

APPENDIX A

AGENCY CONSULTATION CORRESPONDENCE

(#1)

Coordination letter to the West Virginia Development Office
- Energy Efficiency Program

(#2)

Consultation letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(#3)

Consultation letter to the State Historic Preservation Officer

(#4)

Letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(#5)

Letter from the State Historic Preservation Officer

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U.S. Department of Energy

National Energy Technology Laboratory



December 21, 2001

Mr. John F. Herholdt, Jr.
Manager, Energy Efficiency Program
West Virginia Development Office
State Capitol Complex
Building #6, Room 645
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Herholdt:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is considering participation in a project to develop an "Integrated Power Generation System for Coal Mine Waste Methane Utilization." The project would result in design, construction, and operation of an integrated gas processing and power generation system at a site in western Monongalia County, WV. This system would demonstrate the feasibility of using waste coal mine methane gas to generate electricity and would be located at the Parrish Shaft property of the Federal Number 2 Mine southeast of Wadestown, WV. A detailed description of the proposed project and graphics depicting its location are enclosed.

Based on review of currently available information on the scope, location, and projected environmental consequences of the proposed project, DOE considers the proposed action to be one for which an Environmental Assessment (EA) would provide the appropriate level of review and analysis under DOE's National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures. The EA will be prepared in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Our Office anticipates completion of a draft EA within the next few months, and we welcome initial input from the State of West Virginia regarding the scope of the environmental analyses that should be incorporated into the EA. Upon availability, copies of the draft EA will be forwarded to your office for review and comment. The Department of Energy will address comments in a final EA, which will form the basis for decision-making.

Should you require additional information, please contact me by telephone at 412-386-6159 or by e-mail at 'lorenzi@netl.doe.gov.'

Sincerely,

Lloyd Lorenzi, Jr.
NEPA Compliance Officer

Enclosures



U.S. Department of Energy

National Energy Technology Laboratory



December 21, 2001

Ms. Traci L. Knight
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Ms. Knight:

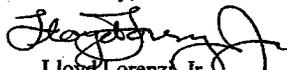
The United States Department of Energy (DOE) is considering participation in a project that would result in design, construction, and operation of an integrated gas processing and power generation system at a site in western Monongalia County, WV. This system would demonstrate the feasibility of using waste coal mine methane gas to generate electricity and would be located at the Parrish Shaft property of the Federal Number 2 Mine southeast of Wadestown, WV. A description of the proposed project and graphics depicting its location are enclosed.

As part of our coordination and consultation responsibilities, and to comply with both Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and provisions of the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act, we would appreciate receiving any information you have on wildlife resources, including endangered and threatened species or critical habitat, in the project area. Your thoughts on the potential impacts associated with the proposed project would also be appreciated.

Based on the scope of the proposed project, a preliminary examination of the proposed site, and the potential for the project to result in minimal environmental consequences, DOE has initiated preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act. Information that you provide will be incorporated and appropriately addressed in the Environmental Assessment. If your initial review concludes that no endangered or threatened species (or their habitat) are present in the project area, and that neither protected species nor their habitat would be affected by the proposed action, a written acknowledgement of that conclusion would be appreciated. In any case, the information that you provide will be considered in preparing the draft Environmental Assessment, which will be provided for review upon availability.

Should you require additional information, please contact me by telephone at 412-386-6159 or by e-mail at 'lorenzi@netl.doe.gov.'

Sincerely,


Lloyd Lorenzi, Jr.
NEPA Compliance Officer

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



West Virginia Field Office
694 Beverly Pike
Elkins, West Virginia 26241

JAN 30 2002

Mr. Lloyd Lorenzi, Jr.
U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
P.O. Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940

Dear Mr. Lorenzi

This responds to your information request of December 21, 2001 regarding the potential impacts of a proposed project on wetlands and federally listed endangered and threatened species and species of concern. The United States Department of Energy is considering participating in a project to design, construct, and operate an integrated gas processing and power generation system at a site in western Monongalia County, West Virginia. This system would demonstrate the feasibility of using waste coal mine methane gas to generate electricity and would be located at the Parrish Shaft property of the Federal Number 2 Mine southeast of Wadestown, West Virginia. The project would be located on previously disturbed land. Approximately one-half mile of natural gas pipeline will be constructed to join the proposed facility to Eastern States existing pipeline. The new pipeline will generally follow an existing roadway and power line right-of-way, but would also cross the Right Branch of Miracle Run and an unnamed tributary to that stream.

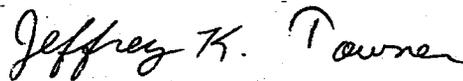
No federally listed endangered and threatened species or species of concern are expected to be impacted by the project. Therefore, no Biological Assessment or further Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is required with the Fish and Wildlife Service. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed and proposed species or species of concern becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. A compilation of federally listed endangered and threatened species in West Virginia is enclosed for your information.

Our review of the National Wetlands Inventory 7½-minute topographic maps indicates a palustrine emergent wetland occurs on the site. However, definitive determinations of the presence of waters of the United States, including wetlands, and the need for permits, if any, are

made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They may be contacted at: Pittsburgh District, Regulatory Branch, William S. Moorhead Federal Building, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 15222-4188, telephone (412)395-7152.

Please address all future correspondence to me at the letterhead address. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Linda Smith of my staff at (304) 636-6586.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey K. Towner".

Jeffrey K. Towner
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

FEDERALLY LISTED ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES IN WEST VIRGINIA

| COMMON NAME | SCIENTIFIC NAME | STATUS | DISTRIBUTION |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FISHES | | | |
| None | | | |
| BIRDS | | | |
| Eagle, bald | <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> | | Entire state Nest sites: (1) Mineral, (2) Hampshire, (1) Hancock, (1) Pendleton, (1) Grant, (3) Hardy, and (1) Wood Counties |
| MAMMALS | | | |
| Bat, Indiana | <i>Myotis sodalis</i> | | Known hibernacula in Tucker, Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Randolph, Preston, Pendleton, Monroe and Mercer Counties. Critical habitat: Hellhole Cave, Pendleton County - Bats may occupy summer habitat throughout the entire state |
| Bat, Virginia big-eared | <i>Corynorhinus</i> (= <i>Plecotus</i>) <i>townsendii virginianus</i> | | Primarily northeastern counties, especially Pendleton, Tucker and Grant Counties. Critical habitat: Hellhole Cave, Cave Mountain Cave, Hoffman School Cave, and Sinit Cave in Pendleton Co.; Cave Hollow Cave in Tucker Co. |
| Bat, gray | <i>Myotis grisescens</i> | | Hellhole Cave, Pendleton Co. |
| Cougar, eastern | <i>Felis concolor cougar</i> | | Entire state, may be extinct |
| Squirrel, West Virginia northern flying | <i>Glaucomys sabrinus fuscus</i> | | Pocahontas, Tucker, Pendleton, Greenbrier, Webster, and Randolph Counties, within proclamation boundary of Monongahela National Forest |
| MOLUSKS | | | |
| Snail, flat-spined three-toothed land | <i>Iridopsis platysavoides</i> | | Monongalia and Preston Counties, mainly in Cooper's Rock State Forest area, both sides of Cheat River Gorge |
| Mussel, tubercled-blossom pearly | <i>Epioblasma</i> (= <i>Drymonia</i>) <i>torulosa torulosa</i> | | Kanawha River, Fayette Co., may be extinct |
| Mussel, pink mucket pearly | <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> (= <i>orbiculata</i>) | | Kanawha River, Fayette Co., Ohio River, Cabell, Mason and Wood Counties; Elk River, Kanawha Co. |
| Mussel, James spiny | <i>Pleurobema</i> (= <i>Canthytia</i>) <i>collina</i> | | Monroe Co., South Fork of Potts Creek |
| Mussel, fanshell | <i>Cyrogenia stegaria</i> (= <i>irrorata</i>) | | Kanawha River, Fayette Co.; Ohio River, Wood Co. |
| Mussel, clubshell | <i>Pleurobema clava</i> | | Elk River, Braxton, Kanawha, and Clay Counties; Hackers Creek, Lewis Co.; Meathouse Fork, Doddridge, Co South Fork Hughes River, Ritchie County |
| Mussel, northern riffleshell | <i>Epioblasma torulosa ranjana</i> | | Elk River, Kanawha Co. |

| COMMON NAME | SCIENTIFIC NAME | STATUS | DISTRIBUTION |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PLANTS | | | |
| Harperella | <i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i> | E | Morgan and Berkeley Counties |
| Shale barren rock cress | <i>Arabis serotina</i> | E | Greenbrier, Hardy, and Pendleton Counties |
| Running buffalo clover | <i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i> | E | Fayette, Webster, Tucker, Pocahontas, Barbour and Randolph Counties |
| Virginia spirea | <i>Sciraea virgiana</i> | T | Nicholas, Fayette, Mercer, Raleigh, Summers, and Greenbrier Counties |
| Northeastern bulrush | <i>Scirpus anastrochaetus</i> | E | Berkeley and Hardy Counties |
| Small whorled pogonia | <i>Isotria Medeoloides</i> | E | Greenbrier County |
| AMPHIBIANS | | | |
| Cheat Mountain salamander | <i>Plethodon nettion</i> | T | Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Grant and Tucker Counties |

Threatened

Endangered



U.S. Department of Energy

National Energy Technology Laboratory



December 21, 2001

Ms. Nancy Herholdt
State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Office
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Dear Ms. Herholdt

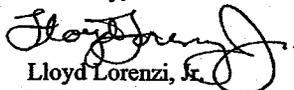
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As part of our coordination and consultation responsibilities, and to comply with provisions implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, we would appreciate receiving any information you have regarding historic or cultural properties in the project area. Your thoughts on the potential impacts associated with the proposed project would also be appreciated.

Based on the scope of the proposed project, a preliminary examination of the proposed site, and the potential for the project to result in minimal environmental consequences, DOE has initiated preparation of an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act. Information that you provide will be incorporated and appropriately addressed in the Environmental Assessment. If your initial review concludes that no historic or cultural properties are present in the project area, a written acknowledgement of that conclusion would be appreciated. In any case, the information that you provide will be considered in preparing a draft Environmental Assessment, which will be provided for review upon availability.

Should you require additional information, please contact me by telephone at 412-386-6159 or by e-mail at 'lorenzi@netl.doe.gov.'

Sincerely,


Lloyd Lorenzi, Jr.
NEPA Compliance Officer

Enclosures



**WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF
CULTURE AND HISTORY**

January 10, 2002

Mr. Lloyd Lorenzi, Jr.
US DEP
625 Cochrans Mill Road
P.O. Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

RI Integrated gas processing and power generation
System site in western Monongalia County
R# 02-289-MG

Dear Mr. Lorenzi:

We have reviewed the above mentioned project to determine its effects to cultural resources. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

Archaeological Resources:

A search of office site files and maps located no known sites within the 1 mile Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the proposed project area. As well, your information indicates that the majority of the proposed project will be in areas of greater than 20% slope. The remainder of the project will be within areas of previous disturbance. Therefore, we are of the opinion that there is little possibility of intact archaeological deposits within the project area. We have also determined that no known archaeological sites listed on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register will be affected by this project. If, however, cultural materials are encountered during construction, all such activities shall cease and our office shall be contacted immediately.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please call Rachel Black, Staff Archaeologist at (304) 558-0220.*

Sincerely,

Joanna Wilson
Senior Archaeologist

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