

**U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers**

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**SECTION 594 Village of Oak Hill
Water System Improvements Project**

**Village of Oak Hill
Jackson County, Ohio**

Huntington District, USACE

April 2011

**DRAFT Environmental Assessment
SECTION 594 Water System Improvements Project
Village of Oak Hill
Jackson County, Ohio**

Executive Summary

The Village of Oak Hill owns and operates a water distribution system and purchases approximately 100 million gallons of water annually from Jackson County Water and Scioto Water. The existing water distribution system was originally installed in the 1950s and has reached the end of its useful life. The Village is experiencing 45% water loss in their distribution system from failing water lines and appurtenances. The frequent line breaks are posing a significant health risk due to the increased possibility of backflow of contaminant sources into the system during depressurization events. The exorbitant water loss is also impacting the financial livelihood of the village.

The proposed project consists of the replacement of existing waterline throughout the Village of Oak Hill. Specific project elements will include 14,000 linear feet (LF) of 8-inch and 6-inch waterlines, 67 valves, and 20 fire hydrants. The existing water lines would be removed and new waterlines would be installed in the original trench. The trench excavation would be approximately 2.5 feet wide and up to 5 feet deep.

The proposed construction activities would occur within the existing streets and road right of ways within the Village of Oak Hill. No open space or undisturbed areas would be impacted by the proposed project. Road and stream crossing would occur utilizing the directional bore method of construction.

Studies for this proposed project were initiated under Section 594 of the Water Development Act of 1999 (PL106-53) which provided authority for the Secretary of the Army to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in Ohio. This law provides assistance in design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in Ohio, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities; combined sewer overflow, water supply, storage, treatment and related facilities; mine drainage, environmental restoration and surface water resource protection and development.

The Environmental Assessment has concluded that there would be no significant impacts to the human environment associated with the implementation of the proposed Village of Oak Hill Water System Improvements Project. A Finding of No Significant Impact is anticipated for the project.

**DRAFT Environmental Assessment
SECTION 594 Water System Improvements Project
Village of Oak Hill
Jackson County, Ohio**

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**DRAFT Environmental Assessment
SECTION 594 Water System Improvements Project
Village of Oak Hill
Jackson County, Ohio**

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Project Background

The Village of Oak Hill (Village) owns and maintains a water distribution system and purchases approximately 100 million gallons of water annually from Jackson County Water and Scioto Water. The existing water distribution system was originally constructed in the 1950's. The Village of Oak Hill is experiencing 45% water loss in their distribution system from failing waterlines and appurtenances. The frequent line breaks are posing a significant health risk due to the increased possibility of backflow of contaminant sources into the system during depressurization events. If the area is not isolated while being repaired the increases in flow to the site can significantly decrease the pressure in the system and may allow back siphonage and back pressure to contaminate the drinking water.

1.2 Project Authority

Studies for this proposed project were initiated under Section 594 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (PL106-53) which gave authority to the Secretary of the Army to establish a program to provide environmental assistance to non-Federal interests in Ohio. This law allows for assistance in design and construction of water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in Ohio, including projects for wastewater treatment and related facilities; combined sewer overflow, water supply, storage, treatment and related facilities; mine drainage, environmental restoration and surface water resource protection and development.

1.3 Statement of Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to prevent frequent waterline breaks which pose a significant health risk due to the increased possibility of backflow of contaminated sources into the system during depressurization events. This project is needed to replace the aged and unreliable waterlines and allow for safe drinking water in the Village.

1.4 Prior National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation

No documentation under NEPA has previously been undertaken.

2.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

In an effort to address the water loss issue, the Village has completed several leak detection surveys to find all potential leaks. However, every time leaks are repaired, new leaks develop resulting in continued loss of water. Calibration of the master meters from Jackson County Water and Scioto Water was performed to ensure accurate readings were occurring. Based on the calibration, the flows recorded by Jackson County Water and Scioto Water appear to be accurate. Phasing the project to spread out the cost was also considered however it was determined that replacing all old waterlines at once was the most advantageous when considering the prevention of future water loss and stabilizing the finances of the water system.

2.1 Alternative 1 – No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) would not provide funding for the project. It is assumed that the sponsor would secure funding from alternative sources, however this would likely delay project implementation.

2.2 Alternative 2 – Preferred Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the Corps would provide funding in the amount \$200,000 towards the total project cost of \$266,000 for implementation of water system improvements. Replacement of the deteriorated waterline and related appurtenances was determined to be the only alternative that would fully meet the purpose and need of the project. Specific project elements would include 14,000 LF of 8-inch and 6-inch waterlines, 67 valves, and 20 fire hydrants. The existing waterlines would be removed and the new waterlines installed in the original trench. The trench excavation would be approximately 2.5 feet wide and up to 5 feet deep.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND CONSEQUENCES

The project area addressed by this Environmental Assessment (EA) is encompassed within the existing rights of way of many of the streets and roads in the Village. An aerial map with the location of the water line replacements is provided in Appendix A.

3.1 Location

Oak Hill is located in rural Jackson County, Ohio. Huntingcamp Creek runs through the Village of Oak Hill and drains into Black Fork Creek. Black Fork Creek is a tributary to Symmes Creek which flows south through Lawrence County where it joins the Ohio River. Maps of the project areas are located in Appendix A.

3.2 Land Use

Land use within the Village of Oak Hill corporation limits consists primarily of residential dwellings, small commercial establishments and the typical rural town uses. All construction activities would occur within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Oak Hill.

No impacts to land use are anticipated for the Preferred Action Alternative. Waterline replacement activities would be conducted in sub-surface areas previously disturbed through the installation of the roadways or other utilities.

3.3 Physiography

Geology

The Project Area is in the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau Region. It is extremely dissected by drainage ways and has hilly and rough topography, except along the floors of preglacial stream valleys. According to the *Ground Water Resources of Jackson County*, the Black Hand sandstone is present at greatly varying depths, depending on topography and structure. Course-grained sandstones may be encountered at shallower depths.

Soils

The *Soil Survey for Jackson County* indicates the presence of seven soil types within the Project Area, including: Omulga silt loam (OmC), 8 to 15 percent slopes; Omulga silt loam (OmB), 3 to 8 percent slopes; Ernest silt loam (ErC), 8 to 15 percent slopes; Orrville silt loam (Or), frequently flooded; Wharton silt loam (WhD), 15 to 25 percent slopes; Piopolis silt loam (Pb), frequently flooded; Pope silt loam (Px), frequently flooded. Of these soils, Piopolis silt loam is considered hydric soils.

Prime and Unique Farmland

An October 22, 2010 phone conversation with Alan Rees, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, District Conservationist, concluded that the proposed project would have no adverse effects on prime farmland soils because the disturbances would be within the Village limits on previously disturbed soils. The NRCS-CPA-106 Form, found in Appendix B, indicates that the project would not impact important farmland.

Additionally, considering the project area size, location, developed nature, and project scope, no impacts to physiography are anticipated as part of the Preferred Action Alternative. All disturbed areas would be returned to original condition upon completion of construction activities; including grading.

3.4 Biological Resources

3.4.1 Aquatic Habitat. The construction activities associated with the Preferred Action Alternative would occur within the streets and road rights of way within the Village. To minimize stream impacts during crossing of Huntingcamp Creek the directional bore method would be employed. This is a steerable, trenchless method of installing underground pipes, conduits and cables in a shallow arc along a prescribed bore path using a surface launched drilling rig, with minimal impact on the surrounding area.

No impacts to aquatic habitat are anticipated as part of the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.4.2 Vegetation and Terrestrial Habitat. Existing vegetation within the Project Area consists of managed grass lawns. A few trees are present within the Project Area; however it is not anticipated that trees would require removal. Furthermore, all work associated with the Preferred Action Alternative would occur in previously disturbed areas..

Minimal impacts to vegetation and terrestrial habitat are anticipated as a result of the replacement of the waterlines. All disturbed areas would be returned to original condition upon completion of construction activities including grading and seeding.

3.5 Floodplain

Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the long term and short term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of the floodplain development whenever there is a practicable alternative. Floodplain data for the Village of Oak Hill was obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Based on the mapping provided, the project area does not lie within the 100-year floodplain.

There would be no floodplain impacts associated with the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.6 Regulated Hazardous Contaminants

A review of the US EPA National Priorities List, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and Center for Disease Control and Prevention Environmental Health Webmaps indicate one site in the project area. This site, the Cherrington Scrap Radiation Yard, is located in the southern portion of the Village and not near the project area.

The Ohio Department of Commerce, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank site (BUSTR) indicates four locations for underground storage tanks for gasoline and kerosene in the project area. These sites are located at 106 N. Jackson Street; 199 N. Jackson Street, 205 Jackson Street, and 116 N. Front Street, Oak Hill, Ohio. All four sites are gas stations. There are a total of nine gas tanks, four diesel tanks, and three kerosene tanks on these sites. All are registered tanks and each of the four locations appears on the "Active Releases from Regulated Tanks" list. However, none of the tanks are located within the construction work area for the proposed project.

Based on the research, site visit, Project Area size, location and project scope, no impacts from regulated hazardous contaminants are anticipated as part of the Preferred Action Alternative. The Huntington District's memo recommending no further HWTR investigations is located in Appendix B.

3.7 Hydrology

The Project Area is located within the Ohio River basin. Huntingcamp Creek, a tributary to Black Fork Creek is the main water resource in Oak Hill. Black Fork Creek is a tributary to Symmes Creek which flows south through Lawrence County where it joins the Ohio River.

As all of the work associated with the Preferred Action Alternative would take place in existing rights of way and consists of replacing water line, there are no impacts to hydrology associated with the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.8 Water Quality

Water quality monitoring by the Ohio EPA has identified Huntingcamp Creek, as well as several other Jackson County streams, to be affected by Nonpoint Source Pollution. These streams are affected by one or more of the following NPS pollution categories: coal mining, oil and gas production, crop and livestock production, on-site wastewater treatment system and timber harvesting. Huntingcamp Creek is also shown to be affected by point source pollution; such as municipal and/or industrial wastewater.

Crossing of Huntingcamp Creek during construction will be accomplished using directional bore method of construction. Impacts to water quality would be limited to minor sedimentation that may occur during construction. No significant impacts to water quality are anticipated under the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.9 Wetlands

A review of the Soils Map and Hydric Soil list indicates there is one area of hydric soils which could be capable of supporting hydric vegetation near the Village. A review of the National Wetland Inventory Map indicates there are no designated wetlands near where the waterlines will be replaced. Due to the fact that the Proposed Action Alternative involves the replacement of waterlines within existing streets or street right-of-way, there are no impacts to wetlands anticipated as part of the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.10 Endangered Species

The Indiana bat is the only state and federally endangered species that may occur in the proposed project area. Additionally, the project is within the range of the timber rattlesnake, little spectaclecase mussel, black bear, and bobcat, which are all state endangered species.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife reviewed their Biodiversity Database and advised they have no records for rare or endangered species or other significant natural features within the project area. The Agency is also unaware of any unique ecological sites, geologic features, animal assemblages, scenic rivers, state nature preserves, parks or forests, national wildlife refuges, parks or forests, or other protected natural areas within a one mile radius of the project area.

As there is no tree clearing anticipated as part of the proposed project, and there is no historical record of any rare or endangered species within the project area, there would be no impacts to Endangered Species associated with the Preferred Action Alternative.

3.11 Cultural Resources

An on-line search of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office records indicates the presence of three historic structures, one structure on the National Register, and four Ohio Genealogical Society Cemeteries within a one-mile radius of the Village of Oak Hill.

Consultation with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) was initiated by Kurtis Strickland, East Rural Development Supervisor of the Ohio RCAP, on September 13, 2010 and passed through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District Office to OHPO for review and consultation. An initial determination was made that no adverse effect on historic or archaeological sites would occur as a result of the proposed waterline replacement. As construction of the proposed project would occur within existing road rights-of-way on previously

disturbed land, there are no impacts to cultural resources anticipated as part of the Proposed Action Alternative

3.12 Air Quality

Air quality reports and databases from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency were reviewed for data on attainment status of Jackson County and the presence of monitoring stations within the Project Area. The SE District Office of Ohio EPA advises that Jackson County is considered to be in attainment. No monitoring stations are located in the Project Area.

The use of construction equipment associated with the Preferred Action Alternative would result in some air emissions that temporarily impact existing air quality in the project area. Mobile sources of air pollutants are not regulated by the state except in some of the non-attainment counties. The proposed action is exempted by 40 CFR Part 93.153 from making a conformity determination, since estimated emissions from construction equipment would not be expected to exceed *deminimis* levels, direct emissions of a criteria pollutant, or its precursors. Any impacts would be short-term, localized, and would occur only during construction phase activities. Any impacts to air quality would be temporary, during construction, and minor.

3.13 Noise

Noise is measured as Day Night average noise levels (DNL) in "A-weighted" decibels that the human ear is most sensitive to (dBA). There are no Federal standards for allowable noise levels. According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Guidelines, DNLs below 65 dBA are normally acceptable levels of exterior noise in residential areas. The FAA denotes a DNL of 65 dBA as the level of significant noise impact. Several other agencies, including the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, use a DNL criterion of 55 dBA as the threshold for defining noise impacts in suburban and rural residential areas. (Schomer et al 2001). According to Dr. Paul Schomer in his 2001 Whitepaper, while there are numerous thresholds for acceptable noise in residential areas, research suggests that an area's current noise environment, which has experienced noise in the past may reasonably expect to tolerate a level of noise about 5 dBA higher than the general guidelines. The USACE Safety and Health Requirements Manual provides criteria for temporary permissible noise exposure levels, for consideration of hearing protection or the need to administer sound reduction controls.

Permissible Non-Department of Defense Noise Exposures

Duration/day (hours)	Noise level (dBA)
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1.5	102
1	105

Construction noise would be similar to that of farm equipment and other small machinery used in the local area. A backhoe, end loader, road grader and/or vibratory roller are equipment that is likely to be used during installation of the waterline. Each emits noise levels around 85 dBA at 45 feet. Construction equipment would be operated for approximately 8 hours, generating noise during the daytime (7am-6pm) when many residents are at work. Therefore, a reasonable exposure time of two hours would be expected during when residents may be home during the day. Peak outdoor noise levels ranging from 78-90 dBA would occur during the time in which equipment is directly in front of or in close proximity to homes (within 25-100 feet). A maximum noise exposure of approximately 98 dBA, for one hour could occur if equipment were within 10 feet of homes. The noise projections do not account for screening objects, such as trees, outbuildings or other objects that muffle and reduce the noise being emitted. The outdoor construction noise would be further muffled inside the home. While the construction noise generated would be considered unacceptable according to HUD and FAA standards, these limited exposures and time intervals are still within allowable Corps safety levels (USACE 2003). Further, they are similar to typical neighborhood noise generated by gas powered lawnmowers in the local area, which could range from 90-95 dBA at three feet and 70-75 dBA at 100 feet. Residents being exposed to these noise levels would occur if/when residents are home and outdoors. Elevated noise levels proximate to homes should be limited to a few days and human exposure to such noise levels would likely be limited to a few hours.

Due to daytime construction and the short and limited duration of elevated noise levels associated with the Preferred Action Alternative, impacts from noise to local residences should be minor and temporary in nature.

3.14 Socioeconomic Conditions

Under Executive Order (EO) 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations", federal agencies are directed to identify, address and avoid disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low income populations.

Population in the Village of Oak Hill is 1,685 based on the 2000 Census data. Approximately 99.3% of the residents are white with the remainder of the population as black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, or Asian. The median household income for Oak Hill is \$28,289. The unemployment rate in Jackson County, Ohio, as of November 2010, was 10.3%. The State unemployment rate for this period was 9.3% and the national average was 9.3%.

This project would provide a safer supply of potable water by eliminating failing waterlines that are susceptible to backflow of contaminant sources into the system during depressurization events. Replacement of the waterlines is based on the current condition of existing lines. The project meets the directive of EO 12898 by not creating disproportionate human health or environmental effects.

3.15 Aesthetics

The Project Area is comprised of residential homes and commercial businesses and limited undeveloped property. Vegetation is comprised of mowed lawns and trees. The existing aesthetics of the Village of Oak Hill is typical of most small, rural communities.

Temporary disturbance of the local area is anticipated during construction of the Preferred Action Alternative. No long term adverse impacts would occur as the Preferred Action Alternative consists of waterline replacement and once complete the area would be restored to preconstruction appearance.

3.16 Transportation and Traffic

The proposed project would have a temporary effect on roadways within the Village of Oak Hill during replacement of existing water line. Upon completion of the project, roadways would be repaved and returned to at least pre-construction conditions.

No new traffic patterns are expected to occur as a result of the proposed project. Traffic delays may occur under the Preferred Action Alternative; however any delays should be temporary as the installation of waterline progresses. Compliance in or near road surfaces would be in accordance with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) guidelines. All appropriate ODOT guidelines for traffic control would be implemented. Temporary street closures, if necessary, would have appropriate detours marked and prior notification of appropriate officials would be required.

3.17 Health and Safety

Health and safety issues include reducing the likelihood of drinking water contamination due to broken waterlines and preventing possible contamination from backflow.

Under the Preferred Action Alternative, the replacement of existing, deteriorated waterlines would improve the water supply to the Village of Oak Hill by providing reliable and safe potable water to residents.

Under the No Action Alternative it is likely that project implementation would be delayed as the Village seeks funding. This would result in continuing waterline breaks, increased water loss and potential for water contamination, which poses a health risk to residents of the Village.

3.18 Cumulative Effects

The Corps of Engineers must consider the cumulative effects of the proposed project on the environment as stipulated in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Cumulative effects are "the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such actions". Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR Part 1508.7 Council on Environmental Quality [CEQ] Regulations).

The cumulative effects analysis qualitatively presented below is based on the potential effects of the proposed project when added to similar impacts from other projects in the region. An inherent part of the cumulative effects analysis is the uncertainty surrounding actions that have not yet been fully developed. The CEQ regulations provide for the inclusion of uncertainties in the analysis and states that "when an agency is evaluating reasonably foreseeable significant adverse effects on the human environment...and there is incomplete or unavailable information, the agency shall always make clear that such information is lacking" (40 CFR 1502.22).

The significance of this action on human health and safety would be both minimal and positive. Given the current programs that are in place for the foreseeable future, this is expected to be a positive cumulative effect on water quality. In conclusion, in scoping cumulative effects issues no resources were identified as having potential to be significantly affected.

4.0 STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Based on the information provided above, full compliance with all local, state, and federal statutes and Executive Orders is anticipated.

Statute/Executive Order	Full	Partial	N/A
National Environmental Policy Act (considered partial until the FONSI is signed)		X	
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	X		
Endangered Species Act	X		
Clean Water Act	X		
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act			NA
Clean Air Act	X		
National Historic Preservation Act	X		
Archeological Resources Protection Act			NA
Comprehensive, Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act	X		
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act	X		
Toxic Substances Control Act	X		
Quiet Communities Act	X		
Farmland Protection Act	X		
Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management	X		
Executive Order 11990 Protection of Wetlands	X		
Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations	X		

5.0 PUBLIC COORDINATION

5.1 Agencies Contacted

Direct correspondence with the ODNR (State Listed endangered species and scenic rivers); USFWS (federally endangered species); OHPO (historic and archaeological); NRCS (prime and unique farmland) was completed to address required information. Agency correspondence is included in Appendix B.

5.2 Public Review and Comments

This draft Environmental Assessment, and draft Finding of No Significant Impact is made available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, as required under NEPA. A notice of availability is published in the local newspaper, Jackson Times Journal, advising the public of availability of this document for review and comment. A copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) is placed in the Oak Hill Public Library and is also available on-line at:

<http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/review/>. The mailing list for the DEA is located in Appendix C.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed installation of waterlines would replace failing existing lines, which are currently serving the residents of the Village of Oak Hill. The Preferred Action Alternative is not anticipated to produce significant, adverse impacts to the surrounding natural or human environment. The footprint of the Preferred Action Alternative is minimal and follows the existing rights-of way. The effects from excavation (noise, dust, and erosion control) and traffic disruptions during construction of the project would also be minor and temporary. Appropriate management practices would be implemented, by the contractor, during installation to minimize impacts to residents and the environment. Stream crossing

would occur by directional bore method of construction thereby avoiding impacts to streams. Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would not be expected to have significant impacts on the human environment. A Finding of No Significant Impact is anticipated.

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Section 594 Water System Improvements Project Village of Oak Hill Jackson County, Ohio

1. Members of my staff have conducted an Environmental Assessment, in the overall public interest, which considers potential impacts on the human environment from the proposed Village of Oak Hill Water System Improvements Project, Jackson County, Ohio. The Preferred Action Alternative consists of installing new water lines within road rights-of-way throughout the Village. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide adequate, clean, reliable water service for the Village of Oak Hill, Ohio.

2. The possible consequences of the proposed action have been studied for environmental, cultural, and social well-being effects.

3. The Preferred Action Alternative and the No Action alternative were the only alternatives carried forward for detailed evaluation. Primary ecological impacts from the Preferred Action Alternative are the effects of excavation (noise, dust and erosion control), which are considered to be minor and temporary, due to the limited nature of the construction design and utilization of best management practices. The Preferred Action Alternative is expected to have beneficial impacts on human health and safety which are currently impacted by frequent waterline breaks. No threatened or endangered species or any associated critical habitat would be impacted by the Preferred Action Alternative.

The No Action Alternative would likely result in a delay in project implementation as the sponsor seeks another funding source. This would result in the continuation of adverse impacts to the community in the form of significant disruptions to the safe operation of the water distribution system.

4. An evaluation of the Preferred Action Alternative produced the following pertinent conclusions:

a. Environmental Considerations. The Huntington District has taken reasonable measures to assemble and present the known or foreseeable impacts of the Preferred Action Alternative to the human and natural environment in the Environmental Assessment. All potential adverse impacts of the proposed action are temporary and minor.

b. Social Well-Being Considerations. No significant economic or social well-being impacts that are both adverse and unavoidable are foreseen as a result of the Preferred Action Alternative. The community would benefit from the proposed action through a reliable water distribution system. The Preferred Action Alternative would have no effect on sites of significant archaeological or historical importance.

c. Coordination with Resource and Other Agencies. Pursuant to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) of 1958 as amended, coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources has been made. Appropriate measures and best management practices have been identified and incorporated into the plan. Also, in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1970, as amended, the proposed action would not have any adverse impacts on listed species.

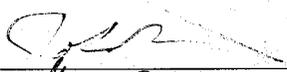
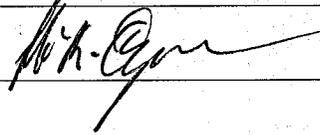
d. Other Public Interest Considerations. There has been no opposition to the proposed action alternative expressed by the state or local governments, or organized environmental groups, and there are no unresolved issues regarding the implementation of the project.

5. I find the proposed action has been planned in accordance with current authorization as described in the Environmental Assessment. The proposed action is consistent with national policy, statutes and administrative directives. This determination is based on thorough analysis and evaluation of the proposed action and the alternate course of action. In conclusion, I find the proposed Water System Improvements Project for the Village of Oak Hill, Ohio, would have no significant adverse effect on the quality of the human and/or natural environment and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Robert D. Peterson
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
VILLAGE OF OAK HILL WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
SECTION 594 PROJECT
JACKSON COUNTY
OHIO

Volume: Environmental Assessment
 Technical Specialist: Jami L. Buchanan, Community Planner
 Organization: Planning Branch, Environmental Analysis Section

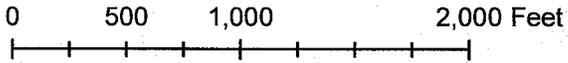
Activity	Technical Reviewer	Certification Signature	Certification Date
Draft EA and FONSI	John S. Preston		24 Mar 11
Draft EA and FONSI	Deb Tabor		3/25/11

APPENDIX A
SITE LOCATION MAPS

Village of Oak Hill Waterline Replacement Project Aerial View (OSIP '07)



— Waterline Replacements



1:10,000



APPENDIX B

AGENCY COORDINATION

CELRH-EC-CE (1110)

04 February 2011
Wolfe/5327

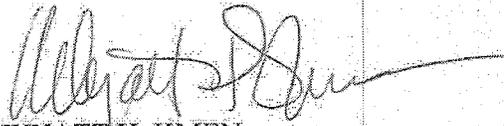
JW

MEMORANDUM FOR CELRH-PM-PP-P (Attention: David Frantz)

SUBJECT: Acceptance of the January 31, 2011 Revision of the September 13, 2010 Phase I Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Investigation Report, Oak Hill Waterline Replacement, Oak Hill, Jackson County, OH

1. The above referenced document was reviewed by EC-CE and has been determined to be acceptable. This completes the hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW) investigation of the above referenced project. No further HTRW investigation is necessary at this time.

2. If you have any further questions, you may contact Janet Wolfe at x5327.


WYATT H. KMEN
Chief, Environmental and Remediation Section



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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

September 14, 2010

Kurtis Strickland
Ohio RCAP
942 Slab Hill Road
Oak Hill, OH 45656

TAILS #: 31420-2010-TA-1091
31420-2010-CPA-0543

Re: USFWS Response to Oak Hill Water System Improvements Project

Dear Mr. Strickland:

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. Based on the information you have provided, at this time we have no objection to the proposed project.

ENDANGERED SPECIES COMMENTS: Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate any impact on federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, or their habitats. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, consultation with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

If you have additional questions or require further assistance with your project proposal, please contact me at the following number (614) 416-8993 x12. I would be happy to discuss the project in further detail with you and provide additional assistance if necessary. In addition, you can find more information on natural resources in Ohio by visiting our homepage at: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/ohio>.

Sincerely,

Mary Knapp, Ph.D.
Field Supervisor

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request	9/13/10	Sheet 1 of 1
1. Name of Project		5. Federal Agency Involved		
Oak Hill Water System Improvements		U.S. Army Corps of Engineers		
2. Type of Project		6. County and State		
Waterline, valve, hydrant replacement		Jackson County, OH		
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form	
		9-13-10	Alan Rees	
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).		4. Acres Irrigated		Average Farm Size
YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA		
	Acres: %	Acres: %		
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS		

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services	1			
C. Total Acres In Corridor	1	0	0	0

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value	

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

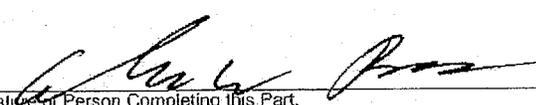
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points				
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	0			
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	0			
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	0			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0			
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0			
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0			
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	5			
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0			
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0			
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0			
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	5	0	0	0

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100				
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	5	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	5	0	0	0

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?
A	1	9/13/10	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Reason For Selection:
The project will not impact important farmland.

Signature of Person Completing this Part:  DATE: 10-20-10

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

APPENDIX C
MAILING LIST

Federal Officials

Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
200 North High Street, Room 614
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
37 West Broad Street, Room 310
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Bob Gibbs
Representative in Congress
1166 Military Road, Suite B
Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Honorable John Kasich
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

State Officials

Honorable Paul McNeal
Mayor of Oak Hill
415 North Front Street
Oak Hill, Ohio 45656

Resource Agencies

Dr. Mary Knapp
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230

Natural Resource Conservation Service
Jackson Service Center
2026 Fairgreens Road
Jackson, Ohio 45640

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Ohio EPA
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife
2045 Morse Road, Building G
Columbus, Ohio 43229

Mark Epstein, Department Head
Resource Protection and Review
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
1982 Velma Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43211

Municipal Agencies

Oak Hill Public Library
226 South Front Street
Oak Hill, Ohio 45656