



# Public Notice

**U.S. 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. 2010-923

Date: October 19, 2011

Notice No. 11-41

Closing Date: November 9, 2011

1. **TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
2. **APPLICANT:** Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Engineering District 12-0  
P.O. Box 459 North Gallatin Avenue Ext.  
Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401
3. **LOCATION:** State Route 0819/State Route 0119 Interchange in East Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.  
Latitude: 40° 13' 51" Longitude: -79° 33' 18"
4. **PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The applicant proposes the reconfiguration of the existing diamond interchange to resolve traffic safety and congestion issues. The proposed design includes relocating Ramp G to the west quadrant as a loop ramp and relocating Ramp E to parallel Ramp G and tie both ramps into State Route 0819 approximately 800 feet west of the existing State Route 0819/Ramp G/Ramp E intersection. Smouse Road (Township Road T-511) will also be relocated westward to tie to the new intersection with Ramp G and E. Additionally, State Route 0819 and the existing three lane bridge over State Route 0119 will be widened to five lanes including a sidewalk within the interchange area.

As a result of the proposed work PennDOT proposes to construct and maintain the following which will result in impacts to jurisdictional waters of the United States:

1. a 2,335 ft long relocation of Sherrick Run (WWF) with a drainage area of 4.6 square miles;
2. 26 ft, 82 ft, and 156 ft extensions of existing culverts on unnamed tributaries to Sherrick Run;
3. replacement of the existing SR 819, 143 ft. long, dual cell, 16.5 ft. low cord by 18 ft. wide box culvert on Sherrick Run with a drainage area of 4.3 square miles by a 170.5 ft.

long single span 42 foot wide reinforced concrete arch culvert with a 16.5 ft. minimum underclearance;

4. a 42 ft. long, 48 ft. wide, single span prestressed concrete spread box beam bridge with a minimum 14.5 ft. underclearance on Sherrick Run for an access ramp located approximately 230 ft. downstream of item 2 above;
5. a 42 ft. long, 48 ft. wide single span prestressed concrete spread box beam bridge with a minimum 14.5 ft. underclearance on Sherrick Run for an access ramp located approximately 520 ft. downstream of item 2 above;

The applicant proposes to mitigate for impacts to streams and wetlands by relocating approximately 2,388 linear feet of Sherrick Run. The applicant proposes to shift the relocated stream to the west. The relocation of Sherrick Run will include the construction of the channel, bankfull benches, and riparian vegetation with buffers ranging in width from approximately 20-25 feet. Impacts to approximately 1.94 acres of wetlands will be mitigated for by the use of credits available in the Jacobs Creek wetland mitigation bank site. Drawings of the proposed project are attached to this notice.

5. ENCROACHMENT PERMIT: The applicant must obtain a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit which includes 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

*Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Southwest Regional Office  
Soils and Waterways Section  
400 Waterfront Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745*

*Telephone: 412-442-4000*

6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: The applicant conducted a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory Search for the project area which resulted in one potential impact indentified under the jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). After further coordination with the USFWS the applicant agreed to implement avoidance and minimization measures through seasonal restrictions on tree cutting activities to avoid the take of Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*). The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The applicant conducted a cultural resources investigation which identified several potential cultural resources with the project area. By letter dated December 22, 2009, the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission concurred with the applicant's findings stating none of the structures identified during the investigation were eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, due to the project schedule, it was determined that a Programmatic Agreement (PA) should be executed for archaeological investigations so final design activities could proceed concurrently with the archaeological investigation. Effective July 21, 2010, a PA is in place regarding the implementation of the proposed State Route 0119/ State Route 0819 Interchange Reconstruction Project. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

9. EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. RESPONSES: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Allen R. Edris at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7158, or by e-mail at allen.r.edris@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2010-923 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

~~Signed~~

for

Scott A. Hans  
Chief, Regulatory Branch