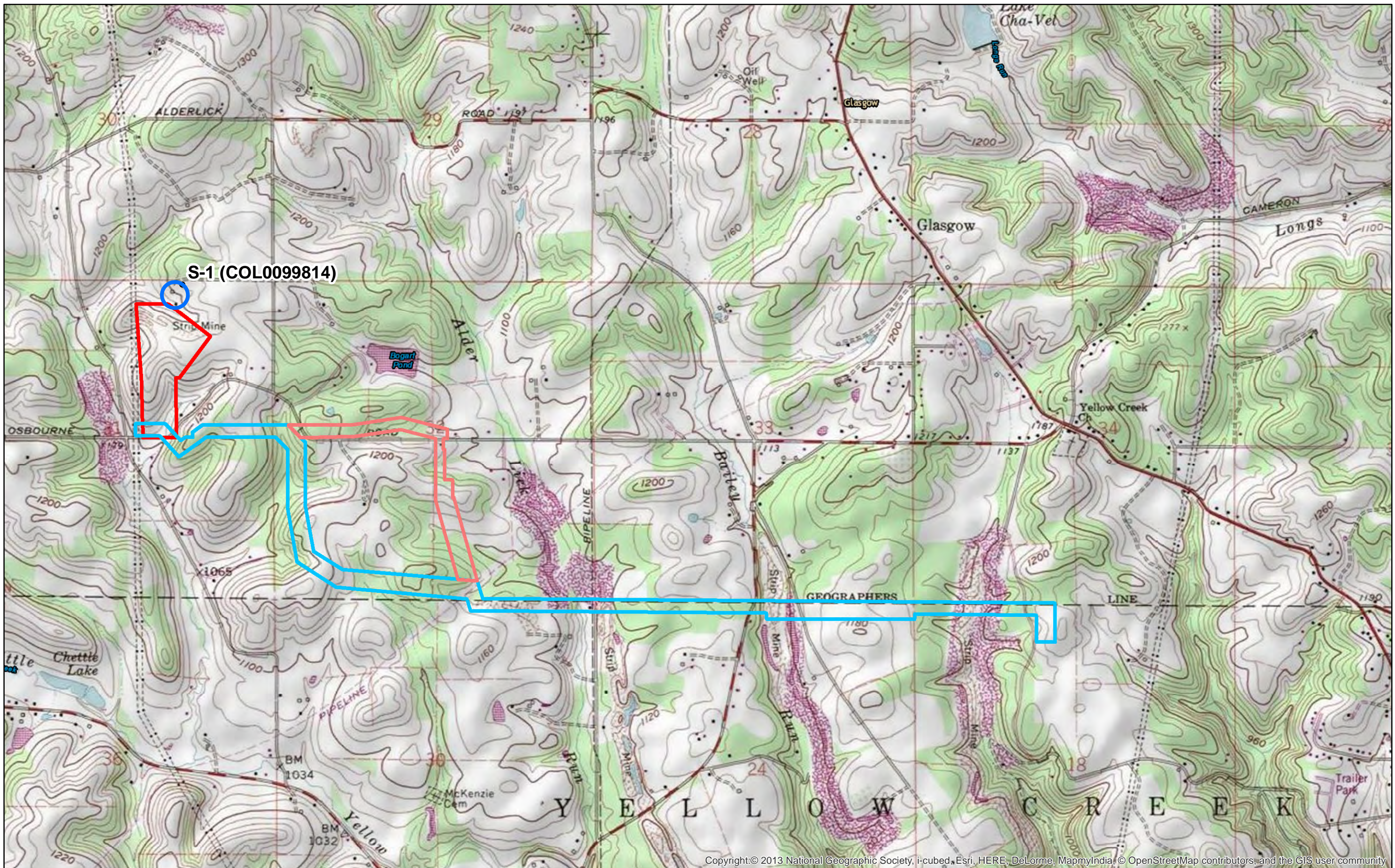
## Figures





Figure 1. Political map of Ohio showing the approximate location of the Project Area.





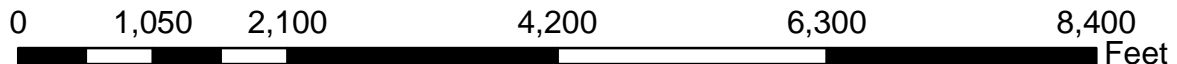
**Legend**

Alternate ROW

Preliminary ROW

Switchyard

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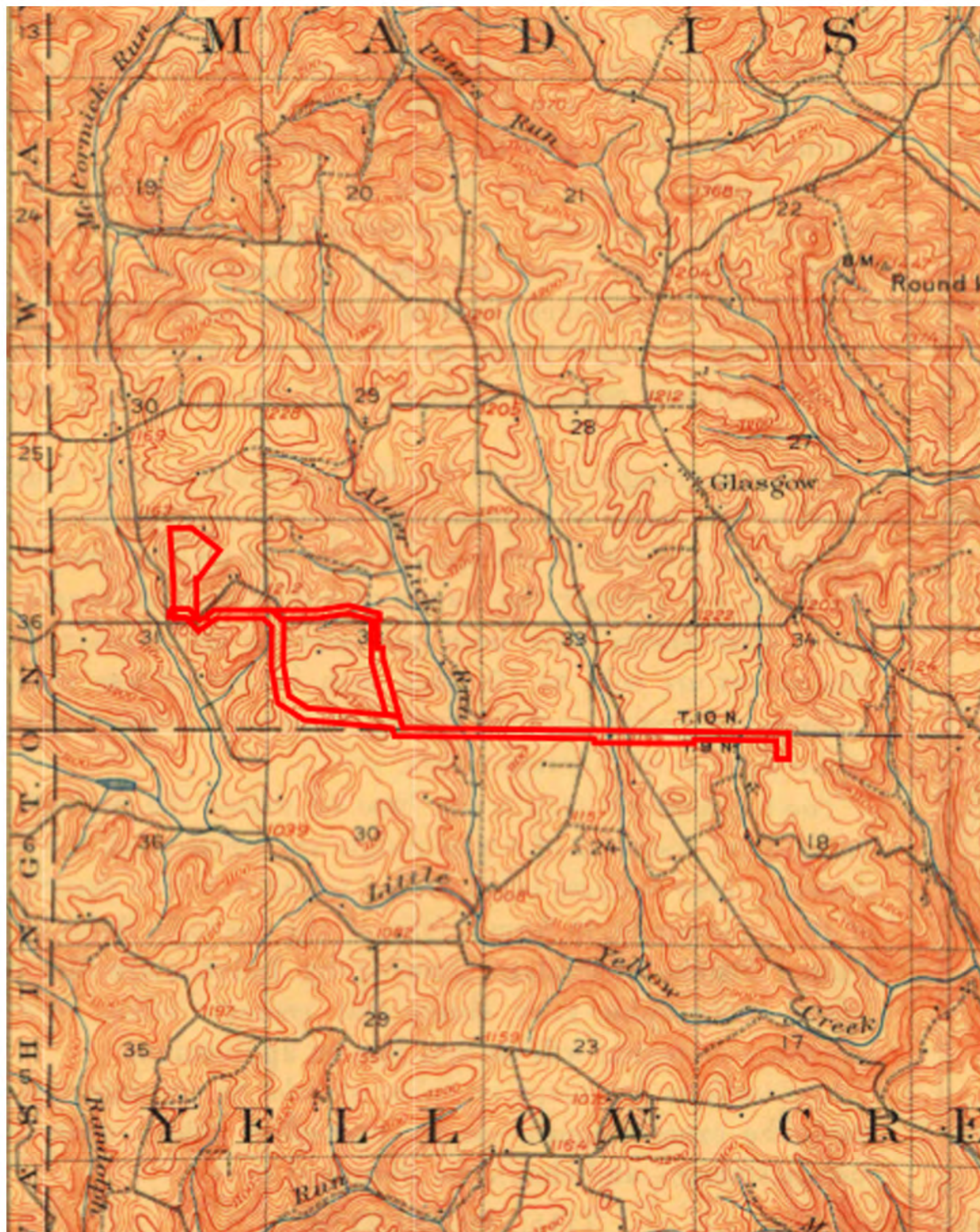






Figure 4. View of the Williams House (COL0099814).



Figure 5. View of the Williams House (COL0099814).





Figure 6. View of the Williams House (COL0099814).



Figure 7. View of the garage at the Williams House.





Figure 8. View of the large barn at the Williams House.



Figure 9. View of the large barn at the Williams House.





Figure 10. View of the large barn, newest milk house, and silo at the Williams House.



Figure 11. View of the original milk house at the Williams House.



Figure 12. View of the modern crib barn at the Williams House.

**APPENDIX A:**  
**OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY FORMS**





## OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

Draft Form - Not Reviewed by OHPO

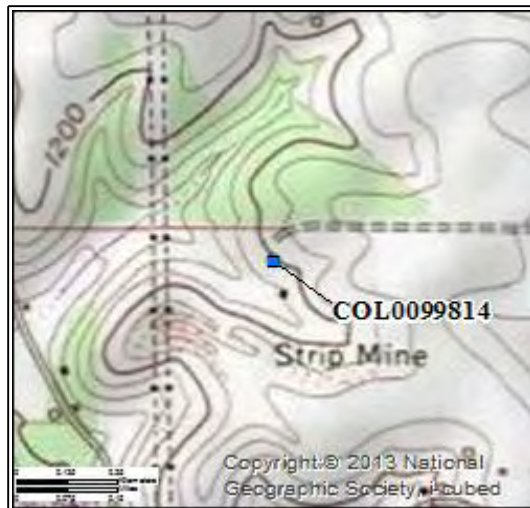
Section 106/RPR Review:

RPR Number:

1. No. COL0099814 NEW		4. Present Name(s): Williams House	
2. County: Columbiana		5. Historic or Other Name(s):	
6. Specific Address or Location: 17063 Sines Road		19a. Design Sources:	35. Plan Shape: L-shaped
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number: 4100083000		20. Contractor or Builder:	36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. Original/Most significant construction
7. City or Village: Madison (Township of)		21. Building Type or Plan: Other House Type	17b.
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: West Point		22. Original Use, if apparent: Single Dwelling Agricultural Outbuildings	37. Window Type(s): 1 over 1
Zone: 17 Easting: 522526 Northing: 4500231		23. Present Use: VACANT/NOT IN USE	38. Building Dimensions:
10. Classification: Building		24. Ownership: Private	39. Endangered? NO By What?
11. On National Register? NO		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known: Dutch and Mary Farms, LLC 40591 Alderlick Road Wellsville, OH 43968	40. Chimney Placement: Center
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO		26. Property Acreage: 80	41. Distance from & Frontage on Road: 0.25 mile from road
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)		27. Other Surveys:	51. Condition of Property: Deteriorated
16. Thematic Associations: AGRICULTURE		28. No. of Stories: Two story	52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies Structure Type(s): AGRICULTURAL OUTBUILDINGS
17. Date(s) or Period: 1880	17b. Alteration Date(s):	29. Basement? Yes	Date(s): 1930-1970
18. Style Class and Design: None No academic style - Vernacular		30. Foundation Material: Ashlar Stone, w/no water table	Associated Activity: Original/Most significant construction
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s):		31. Wall Construction: Balloon/western/platform frame	53. Affiliated Inventory Number(s): Historic (OHI):
19. Architect or Engineer:		32. Roof Type: Gable Roof Material: Slate	Archaeological (OAI):
19. Architect or Engineer:		33. No. of Bays: 4 Side Bays: 3	
19. Architect or Engineer:		34. Exterior Wall Material(s): Clapboard or weatherboard	

2. County:  
Columbiana

4. Present or Historic Name(s): Williams House



8. Site Plan (location map) with North Arrow



6. Specific Address or Location: 17063 Sines Road



Door Selection: Single centered

Door Position: Flush

Orientation: Lateral axis

Symmetry: Bilateral symmetry

**Report Associated With Project:**

Primary Author	Secondary Author(s)	Year	Title
Nelson, Christopher		2015	Cultural Historic Investigations for the Proposed South Field Energy Facility Additional Areas Project, Yellow Creek and Madison Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio

*42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features*

COL0099814 is a ca. 1880 house that is situated in a rural setting at 17063 Sines Road approximately 5.2 miles northwest of the City of Wellsville, Columbiana County, Ohio. The house is accompanied by multiple agricultural outbuildings on the property. Summary details of the property are provided below. The two-story vernacular house is resting on a cut stone pier foundation. At some point in time, the cut stone pier foundation was supplemented with field stone and concrete blocks filling the gaps between the piers. The side gabled roof is covered with slate shingles and fenestration is dominated by double hung one-over-one sash windows. The frame house has an exterior clad with clapboard siding. A three-quarter width shed porch is located across the facade that covers the single front entryway. The porch is enclosed and features double-hung three-over-one sash windows. The porch may be original to the house, however, the enclosing of the porch appears to have been at a later time based on the different size of the clapboard siding compared to that covering the main house. The house features a central brick chimney that pierces the ridgeline of the roof. An addition, which may be original to the house design, extends from the rear of the house providing an L-Plan shape. This addition is two stories high with a gabled roof that sits perpendicular to and attaches to the ridgeline of the roof of the core. The roof of this addition is also covered with slate shingles and the exterior clad with clapboard siding that matches in size to the core of the house. Over the years another smaller addition was added to the first addition of the house. The addition is two stories in height with a shed roof situated perpendicular to the rear addition of the house. The shed roof attaches just below the eave of the first addition. This addition rests upon a full concrete block foundation indicating that it was added later in time than the rest of the house. The addition adds one room to each story. The house is in a state of disrepair and has not been occupied for approximately 20 years according to the landowners. According to data provided by the Columbiana County Auditor's Office, the two-story house features eight total rooms (3 bedroom / 1 bath) arranged within its 1,612 square feet of living space.

*43. History and Significance*

The house rests on a property that is currently 80 acres in size. The land was originally purchased by Samuel Thompson in 1828 from the U.S. Government. In 1843, Thompson sold the property to Edward Powers and his wife Nancy (Columbiana County Deed Book 34:215). After five years, the Powers sold the property to Martin Wilson in 1848 (Columbiana Deed Book 41:165). Martin died in 1888 and the property was left to his son William Wilson. At some point the property transferred to his daughter Sarah E. Wilson. In 1922, Sarah died and she left the property to her niece, Loretta Strudthoff, in her will. Loretta and her husband, John, gave the property to their son, Earl, in 1931. His wife, Ethel, was the sister of William Williams, so this is the first of the Williams family to own the property that is still within the Williams family to this day. Earl and Ethel owned the property until 1944 when it transferred to Clarence and Mary Williams. Their son, Keith, now owns the property.

**NRHP Evaluation:** The house was not found to be substantially associated with events, patterns of events, or individuals important to our history in a manner necessary for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria A and B. Although containing some interesting features the house is in very poor structural condition due to its vacancy and lack of maintenance over the last 20 years. Its lack of characteristic architectural details and poor structural integrity have diminished it as a good example of vernacular architecture in the area. The associated outbuildings are not dated contemporaneous to the house and range in age from the 1930s to the modern period. The house's lack of historic integrity excludes it as an important example of its type, period, or method of construction, and is not eligible for inclusion under Criterion C. The building is not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A, B or C due to a lack of associative significance and historic integrity.

#### *44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)*

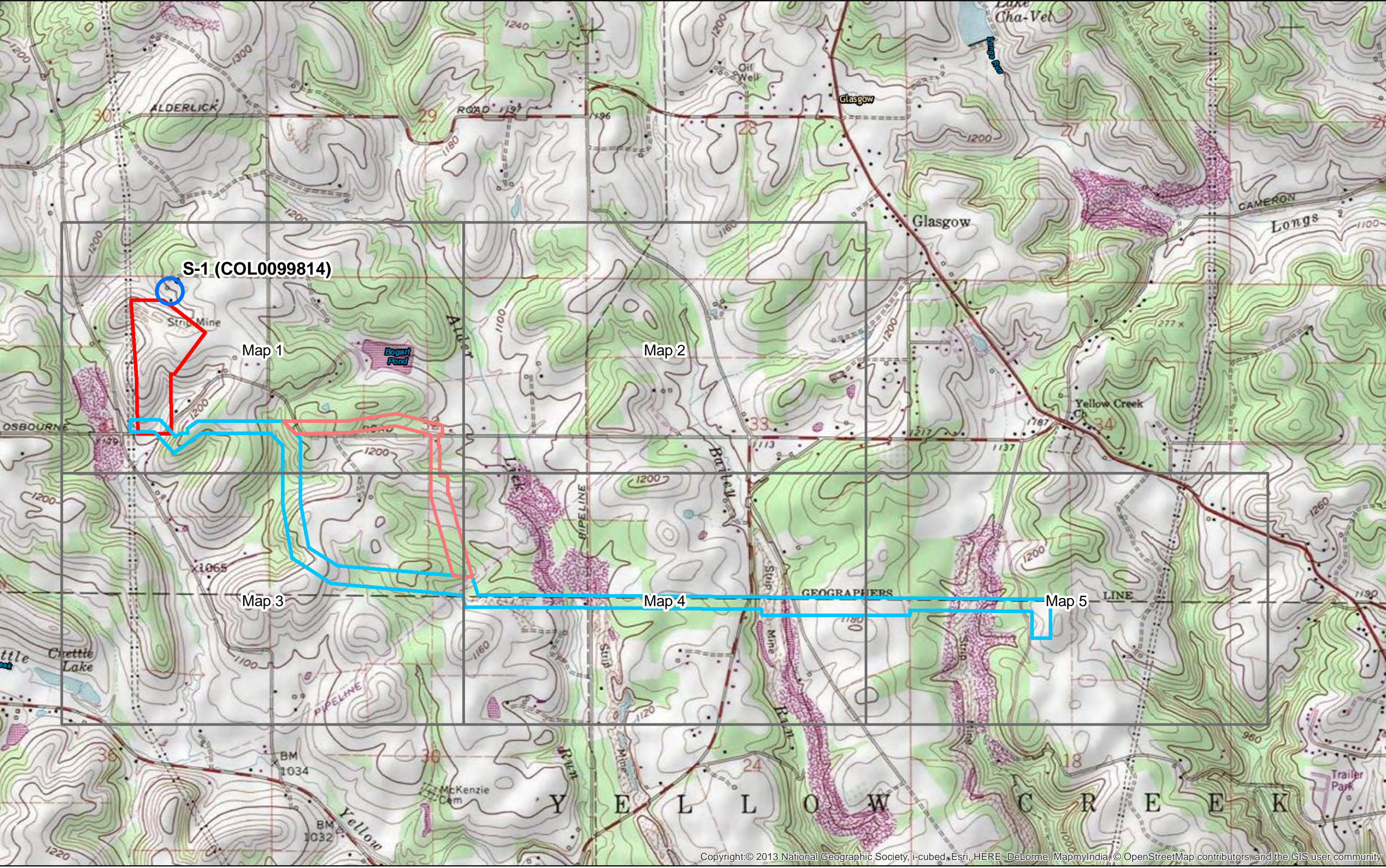
The house is accompanied by six outbuildings, five of which are agricultural in nature. Nearest to the house is a concrete block garage, which is reported to have been constructed during the 1950s. It features a gable front roof and two single bay doors. The garage has experienced damage from settling of the ground beneath the concrete block walls. This has caused large stair step cracks in various portions of the walls. The largest outbuilding on the property is a large frame bank barn. The barn features a gambrel roof that is covered with modern metal treatment. A large pair of wooden hinged doors are featured on the front (northern) elevation of the barn on the up slope side. These doors are the main access for the upper portion of the barn. Each end elevation features a single wooden sliding door that allows access into the lower level of the barn. The barn rests on a poured concrete foundation. An original barn stood on the same location, but it burnt during the late 1930s. The current barn was built at that time to replace the older version of the barn. This barn is the best preserved building on the property. Attached to the east and west sides of the barn are a pair of milk houses. The western milk house was the original and was used for Grade B milk. During the 1950s, the family decided to upgrade to Grade A milk, which necessitated the construction of a larger milk house, so the eastern milk house was constructed at this time. Based on access issues for the truck that was to pick up and transport the Grade A milk, this function was never realized and the milk house went unused. At the southern side of the barn a silo stands tall. The round silo is constructed of metal and has a poured concrete foundation. The roof is no longer present, but once was the domed metal design. The final outbuilding on the property is a small frame corncrib barn. The barn features a central passageway with a crib to either side of the open area. While appearing older, the landowner indicated that the barn was constructed during the 1970s and appears to be older based on its leaning sidewall on one side. He indicated that the barn was originally unintentionally constructed in that manner.

#### *45. Sources of Information*

Keith Williams - personal communication, also provided documentation for deed transfers

**APPENDIX B:**  
**PROJECT MAPPING SHOWING RESULTS**



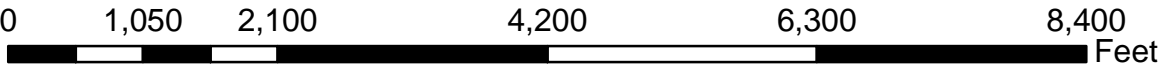


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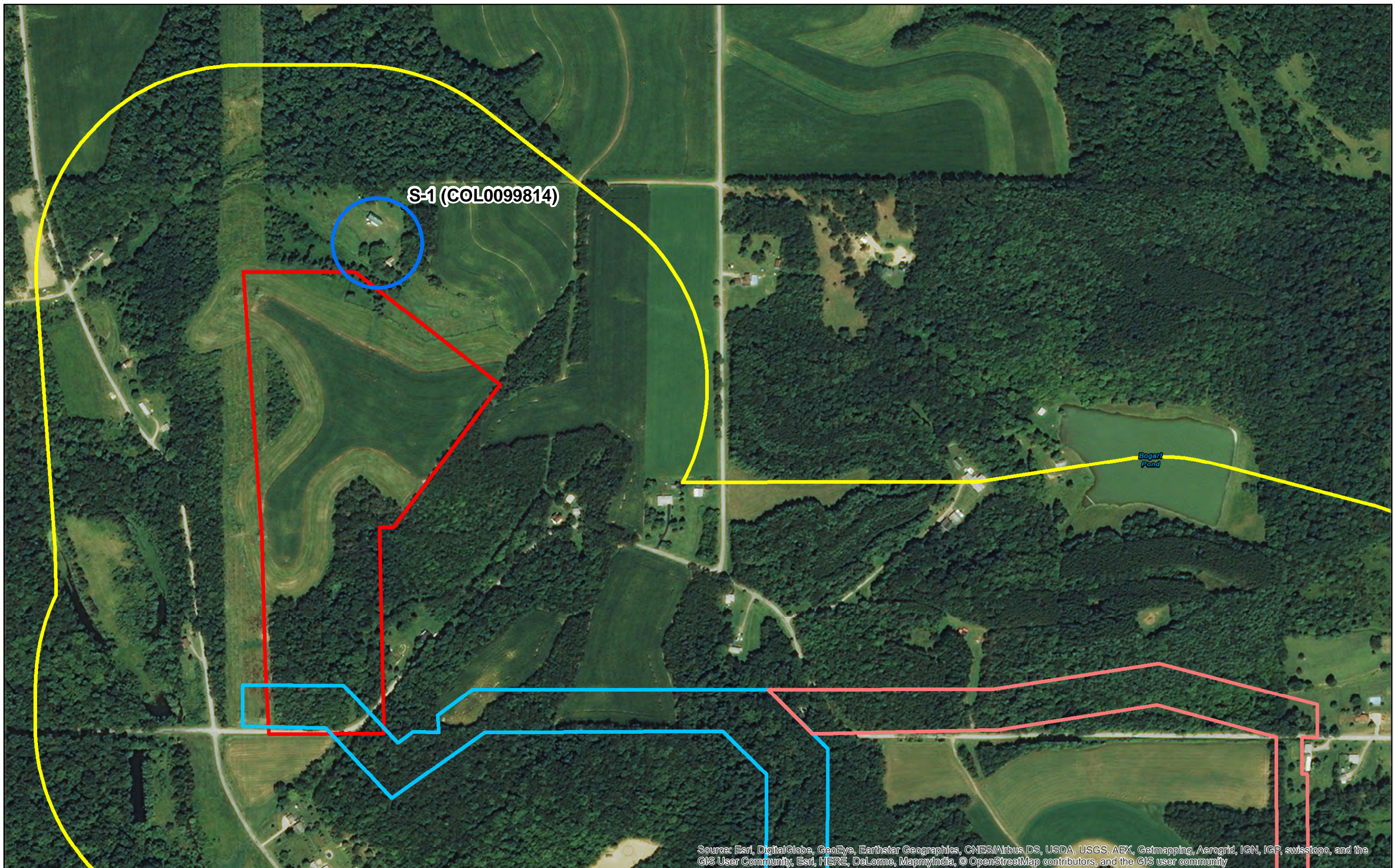
Alternate ROW

Preliminary ROW

Switchyard



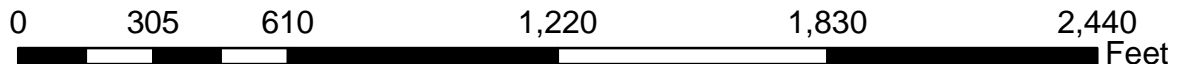




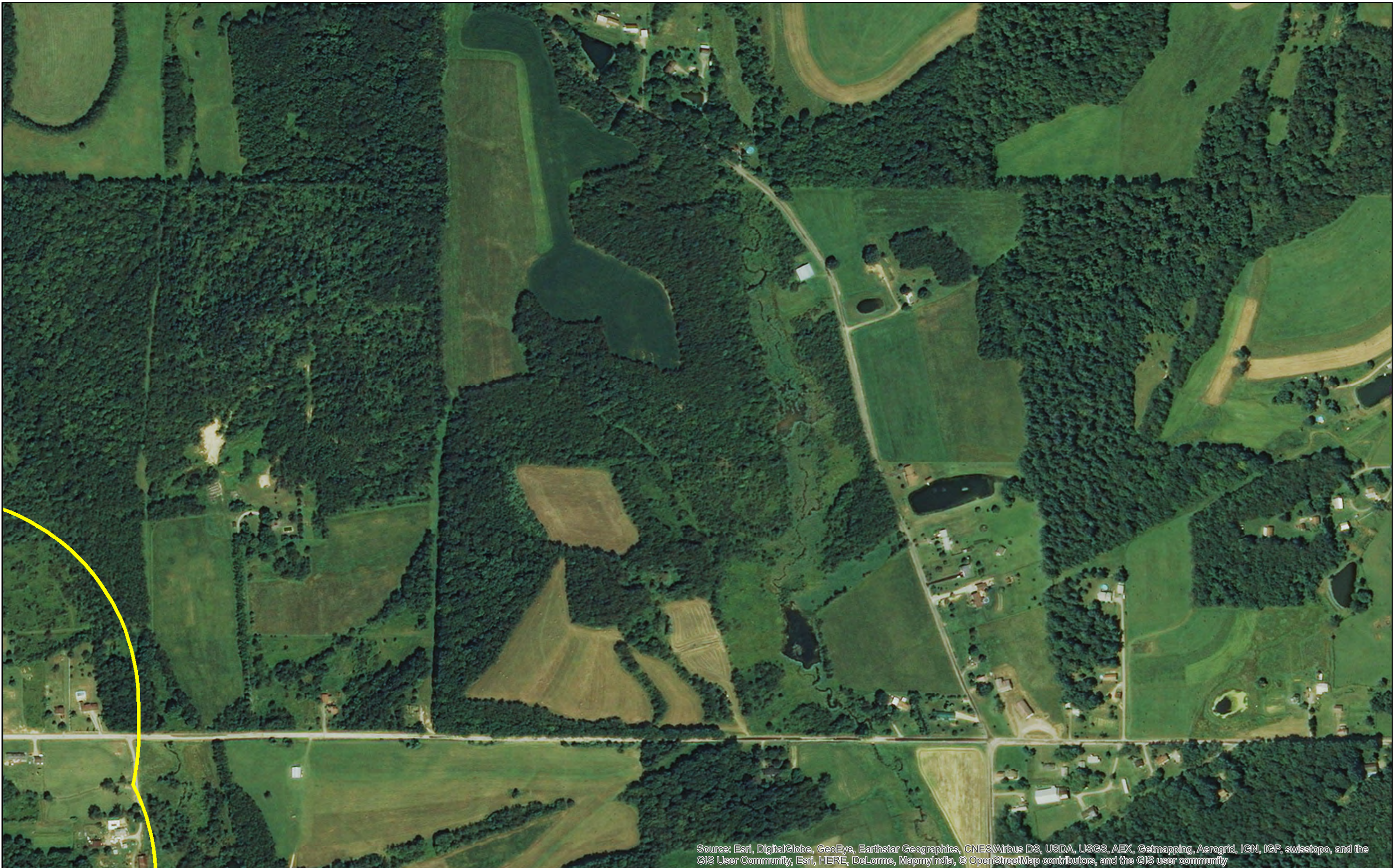
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Legend

- Study Area
- Alternate ROW
- Preliminary ROW
- Switchyard



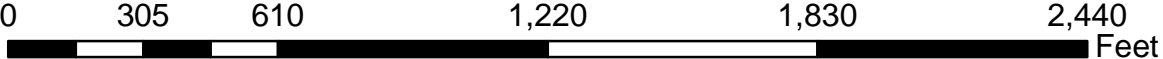




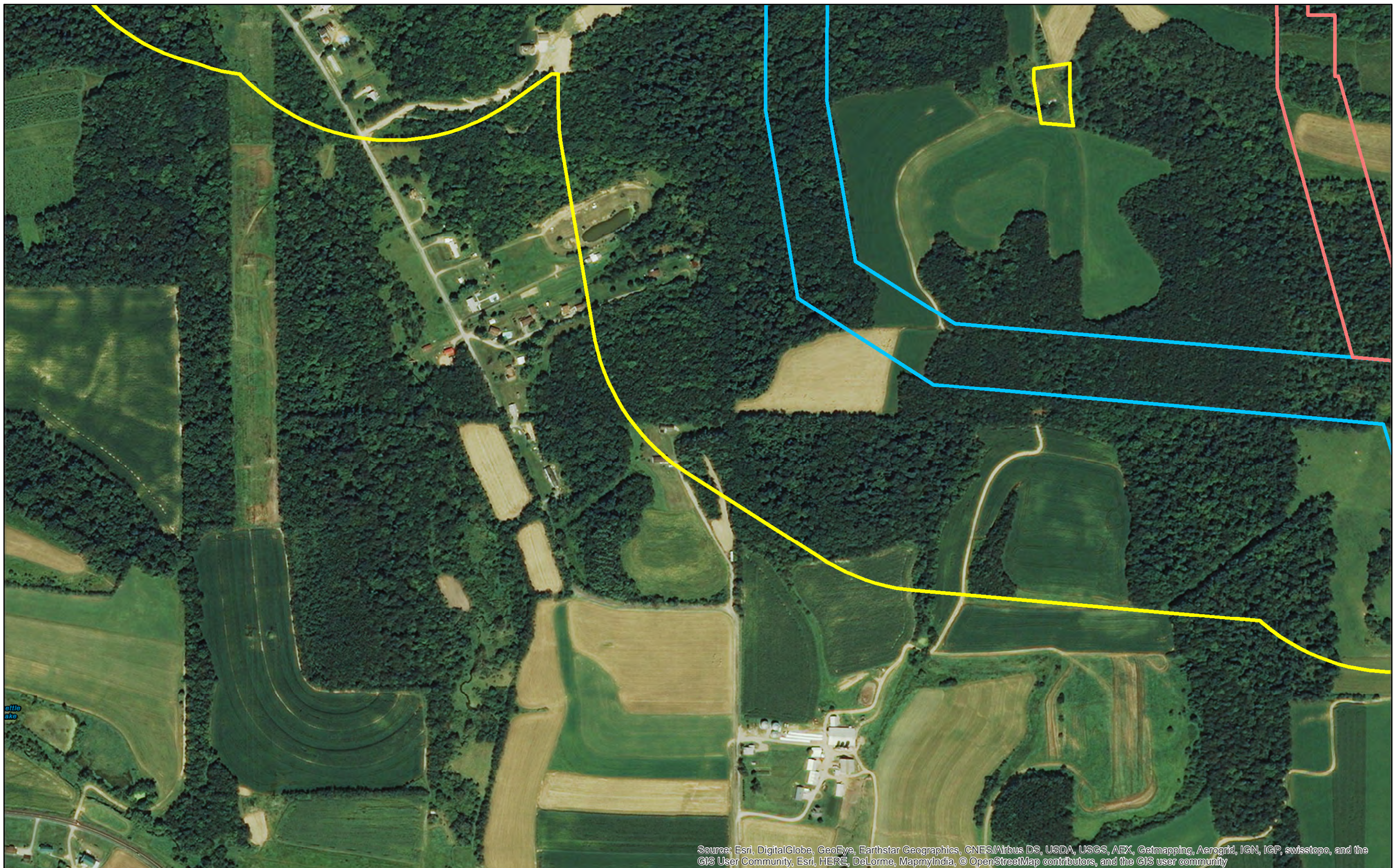
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Legend

-  Study Area  Alternate ROW  Preliminary ROW  Switchyard



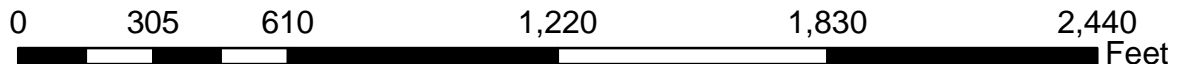




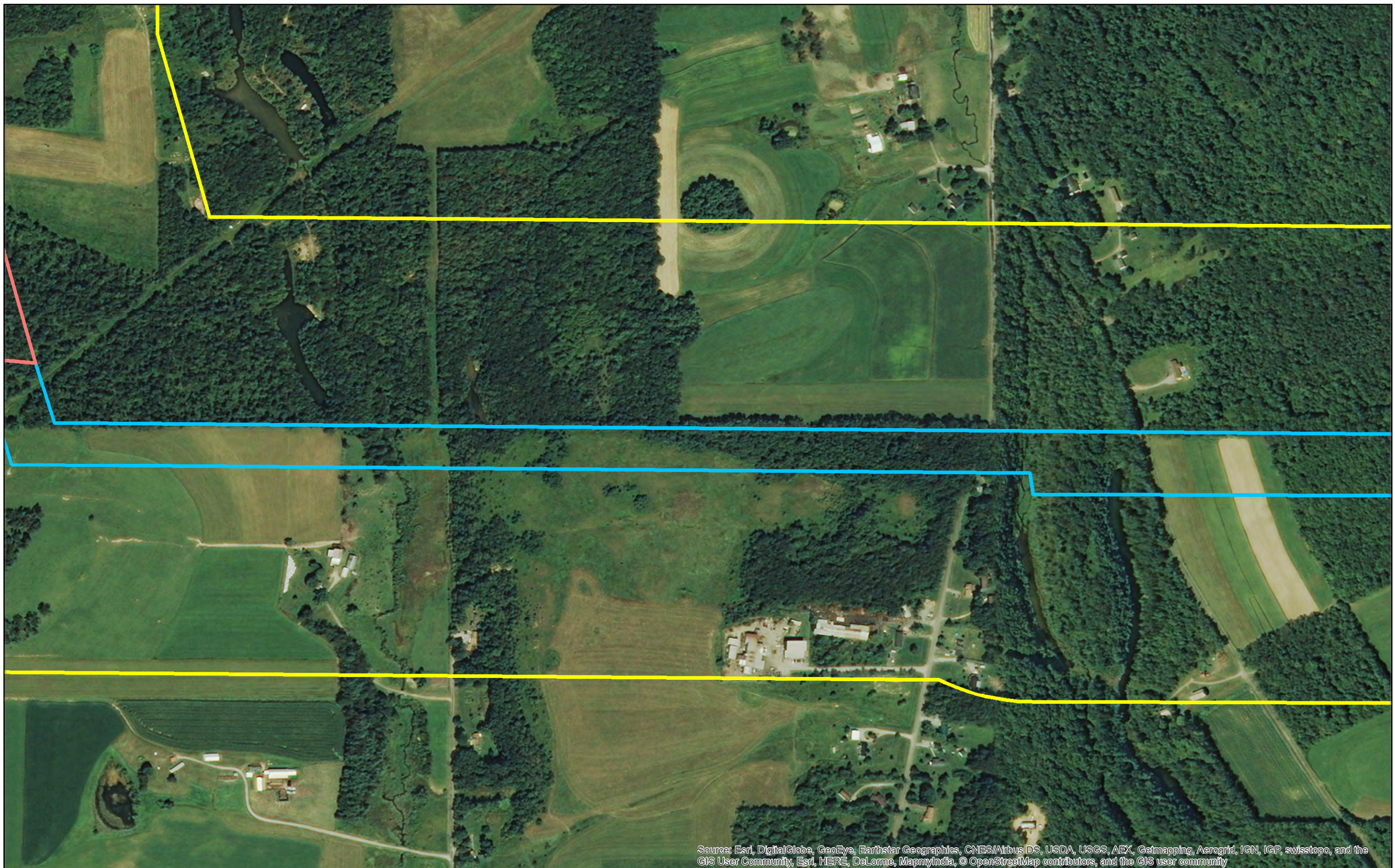
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Legend

-  Study Area
-  Alternate ROW
-  Preliminary ROW
-  Switchyard



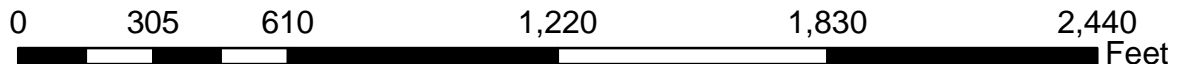




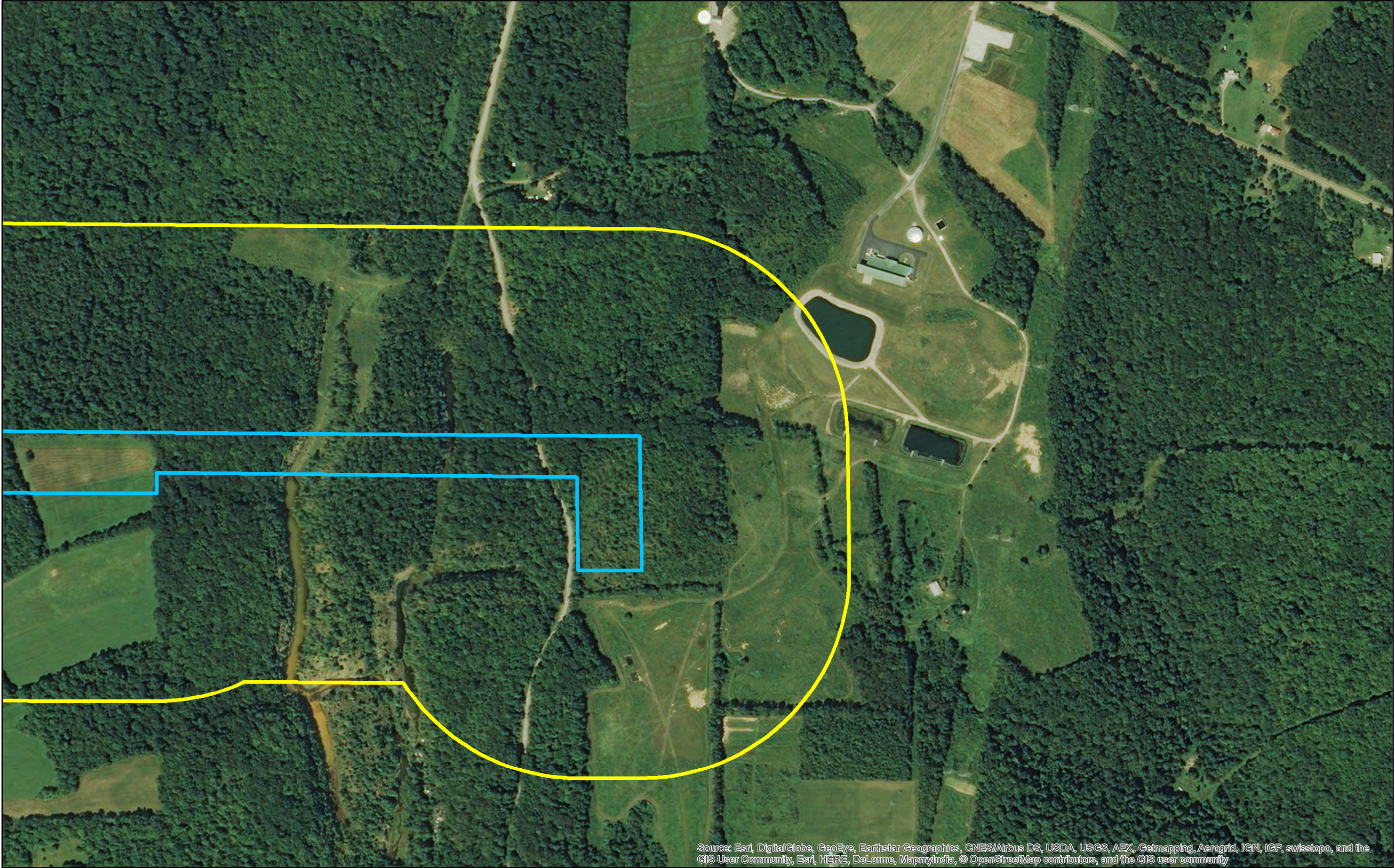
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Legend

-  Study Area
-  Alternate ROW
-  Preliminary ROW
-  Switchyard







Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Legend

-  Study Area  Alternate ROW  Preliminary ROW  Switchyard

0 305 610 1,220 1,830 2,440 Feet





**Cultural Resource Literature Review for the Proposed 52-  
hectare (128-acre) South Field Energy Facility Corridor  
Yellow Creek Township, Columbiana County Ohio**

**Joshua D. Engle**

**January 13, 2016**

1395 West Fifth Ave.  
Columbus, OH 43212  
Phone: 614.485.9435  
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Website: [www.wellercrm.com](http://www.wellercrm.com)

**Cultural Resource Literature Review for the Proposed 52-  
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**By**

**Joshua D. Engle**

Submitted By:

**Ryan J. Weller, P.I.  
Weller & Associates, Inc.  
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Phone: 614.485.9435 Fax: 614.485.9439**

Prepared For:

**Tetra Tech  
2 Lan Drive, Suite 210  
Westford, MA 01886**

Lead Agency:

**Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB)**



---

**Ryan J. Weller, P.I.**

**January 13, 2016**

## **Introduction**

In November of 2015, Weller & Associates, Inc. (Weller) conducted a cultural resource management (CRM) literature review for the proposed 52-hectare (128-acre) South Field Energy facility transmission line/natural gas pipeline corridors (the Project) in Madison and Yellow Creek Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio (Figures 1-3). The work was conducted under contract with Tetra Tech, Inc. (Tetra Tech) for support of the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) application. Investigations were conducted to screen the Project area for potential archaeological sensitivity and as a preliminary review to identify any possible 'red flags' regarding cultural resources. This document is to provide background information regarding previously recorded cultural resources in the vicinity of the Project, as well as observations associated with a field reconnaissance conducted within the Project area.

The Project is located generally in the rural south-central portion of Columbiana County, Ohio. The southern terminus is located approximately 2.7 miles northwest of the community of Wellsville, Ohio. The Project includes the proposed construction of a new aboveground electrical transmission line to be located between the previously surveyed proposed generating facility site located on Hibbetts Mill Road and the previously surveyed switchyard site located between McCormick Run Road and Sines Road. A preferred and alternate route are included in the Project area; the two transmission line corridor routes each measure approximately 3.9 linear miles. For the first 2.1 miles from the site of the generating facility, a proposed natural gas pipeline will be collocated within the same corridor.

Seth Cooper conducted the literature review on November 4, 2015. Ryan Weller was the Project Manager and Principal Investigator. The pedestrian survey was conducted on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> by Joshua Engle, Matt Sander, and Alex Thomas. Joshua Engle was responsible for the completion of this document.

## **Basic Environment**

The southern portion of Columbiana County is located within the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau region of northeast Ohio. According to Brockman (1998), the Project is located within the Muskingum Pittsburgh Plateau. This region is characterized by:

- Moderately high to high relief (300 feet – to 600 feet) dissected plateau having broad major valleys that contain outwash terraces, and tributaries with lacustrine terraces;
- Medium grained bedrock sequences coarser than those in Marietta Plateau, but finer than those in Ironston Plateau; and
- Remnants of ancient Teays-age drainage system (uncommon) at elevation 650 feet to 1400 feet (Brockman 1998).

The Project lies within the Berks-Coshocton-Gilpin soil association. These are general soil types that make up moderately deep to very deep, gently sloping to steep, well-drained and moderately well-drained soils that formed in loamy colluvium and residuum weathered from interbedded sedimentary rock on unglaciated hills (United States Department of Agriculture, Soils Conservation Service [USDA, SCS] 2011). There are fifteen specific soils and gravel pits



located within the Project (Table 1). The Little Yellow Creek is located immediately adjacent and wet of the Project and drains directly into the Ohio River.

<b>Table 1. Soils in the Project.</b>	
Soil Symbol	Soil Name / Slope
BkB	Berks channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
BkC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes
BkD	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes
BkE	Berks channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes
BpF	Bethesda very channery silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes
CoB	Coshocton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes
CoC	Coshocton silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes
FbB	Fairpoint very channery silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
FbF	Fairpoint very channery silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes
GnB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
GnC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes
GoC	Gilpin-Coshocton silt loams, 6 to 15 percent slopes
HkA	Holly silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes
UkC2	Upshur-Berks complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded

## Literature Review

The literature review study area is defined as a 304-meter (1,000-foot) radius from the centerline of the project (Figures 2, 4, and 5). In conducting the literature review, the following resources were consulted at the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) and the State Library of Ohio:

- 1) *An Archaeological Atlas of Ohio* (Mills 1914);
- 2) OHPO United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-foot series topographic maps;
- 3) Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) files;
- 4) Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) files;
- 5) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and Determinations of Eligibility (DOE) files;
- 6) OHPO CRM/contract archaeology files; and

- 7) OHPO consensus determination of eligibility files; and
- 8) Stark County atlases, histories, historic USGS 15-foot series topographic map(s), and current USGS 7.5-foot series topographic map(s).

The *Archeological Atlas of Ohio* (Mills 1914) did not indicate any resources that were located within or adjacent to the Project.

A review of the OHPO topographic maps did not indicate any sites located within or adjacent to the Project.

The Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) files indicated no previously recorded OHIs located within or adjacent to the Project.

The NRHP and DOE files were reviewed. There are no NRHP resources or DOE resources located within or adjacent to the Project.

A review of the OHPO online contract files indicated that a small portion of the Project has been previously investigated for a proposed water treatment plant (Soldo 2002). This survey identified, recorded, and evaluated the previously recorded cultural resources within the current Project's study area as this previous survey overlaps with the Project (Figures 2 and 3).

Cartographic/atlas resources were reviewed for the Project area. The USGS *1937 Wellsville, Ohio 15 Minute Series (Topographic)* map does not indicate any buildings or structures located within the Project area (Figure 5). At the time this map was created, the Project was set in a rural, open, countryside that was removed from Wellsville proper. The Project contained some agricultural properties, but these were sporadically located throughout the area. The map also indicates mining activity near the eastern terminus of the Project. The USGS *1985 West Point, Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)* map indicates the Project area is located in a sparsely populated area, marked with multiple mining activities in the surroundings that extend across the Project's eastern terminus (Figure 2).

### ***Pedestrian Survey Results***

Fieldwork was conducted on November 5 and 24, 2015 (Figure 6-9). Temperatures were seasonal, and weather did not hinder the survey. Three field technicians spent approximately 7 hours to complete the survey. The proposed Project was walked to assess potential areas of interest, and to identify areas of the Project necessitating shovel testing. The pedestrian survey encountered testable areas, however, a significant portion of the Project would be eliminated from the need for archaeological testing due to various characteristics (Figure 8), discussed below.

In the eastern two-thirds of the Project, severely disturbed conditions due to past mining activity were considered to reflect low archaeological sensitivity. Some sections of the proposed Project within this area were inaccessible to foot traffic due to retention ponds, cliffs, and deeply trenched conditions typical of those encountered on previously mined properties.

Low archaeological sensitivity was also assigned to areas where road/driveway construction extended across the Project area.

Steep slope conditions (greater than 15 percent) were encountered throughout the Project, as was expected based on a review of cartographic resources and soil survey information (Figure 7). These areas of steep slopes were also considered to have low archaeological sensitivity and would not require additional testing.

One structure was recorded within the proposed right-of-way (ROW) (Figure 6). It is a small single story, block structure, built into a hillside, with a single, centrally located doorway, and two windows. Its original use could not be determined, and it does not appear on the maps studied for this literature review. Further, the structure was subject to flooding at some point, as approximately 8 inches of standing water was observed within. Subsurface water is expected at this location, however the presence of standing water indicates a shallow water table.

No other features of interest were noted during the Project reconnaissance. Weller recommends that areas indicated as “level to gently sloping & undisturbed” on Figure 8 be subject to additional archaeological investigation if disturbance will be proposed in such areas.

## **Summary**

The literature review did not identify any previously recorded archaeological or architectural sites within or adjacent to the Project. A portion of the Project area was previously the subject of a cultural resource investigation, with no significant resources resulting. Aerial imagery and cartographic resources (as verified by field reconnaissance) indicate that some of the area has been mined, previously disturbed or is situated on steeply sloped conditions. No additional investigation is recommended for these areas.

There are intact locations within the Project area that will require additional investigation if disturbance is proposed in those locations. It is expected that locations of the proposed natural gas pipeline, access roads, laydown areas, and transmission tower foundations will require additional investigation, although background review and field reconnaissance did not note any indication of high resource potential.

## References Cited

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1998 *Physiographic Regions of Ohio*. Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Geological Survey, Columbus, Ohio.

Mills, W. C.

1914 *An Archeological Atlas of Ohio*. Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, Columbus.

Soldo, D.

2003 *A Phase I Archaeological Survey for the Buckeye Water District Expansion, Center, Madison, Middleton, St. Clair, & Yellow Creek Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio*. American Archaeological Services LTD. Copy available for review from the Ohio History Connect.

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service

2011 Soil Survey of Columbiana County, Ohio. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Columbus and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Washington D. C.

## Figures





Figure 1. Political map of Ohio showing the approximate location of the Project Area.



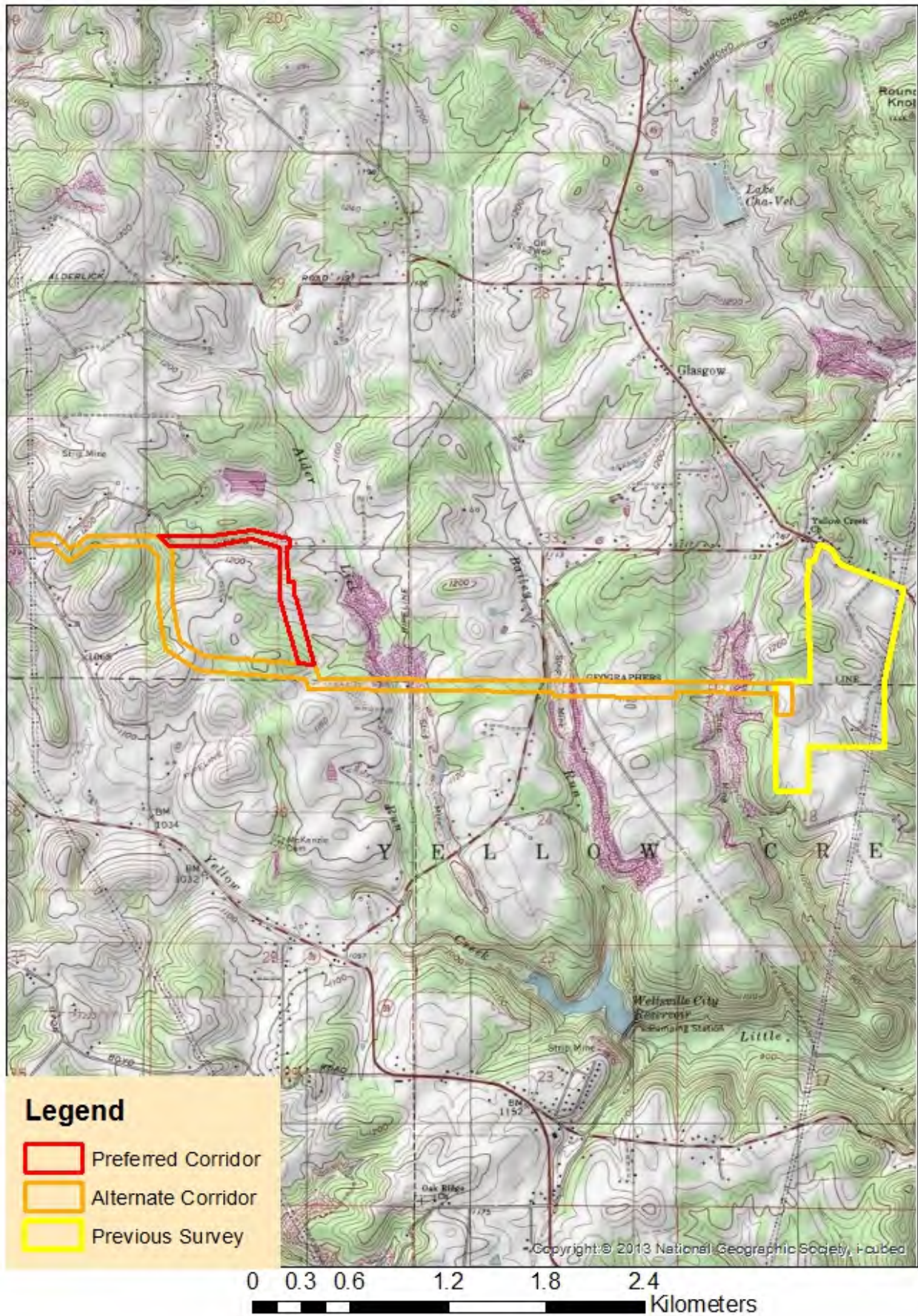


Figure 2. Portion of the USGS 1985 West Point, Ohio 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic) map indicating the location of the Project Area and previously recorded resources within the study area.



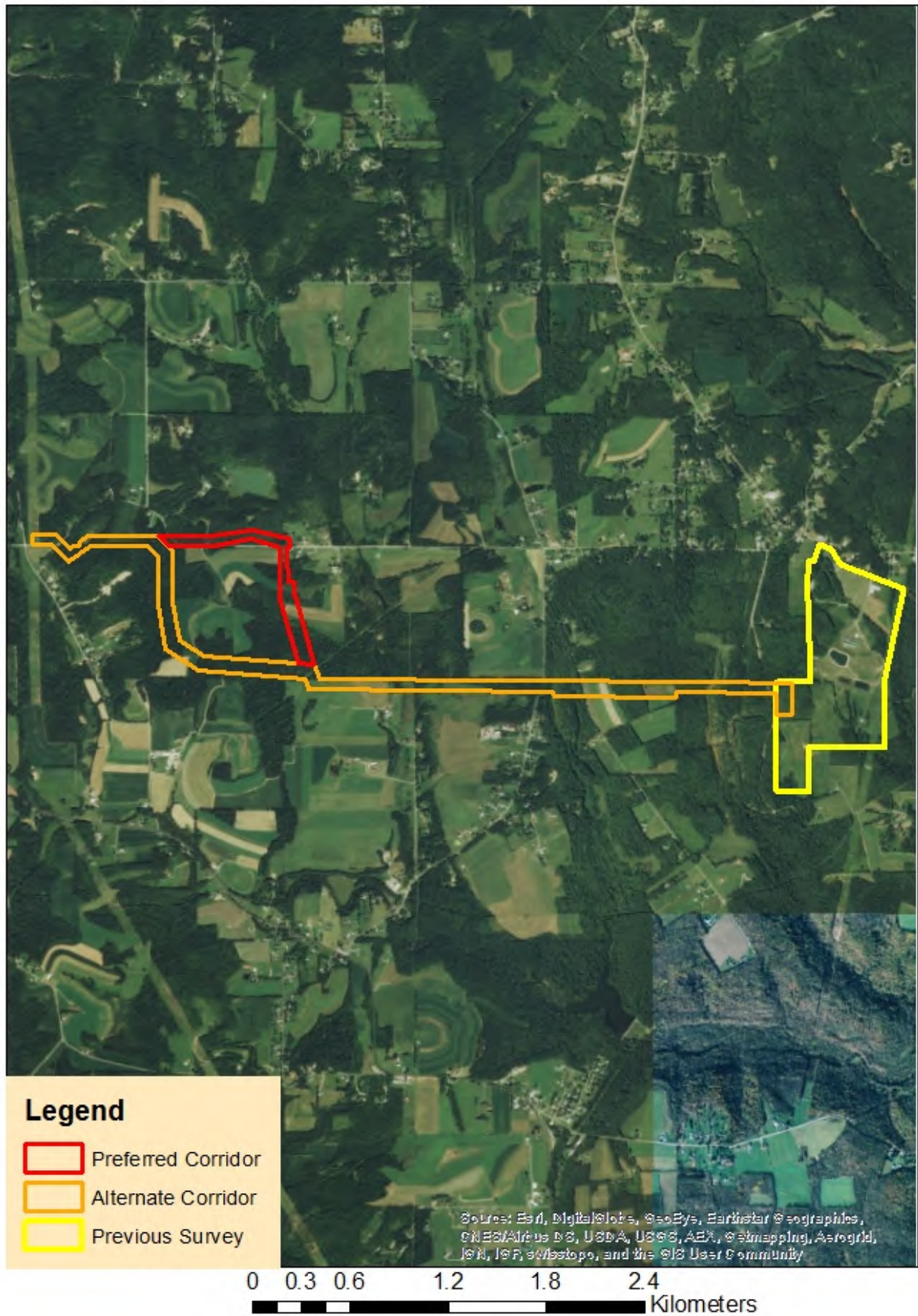


Figure 3. Figure 3. Aerial view of the Project Area.



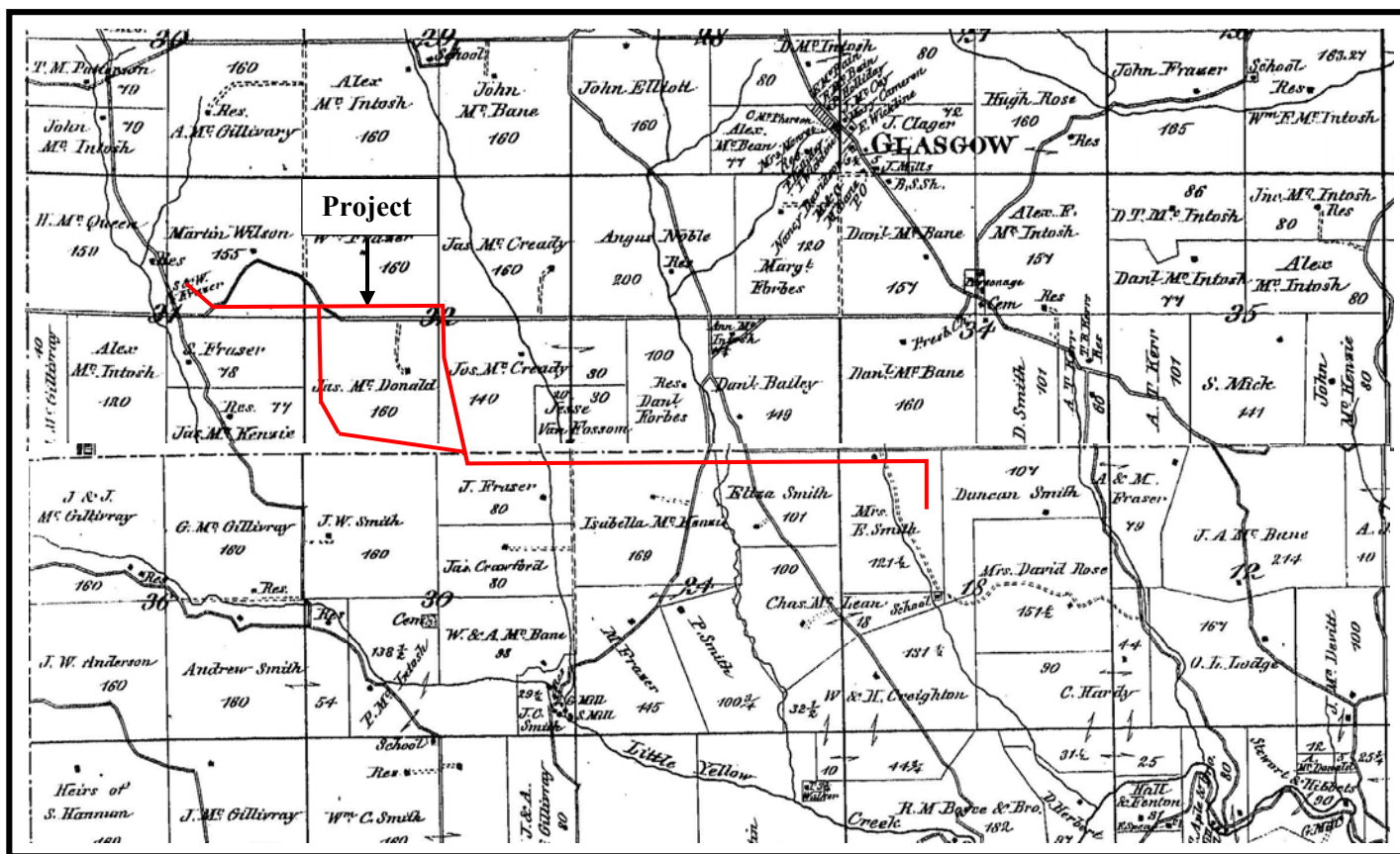


Figure 4. Portion of the *Atlas of Columbiana, Ohio* (Lake 1870) indicating the approximate location of the Project.



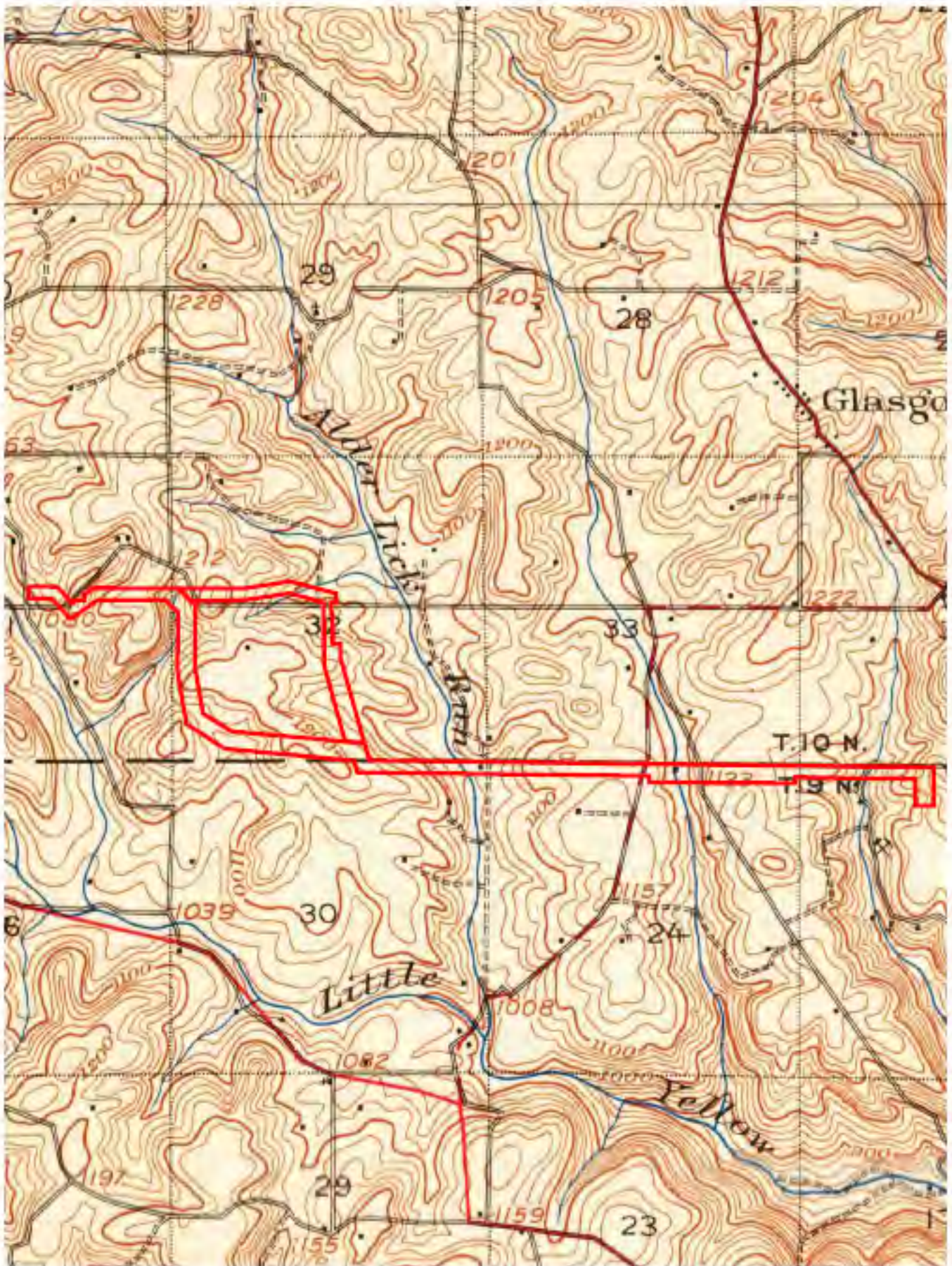


Figure 5. Portion of the USGS 1937 Wellsville, Ohio 15 Minute Series (Topographic) map indicating the location of the Project Area.





Figure 6. View of a structure encountered in the central portion of the project.



Figure 7. View of steeply sloped conditions and a retention pond in the eastern third of the project, facing east.



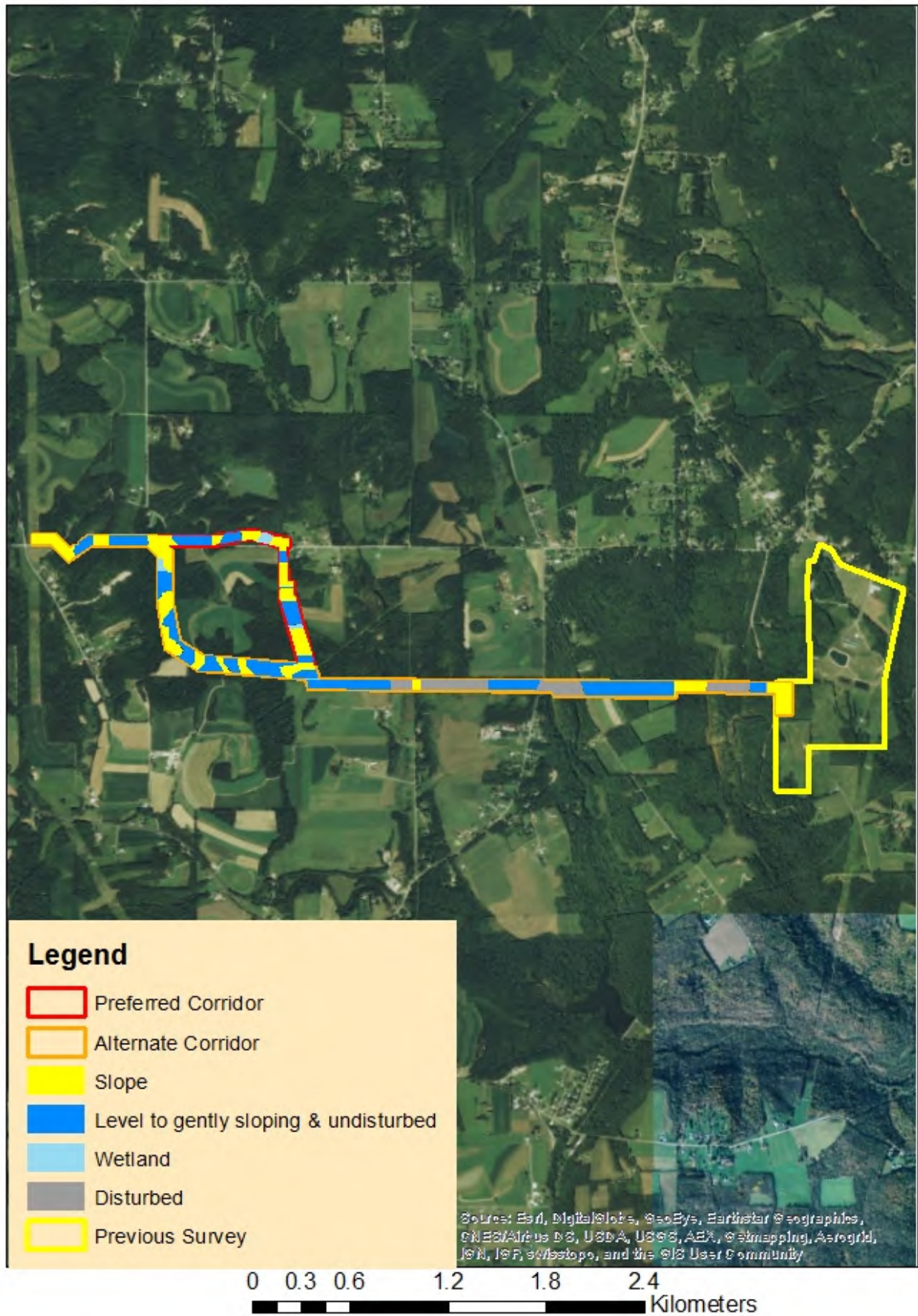


Figure 8. Topographic map depicting Project location and pedestrian survey conditions.



Figure 9. View of the wooded portion of the Project Area looking north.



## **Attachment B: Species Correspondence**



# Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

**Ohio Division of Wildlife**  
*Sue Howard, Acting Chief*  
2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. G  
Columbus, OH 43229-6693  
Phone: (614) 265-6300

November 12, 2015

Lynn Gresock  
South Field Energy LLC  
2 Lan Dr.  
Westford, MA 01886

Dear Ms. Gresock,

Per your request, I have e-mailed you a set of shapefiles with our Natural Heritage Program data for the South Field Energy Transmission Line Routes project, including a one mile radius, in Madison and Yellow Creek Townships, Columbiana County, Ohio. This data will not be published or distributed beyond the scope of the project description on the data request form.

Records included in the data layer may be for rare and endangered plants and animals, geologic features, high quality plant communities and animal assemblages. Fields included are scientific and common names, state and federal statuses, as well as managed area and date of the most recent observation. State and federal statuses are defined as: E = endangered, T = threatened, P = potentially threatened, SC = species of concern, SI = special interest, FE = federal endangered, FT = federal threatened and A = recently added to inventory, status not yet determined.

The managed areas layer includes state, federal and county lands, as well as areas owned by non-profits, museums and other entities. Managed areas are sites under formal protection for their natural resources. Please be aware that this layer may not be complete and we are continually updating it as new information becomes available to us.

Our inventory program has not completely surveyed Ohio and relies on information supplied by many individuals and organizations. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area. This letter only represents a review of rare species and natural features data within the Ohio Natural Heritage Database. It does not fulfill coordination under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S. C. 661 et seq.) and does 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.

Please contact me at 614-265-6818 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie Woischke".

Debbie Woischke  
Ohio Natural Heritage Program

**Gresock, Lynn**

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**From:** susan\_zimmermann@fws.gov on behalf of Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2015 2:57 PM  
**To:** Gresock, Lynn  
**Subject:** South Field Energy 345kV Transmission Line Routes, Columbia Co. OH



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services Office  
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, Ohio 43230  
(614) 416-8993 / Fax (614) 416-8994



TAILS# 03E15000-2016-TA-0195

Dear Ms. Gresock,

We have received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. There are no federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges or designated critical habitat within the vicinity of the project area. The following comments and recommendations will assist you in fulfilling the requirements for consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) recommends that proposed developments avoid and minimize water quality impacts and impacts to high quality fish and wildlife habitat (e.g., forests, streams, wetlands). Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the 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. All disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. Prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

**FEDERALLY LISTED SPECIES COMMENTS:** All projects in the State of Ohio lie within the range of the federally endangered **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federally threatened **northern long-eared bat** (*Myotis septentrionalis*). In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat is assumed wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags  $\geq 3$  inches diameter at breast height (dbh)

recommend that the project be coordinated with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact John Kessler, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6621 or at [john.kessler@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:john.kessler@dnr.state.oh.us).

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](mailto:ohio@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Everson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" being more prominent than the last name "Everson".

Dan Everson

Field Office Supervisor





# Ohio Department of Natural Resources

JOHN R. KASICH, GOVERNOR

JAMES ZEHRINGER, DIRECTOR

## Office of Real Estate

Paul R. Baldrige, Chief  
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: (614) 265-6649  
Fax: (614) 267-4764

December 24, 2015

Lynn Gresock  
Tetra Tech Inc.  
238 Littleton Road, Ste. 201B  
Westford, MA 01886

**Re:** 15-717; Threatened and Endangered Species Review, Information Request, East Ohio Energy

**Project:** The proposed project involves the construction of a combined-cycle electric generating facility and a potential infrastructure corridor

**Location:** The project is located in Yellow Creek Township, Columbiana 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 at or within a one mile radius of the project area:

Bowman's-root (*Porteranthus trifolius*), state threatened.

We are unaware of any unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state wildlife areas, nature preserves, state or national parks, state or national forests, or national wildlife refuges within the project area. The review was performed on the project area you specified in your request as well as an additional one mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. This information is provided to inform you of features present within your project area and vicinity. Additional comments on some of the features may be found in pertinent sections below.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area. Although all types of plant communities have been surveyed, we only maintain records on the highest quality areas.

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

The DOW recommends that impacts to 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 project is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species. The following species of trees have relatively high value as potential Indiana bat roost trees to include: shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), shellbark hickory (*Carya laciniosa*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), shingle oak (*Quercus imbricaria*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*), and white oak (*Quercus alba*). Indiana bat roost trees consists of trees that include dead and dying trees with exfoliating bark, crevices, or cavities in upland areas or riparian corridors and living trees with exfoliating bark, cavities, or hollow areas formed from broken branches or tops. However, Indiana bats are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If suitable habitat occurs within the project area, the DOW recommends trees be conserved. If suitable habitat occurs within the project area and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting occur between October 1 and March 31. If suitable trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a net survey be conducted between June 1 and August 15, prior any to cutting. Net surveys should incorporate either nine net nights per square 0.5 kilometer of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. If no tree removal is proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the threehorn wartyback (*Obliquaria reflexa*), a state threatened mussel. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the channel darter (*Percina copelandi*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from April 15 to 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 species.

The project is within the range of the eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*), a state endangered species and a federal species of concern. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size to provide suitable habitat, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), a state endangered and a federal candidate 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 present at the project site and within the vicinity of the project area, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the American bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), a state endangered bird. Nesting bitterns prefer large undisturbed wetlands that have scattered small pools amongst dense vegetation. They occasionally occupy bogs, large wet meadows, and dense shrubby swamps. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 to July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.



The project is within the range of the black bear (*Ursus americanus*), a state endangered species. Due to the mobility of this species, 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 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact John Kessler at (614) 265-6621 if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

John Kessler  
ODNR Office of Real Estate  
2045 Morse Road, Building E-2  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693  
John.Kessler@dnr.state.oh.us

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**6/30/2016 4:38:43 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 16-1166-GA-BLN**

Summary: Application - Attachment A (Cultural Resource Investigation) and Attachment B (Species Correspondence) electronically filed by Mr. Michael J. Settineri on behalf of South Field Energy LLC