



Public Notice

**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to
Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 2007-119

Date: July 12, 2010

Notice No. 10-37

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Shaffer Mountain Wind, LLC, Shaffer Mountain Wind Farm application. This application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

This Public Hearing is being conducted to ensure that every effort is made to identify and weigh all beneficial and adverse effects of the proposed activity as part of the Corps' Public Interest Review under the National Environmental Policy Act requirements.

Background: The applicant proposes to install 30 (two megawatt) wind turbines and associated support facilities in portions of Somerset and Bedford Counties, Pennsylvania. The proposed project would permanently impact 0.11 acres of wetland due to vegetative clearing along a new transmission line corridor and 62 linear feet (LF) of stream channel for an access road. In addition, approximately 0.14 acres of emergent wetlands and 116 LF of six stream channels within an existing transmission line corridor will be temporarily impacted during construction activities.

On February 14, 2009, the Corps determined the project as proposed "May Effect" the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalists*), a federally listed endangered species. Formal consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is ongoing. The Corps anticipates a Biological Opinion on or before September 17, 2010. Additional details on the proposed activity, Corps authority, and process can be found on Public Notice 10-24 dated May 18, 2010 or at <http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/or/or-f/permits.htm>.

Hearing date, time, and location:

Date: Thursday, August 12, 2010
Time: Early registration to begin at 5:30 PM
Start of hearing 6:30 PM
Location: Somerset Junior/Senior High School
645 South Columbia Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501

All interested parties, including officials from local government, association, or private citizens whose interest may be affected by the proposed activity, are invited to be present at the above time and location. Oral statements supporting or opposing the proposed activity will be heard and written statements will be accepted. All statements will become part of the official record of the application and will be recorded accordingly. Individuals who wish to give oral statements may do so by registering at the hearing registration desk the evening of the hearing. Public speaking times may be limited to three minutes or less based on the number of individuals wishing to speak.

Additional comments may be submitted in writing the day of the hearing or by mail to the attention of Regulatory Branch at the address at the top of this Public Notice until 4:00 PM on August 23, 2010.

If you have any questions concerning this Public Notice, please contact Allen Edris, Regulatory Project Manager, at (412) 395-7158, or by e-mail at allen.r.edris@usace.army.mil.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//SIGNED//
Scott A. Hans
Chief, Regulatory Branch