



USDA-Rural Development Environmental Assessment

Proposed Carroll White REMC - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

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Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

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PROJECT NUMBER
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PREPARED ON
November 2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	1
1.1	PURPOSE AND NEED.....	2
2.0	ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION AND NO ACTION.....	9
2.1	INTRODUCTION	9
2.2	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	9
2.3	PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE.....	9
3.0	AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES	10
3.1	LAND OWNERSHIP AND LAND USE	10
3.1.1	General Land Use.....	10
3.1.1.1	Affected Environment.....	10
3.1.1.2	Environmental Consequences.....	10
3.1.1.3	Mitigation.....	10
3.1.2	Intergovernmental Review.....	11
3.1.2.1	Affected Environment.....	11
3.1.2.2	Environmental Consequences.....	13
3.1.2.3	Mitigation.....	13
3.1.3	Important Farmland	13
3.1.3.1	Affected Environment.....	13
3.1.3.2	Environmental Consequences.....	14
3.1.3.3	Mitigation.....	14
3.1.4	Formally Classified Lands.....	16
3.1.4.1	Affected Environment.....	16
3.1.4.2	Environmental Consequences.....	16
3.1.4.3	Mitigation.....	16
3.2	FLOODPLAINS.....	16
3.2.1	Affected Environment.....	17
3.2.2	Environmental Consequences.....	17
3.2.3	Mitigation	17
3.3	WETLANDS.....	19
3.3.1	Affected Environment.....	19
3.3.2	Environmental Consequences.....	19
3.3.3	Mitigation	20
3.4	WATER RESOURCES	23
3.4.1	Affected Environment.....	23
3.4.2	Environmental Consequences.....	23
3.4.3	Mitigation	23
3.5	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.....	24
3.5.1	General Fish, Wildlife and Vegetation	24
3.5.1.1	Affected Environment.....	24
3.5.1.2	Environmental Consequences.....	25
3.5.1.3	Mitigation.....	25
3.5.2	Listed Threatened and Endangered Species	25
3.5.2.1	Affected Environment.....	25
3.5.2.2	Environmental Consequences.....	29
3.5.2.3	Mitigation.....	29
3.5.3	Migratory Birds.....	29
3.5.3.1	Affected Environment.....	29
3.5.3.2	Environmental Consequences.....	30

3.5.3.3	Mitigation.....	30
3.5.4	Bald and Golden Eagles	30
3.5.4.1	Affected Environment.....	30
3.5.4.2	Environmental Consequences.....	30
3.5.4.3	Mitigation.....	30
3.5.5	Invasive Species	31
3.5.5.1	Affected Environment.....	31
3.5.5.2	Environmental Consequences.....	31
3.5.5.3	Mitigation.....	31
3.6	CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES	32
3.6.1	Affected Environment	32
3.6.2	Environmental Consequences.....	34
3.6.3	Mitigation	34
3.7	AIR QUALITY.....	35
3.7.1	Affected Environment	36
3.7.2	Environmental Consequences.....	37
3.7.3	Mitigation	37
3.8	SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	37
3.8.1	Affected Environment	38
3.8.2	Environmental Consequences.....	38
3.8.3	Mitigation	39
3.9	COASTAL ZONE AND COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES.....	39
3.9.1	Affected Environment	39
3.9.2	Environmental Consequences.....	40
3.9.3	Mitigation	40
3.10	NOISE.....	42
3.10.1	Affected Environment	42
3.10.2	Environmental Consequences.....	42
3.10.3	Mitigation	42
3.11	TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION.....	43
3.11.1	Affected Environment	43
3.11.2	Environmental Consequences.....	43
3.11.3	Mitigation	43
3.12	VISUAL RESOURCES	43
3.12.1	Affected Environment	44
3.12.2	Environmental Consequences.....	44
3.12.3	Mitigation	44
3.13	HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY	44
3.13.1	Affected Environment	45
3.13.2	Environmental Consequences.....	45
3.13.3	Mitigation	46
3.14	CORRIDOR ANALYSIS	46
3.14.1	Affected Environment	46
3.14.2	Environmental Consequences.....	46
3.14.3	Mitigation	47
4.0	SUMMARY OF IMPACTS	48
5.0	SUMMARY OF MITIGATION	50
6.0	COORDINATION, CONSULTATION AND CORRESPONDENCE	52
7.0	LIST OF PREPARERS	53

8.0 REFERENCES.....54

FIGURES

FIGURE 1:	Regional Map
FIGURE 2:	Topographic Map
FIGURE 3A:	Area Map
FIGURE 3B:	Interconnection Map
FIGURE 4:	Proposed Project Plan
FIGURE 5:	Farmland Classification Map
FIGURE 6:	Floodplain Map
FIGURE 7:	Hydric Soils Map
FIGURE 8:	National Wetland Inventory (NWI) Map
FIGURE 9:	Coastal Resources Map

TABLES

TABLE 1:	State Agency Consultations
TABLE 2:	Farmland Classification
TABLE 3:	Federally Listed Species with Potential to Occur
TABLE 4:	Migratory Birds
TABLE 5:	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
TABLE 6:	Summary of Impacts

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I:	Maps
APPENDIX II:	Drawings
APPENDIX III:	Photographs
APPENDIX IV:	Land Use
APPENDIX V:	Floodplains
APPENDIX VI:	Wetlands
APPENDIX VII:	Water Resources
APPENDIX VIII:	Biological Resources
APPENDIX IX:	Historic and Cultural Properties
APPENDIX X:	Air Quality
APPENDIX XI:	Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice
APPENDIX XII:	Coastal Resources
APPENDIX XIII:	Human Health and Safety

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACO	Archaeological Consultants of Ossian
ACS	American Community Survey
AHJ	Authorities Having Jurisdiction
APE	Area of Potential Effect
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BGEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CBRA	Coastal Barrier Resources Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DA	Department of the Army
EA	Environmental Assessment
EJSCREEN	Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool
EMF	Electromagnetic Field
EMI	Electromagnetic Interference
E.O.	Executive Order
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFRMS	Federal Flood Risk Management Standard
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
GLO	General Land Office
GOAB	Gang Operated Air Brake
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
IBA	Important Bird Areas
IDEM	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
IDNR	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
INDOT	Indiana Department of Transportation
INHDC	Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
IISC	Indiana Invasive Species Council
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
kWac	Kilowatt Alternating Current
kWdc	Kilowatt Direct Current
LVAC	Low Voltage Alternating Current
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MWh	Megawatt Hours

LIST OF ACRONYMS (CONTINUED)

NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHL	National Historic Landmarks
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NRI	Nationwide Rivers Inventory
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PACE	Powering Affordable Clean Energy
PV	Photovoltaic
RAF	Rose Acre Farms
RD	Rural Development
RUS	Rural Utilities Service
RWSD	Regional Water and Sewer Districts
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area
SFHDF	Standard Flood Hazard Determination Form
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SSA	Sole Source Aquifer
SPCC	Spill Control and Countermeasures
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
USACE	United States Army Corps. Of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	Underground Storage Tank
WHSRN	Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network
WOUS	Waters of the United States

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is proposing the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 3,984-kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309-kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) (3,840 kilowatts; 4 hours; 15.36 megawatt hours [MWh]) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The direct current capacity of the solar PV facility may be downsized from the original 4,309 kWdc as reviewed herein (based on System Impact Study results for its interconnection to the electric distribution system or pricing/availability of modules at the time of procurement) but, in any event, will not exceed the 4,309 kWdc studied herein. The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately 22 acres of land within the larger 634-acre parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County GIS – reference Appendix IV.

The Proposed Project Area is located in the northeast portion of the identified parcel and is currently being used for agricultural purposes. Infrastructure for the Proposed Project would include the solar PV facility, a BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, micro-grid, and an access road. The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking systems, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The energy produced from the solar facility would primarily be used by Rose Acre Farms at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by Rose Acre Farms as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when Rose Acre Farms, as the host agricultural producer, requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then Rose Acre Farms would import that from the grid. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

The Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White’s electric distribution system (Figure 3B; Appendix I). During construction, a new 3-phase line would run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed in order to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and Solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above the ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right of way along the street.

A total of not more than 6,156 PV modules will be mounted one-high, in portrait orientation on single axis trackers (noting, again, that the direct current capacity of the solar PV facility may be downsized based on final System Impact Study results for interconnection to the electric distribution system or pricing/availability of modules at the time of procurement). Each tracker will hold 81 PV modules, with up to two trackers per row. Not more than 60 total rows of trackers will be positioned 26 feet apart – centerline to centerline. The modules will be wired in series strings of 27, collected at (24)

string inverters, each with a rating of 166 kWac power output, for a total alternating current system size of 3,984 kW. No lighting is specified in the current design, however, if that is added due to insurance, authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ), or other downstream requirements, then any such lighting will be directed downward to minimize any possible impact to migratory birds. Prior to the start of construction, the lease area boundaries, within which the Proposed Project Area is located, will be surveyed and flagged to ensure the Proposed Project does not overlap onto other areas of the parcel that are beyond the area reviewed in this Environmental Assessment (EA).

An interconnection agreement is not required for the Proposed Project as Carroll White REMC will be the owner and operator of both the Proposed Project and the electric distribution system that it will be interconnecting with. There is no documented controversy regarding the Proposed Project that has been brought to the attention of the Applicant by any Federal, tribal, state, or local government agency.

1.1 Purpose and Need

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) is a mission area that includes three federal agencies – Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Housing Service and Rural Utilities Service (RUS). The agencies have in excess of 50 programs that provide financial assistance and a variety of technical and educational assistance to eligible rural and tribal populations, eligible communities, individuals, cooperatives, and other entities with a goal of improving the quality of life, sustainability, infrastructure, economic opportunity, development, and security in rural America. Financial assistance can include direct loans, guaranteed loans, and grants in order to accomplish program objectives. The Applicant is seeking financial assistance under USDA RD RUS under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program.

The Applicant proposes to construct a solar PV facility and containerized BESS in Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The purpose of the Proposed Project is to construct and operate an electric generating facility to provide 3,984-kWac of renewable power and 15.36 MWh BESS to areas surrounding the City of Francesville in Pulaski County, Indiana, including the Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm.

The Applicant and their lender are jointly seeking financial assistance via the PACE program to enable credit to be extended to the Proposed Project. Utilizing the loan guarantee process will allow the lender to extend credit to the Proposed Project and in turn, the borrower will be able to build the Proposed solar facility and BESS. The Proposed Project will provide positive economic impacts by increasing the tax base for the County, providing a source of renewable solar energy, and aid in the reduction of environmental stressors such as greenhouse gas emissions as well as extraction of natural resources for energy production.

The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. Lease revenue and reduced power costs from the Proposed Project

recognized by the hosting agricultural producer will help to offset other production expenses, making their agricultural operations economically stronger. Additionally, the incorporation of micro-grids near agricultural facilities such as these will help to ensure an uninterrupted food supply in the event of an extended outage. Furthermore, the Proposed Project will displace current fossil fuel generation within the larger Carroll White/WVPA service area and has been thoughtfully located to ensure that it complements existing agricultural operations. From a community perspective, this portion of the Proposed Project is sited in an Energy Community (as determined using the DOE mapping tool). Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project will also provide much needed economic development and job creation for the surrounding communities.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended and 7 CFR 1970 RD Policy and Procedures, an EA has been prepared to evaluate the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project for the review of USDA RD RUS.

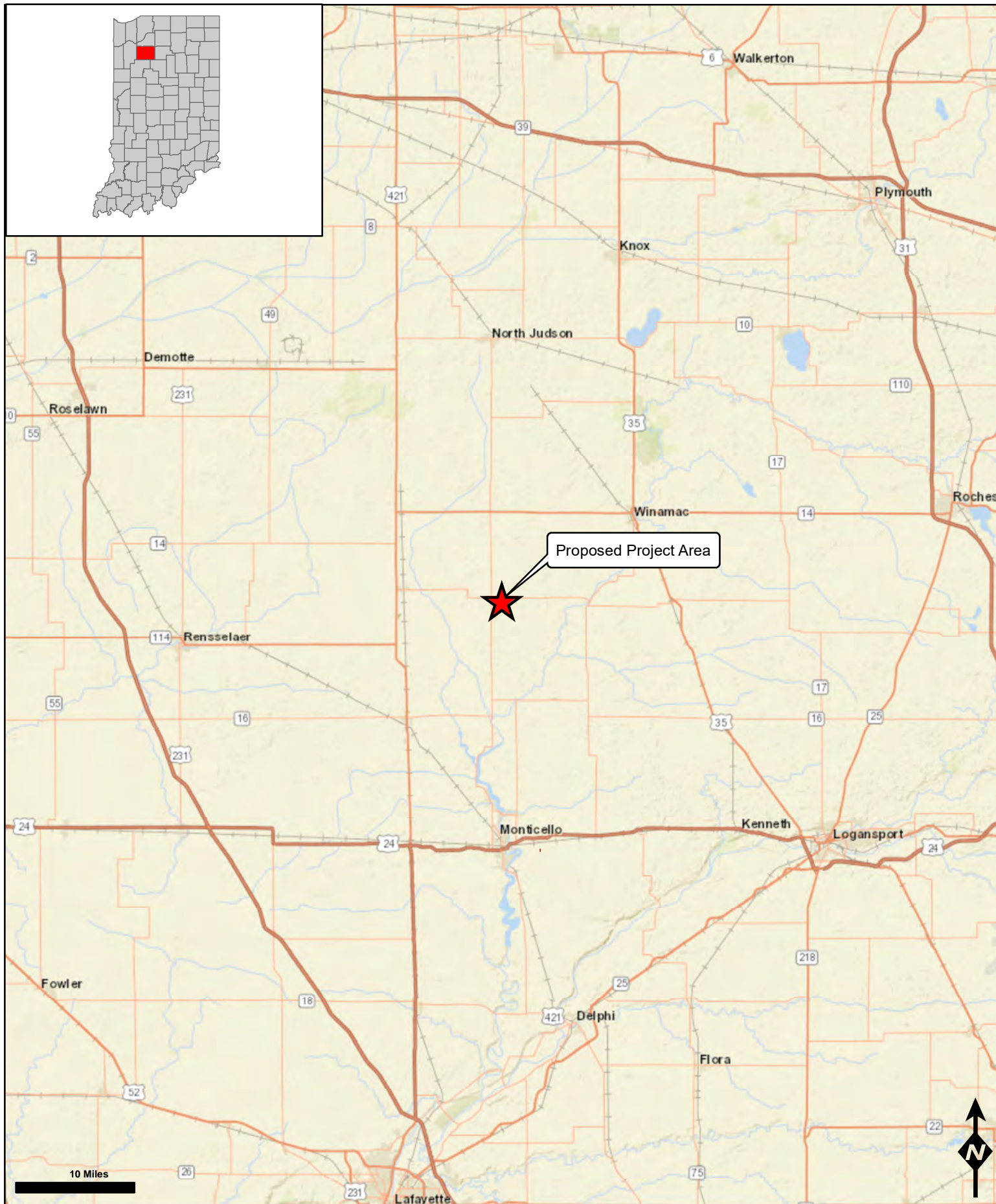


FIGURE 1

Regional Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - Waste No Energy Anaerobic Digester Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Legend


 Proposed Project Area



Figure 3B. Interconnection Map

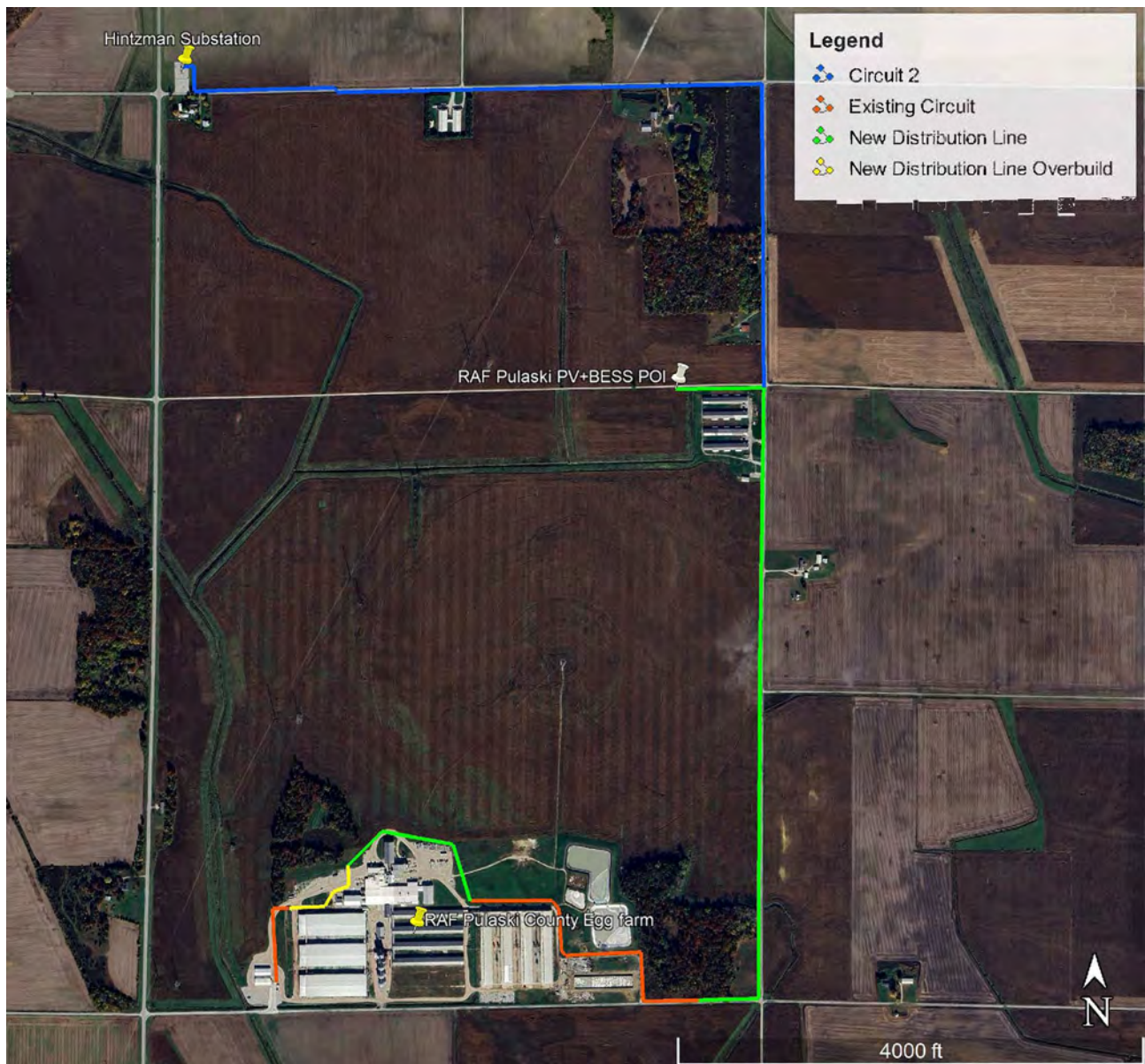
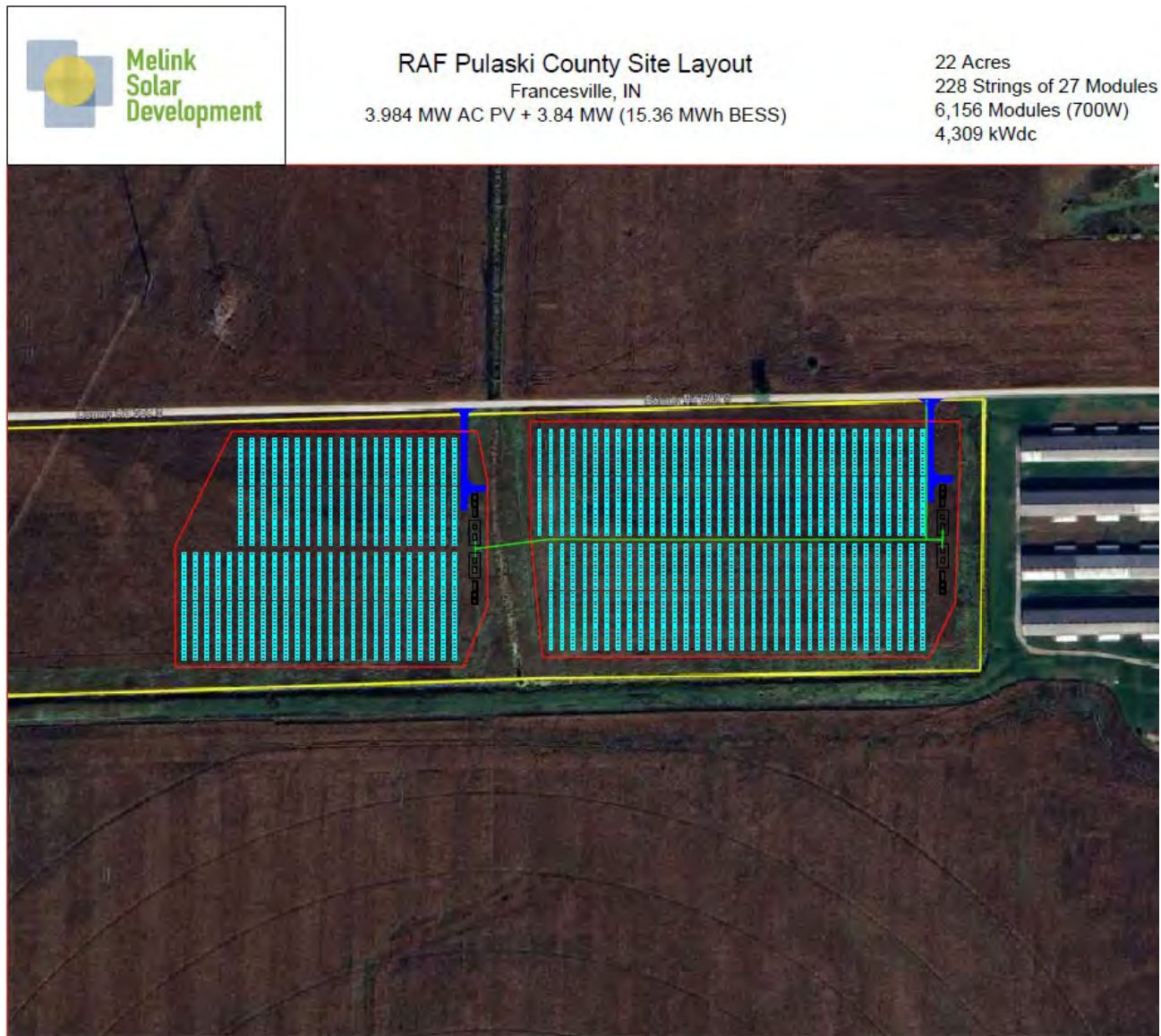


Figure 4. Proposed Project Plan – Site plans are presented in Appendix II.



2.0 ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION AND NO ACTION

2.1 Introduction

The National Environmental Policy Act requires that Federal agencies describe alternatives, including the “No Action” and “Proposed Action” alternatives, in their environmental documents (see Sections 102(2)(C)(iii) and 102(2)(E) of NEPA and 40 CFR § 1502.14). In accordance with 7 CFR § 1970.13(a), the Proposed Project only needs to be evaluated with a “No Action” alternative since the Applicant is proposing to only complete a project at one specific site and no adverse environmental impact is anticipated. The Proposed Project should be evaluated on the basis that No Action should occur if the Proposed Project poses adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated.

2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, USDA would not provide financial assistance to the Applicant, and the Proposed Project may not be constructed. The No Action Alternative is not responsive to the needs of the Applicant in constructing a solar facility and BESS for the purpose of producing and increasing the renewable energy supply at the Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm and for the surrounding community. Furthermore, if the Proposed Project is not constructed, the opportunity to reduce consumption of non-renewable energy within Carroll White’s territory will be foregone and the environmental benefits of this shift in energy supply will be unrealized. Other traditional generation technologies either utilize large amounts of water or produce high amounts of greenhouse gas emissions. In this analysis, the No Action Alternative serves as the baseline environmental condition to evaluate the impacts of the Proposed Project.

2.3 Proposed Action Alternative

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, USDA would consider providing financial assistance to the Applicant to construct the Proposed Project as described in the Project Description section of this document. The Proposed Project will have a positive economic benefit on the area and would assist the Applicant in meeting the demands of its customers. The Proposed Project will also help meet national and state goals to expand the use of renewable energy as the Proposed Project will provide a renewable source of solar energy.

The Proposed Project Area is the only practicable location for the Proposed Project due to the proximity to the Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm as needed for the micro-grid to support the designated essential meters for food production. Additionally, The Proposed Project Area is economically feasible due to the landowner’s willingness to lease the Proposed Project Area to the Applicant.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The affected environment and environmental consequences of the Proposed Project and alternatives are discussed in this section. Also outlined in this section are mitigation measures necessary to compensate for unavoidable adverse impacts to a specific environmental resource.

3.1 Land Ownership and Land Use

This section describes an overview of the existing land use at and surrounding the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts to those resources associated with the Proposed Project.

3.1.1 General Land Use

Land use is defined as the way people use and develop land, including agricultural, residential and industrial development. Many municipalities develop zoning ordinances and planning documents to control the direction of development and to keep similar land uses together.

3.1.1.1 Affected Environment

According to the Pulaski County GIS Assessor, the Proposed Project Area will be situated on approximately 22-acres within the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 (634 acres). The Proposed Project Area is owned by Rose Acre Farms Inc. and will be leased by the Applicant for the operational life of the facility. According to the Pulaski County Online, the Proposed Project Area is zoned as “Agriculture” – zoning information is presented in Appendix IV.

The Proposed Project Area is bound by County Road 600 S followed by agricultural land to the north, facilities associated with Rose Acre Farms and agricultural land to the east, and agricultural land to the south and west. Historically, the Proposed Project Area has consisted of agricultural land from at least 1957 to present. Between 1983 and 1988 the facilities on the northeastern portion of the property were constructed. The surrounding area has remained relatively unchanged since then and mostly consists of agricultural land.

3.1.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, land use would change from agricultural land to a solar facility and BESS. The Proposed Project Area is located in Pulaski County and land use/zoning is managed by the Pulaski County Building, Planning, and Zoning Department. The Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency. Furthermore, all local, state, and federal permits have been or shall be acquired prior to construction.

3.1.1.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to this resource.

3.1.2 Intergovernmental Review

Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 requires agencies to provide opportunities for consultation with state and local governments directly affected by federal financial assistance. Intergovernmental reviews are not required for all states. In the State of Indiana, all federal and federally assisted development, grant, loan, and planning activities are subject to the intergovernmental review process.

3.1.2.1 Affected Environment

True North Consultants, Inc. (True North) initiated consultation with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Indiana Geological Survey, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center (INHDC), Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Dates initiated, response dates, and comments made are discussed below in Table 1 and the corresponding sections of this EA. A copy of all state agency responses is presented in Appendix IV. Note that consultations related to SHPO and THPO are presented in Appendix IX.

Table 1. State Agency Consultations

Agency	Date Initiated	Date Responded/Comments
Indiana Department of Natural Resources	April 15, 2024	Responded on May 15, 2024. The response identified no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity. Fish and Wildlife left a series of recommendations to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources – reference Appendix IV.
Indiana Geologic Survey	April 16, 2024	The consultation is submitted online with an immediate response detailing the soil properties. The Proposed project Area has a high liquefaction potential, a high potential for bedrock resources, a low potential for sand and gravel resources, and no documentation of active or abandoned mineral extraction sites.
Indiana Department of Environmental Management	May 2, 2024	Responded on May 6, 2024. The response stated that review by the IDEM is not necessary

Agency	Date Initiated	Date Responded/Comments
Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center	April 16, 2024	No response was received
State Historic Preservation Office	August 21, 2024	The Agency provided authorization to initiate Section 106 Consultation on August 14, 2024. True North initiated Section 106 consultation with the SHPO on August 21, 2024. A response was received from the Department of Natural Resources Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology on September 16, 2024, with concurrence of the finding that there are no historic buildings, structures, districts, objects, or archaeological resources within the APE – reference section 3.6 and Appendix IX.
Tribal Historic Preservation Office	August 21, 2024	The Agency provided authorization to initiate Section 106 Consultation on August 14, 2024. True North initiated consultation with Tribes on August 21, 2014. The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma responded on August 21, 2024, stating that they offer no objection to the project at this time. The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana responded on September 18, 2024, stating that there will be no historic properties in the APE – reference Appendix IX.
United States Army Corps of Engineers	April 16, 2024	Responded on September 24, 2024. The response stated that if the Proposed Project would require the discharge of dredged or fill material then a DA permit application would need to be submitted. True North responded to this on September 26, 2024, stating that the Proposed Project will not include discharge of dredge or fill material within the NWI mapped areas and that the utility that intersects the NWI boundary will be directionally bored to avoid impacts to wetlands.

Agency	Date Initiated	Date Responded/Comments
Natural Resources Conservation Service	April 16, 2024	A response was received on May 2, 2024. The AD-1006 sections III and IV were filled out with a total Part V score of 70.

3.1.2.2 Environmental Consequences

The consulted government agencies did not identify impacts related to the Proposed Project. All recommended mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to resources will be discussed further in the corresponding sections. All consultations are presented in Appendix IV.

3.1.2.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts.

3.1.3 Important Farmland

The Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (FPPA) was established in order to minimize the extent of unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses contributed by Federal programs. The regulation's ultimate goal was to reduce the rate and amount of adaptation of that nation's farmlands, forest lands and range lands which impairs the ability to produce sufficient domestic needs and export markets.

3.1.3.1 Affected Environment

The NRCS defines prime farmland soils in the FPPA as soils with an adequate and dependable source for water, favorable temperatures and growing season, acceptable acidity/alkalinity level, few or no rocks, sufficient permeability for water and air, and slopes averaging zero to six percent. Upon review of the Proposed Project Area's Farmland Classification obtained through the Web Soil Survey, it was determined that 75.1% of the Proposed Project Area is identified as Farmland of Statewide Importance and 24.9% is identified as not prime farmland soils for Pulaski County as shown in Figure 5 and Appendix IV. The farmland classification map is hand drawn which accounts for any acreage discrepancies. The area to be disturbed/constructed is approximately 22 acres.

Table 2. Farmland Classification

Map Unit Name	Map Unit Symbol	Approximate Acreage	Farmland Classification
Brems loamy fine sand, 1 to 4 percent slopes	BstB	5.3	Not Prime Farmland

Map Unit Name	Map Unit Symbol	Approximate Acreage	Farmland Classification
Maumee loamy fine sand, 0 to 1 percent slopes	MhaA	15.9	Farmland of Statewide Importance

3.1.3.2 Environmental Consequences

The Proposed Project would convert approximately 15.9 acres of land classified as Farmland of Statewide Importance and approximately 5.3 acres of land classified as Not Prime Farmland to a solar facility and BESS. Form AD-1006, Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, is used to determine whether a site is farmland subject to the FPPA.

Consultation with the NRCS was initiated on April 16, 2024. On April 30, 2024, John Allen, State Soil Scientist, assisted in the completion of Parts II through V of the Form AD-1006. The Part V score was determined to total 70 – reference Appendix IV. Following Agency guidance, True North completed Parts VI and VII of Form AD-1006 to calculate a final Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) score of 146. Pursuant to 7 CFR § 658.4 (C)(2), sites receiving a total score of less than 160 need not be given further consideration for protection and no additional sites need to be evaluated.

3.1.3.3 Mitigation

Potential impacts to prime farmland include soil erosion, loss of soil productivity and the establishment of noxious weeds on the soil surface. Construction activities such as vegetation clearing, grading and trenching may also increase erosion potential by destabilizing the soil surface; additionally, soil compaction can result from the movement of heavy equipment. The Proposed Project would be required to obtain coverage under the statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities, administered by the IDNR. Coverage under the NPDES Permit would require implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and various Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion and loss of topsoil during construction. Compliance with the NPDES permit and identified BMPs would ensure impacts from erosion would be less than significant.

Legend

- Proposed Project Area
- Not Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance

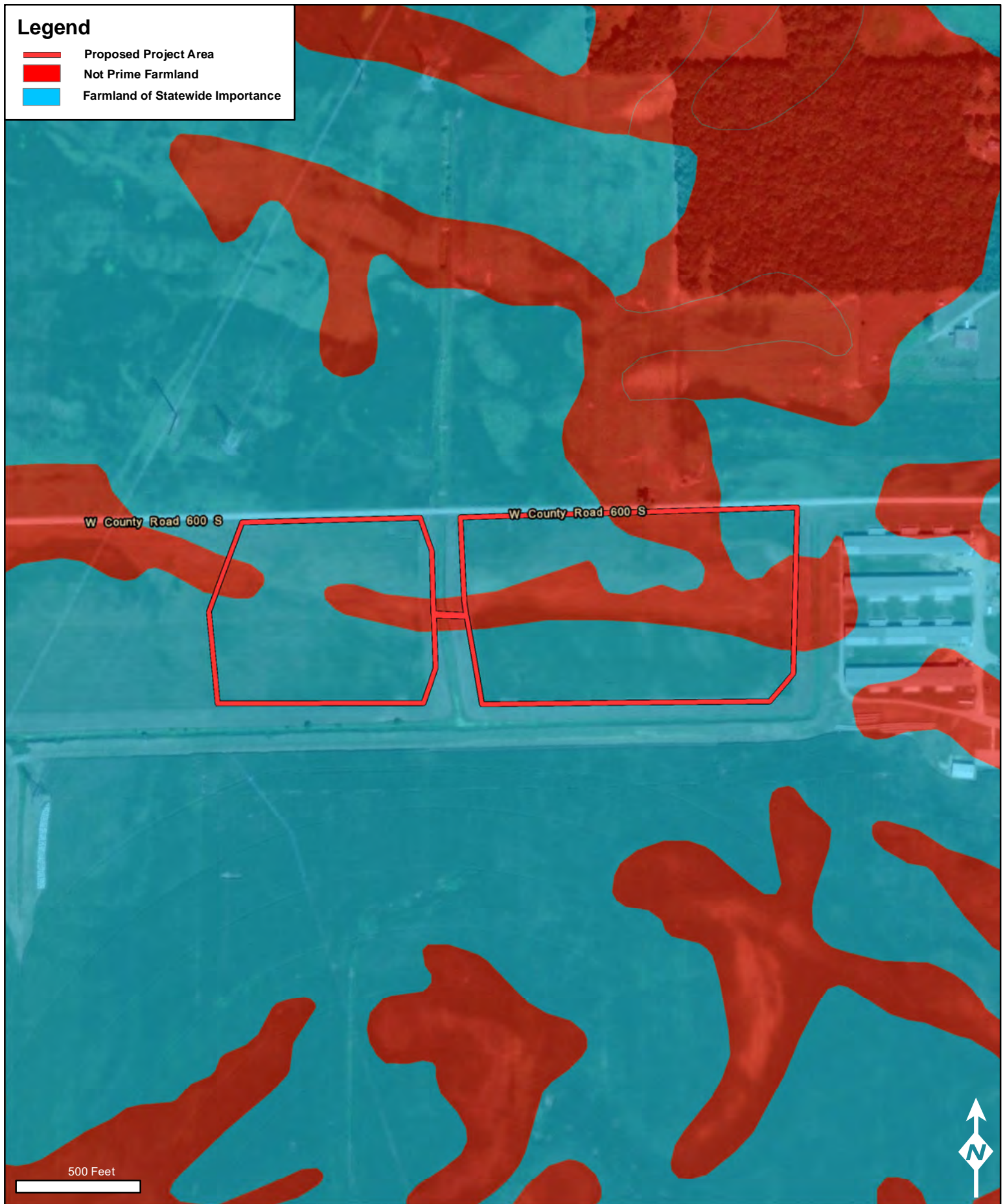


FIGURE 5

Farmland Classification Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

3.1.4 Formally Classified Lands

Formally classified lands are properties that are administered either by Federal, State, or local agencies, or have been given special protection through formal legislative designation. Formally classified lands include National Parks, National Forests/Grasslands, Monuments, Historic Landmarks, Battlefields, Military Parks, Heritage Areas, Historic Sites, Historical Parks, Natural Landmarks, Wildlife Refuges, Seashores, Lake Shores, Trails, Wilderness Area, State Parks, State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, Bureau of Land Management administered lands, Native American owned lands and leases, or Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers, all of which are managed by several Agencies. Other Formally Classified Lands are discussed in other sections of this assessment including Coastal Resources, Biological Resources, and Cultural Resources and Historic Properties.

3.1.4.1 Affected Environment

A review of United States Geological Survey (USGS) Protected Lands Map, the Wild & Scenic Rivers map, and the Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) did not identify any formally classified lands within in the Proposed Project Area - reference Appendix IV.

3.1.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, formally classified lands would not be impacted as they are absent from the Proposed Project Area and adjacent properties.

3.1.4.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to this resource.

3.2 Floodplains

This section describes an overview of the existing floodplain resources at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts to those resources associated with the Proposed Project.

A floodplain is any land area susceptible to being inundated by floodwaters from any source. Floodplains are essential to clean water, recharge of water supplies, reduction of flood risks and protection of property, human safety, health and welfare and fish and wildlife habitat. Proper floodplain management will reduce flood losses and ensure the protection of the natural resources and functions of floodplains. The relevant floodplain area to be evaluated is an area that has either a one-percent probability of flood occurrence in a given year (100-year flood) or a 0.2-percent probability of flooding in a given year (500-year flood).

E.O. 11988, *Floodplain Management*, requires federal agencies to avoid actions, to the extent possible, where there are long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practical alternative. Facilities located in a floodplain may be

damaged or destroyed by a flood or may change the flood-handling capability of the natural floodplain or the pattern or magnitude of flood flows.

3.2.1 Affected Environment

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Number 18131C0300C (effective 5/5/2014) the entire Proposed Project Area (to be disturbed/constructed) is located outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and 100-year and 500-year floodplain zones. The FIRM boundaries in relation to the Proposed Project Area are located in Figure 6 and Appendix V.

The Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Flood Standard Support Tool was utilized to determine that the Proposed Project Area is not located within the FFRMS Floodplain – reference Appendix V. The completed Standard Flood Hazard Determination Form (SFHDF) is presented in Appendix V.

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, there would be no impacts to floodplains, as they are absent from the Proposed Project Area and the Proposed Project will not be located in a SFHA or FFRMS. Additionally, the Proposed Project will not result in any impacts that would result in any increase to the 100-year or 500-year flood elevation or present barriers to floodway passage within the vicinity of the Proposed Project Area.

3.2.3 Mitigation

If disposing of excess, soil, or other construction materials on public or private property, the contractor shall not fill in or otherwise convert SFHAs delineated on the latest FEMA Floodplain Maps, or other appropriate maps, e.g., alluvial soils on NRCS Soil Survey Maps.

Legend

— Proposed Project Area

Note: There are no FEMA Flood Zones within the extent of this map.



3.3 Wetlands

Wetlands are considered those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. The USACE uses three characteristics when making wetland determinations: vegetation, soil and hydrology. Unless an area has been altered or is a rare natural situation, wetland indicators of all three characteristics must be present during some portion of the growing season for an area to be considered a wetland.

E.O. 11990, *Protection of Wetlands*, states that it is federal policy to avoid, to the extent possible, the long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands, wherever practical. Additionally, federal agencies are required to take actions to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands. Regulatory oversight of wetlands falls under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and permits are administered by the USACE with oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

Section 404 of the CWA regulates the discharge of dredge and fill materials into Waters of the United States (WOUS). WOUS include territorial seas, navigable coastal and inland lakes, river and streams, intermittent streams and wetlands. Section 401 of the CWA grants each state the authority to approve, deny or condition any Federal permits that could result in a discharge to State waters.

Jurisdictional features include wetlands, open waters, ponds, lakes, and perennial/intermittent streams. Jurisdictional features are regulated by the USACE and the IDEM. Permits may be required prior to impacting jurisdictional features depending on the type, location, and amount of impact.

3.3.1 Affected Environment

The USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey soils data, aerial imagery, the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) map was reviewed. According to the Pulaski County Soil survey, hydric soils are present throughout the Proposed Project Area (Figure 7; Appendix VI). Additionally, the NWI map depicted the presence of a riverine wetland running between the two separated portions of the solar farm and over the electrical line – reference Appendix VI, Figure 8.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to wetlands are not anticipated as the Proposed Project is designed to avoid wetland resources. The proposed electrical line will be directionally bored underground to avoid impacts to the NWI mapped riverine wetland. Due to the proposed scope of directionally boring under the delineated resource, no filling activities will

occur, therefore no federal authorization to conduct work under the delineated resources is required.

True North submitted the Proposed Project to the USACE on May 29, 2024, as part of the intergovernmental review process— reference Appendix IV. A response from Scott Mathews, Chief, North Branch, was received on September 24, 2024, stating that if the Proposed Project would require the discharge of dredge or fill material below the Ordinary High-Water Mark of any waters of the US, then a Department of the Army (DA) permit application would need to be submitted. True North responded to this on September 26, 2024, informing the USACE that the Applicant has specified there will be no discharge of dredge or fill material within the NWI mapped areas and that the utility intersecting the mapped NWI boundary will be directionally bored in order to not impact wetlands – a copy of all correspondence with the USACE can be found in Appendix IV. It should be noted that if there is a change in the Proposed Project site plans such that wetland impacts are no longer avoided, then further coordination with USACE would be required.

3.3.3 Mitigation

The proposed electrical line between the east and west sections of the PV system will be directionally bored underground to avoid impacts to the NWI mapped wetland. BMPs and a SWPPP will be developed and implemented during construction to avoid siltation, vehicular traffic through, or any potential erosion into any jurisdictional waters. The contractor shall not fill in or otherwise convert wetlands when disposing of excess, spoil, or other construction materials on public or private property. The Applicant intends to plant the Proposed Project Area with flora to create a pollinator friendly habitat, recognizing that pollinators (such as bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects) are critical to the success for food crop production.

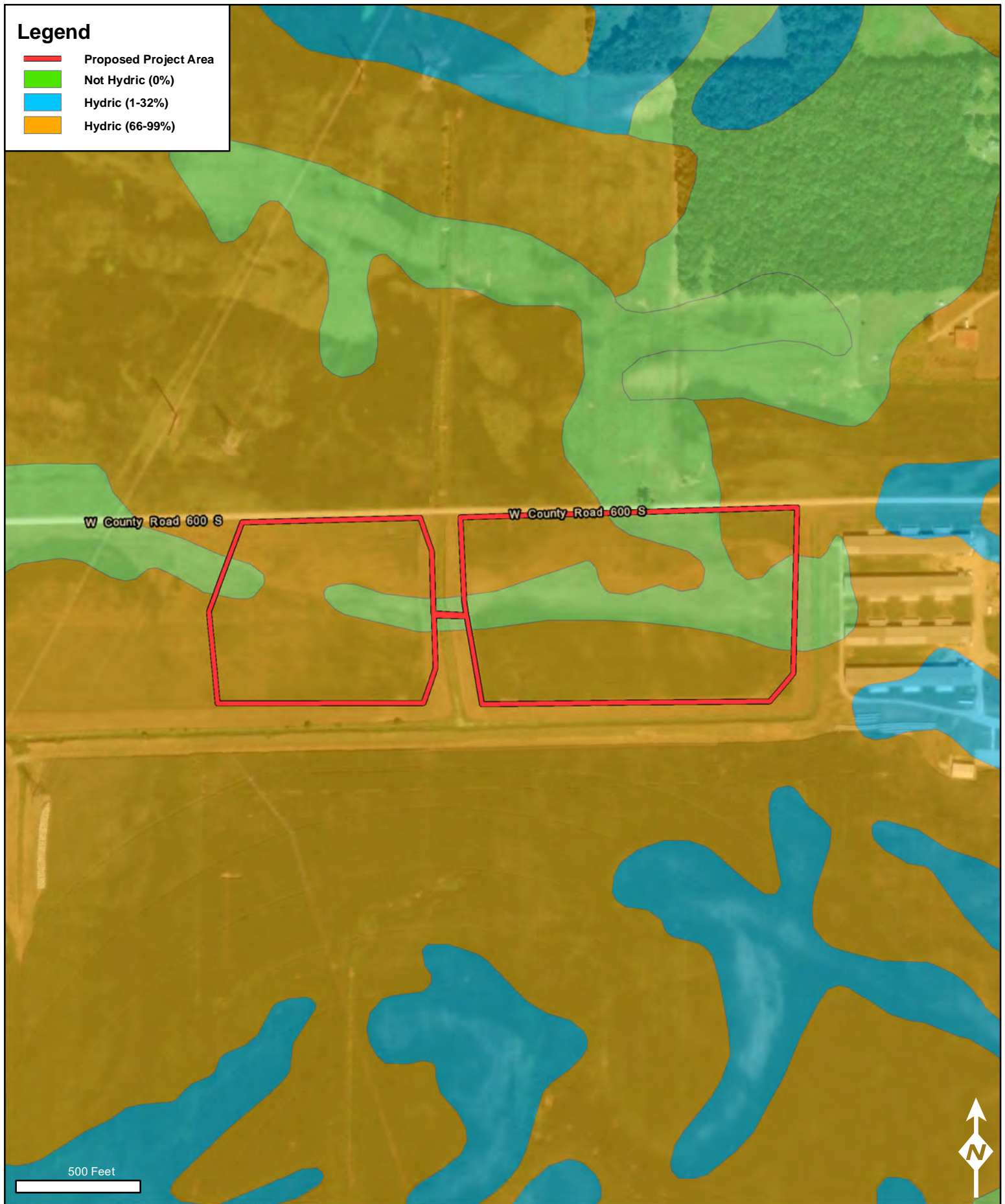


FIGURE 7

Hydric Soils Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Legend



Proposed Project Area
NWI Wetland



3.4 **Water Resources**

Water quality and quantity changes can impact other environmental resources including but not limited to groundwater and drinking water supplies, threatened and endangered species, other fish and wildlife species and wetlands. Impacts to surface and/or ground water will be the Applicant's responsibility and permitting requirements, typically through state agencies, must be adhered to.

3.4.1 **Affected Environment**

The Proposed Project will be located within the Weltzin Ditch-Tippecanoe River watershed (Hydrological Unit Code: 051201061201). The Tippecanoe River is located approximately 5-miles to the east of the Proposed Project Area. True North submitted the Proposed Project to IDEM on May 2, 2024. A response from IDEM was received on May 6, 2024, and stated that review by IDEM is not necessary – reference Appendix IV.

According to the IDNR Water Well Locations Viewer, there is one unconsolidated well, five significant withdrawal wells, and five boreholes drilled to bedrock within the parcel. Additionally, the northern adjoining property contains four unconsolidated wells and two significant withdrawal wells – reference Appendix VII. The Proposed Project will not impact water usage associated with these wells as it will not require water for construction or operation. According to the IDEM Map of Indiana Regional Water and Sewer Districts (RWSD), the Proposed Project Area is not located within a RWSD Water Service Area – information is presented in Appendix VII. Review of the IDEM Source Water Proximity Determination Tool, the Proposed Project Area is not located within a Wellhead Protection Area or Source Water Protection Area – reference Appendix VII. A review of the USEPA's sole source aquifers (SSA) map shows the Proposed Project Area is neither within nor adjacent to an SSA – reference Appendix VII.

3.4.2 **Environmental Consequences**

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to water resources are not anticipated as they are absent from the Proposed Project Area. The Proposed Project will also not violate any water quality standards and will not deplete local groundwater supplies. No SSAs or drinking water source protection areas for community, non-community and residential wells are located within the Proposed Project Area, as demonstrated through the various IDNR and IDEM resources listed above. Additionally, the Proposed Project Area is not located within any source water protection areas. Thus, these resources will not be impacted because of the Proposed Project.

3.4.3 **Mitigation**

The use of BMPs such as soil erosion and sediment control measures will minimize the potential for increased runoff, and siltation. Post-construction, the disturbed soils will be stabilized and re-vegetated in order to reduce the potential for erosion impacts during facility

operations.

3.5 Biological Resources

This section describes an overview of the existing biological resources at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts to those resources associated with the Proposed Project.

Biological resources refer to the flora (plants) and fauna (invertebrates, fish, birds, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) that may be found or have historically been found at the Proposed Project Area. Biological resources can also include rivers, lakes, wetlands, upland communities and other habitat types necessary to support local flora and fauna. Vegetation is a key habitat component and acts to stabilize soils and prevent erosion; additionally, information on vegetation can be used in evaluating potential impacts to species and habitats. Potential impacts to biological resources can be direct (project-related mortality) or indirect (displacement, degradation or loss of habitat). Effects of the proposed action on Federal and State-listed species, as well as other species of concern, and critical habitat must be addressed.

3.5.1 General Fish, Wildlife and Vegetation

3.5.1.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project Area lies within the Central Corn Belt Plains Level III Ecoregion and the Kankakee Sand Area Level IV sub-ecoregion. This ecoregion is characterized by discontinuous sand dunes, mesic sand prairies, sedge meadows, and low-lying marshy spots. A majority of the region is covered by well drained sand, but mucky soils organic soils are able to develop within low lying depressions. Due to the amount of sand in this region and its poor ability to hold moisture, tree growth is hindered. Currently, Black Oak is the dominant tree found within this region because of its ability to withstand an environment with drier soils. The primary land use consists of cropland and pastureland.

Wildlife around the Proposed Project Area includes species that are well-adapted to extreme weather conditions given the low temperatures of the winter season. Plant life that can be found in the region includes Virginia springbeauty (*Claytonia virginica*), mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*), American pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*), and the anthropogenically introduced Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). Examples of typical birds found in the Ecoregion include northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), American robin (*Turdus migratorius*), and Canadian goose (*Branta canadensis*). Common mammals in the Ecoregion include fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*), white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), and eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*).

Based on review of aerial and topographic photographs, there are no special areas of concern such as prairie remnants, old growth forests, riparian areas, etc. present within the Proposed Project Area with the exception of the NWI mapped riverine wetland that will be directionally bored under; thus, no special areas of concern will be affected by the Proposed

Project.

3.5.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to fish, wildlife, and vegetation are expected to be negligible. This is due to minimal impervious surfaces being created, minimal vegetation clearing, and limited use of water during the development and operation of the Proposed Project. Once the Proposed Project has reached its operational end, the facility will be decommissioned and returned to its preconstruction state.

3.5.1.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.5.2 Listed Threatened and Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is enforced by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and provides the protection and recovery of species threatened with extinction and ensures federal agencies use their authorities to further the purpose of the ESA to protect and conserve endangered and threatened species. The ESA defines a federally endangered species as any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. The ESA also identifies habitats critical to listed species and potential mitigation strategies within these habitats. Section 7 of the ESA requires that all federal agencies consult with the USFWS regarding potential impacts that their federal actions could have to listed species.

3.5.2.1 Affected Environment

An official species list obtained from the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system on October 4, 2024, identified eleven federally listed species (Table 3) in Pulaski County with potential to occur within the Proposed Project Area.

Table 3. Federally Listed Species with Potential to Occur

Species	Federal Status	Critical Habitat	ESA Determination
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i>	Endangered	There is final critical habitat for this species	No Effect
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i>	Experimental Population; Non-Essential	No critical habitat has been designated	No Effect
Clubshell <i>Pleurobema clava</i>	Endangered	No critical habitat has been designated	No Effect

Species	Federal Status	Critical Habitat	ESA Determination
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>	Threatened	There is a final critical habitat for this species	No Effect
Rayed Bean <i>Villosa fabalis</i>	Endangered	No critical habitat has been designated for this species	No Effect
Round Hickorynut <i>Obovaria subrotunda</i>	Threatened	There is a final critical habitat for this species	No Effect
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonia ambigua</i>	Proposed Endangered	There is a proposed critical habitat for this species	No Effect
Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>	Endangered	No critical habitat has been designated for this species	No Effect
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>	Endangered	No critical habitat has been designated for this species	No Effect
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Candidate	No critical habitat has been designated	No Effect
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i>	Proposed Threatened	No critical habitat has been designated for this species	No Effect

Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

The Indiana Bat is known to have two types of habitats, each of which are dependent on the time of the year. During the summer months, the Indiana Bat typically roosts in forested areas. To be more specific, the Indiana Bat tends to occupy areas beneath the peeling bark of dying trees. The ideal roosts tend to receive sunlight for over half the day and are categorized as wooded wetlands or floodplain habitats. During hibernation, the Indiana Bat prefers karst caves or cave like habitats such as mines. The Proposed Project Area lacks

the required habitat for the species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect to the Indiana Bat.

Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*)

The Whooping Crane only occurs in North America and currently exists in the wild at three locations. The Whooping Crane breeds, migrates, winters, and forages in a variety of habitats, including coastal marshes and estuaries, inland marshes, lakes, open ponds, shallow bays, salt marsh or tidal flats, upland swales, wet meadows, pastures, and agricultural fields. The Proposed Project Area lacks the required habitat for the species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect to the Whooping Crane.

Clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)

The Clubshell is often found in loose sand, gravel, cobble, or other mixed materials at the bottom of freshwater streams and rivers. Typically, this species requires clean, free-flowing, and well oxygenated water. Normally, the Clubshell will bury itself a few inches beneath whichever substrate is at the bottom of a stream. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Clubshell.

Rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)

The Rabbitsfoot typically occurs in small to medium sized streams and some large rivers. This mussel is often found at depths up to 3 meters in streams beds having a mixture of sand and gravel. Given that adults are filter feeders, they prefer to lie horizontally on the bed in order to take in more food and oxygen rather than burrow into sediment like juveniles. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Rabbitsfoot.

Rayed Bean (*Villosa fabalis*)

The Rayed Bean lives in small headwater creeks but can occasionally be found in larger rivers and certain areas of glacial lakes. This type of mussel prefers to burrow in gravel or sand beds around the roots of aquatic vegetation. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Rayed Bean.

Round Hickorynut (*Obovaria subrotunda*)

The Round Hickorynut is often found in the sand and gravel of riffles, runs, and pools within shallow streams and rivers. They have additionally been found in sandy mud located nearby water sources. The Round Hickorynut prefers more gentle and less energetic flows, therefore, this species is often found at depths ranging from one foot to six feet beneath the surface. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Round Hickorynut.

Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)

The Salamander Mussel occurs mainly in the Great Lakes region of the United States and Ontario, Canada. The preferred habitat is under large, flat stones in areas of swift current in medium to large rivers. The species generally occupies rivers, but can also be found in creeks, streams, and lakes on a variety of substrates. The Proposed Project Area lacks the required habitat for the species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect to the Salamander Mussel.

Sheepnose Mussel (*Plethobasus cyphus*)

The Sheepnose Mussel is typically found throughout freshwater riverine habitats. The species prefers medium to large rivers with moderate to swift currents associated with riffles and gravel, cobble, and clay substrates. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Sheepnose Mussel.

Snuffbox Mussel (*Epioblasma triquetra*)

The Snuffbox Mussel is typically found in freshwater habitats with shallow water. The species prefers riffles of small and medium creeks, large rivers, and shoals, and wave-washed shores of lakes. The species usually burrows deep in sand, gravel, or cobble substrates. The Proposed Project Area lacks the suitable habitat for this species; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on the Snuffbox Mussel.

Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)

The Monarch Butterfly occurs throughout North, Central, and South America, as well as in the Oceania region, islands of the Pacific and Caribbean, and elsewhere. During the species' breeding season, Monarchs lay eggs on their obligate milkweed host plant. The species also requires a habitat that provides a specific rooting microclimate for overwintering, which includes protection from the elements (e.g., rain, hail, excessive radiation) and moderate temperatures that are warm enough to prevent freezing yet cool enough to prevent lipid depletion. The species also require nectar and clean water sources located near roosting sites. The species is not expected to be present within the Proposed Project Area as it lacks both necessary overwintering habitat and the milkweed host plant; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no impact to the species.

Western Regal Fritillary (*Argynnis idalia occidentalis*)

The Western Regal Fritillary often lives in tall grass prairies. This species of butterfly can also be found in sunny, open areas such as damp meadows, marshes, wet fields, and mountain pastures. Regal fritillary butterflies require violet hostplants for their larvae and nectar plants for adults. Adults can be found in upland prairies as well as wet prairies because they depend on the nectar sources under drought conditions. This species is not expected to be present within the Proposed Project Area as it lacks both the necessary habitat and the violet hostplant; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no impact on the Western Regal Fritillary.

3.5.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to listed species are not anticipated based on the lack of suitable habitat and species' requirements. No designated critical habitat for federally listed species occurs within the Proposed Project Area.

3.5.2.3 Mitigation

The construction and operation of the Proposed Project will comply with the ESA, which provides for the protection of endangered and/or threatened species and critical habitat. Should any evidence of the presence of endangered and/or threatened species or their critical habitat be brought to the attention of the contractor, the contractor will immediately report this evidence to Owner and a representative of Agency. Construction shall be temporarily halted pending the notification process and further directions issued by the Agency after consultation with the USFWS.

3.5.3 Migratory Birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) is enforced by the USFWS and makes it illegal for anyone to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter any migratory bird or the parts, nests, eggs of such bird except under the terms of a valid permit issued.

3.5.3.1 Affected Environment

The USFWS IPaC Report lists five migratory bird species of conservation concern and may be potentially affected by activities within the Proposed Project Area (Table 4). Additionally, review of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) Interactive Map determined the nearest WHSRN Site as the Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, located over 135 miles west of the Proposed Project Area (reference Appendix VIII). According to the National Audubon Society's Important Bird Areas (IBA) database, the nearest IBA site is the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, located approximately 11 miles northwest of the Proposed Project Area— reference Appendix VIII.

Table 4. Migratory Birds

Species	Breeding Season	Preferred Habitat
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus Leucocephalus</i>	October 15 to August 31	Coasts, rivers, large lakes; in migration, mountains, open country
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	March 15 to August 25	Open sky, especially over cities and towns
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	April 1 to July 31	Wooded swamps, flooded bottomland forests, and wooded areas near streams

Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	May 10 to September 10	Fields, Meadows, and Grasslands, Forests and Woodlands, Shrublands, Savannas, and Thickets, Urban and Suburban Habitats
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	May 10 to August 31	Forests and Woodlands, Shrublands, Savannas, and Thickets

3.5.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to migratory birds are expected to be negligible based on the minimal impervious surface being created. Ground mounted solar panels are small in height, rising no more than 15 feet off the ground, which poses limited risks of migratory bird collisions. Additionally, the solar panels proposed for use at this facility are designed to absorb the sunlight (PV panels) versus reflect the light; therefore, a reflective glare and the "lake effect" phenomenon is not a concern for this facility.

3.5.3.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.5.4 Bald and Golden Eagles

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) is enforced by the USFWS and makes it illegal for anyone to take, possess, import, export, transport, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter any bald or golden eagle or the parts, nests, eggs of such bird except under the terms of a valid permit issued. The BGEPA also prohibits any activity that could cause injury to the species, nest abandonment or a decrease in productivity.

3.5.4.1 Affected Environment

Suitable nesting habitat for Bald Eagles, which includes tall, large diameter trees and preferred foraging areas including large, open expanses of water, and for Golden Eagles including open mountains and foothills are not present within the Proposed Project Area. Additionally, the Center for Conservation Biology's Mapping Portal depicts no eagle nests or roosts located within a 40-mile radius of the Proposed Project Area (reference Appendix VIII).

3.5.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts to bald and golden eagles are not anticipated due to the lack of suitable nesting and foraging habitat within the Proposed Project Area.

3.5.4.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.5.5 Invasive Species

E.O. 13112, *Invasive Species*, directs federal agencies to not authorize, fund or carry out actions believed to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species unless the Agency determines that the benefits of such actions outweigh the potential harm caused by invasive species.

3.5.5.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project Area consists of active farmland. Review of Indiana Invasive Species Council (IISC) and EDDMapS indicates that there are approximately 125 invasive plant species within the state of Indiana – reference Appendix VIII. Given the Proposed Project Area is being used as farmland, the presence of invasive plant species is unlikely.

3.5.5.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, the potential increase of invasive species is not anticipated as the Proposed Project Area currently consists of agricultural land. No invasive species will be imported, and no actions associated with the Proposed Project will result in the introduction of an invasive species to the local environment. Applicant intends to plant the Proposed Project Area with flora to create a pollinator friendly habitat throughout the operational life of the facility. Upon decommissioning of the Proposed Project, the disturbed areas will be re-seeded and converted back to agricultural land.

3.5.5.3 Mitigation

The Proposed Project will comply with the requirements of E.O. 13112 by maintaining all possible existing ground cover. Applicant intends to seed the disturbed area to create a pollinator friendly habitat, which will discourage the establishment of non-native species after construction. Seed mix(es) shall (i) include only native species, (ii) be appropriate for local conditions (soil type, hydrology, etc.), (iii) include not less than 33% flowering plants, (iv) contain at least nine species each comprising two percent or more of seed mix, and (v) contain at least three blooming species per season, comprising two percent or more of seed mix, for two of four seasons. The amount of seed to be planted shall be determined according to the seed provider's recommendation and the proposed planting density in target areas. The introduction of invasive species during re-seeding and planting will be strictly prohibited.

Additionally, designated wash areas will be established for vehicles and equipment to remove dirt, seeds, and plant fragments before leaving the site, with any run-off from that being captured within the Proposed Project Area such that any dirt, seeds, and plant fragments originating from the Proposed Project Area remain within the wash area. Clean, weed-free gravel or other materials will be utilized for gravel access roads within the Proposed Project Area. Incoming materials will be inspected and potentially quarantined to prevent the introduction of invasive plants or seeds.

3.6 Cultural Resources and Historic Properties

This section describes an overview of the existing cultural and historic resources at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts to those resources that would be associated with the Proposed Project.

The NHPA is intended to protect and preserve historical and archeological sites within the United States; Section 106 of the NHPA requires all Federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions they fund, permit and/or license on historic properties. The NHPA defines historic properties as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure or object included in, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The NHPA also allows the Agency to notify, engage, involve, and work with Native American tribes and the SHPO as they proceed through the steps of Section 106 review. The Applicant can be given permission to consult on behalf of the USDA. During the review process, consultation with any Native American tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by the agency's undertakings is conducted and a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings is granted.

3.6.1 Affected Environment

Pulaski County is home to seven NRHP listings, one of which is located within Francesville. The nearest listing is the Mallon Building located approximately 6.15 miles northwest of the Proposed Project Area. Additionally, there are no National Historic Landmarks (NHL) listed for Pulaski County.

A Phase I Archaeological Investigation was prepared by Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) dated April 16, 2024. For the purposes of the archaeological survey, the Area of Potential Effect (APE) was defined as approximately 28.93-acres. Although the archaeological investigation covered 28.93-acres, the ground disturbance for the Proposed Project remains unchanged and is approximately 22-acres or less.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, describes the results of the survey of the APE. ACO examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials

found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density.

Upon completion of field reconnaissance, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Proposed Project Area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended. A copy of this report is on file with the SHPO and RUS.

On August 14, 2024, True North received an authorized Agency letter from the USDA-RD RUS to consult the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, as well as the federally recognized tribes with potential interest in the area.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations and authorization from the Agency, True North sent a copy of the Phase I Archaeological Investigation with a recommended finding of “no historic properties affected” letter to the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology on August 21, 2024. The Indiana SHPO, Beth McCord, responded on September 16, 2024, indicating that they concur with the USDA RUS’s finding that no historic buildings, structures, districts, objects, or archaeological resources will be affected by the project. A copy of all correspondence with the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology is presented in Appendix IX.

Tribal Coordination

Review of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Tribal Directory Assessment Tool on August 21, 2024, identified the following tribes as the federally recognized tribes with interest in Pulaski County:

- Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma
- Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin
- Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan
- Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians Oklahoma
- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

True North sent the Phase I Archaeological Investigation report and the finding of “No Historic Properties Affected” letters to the above tribes listed THPOs on August 21, 2024. The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma provided a response on August 21, 2024, stating that they offer no objection to the Proposed Project at this time, as they are not aware of existing documentation linking cultural resources to the Proposed Project Area. The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians provided a response on September 18, 2024, indicating that the Proposed Project will have no historic properties significant to the Pokagon Band of

Potawatomi Indians within the APE. No responses from the remaining consulted THPOs have been received as of the date of this EA. A copy of all THPO correspondence is presented in Appendix IX.

3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, no known historic properties and/or archaeological sites will be affected, as determined through coordination with the Indiana SHPO and tribal communication.

3.6.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as known historic properties and/or archaeological sites will be impacted by the Proposed Project. Any excavation by the Contractor that uncovers an historical or archaeological artifact or human remains shall be immediately reported to the Owner and a representative of Agency. Construction shall be temporarily halted in the vicinity of the find pending the notification process and further directions issued by the Agency after consultation with the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin, Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Peoria Tribe of Indians Oklahoma, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana, and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation must be notified if Native American artifacts and/or human remains are located during the ground disturbance phase of the Proposed Project.

Contact information for law enforcement and RD staff and applicant staff shall be posted in a visible location on site.

Post Review discoveries on federal and tribal land shall follow the process required by the federal or tribal entity.

- A. If during the course of any ground disturbance related to any Project, any post review discovery, including but not limited to, any artifacts, foundations, or other indications of past human occupation of the area are uncovered, shall be protected by complying with 36 CFR § 800.13(b)(3) and (c) and shall include the following:
 - i. All Work, including vehicular traffic, shall immediately stop within a 50 ft. radius around the area of discovery. The Contractor shall ensure barriers are established to protect the area of discovery and notify the Engineer to contact the appropriate RD personnel. The Engineer shall engage a Secretary of the Interior (SOI) qualified professional archeologist to quickly assess the nature and scope of the discovery; implement interim measures to protect the discovery from looting and vandalism; and establish broader barriers if further historic and/or precontact properties, can reasonably be expected to occur.
 - ii. The RD personnel shall notify the appropriate RD environmental staff member,

the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO), and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) immediately. Indian tribe(s) or Native Hawaiian Organization (NHOs) that have an interest in the area of discovery shall be contacted immediately. The SHPO may require additional tribes or NHOs who may have an interest in the area of discovery also be contacted. The notification shall include an assessment of the discovery provided by the SOI qualified professional archaeologist.

- iii. When the discovery contains burial sites or human remains, the Contractor shall immediately notify the appropriate RD personnel who will contact the RD environmental staff member, FPO, and the SHPO. The relevant law enforcement authorities shall be immediately contacted by onsite personnel to reduce delay times, in accordance with tribal, state, or local laws including 36 CFR Part 800.13; 43 CFR Part 10, Subpart B; and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Policy Statement Regarding treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, or Funerary Objects (March 1, 2023).
- iv. When the discovery contains burial sites or human remains, all construction activities, including vehicular traffic, shall stop within a 100 ft. radius of the discovery and barriers shall be established. The evaluation of human remains shall be conducted at the site of discovery by a SOI qualified professional. Remains that have been removed from their primary context and where that context may be in question may be retained in a secure location, pending further decisions on treatment and disposition. RD may expand this radius based on the SOI professional's assessment of the discovery and establish broader barriers if further subsurface burial sites, or human remains can reasonably be expected to occur. RD, in consultation with the SHPO and interested tribes or NHOs, shall develop a plan for the treatment of native human remains.
- v. Work may continue in other areas of the undertaking where no historic properties, burial sites, or human remains area present. If the inadvertent discovery appears to be a consequence of illegal activity such as looting, the onsite personnel shall contact the appropriate legal authorities immediately if the landowner has not already done so.
- vi. Work may not resume in the area of discovery until RD has communicated in writing that work may resume. RD shall not indicate the work may resume until it has determined that the appropriate local protocols and consulting parties have been consulted.

3.7 Air Quality

This section describes an overview of the existing air quality at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts that would be associated with the Proposed Project.

Air quality management and protection responsibilities exist at the federal, state and local levels; however, the primary statutes that establish ambient air quality standards and establish regulatory authorities to enforce regulations designed to attain those standards are codified by

the federal Clean Air Act (CAA).

The CAA and its amendments mandate requirements for managing air quality across the nation by establishing primary and secondary air quality standards. Primary air quality standards protect the public health, including the health of sensitive populations including people with asthma, children and older adults. Secondary air quality standards protect public welfare by promoting ecosystem health, damage to crops and buildings and preventing decreased visibility. Potential air quality effects can be short-term (construction-related) or long-term (facility emissions and increased traffic).

3.7.1 Affected Environment

Under the CAA, the USEPA has established and continues to update the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for “criteria” pollutants including ozone (O₃), particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and lead (Pb). The NAAQS for these pollutants are listed in Table 4 and represent the levels of air quality deemed necessary by the USEPA to protect the public health and welfare with an adequate margin of safety.

Table 5. National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant		Averaging Time	Level	Form
Carbon Monoxide (CO)		8 hours	9 ppm	Not to be exceeded more than once per year
		1 hour	35 ppm	
Lead (Pb)		Rolling 3-month average	0.15 µg/m ³	Not to be exceeded
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)		1 hour	100 ppb	98 th percentile of 1-hour daily maximum concentrations, averaged over 3 years
		1 year	53 ppb	Annual Mean
Ozone (O ₃)		8 hours	0.070 ppm	Annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour concentration, averaged over 3 years
Particle Pollution (PM)	PM _{2.5}	1 year	12.0 µg/m ³	annual mean, averaged over 3 years
		1 year	15.0 µg/m ³	annual mean, averaged over 3 years
		24 hours	35 µg/m ³	98 th percentile, averaged over 3 years
	PM ₁₀	24 hours	150 µg/m ³	Not to be exceeded more than once per year on average over 3 years
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)		1 hour	75 ppb	99 th percentile of 1-hour daily maximum concentrations, averaged over 3 years
		3 hours	0.5 ppm	Not to be exceeded more than once per year

The USEPA Green Book provides detailed information about area NAAQS designations, classifications, and nonattainment status. Established under the CAA, the General Conformity Rule plays an important role in helping states improve air quality in those areas that do not meet the NAAQS. These regulations require that projects in federal nonattainment areas that could be built with funding from a federal agency such as the RUS must demonstrate conformity with the applicable state or local attainment plan.

Pulaski County is not located in a Nonattainment or Maintenance area for any of the six criteria pollutants (see Appendix X); therefore, it is in conformance with the State Implementation Plan for air quality. Additionally, IDEM's map of current nonattainment areas was reviewed, and Pulaski County is not listed as a nonattainment area – reference Appendix X.

3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, the Proposed project would not generate air emissions from a stationary source. The given nature of a solar farm and BESS during operation would not contribute to air pollution and would not result in a conflict or obstruction of an air quality plan. During the construction phase, short-term, potential air quality impacts may result from construction activities, increased vehicular traffic, and dust. Fugitive dust has the potential to impact local air quality if proper BMPs are not implemented – fugitive dust can be generated from activities involved in construction such as moving soil. Dust suppression techniques (e.g., covering or spraying bare soils with water), applying chemical stabilizers, reducing vehicle speeds, and covering haul vehicles will be used to control dust resulting from construction activities when necessary. The Proposed Project is expected to adhere to all federal, state, and local emission standards and permit requirements; therefore, adverse effects on air quality are not anticipated.

3.7.3 Mitigation

Mitigation measures would be used to control fugitive dust from construction activities, as needed.

3.8 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

EO 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, require that federal agencies, whenever feasible, maintain information of populations by race, national origin or income and will use this information to determine whether their actions have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations.

Additionally, the socioeconomic conditions of the Proposed Project Area are analyzed for any potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Proposed Project. Factors considered in this analysis include population, employment and income.

3.8.1 Affected Environment

The USEPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJSCREEN) and data from the US Census Bureau were utilized to determine the possible socio-economic impacts and environmental justice impacts of minority and low-income populations for the Proposed Project Area and surroundings. These reports are presented in Appendix XI.

According to the EJSCREEN American Community Survey (ACS) Community Report, the total population of the Proposed Project Area and 1-mile radius is 69. The area's population consists of 1% People of Color and 14% Low Income population.

The EJSCREEN report identified there are no Superfund, Brownfields, Toxic Release Inventory, or Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal facilities within one mile of the Proposed Project Area. There are four Water Dischargers within one mile of the Proposed Project Area; however, the Proposed Project will not contribute to water discharge or impact local groundwater supply – further discussed in Section 3.4 of this EA. The report also indicates that there is one Air Pollution site within one mile of the Proposed Project Area; however, the Proposed Project will not contribute to air pollution – further discussed in Section 3.7 of this EA. Thus, the Proposed Project will not disproportionately impact environmental justice factors for the surrounding community.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income for Pulaski County is \$56,823 with 12.8% of individuals below poverty level. The Proposed Project will not adversely or significantly affect low income or minority populations. Population size within the 1-mile radius of the Proposed Project will not be impacted, as the Proposed Project will not require an influx of population growth in order to operate. No businesses or business districts will be negatively impacted by the Proposed Project.

3.8.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, impacts related to socioeconomic and environmental justice are not anticipated. As the Proposed Project does not include the addition of new homes or businesses, implementation of the Proposed Project would not directly stimulate unplanned population growth in the Proposed Project Area or impact existing homes or businesses. Local residents would not notice a change in business or economic activity, shifts in population movement and growth, or impact on public service demands.

Overall, the Proposed Project will have a positive impact on Rose Acre Farms as well as the surrounding community by providing a source of long-term renewable energy. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. Lease revenue and reduced power costs from the Proposed Project recognized by the hosting agricultural producer will help to offset other production expenses, making their agricultural operations economically stronger. Additionally, the incorporation of micro-grids near agricultural facilities such as Rose Acre Farms will help to ensure an uninterrupted food

supply in the event of an extended outage. Furthermore, the Proposed Project will displace current fossil fuel generation within the larger Carroll White/WVPA service area and has been thoughtfully located to ensure that it complements existing agricultural operations. From a community perspective, the Proposed Project is sited in an Energy Community (as determined using the DOE mapping tool). Therefore, construction of the Proposed Project will also provide much needed economic development and job creation for the surrounding community.

The Proposed Project will reduce air pollution which may improve public health. Furthermore, the Proposed Project will not adversely or significantly affect low income or minority populations and all members of the local community, including low income or minority populations, will have the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Project upon the publishing of the Notice of Availability (NOA) for this EA. It is worthwhile to note that noise, traffic, and visual resources are components of socioeconomic and environmental justice impacts as well. These resources are discussed in sections 3.9, 3.10, and 3.11 of this EA respectively.

3.8.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.9 Coastal Zone and Coastal Barrier Resources

This section describes an overview of the existing coastal resources at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts that would be associated with the Proposed Project.

Coastal areas and barrier systems provide diverse and unique habitats as well as protect inland areas from hurricanes, other storms and storm surges. Heavy pressure from residential, recreational and industrial development urged Congress to enact two major laws for their protection: The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 and the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) of 1982. The CZMA requires federal actions that are reasonably likely to affect any land or water use or natural resource in a coastal zone be consistent with the enforceable policies while the CBRA prohibits federal activities in CBRA units (undeveloped coastal barrier lands along the Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes coasts).

“Coastal State” means a State of the United States in, or bordering on, the Atlantic, Pacific, or Arctic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, Long Island Sound, or one or more of the Great Lakes.

3.9.1 Affected Environment

According to the USFWS’s Coastal Barrier Resource System mapper and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) CZMA map, the Proposed Project Area is not located within or directly adjacent to protected coastal areas (Figure 9, Appendix XII).

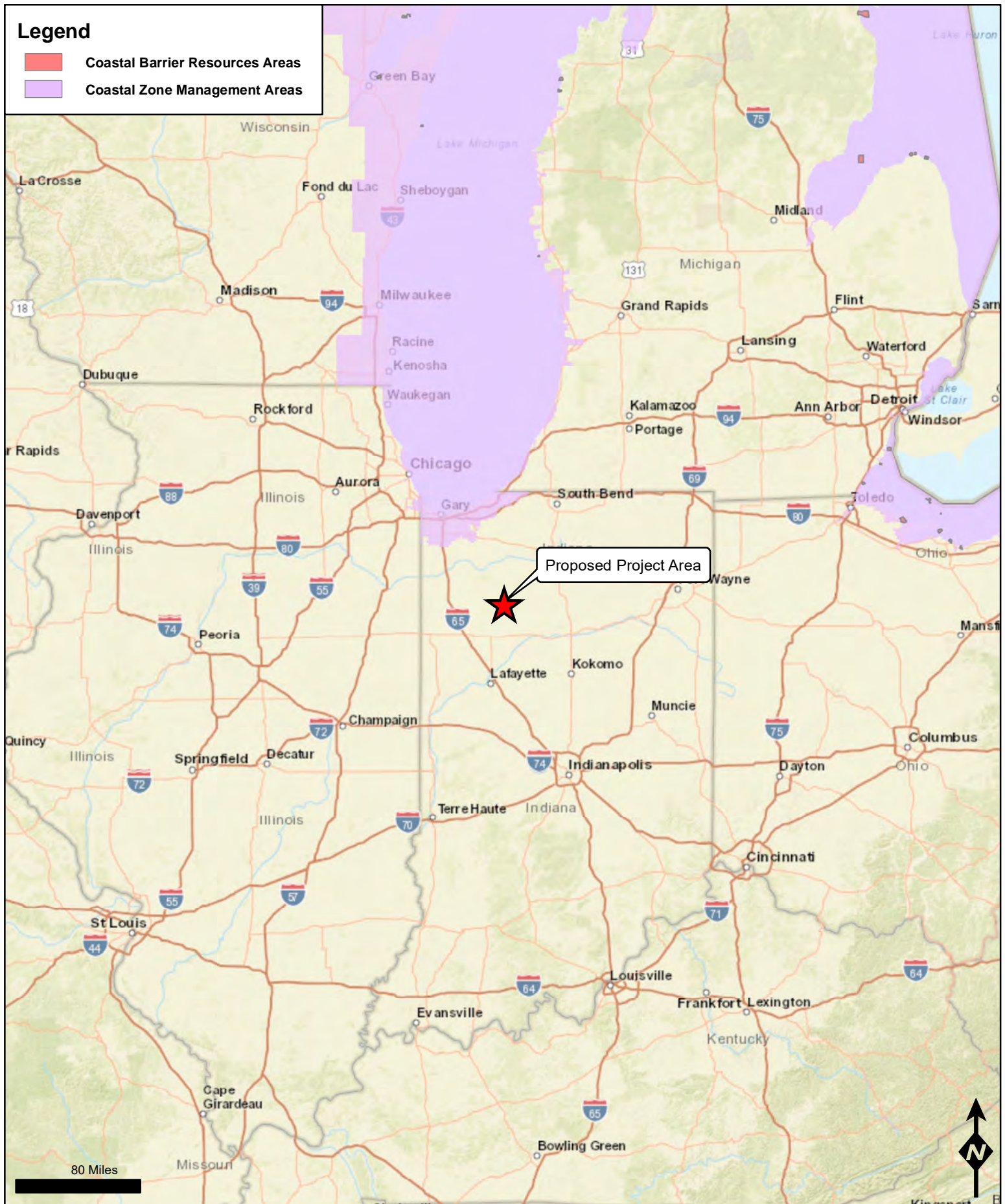


3.9.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, there would be no impact to coastal resources, as the Proposed Project Area is outside the coastal zone for Lake Michigan.

3.9.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.



3.10 Noise

This section describes an overview of the existing ambient sound environment at the Proposed Project Area and the potential impacts that would be associated with the Proposed Project.

The construction and operation of the Proposed Project could create noise impacts. Certain activities inherently produce sound levels or characteristics that have the potential to create noise. There are two main categories of noise – community noise and job-related noise. Job-related noise is regulated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The other category, community noise, refers to the combination of multiple sources of noise which may result in an overall unacceptable level for those living, working, or recreating in the area especially in noise-sensitive areas including residences, schools, hospitals, churches, parks, wildlife refuges, etc.

3.10.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project Area is located in a primarily agricultural area. Ambient noise at the Proposed Project Area consists predominantly of rural or natural sounds, as well as manmade noise from vehicle traffic and agricultural activities. There are no noise-sensitive receptors (i.e., schools, hospitals, etc.) located within 500 feet of the Proposed Project Area.

Noise impacts will occur during the construction of the Proposed Project due to machinery and construction activities. All construction activities will take place during normal business (daylight) hours. Due to the nature of the Proposed Project, there will be a minimal increase in noise as a result of operation. Given the Proposed Project Area is zoned as “Agricultural” (Appendix IV), and the Proposed Project is being developed, in part, to benefit Rose Acre Farms, it is consistent with local land use and zoning. The Proposed Project will also not violate any regulations in place within the Unified Development Ordinance of Pulaski County regarding noise during construction and operation activities.

3.10.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, there would be a temporary increase in noise levels during the approximate 15-month construction phase due to machinery and construction activities; however, noise generated during this time is not anticipated to be significant as it will be temporary and limited to normal business hours. During the operational phase of the solar facility and BESS, noise levels are not anticipated to be excessive in relation to the current and surrounding land use. The Proposed Project will comply with any standards set by federal, state, or local governments.

3.10.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to this resource.

3.11 Traffic and Transportation

This section provides an overview of the existing traffic and transportation resources at the Proposed Project Area and describes the potential impacts the Proposed Project could have on these resources.

Transportation impacts include increases or decreases in traffic and transport that might be caused or exacerbated by development of the Proposed Project. Other impacts considered are the transportation of materials to or from the facility either during construction or during operation. Any possible changes in transportation patterns or intensity are also evaluated.

3.11.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project will be accessed from County Road 600 S which connects to State Route 39 approximately 0.6 miles west of the Proposed Project Area. In 2023, the annual average daily traffic count according to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) for State Route 39 was 1,298. The nearest railroad line is located approximately 6 miles west of the Proposed Project Area and the nearest airport is the privately owned Hallmark airport located approximately 7 miles west of the Proposed Project Area.

3.11.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, significant impacts to transportation would not result from the Proposed Project, given the short duration of the construction phase and the limited number of workers and equipment required for operation and maintenance. The majority of the traffic burden as a result of the Proposed Project will occur during the approximate 15-month construction phase. During this phase, it is anticipated that traffic will increase slightly to account for construction personnel and equipment. During these phases there will be temporary impacts on transportation patterns, circulation, ingress, and egress for County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project construction phase will be temporary and limited to normal business hours; thus, it is anticipated the current infrastructure will not be significantly impacted by the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project is not located near traffic sensitive areas. No hazardous materials will be transported to or from the site during the construction or operation of the Proposed Project. All construction personnel and materials will be transported via road, thus there will be no transportation impacts to railroads, waterways, or airways.

3.11.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.12 Visual Resources

This section describes an overview of the existing visual resources at the Proposed Project

Area and the potential impacts to those resources associated with the Proposed Project. Visual resources are the visual character of a place, both manmade and natural, that give a particular landscape its character and aesthetic quality.

As development in rural areas increases in scope and complexity, aesthetics or visual impacts may be a concern. The visual quality of an area may be affected by the introduction of new buildings or structures. Where visual impacts are identified, and avoidance of the impacted area is not feasible, efforts should be made to design, construct and operate in such a way that would minimize aesthetic impacts.

3.12.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project Area consists of agricultural land. There are no visually sensitive areas or areas of high scenic value including wilderness areas, parks, recreation areas, or historic sites adjacent to the Proposed Project Area.

3.12.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, indirect visual impacts would occur during both the construction and operation phase of the Proposed Project. During the approximate 15-month construction stage, machinery would be present, and grading will occur – these impacts would be considered minor since construction would be temporary. Once the facility becomes operational, the Proposed Project would include the solar facility and BESS. Visual impacts would be insignificant as the Proposed Project is situated in a rural and primarily agricultural area with large distances between other facilities and developments.

3.12.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts to the resource.

3.13 Human Health and Safety

This section describes public health and safety associated with the construction and operation of the Proposed Project and the potential impacts. There is an importance in evaluating the Proposed Project's impact on public health and safety per 40 CFR Part 1508.27. The Proposed Project would require all personnel and visitors to follow the OSHA guidelines during construction and operation.

Electromagnetic Fields and Interference

Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) are associated with any electric device. Power-frequency EMFs are associated with the generation, transmission and use of electric power. Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) is the disruption to the standard operation of an electronic device created by EMFs in its vicinity. This interference can be continuous or intermittent and can vary based on the distance and field levels that are produced by the source. Effects from

high-voltage electric transmission lines and substations may include interference to radio and television reception in the immediate vicinity. Linkages between EMFs and human health have been made; however, are generally considered weak.

Environmental Risk Management

Environmental risk management informs Agency staff on the proper procedures for environmental due diligence relating to hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, and petroleum waste products. If properly conducted, environmental risk management proactively recognizes potential hazards and legal and financial vulnerabilities associated with the major hazardous materials, federal and state laws, as well as possible hazards to the human environment in compliance with NEPA.

Reflectivity, Glare or Dazzle

Reflectivity refers to light that is reflected off surfaces. The potential impacts of reflectivity are glint, glare or dazzle which can cause a brief loss of vision. According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), solar energy projects introduce new visual surfaces to the airport setting, where reflectivity could result in glare that cause flash blindness episodes for pilots and air traffic controllers.

3.13.1 Affected Environment

Environmental due diligence is the process of inquiring into the environmental condition of real property to determine the potential for contamination. As of the date of this EA, a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) has not been prepared for the Proposed Project. The Applicant will obtain a Phase I ESA in accordance with the procedures included in American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E1527-21, *Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process*, which will be submitted to the Agency prior to loan closing.

True North reviewed the USEPA's Superfund National Priorities List to determine whether the Proposed Project is located within or near a superfund site. According to this resource, there are no Superfund Sites within Pulaski County – reference Appendix XIII. The USEPA's Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) Finder did not identify any USTs within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. The nearest identified UST was located approximately 2 miles northwest of the Proposed Project Area, at the address 10341 W 550 S – reference Appendix XIII. The EJSCREEN report identified there are no Superfund, Brownfield, Toxic Release Inventory, or Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities within one mile of the Proposed Project Area – reference Appendix XI.

3.13.2 Environmental Consequences

Under the Proposed Action, significant impacts to human health and safety are not anticipated. There are no foreseeable health and safety risks from induced currents, electric shock, effects on cardiac pacemakers and nuisance factors, such as audible noise, potential

interference with radio and television broadcast reception and electronic equipment. During the construction phase, hazardous materials such as diesel, maintenance fluids, and paints would be stored onsite; however, during operation the solar facility would not use, release, or generate hazardous materials.

The Proposed Project does not include construction of high-voltage electric transmission lines, substations, or cellular towers; therefore, the Proposed Project will have no effect on EMFs created by charged conductors or transmitters in communication systems. Given, the Proposed Project is located in a primarily agricultural area with limited amounts of human presence, there is a low risk of EMF exposure to humans or other sensitive receptors.

The amount of reflectivity varies among solar technologies. The Proposed Project will reduce reflectivity by utilizing PV panels which are primarily absorptive compared to concentrated solar power technologies. Lastly, the Proposed Project does not include lighting. As a result, the Proposed Project would not cause an increase in light exposure, light pollution, or glare.

3.13.3 Mitigation

Waste generation will be managed in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations. Site safety will be managed by strict adherence to OSHA requirements. Procedures included in an emergency response plan will include management efforts, a Hazardous Operations Manual, and Spill Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan designed to protect workers and the public from further exposure to hazards.

3.14 Corridor Analysis

This section describes linear infrastructure associated with the Proposed Project and unique impact considerations associated with them. Linear infrastructure includes but is not limited to electric transmission or distribution lines, telecommunication cables, or water or wastewater pipelines. Impact assessment includes, but is not limited to, the extent of the Proposed Project's area of effect, visual impact of overhead lines, the availability of existing, acceptable utility corridors, and need for land acquisition.

3.14.1 Affected Environment

The Proposed Project consists of a solar facility and BESS that would primarily provide a source of renewable energy to Rose Acre Farms Pulaski County Egg Farm. If certain conditions are met, additional energy may be provided to the surrounding community, and the BESS would support the surrounding community as well. The Proposed Project would interconnect with Carroll White's pre-existing electric distribution system and therefore would not require linear infrastructure.

3.14.2 Environmental Consequences

The Proposed Project will not consist of the development or expansion of any new or existing

linear infrastructure; therefore, a corridor analysis does not apply to the Proposed Project.

3.14.3 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are proposed as there are no anticipated impacts related to this resource.

4.0 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Under the Proposed Action, there would be both short-term (temporary) and long-term direct effects – these effects are expected to be minor, insignificant, and unlikely to contribute to cumulative effects. Temporary impacts will occur during the approximate 15-month construction period and will be limited to the approximately 22-acre Proposed Project Area. During the initial design of the Proposed Project, the Applicant sought to minimize cumulative effects by reviewing available GIS resources as needed to avoid conflicts in the initial layout. Pathways were left around the Proposed Project Area as needed to allow for access to the remaining farm fields within the parcel, and a pollinator friendly seed mix was planned to attract beneficial fauna for the adjacent crop areas. As noted in Section 3.3.2, directional boring was specified to avoid any identified stream/wetland areas. Furthermore, the mitigation measures discussed in Section 5.0 of this EA will be implemented to avoid or minimize the Project’s cumulative effects to the environment during construction. As a result, any cumulative effects not fully mitigated are expected to be negligible and temporary in nature.

Table 6. Summary of Impacts

Resource	Impact Analysis
Land Use	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Formally Classified Lands	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Prime Farmland	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Floodplains	None present; no direct or indirect impacts
Wetlands	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Water Resources	With the implementation of mitigation measures, temporary short-term impacts during the 15-month construction period; no long-term direct or indirect impacts
General Fish, Wildlife and Vegetation	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Listed Threatened and Endangered Species	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Migratory Birds	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Bald and Golden Eagles	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Invasive Species	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Cultural Resources and Historic Properties	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Air Quality	Temporary indirect impacts during the 15-month construction; no long-term direct or indirect impacts
Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Coastal Resources	None present; no direct or indirect impacts
Noise	Temporary indirect impacts during 15-month construction; no long-term direct or indirect impacts
Traffic and Transportation	Temporary indirect impacts during 15-month construction; no long-term direct or indirect impacts
Visual Resources	Temporary indirect impacts during 15-month construction; no long-term direct or indirect impacts



Human Health and Safety	No adverse direct or indirect impacts
Corridor Analysis	No adverse direct or indirect impacts

5.0 SUMMARY OF MITIGATION

Mitigation and monitoring actions will be performed to reduce any impacts to the environmental resources associated with the Proposed Project. These actions are as follows:

- The Proposed Project would be required to obtain coverage under the statewide NPDES General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities, administered by the IDNR. Coverage under the NPDES Permit would require implementation of a SWPPP and various BMPs to reduce erosion and loss of topsoil during construction. Compliance with the NPDES permit and identified BMPs would ensure impacts from erosion would be less than significant.
- If disposing of excess, spoil, or other construction materials on public or private property, the contractor shall not fill in or otherwise convert SFHAs delineated on the latest FEMA Floodplain Maps, or other appropriate maps, e.g., alluvial soils on NRCS Soil Survey Maps.
- BMPs and a SWPPP will be developed and implemented during construction to avoid siltation, vehicular traffic through, or any potential erosion into any jurisdictional waters. The contractor shall not fill in or otherwise convert wetlands when disposing of excess, spoil, or other construction materials on public or private property. Crops will be planted at the landowner's discretion within agricultural areas throughout the operational life of the facility.
- The use of BMPs such as soil erosion and sediment control measures will minimize the potential for increased runoff, and siltation. Post-construction, the disturbed soils will be stabilized and re-vegetated in order to reduce the potential for erosion impacts during facility operations.
- The construction and operation of the Proposed Project will comply with the ESA, which provides for the protection of endangered and/or threatened species and critical habitat. Should any evidence of the presence of endangered and/or threatened species or their critical habitat be brought to the attention of the contractor, the contractor will immediately report this evidence to Owner and a representative of Agency. Construction shall be temporarily halted pending the notification process and further directions issued by the Agency after consultation with the USFWS.
- The Proposed Project will comply with the requirements of E.O. 13112 by maintaining all possible existing ground cover. The Applicant intends to seed the disturbed area to create a pollinator friendly habitat, which will discourage the establishment of non-native species after construction. Additionally, designated wash areas will be established for vehicles and equipment to remove dirt, seeds, and plant fragments before leaving the site.
- Seed mix(es) shall (i) include only native species, (ii) be appropriate for local conditions (soil type, hydrology, etc), (iii) include not less than 33% flowering plants, (iv) contain at least nine species each comprising two percent or more of seed mix, and (v) contain at least three blooming species per season, comprising two percent or more of seed mix, for two of four seasons. The amount of seed to be planted shall be determined according to the seed provider's recommendation and the proposed planting density in target area.
- Any excavation by the Contractor that uncovers an historical or archaeological artifact or human remains shall be immediately reported to the Owner and a representative of Agency. Construction shall be temporarily halted in the vicinity of the find pending the notification

process and further directions issued by the Agency after consultation with the IDNR Resources Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin, Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Peoria Tribe of Indians Oklahoma, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana, and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation must be notified if Native American artifacts and/or human remains are located during the ground disturbance phase of the Proposed Project.

- Mitigation measures would be used to control fugitive dust from construction activities, as needed.
- All construction activities will be limited to normal business (daylight) hours and will comply with all operational BMPs for compliance with the Unified Development Ordinance of Pulaski County.
- Waste generation will be managed in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations. Site safety will be managed by strict adherence to OSHA requirements. Procedures included in an emergency response plan will include management efforts, a Hazardous Operations Manual, and SPCC plan designed to protect workers and the public from further exposure to hazards. Additionally, the Proposed Project will follow the Federal, State, and local regulations.

6.0 COORDINATION, CONSULTATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Agency correspondence regarding this project includes:

- NRCS correspondence, regarding important farmland, dated April 16, 2024. Response received on May 2, 2024.
- SHPO correspondences, regarding historic and archaeological resources, dated August 14 and sent August 21, 2024. Response received September 16, 2024.
- THPO correspondence regarding historic and archaeological resources, dated August 14 and sent August 21, 2024. Responses received August 21 and September 18, 2024.
- USACE correspondences, regarding Wetlands, dated April 16, 2024. Responses received September 24 and September 27, 2024.
- INHDC correspondences, regarding the Proposed Project, dated April 16, 2024. No response received as of the date of this EA.
- Indiana Geologic Survey, regarding the soil properties, dated April 16, 2024.
- IDNR, regarding biological resources, dated April 15, 2024. Response received on May 15, 2024.
- IDEM, regarding the Proposed Project, dated May 2, 2024. Response received on May 6, 2024.

Copies of all communications are included in this EA.



7.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

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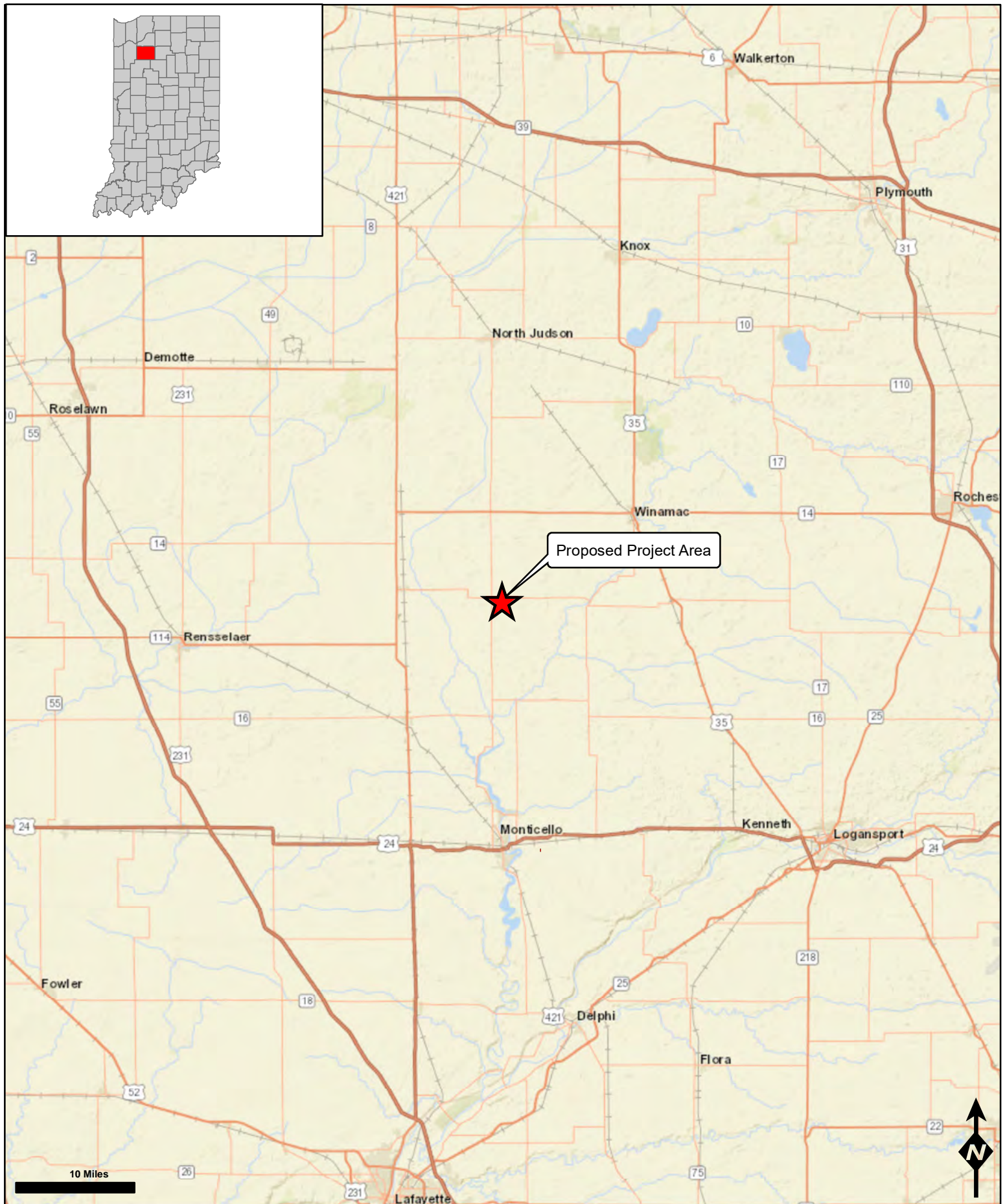
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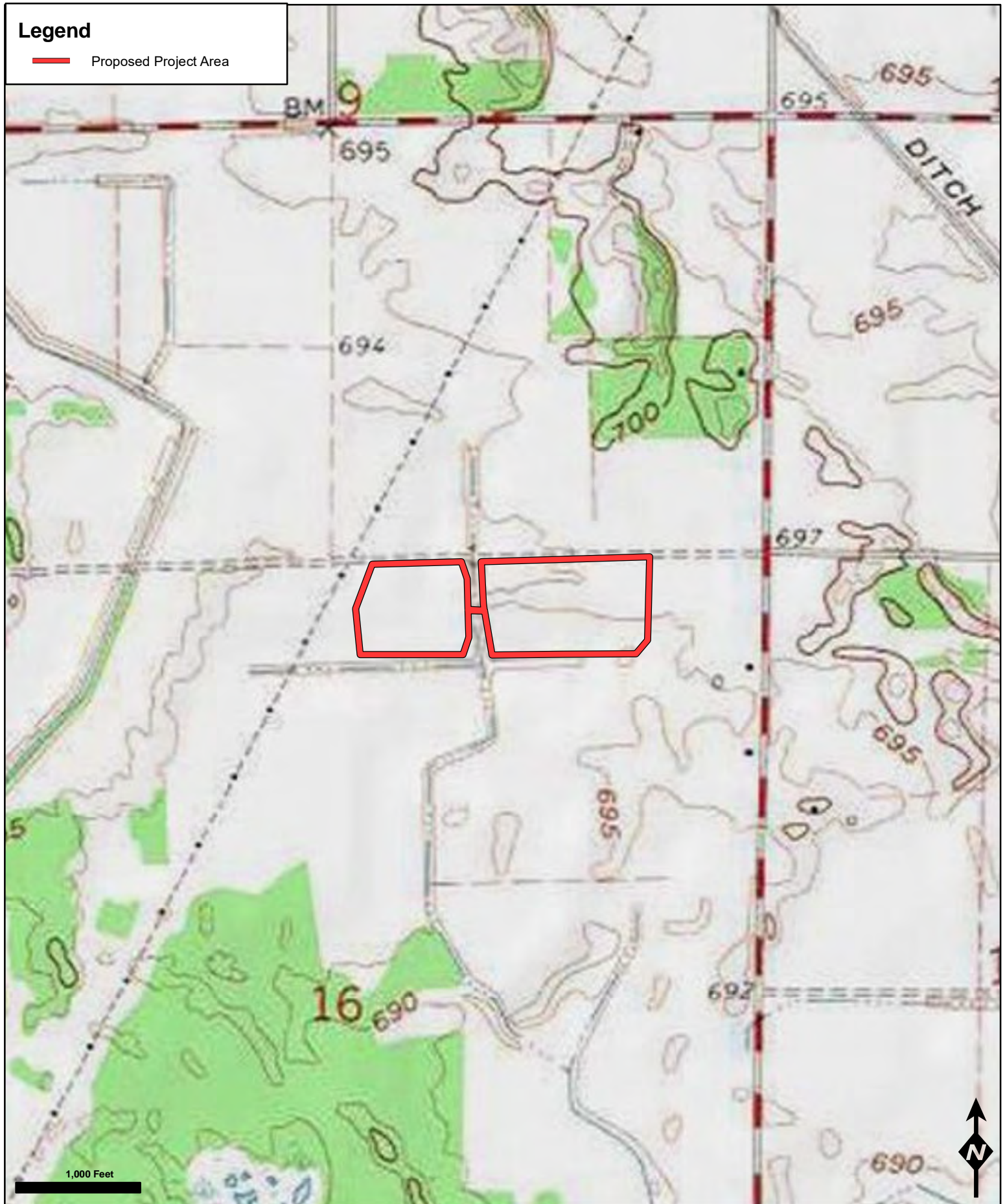
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APPENDIX I

Maps





Legend


Proposed Project Area

FIGURE 2

Topographic Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana





Legend

 Proposed Project Area



Hintzman Substation

Legend

-  Circuit 2
-  Existing Circuit
-  New Distribution Line
-  New Distribution Line Overbuild

RAF Pulaski PV+BESS POI

RAF Pulaski County Egg farm



4000 ft

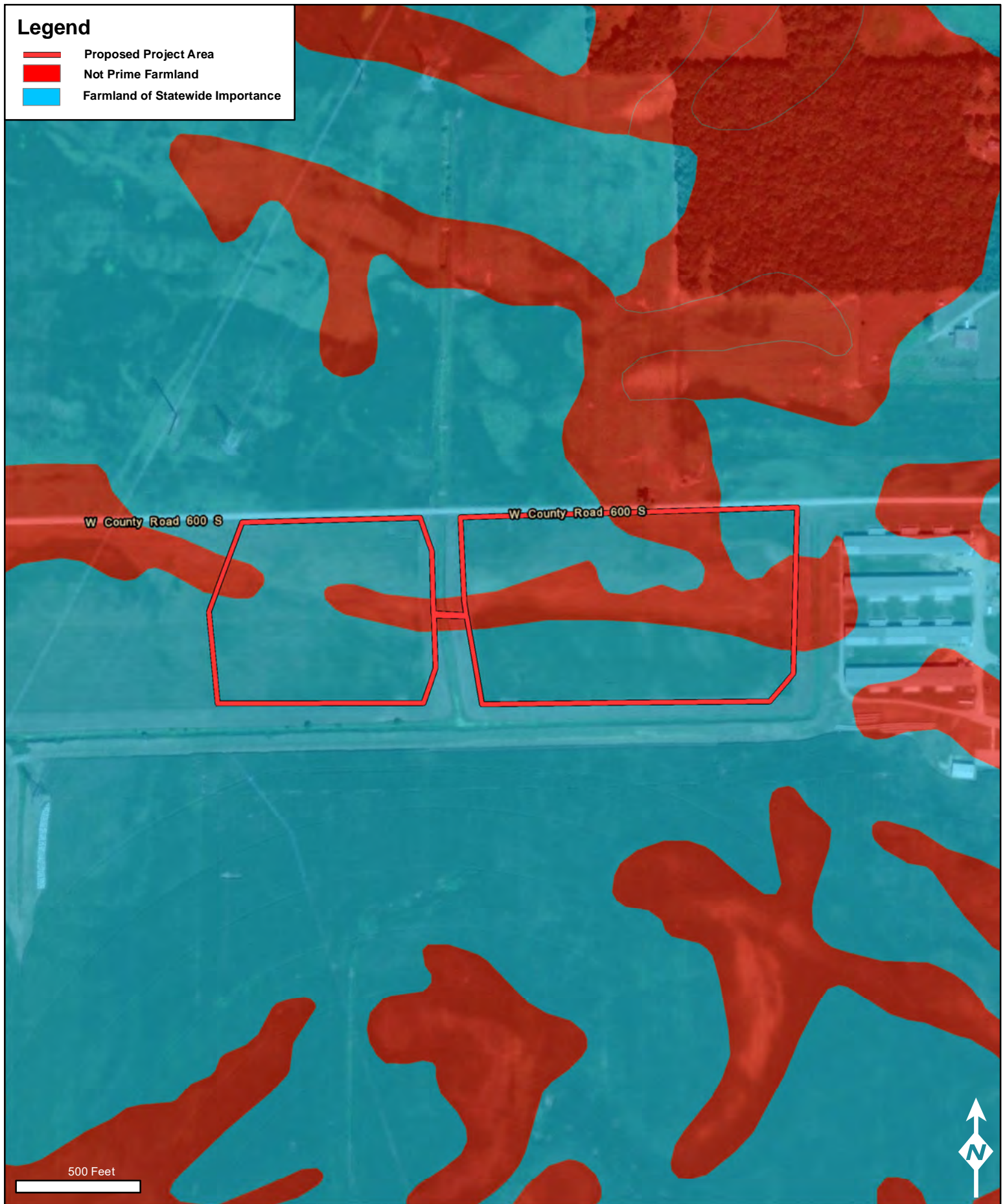


RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc





Legend

- Proposed Project Area
- Not Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance

FIGURE 5

Farmland Classification Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Legend

— Proposed Project Area

Note: There are no FEMA Flood Zones within the extent of this map.



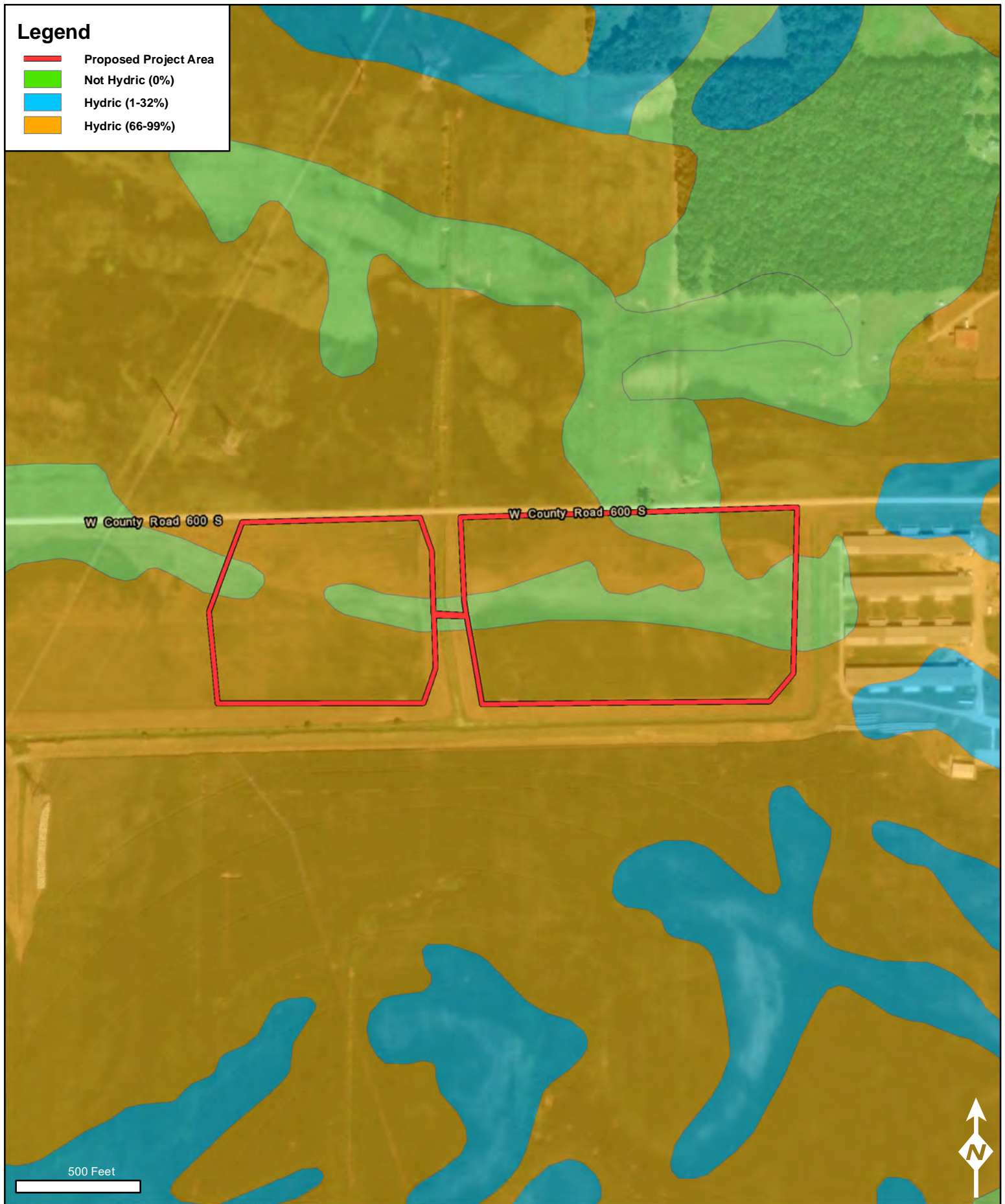


FIGURE 7

Hydric Soils Map

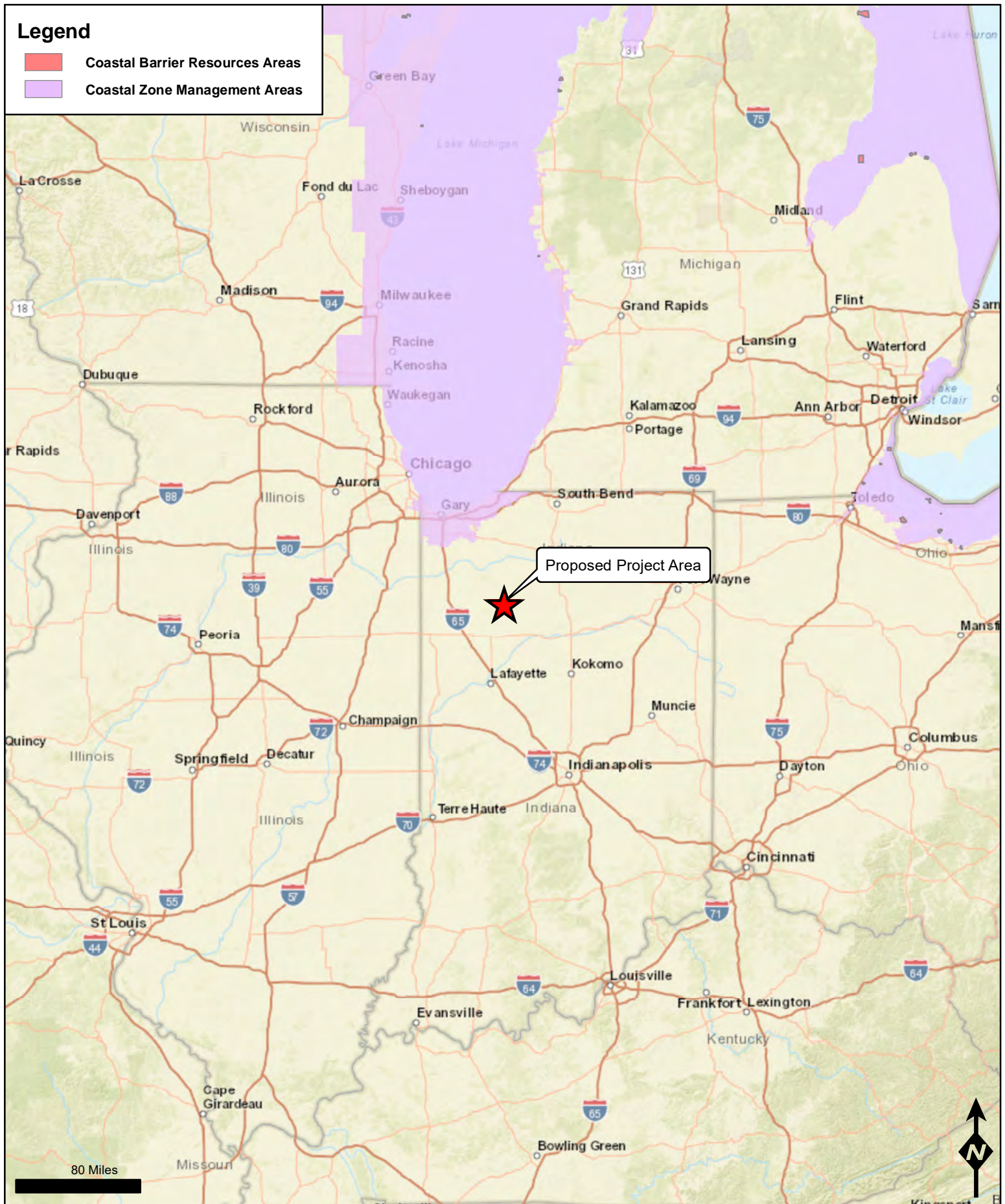
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Legend



Proposed Project Area
NWI Wetland







APPENDIX II

Drawings



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc





APPENDIX III

Photographs



Looking west from the east end of the project.



Looking east from west end of the project.



APPENDIX IV

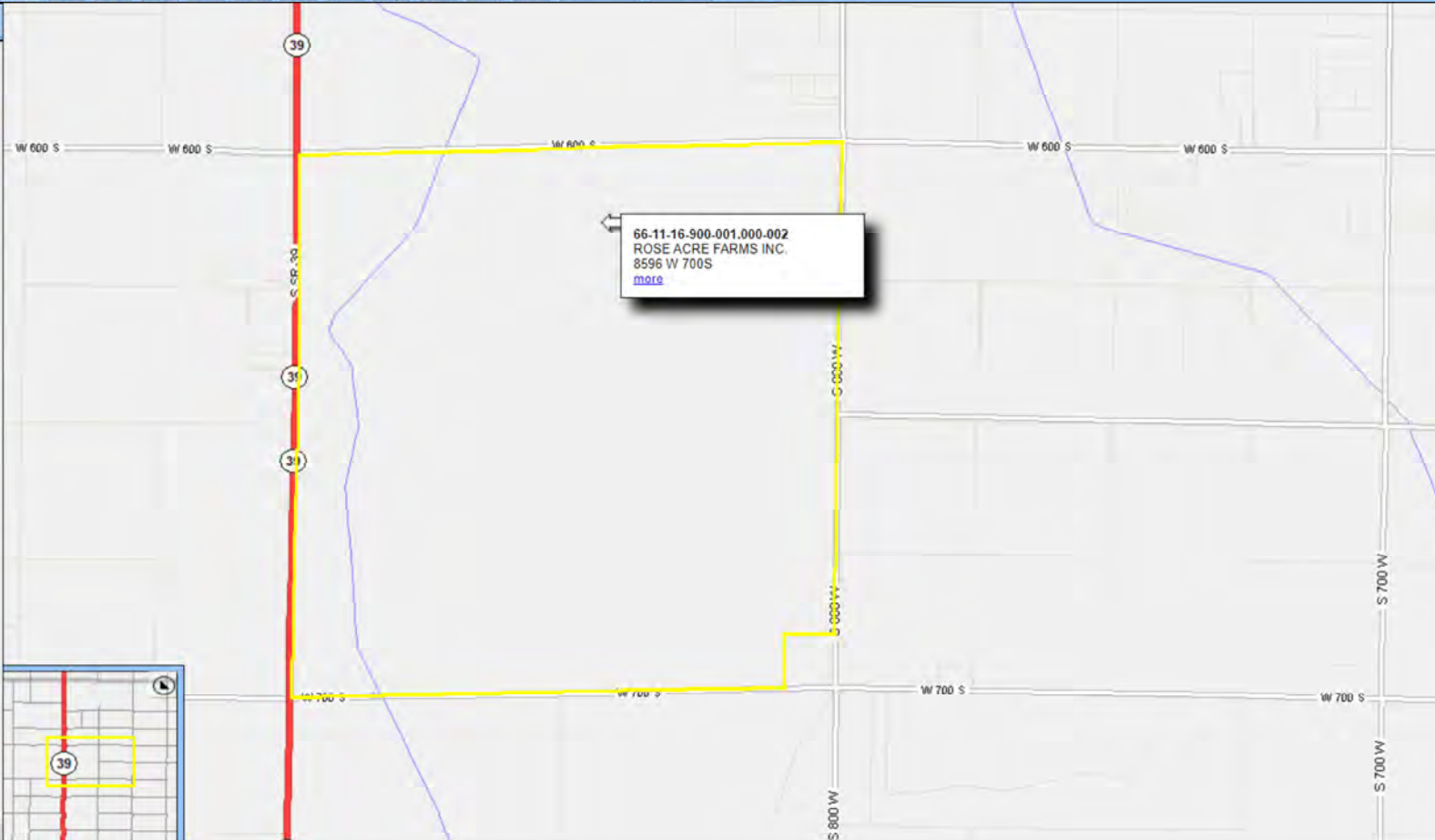
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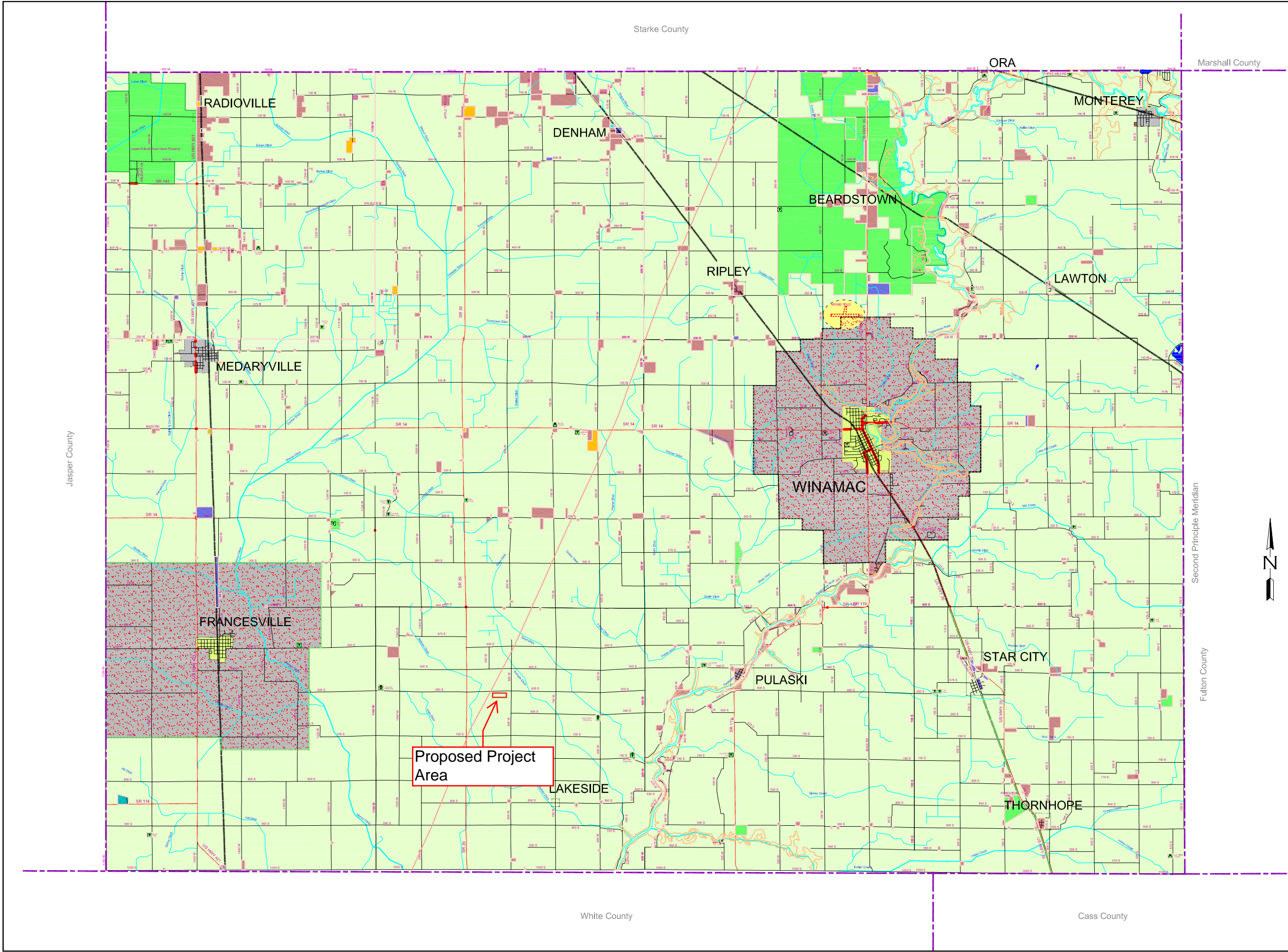
66-11-16-900-001.000-002

General Bills Payments Deductions Assessments



Owner and General Parcel Information

Property Card	Show Property Card
OwnerName	ROSE ACRE FARMS INC.
StateParcelNumber	66-11-16-900-001.000-002
PropertyNumber	66-11-16-900-001.000-002
MapNumber	
LegalDescription	002-00462-00 SEC EXC 6A SE COR SEC. 16 634A WELTZIN (673) RINGEN (MOSS) (687) SWINGLE (650)
Acreage	634.0000
InstrumentNumber	
BookNumber	
PageNumber	
LocationAddress	8596 W 700S FRANCESVILLE, IN 47946
OwnerAddress	PO BOX 1250 SEYMOUR, IN 47274
NeighborhoodNumber	902002-002
NeighborhoodName	Com/Ind/Ex (002)
MarketArea	902002-002 Vacant or Exempt
PropertyClass	Poultry Farm
PropertyClassNumber	104
LocalParcelNumber	0020046200
RoutingNumber	29N R3W

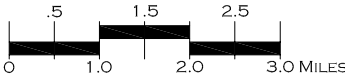




Map Legend














-  Airport Zone
-  Corporate Limits
-  County Boundary
-  Lakes / Rivers
-  Streams
-  Flood Plain
-  2 Mile Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
-  Agriculture
-  Park & Recreation
-  Residential
-  Multi-Family Residential
-  Commercial
-  Industrial

EXISTING LAND USE PLAN MAP Pulaski County, Indiana COMPREHENSIVE PLAN APRIL, 2009

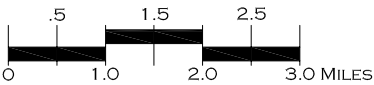


RHEIN-BACH, INC.
ENGINEERING
&
PLANNING SERVICES
SOUTH BEND, IN.

Map Legend

-  Airport Zone
-  Corporate Limits
-  County Boundary
-  Lakes / Rivers
-  Streams
-  Flood Plain
-  2 Mile Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
-  Agriculture
-  Park & Recreation
-  Residential
-  Multi-Family Residential
-  Commercial
-  Industrial

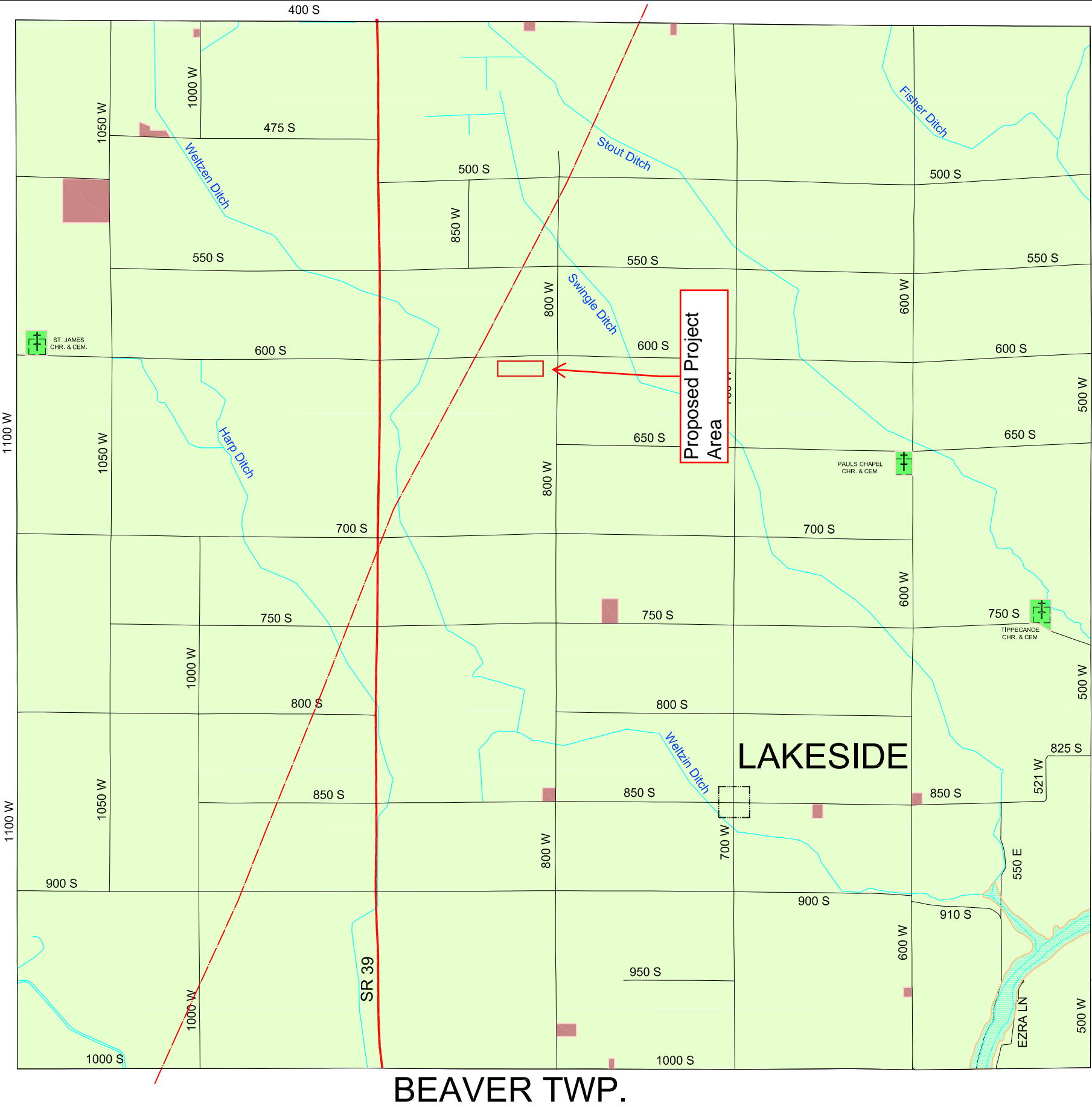
LAND USE
PLAN MAP
Pulaski County, Indiana
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
APRIL, 2009



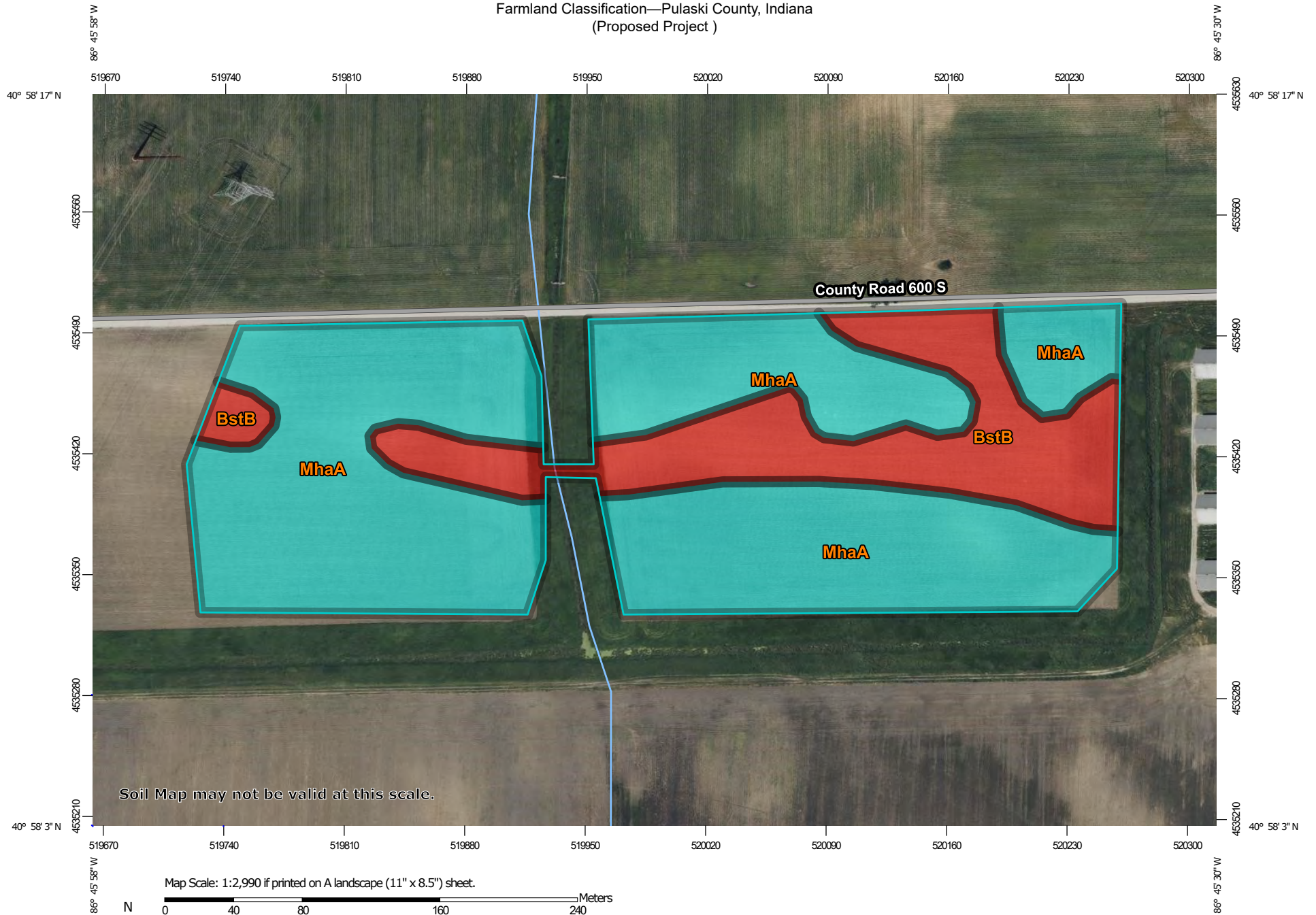
BEAVER TWP.

RHEIN-BACH, INC.
ENGINEERING
&
PLANNING SERVICES

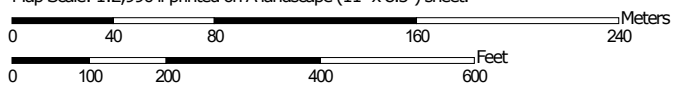
SOUTH BEND, IN.



Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)



Map Scale: 1:2,990 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.



Natural Resources
Conservation Service


Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

4/16/2024
Page 1 of 5

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)









MAP LEGEND








Area of Interest (AOI)






 Area of Interest (AOI)








Soils



Soil Rating Polygons

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season









-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Lines

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)

	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance		Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	Soil Rating Points			Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Not prime farmland		Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
	Farmland of statewide importance		Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough		Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance
	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed		Prime farmland if irrigated		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
	Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season				Farmland of local importance		Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated				Farmland of local importance, if irrigated		Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)



Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BstB	Brems loamy fine sand, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	5.3	24.9%
MhaA	Maumee loamy fine sand, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	15.9	75.1%
Totals for Area of Interest			21.2	100.0%

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower

April 16, 2024

Mr. John Allen
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

**RE: Early Coordination Letter
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application –
RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
8596 W. 700 S., Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana**

To Mr. Allen:

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project, as shown on the enclosed maps. We are requesting comments regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as #66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project process design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. The design layout is included in the attachments.

Please submit your recommendations within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this request to Emmett Lodl. If no timely response is received, it will be assumed that your agency feels there will be no adverse effects incurred as a result of the Proposed Project. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (224) 532-8925 and elodl@consulttruenorth.com.



Regards,
True North Consultants, Inc.

Emmett Lodi

Emmett Lodi
Project Consultant

Enclosures:

1. Project Maps
2. Site Plans
3. Farmland Classification Map
4. Early Coordination Recipients



Enclosure 1

Project Maps

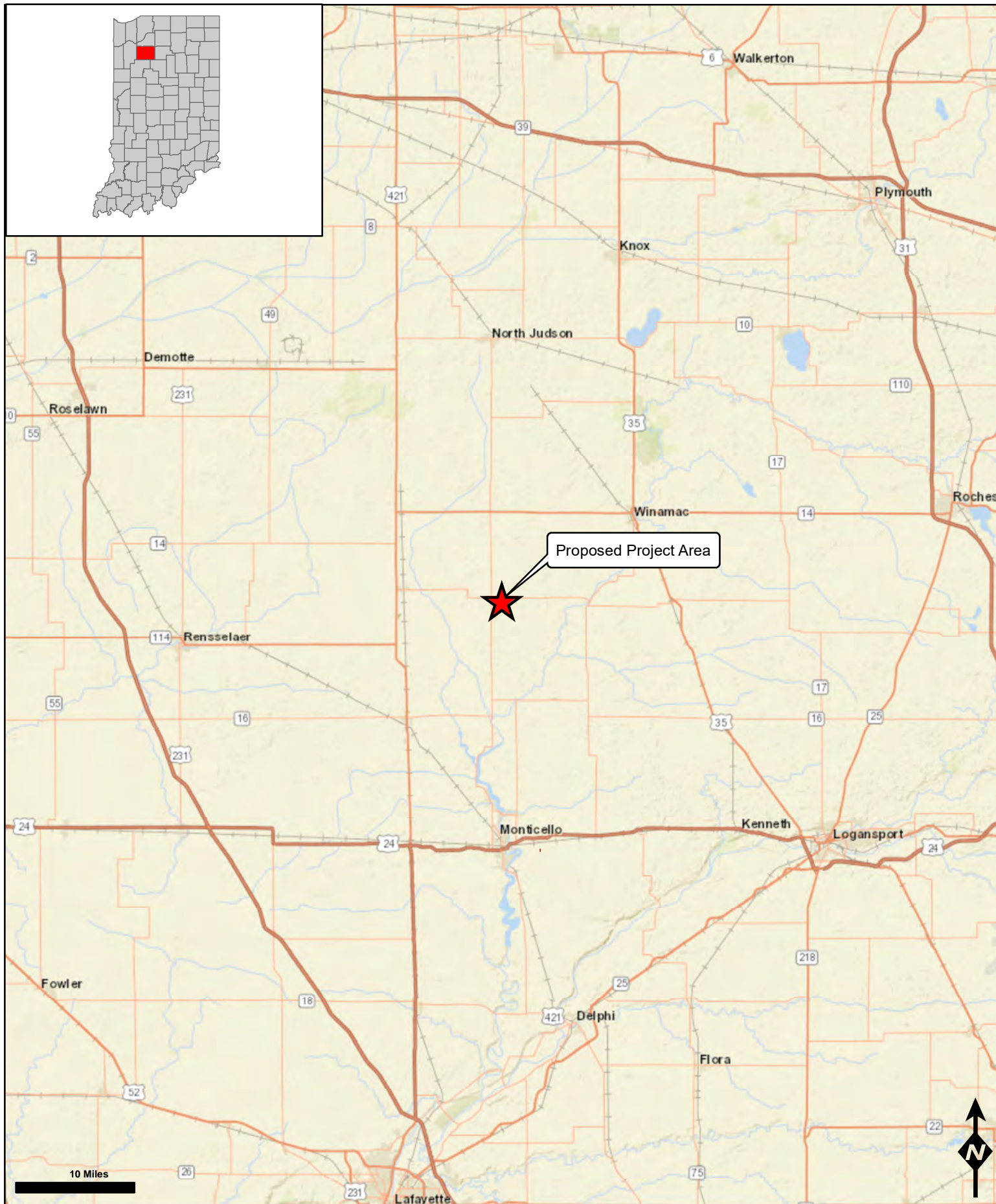
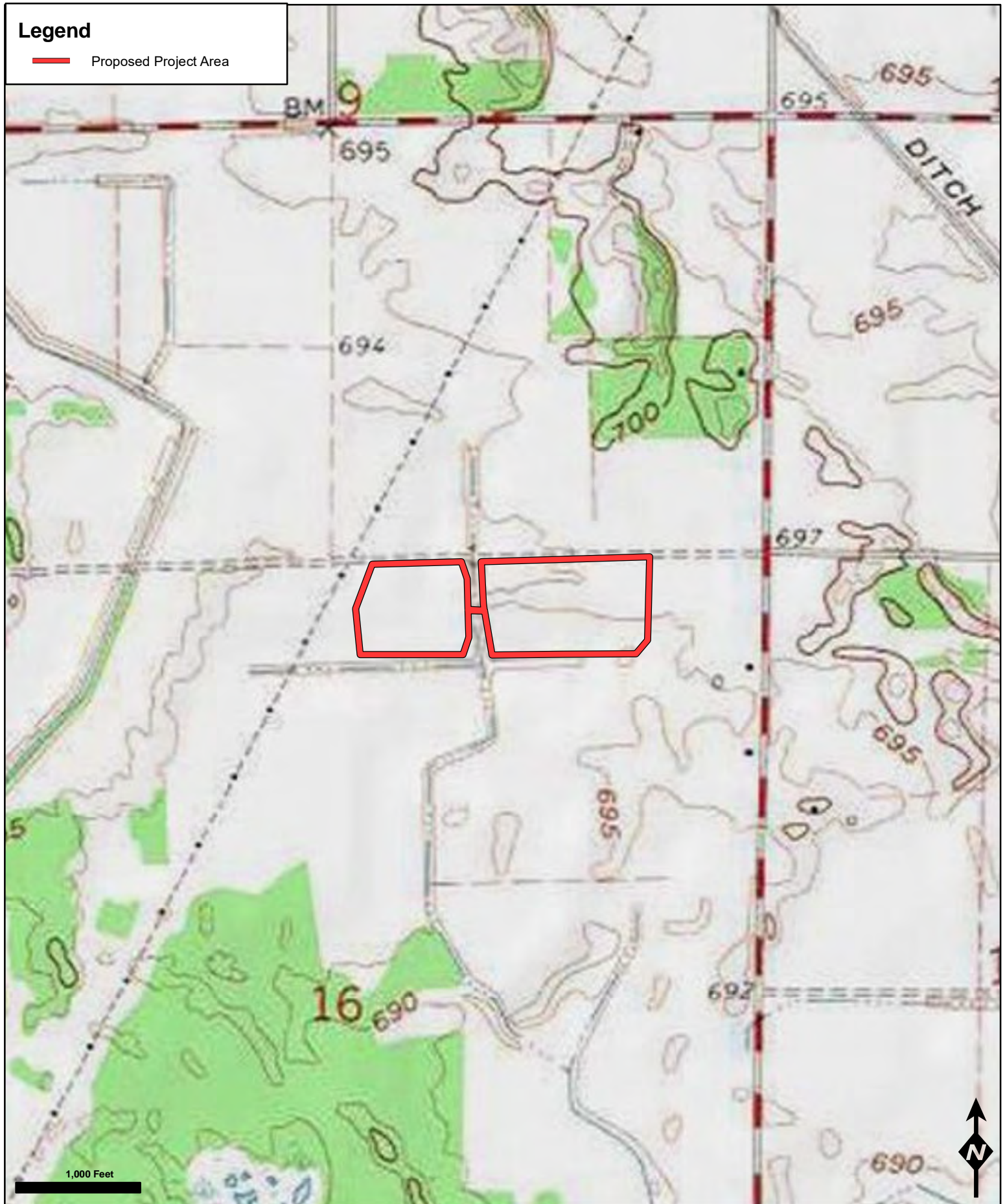


FIGURE 1

Regional Map


Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - Waste No Energy Anaerobic Digester Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana



Legend

Proposed Project Area

Legend

 Proposed Project Area





Enclosure 2

Site Plans



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc

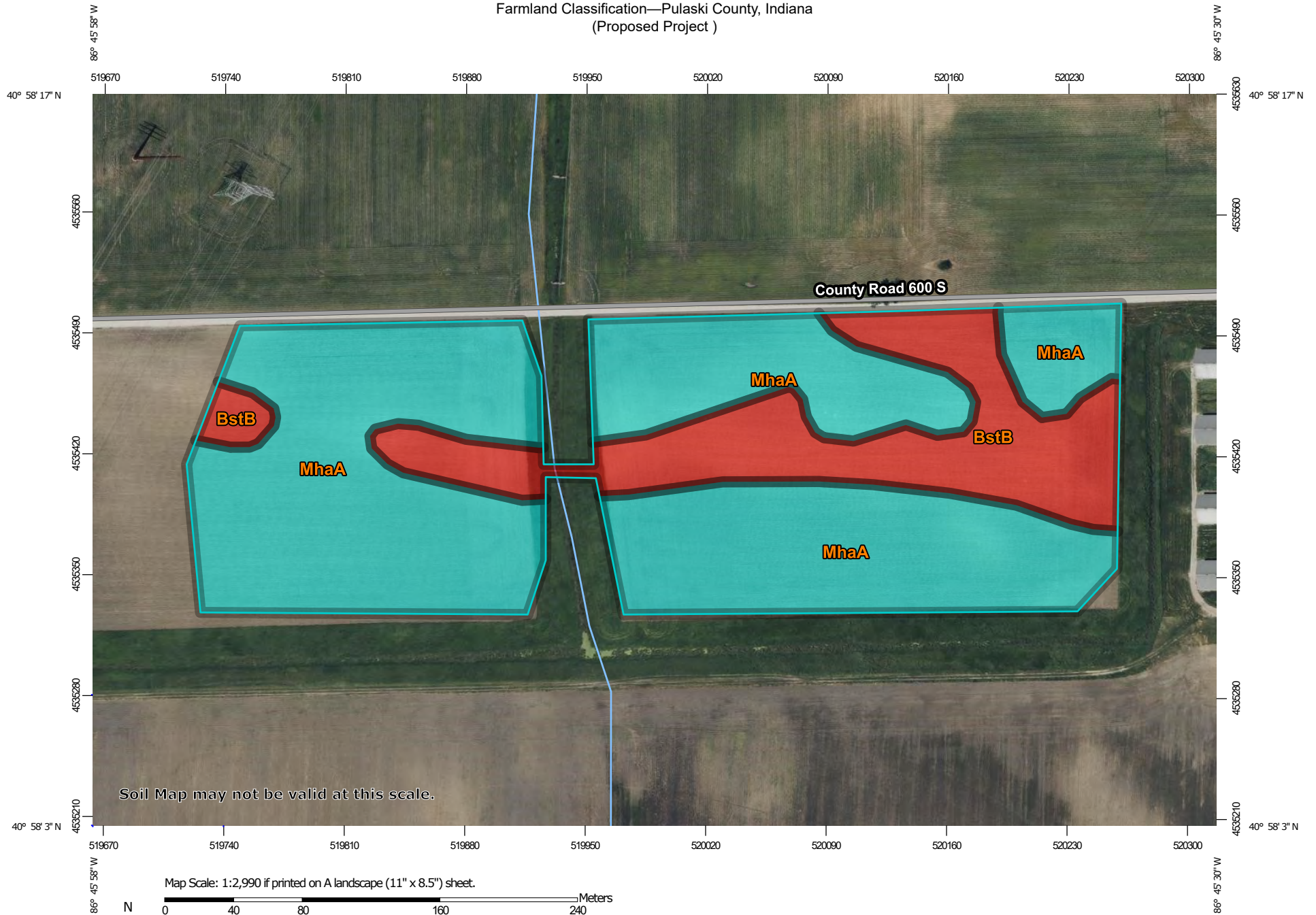




Enclosure 3

Farmland Classification

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana (Proposed Project)



Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Map Scale: 1:2,990 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 40 80 160 240 Meters

0 100 200 400 600 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 16N WGS84



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**


Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

4/16/2024
Page 1 of 5

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)









MAP LEGEND








Area of Interest (AOI)






 Area of Interest (AOI)








Soils



Soil Rating Polygons

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season









-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Lines

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
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Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)

	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance		Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
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	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Not prime farmland		Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
	Farmland of statewide importance		Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed		Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance
	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of local importance		Prime farmland if irrigated		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
	Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season				Farmland of local importance, if irrigated		Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated						Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

Farmland Classification—Pulaski County, Indiana
(Proposed Project)



Farmland Classification

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Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower



Enclosure 4

Early Coordination Recipients

The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Assistant Director for Environmental Review
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington Street, Room W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Electronic Coordination)

State Soil Scientist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana State Board of Health
2 N Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chief, North Section, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Business and Legislative Liaison
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
(Electronic Coordination – Online Review Process)



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm
Production
and
Conservation

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

Indiana State Office
6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
317-295-5800

April 30, 2024

Emmett Lodl
1000 East Warrenville Road Suite 140
Naperville, IL. 60563

Dear Emmit Lodl:

The proposed Solar PV facility as well as a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) at the location of the RAF Pulaski County egg farm located 8596 W 700 S in Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana., as referred to in your letter received on April 16, 2024, will cause a conversion of prime farmland.

The attached packet of information is for your use competing Parts VI and VII of the AD-1006. After completion, the federal funding agency needs to forward one copy to NRCS for our records.

If you need additional information, please contact John Allen at 317-295-5859 or john.allen@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

JOHN ALLEN
State Soil Scientist

Enclosers

From: [Stucker, Kacie - FPAC-NRCS, IN](#)
To: [Allen, John - FPAC-NRCS, IN](#); [Emmett Lodi](#)
Subject: RE: [External Email]AD-1006 Review Request - Francesville IN Project
Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024 9:08:32 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[Letter_Pulaski Co egg farm.pdf](#)
[RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm_1006.pdf](#)

Please find attached the NRCS response letter.

Very Respectfully,

Kacie Stucker

**United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Services**

6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Office: (317) 295-5800



From: Allen, John - FPAC-NRCS, IN <john.allen@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 9:03 AM
To: Stucker, Kacie - FPAC-NRCS, IN <Kacie.Stucker@usda.gov>
Subject: Fw: [External Email]AD-1006 Review Request - Francesville IN Project

IMPACT!

Thanks!

John

John Allen
State Soil Scientist
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, IN 46278

317-295-5859
317-670-1924 (cell)

www.soils.usda.gov

[Soil Explorer](#)

From: Emmett Lodl <elodl@consulttruenorth.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Allen, John - FPAC-NRCS, IN <john.allen@usda.gov>
Cc: Cullen Cuchetto <ccuchetto@consulttruenorth.com>; Emily Zappia <Ezappia@consulttruenorth.com>
Subject: [External Email]AD-1006 Review Request - Francesville IN Project

You don't often get email from elodl@consulttruenorth.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;
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Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Mr. John Allen,

True North Consultants, Inc. (True North), on behalf of Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is working to complete an Environmental Assessment for the proposed installation and operation of a Solar PV facility as well as a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) at the location of the RAF Pulaski County egg farm located 8596 W 700 S in Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana (40.969514, -86.761319). The Applicant is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under its Rural Utilities Service (RUS), Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program. The Proposed Project Area (to be disturbed/constructed) is situated on approximately 5.3 acres classified as "Not Prime Farmland" soils and 15.9 acres of "Farmland of Statewide Importance" soils for Pulaski County.

Could you please provide assistance in completing the AD-1006 form? Parts I and III have been completed with assistance from the Applicant. Please review the attached documentation for more background on the Proposed Project.

Let me know if you require any additional information or have any questions.

Attachments:

- Proposed Project Cover Letter
- AD-1006
- Enclosures
 - Project Maps
 - Site Plan
 - Farmland Classification Map
 - Early Coordination Recipients

Best,



Trusted Partner. Leading Environmental Solutions.

Emmett Lodi

Project Consultant

1000 East Warrenville Road | Suite 140 | Naperville, IL 60563
o 630.717.2880 x128 | m 224.532.8925 | f 630.689.5881

ConsultTrueNorth.com



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FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request 4/16/2024				
Name of Project RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm		Federal Agency Involved USDA-RUS				
Proposed Land Use Solar PV Facility + BESS		County and State Pulaski, Indiana				
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS		Person Completing Form: JRA		
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size 424 ac	
Major Crop(s) Corn	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: 267233% 96	Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 17942% 65				
Name of Land Evaluation System Used LESA	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS 4/30/2024				
PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating				
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		22.0				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly		0				
C. Total Acres In Site		22.0				
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information						
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		0.00				
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland		15.28				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted		0.008				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		73				
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)		70				
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)		Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
1. Area In Non-urban Use	(15)	15				
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use	(10)	10				
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed	(20)	20				
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government	(20)	0				
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area	(15)	15				
6. Distance To Urban Support Services	(15)	10				
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	(10)	0				
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland	(10)	1				
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services	(5)	3				
10. On-Farm Investments	(20)	2				
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	(10)	0				
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	(10)	0				
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	76	0	0	0	
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	70	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)		160	76	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		260	146	0	0	0
Site Selected: Site A	Date Of Selection 10/18/2024	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Reason For Selection: No alternatives considered.						
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form:					Date:	

(See Instructions on reverse side)

Form AD-1006 (03-02)

STEPS IN THE PROCESSING THE FARMLAND AND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM

- Step 1 - Federal agencies (or Federally funded projects) involved in proposed projects that may convert farmland, as defined in the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) to nonagricultural uses, will initially complete Parts I and III of the form. For Corridor type projects, the Federal agency shall use form NRCS-CPA-106 in place of form AD-1006. The Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) process may also be accessed by visiting the FPPA website, <http://fppa.nrcs.usda.gov/lesa/>.
- Step 2 - Originator (Federal Agency) will send one original copy of the form together with appropriate scaled maps indicating location(s) of project site(s), to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) local Field Office or USDA Service Center and retain a copy for their files. (NRCS has offices in most counties in the U.S. The USDA Office Information Locator may be found at http://offices.usda.gov/scripts/ndISAPI.dll/oip_public/USA_map, or the offices can usually be found in the Phone Book under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture. A list of field offices is available from the NRCS State Conservationist and State Office in each State.)
- Step 3 - NRCS will, within 10 working days after receipt of the completed form, make a determination as to whether the site(s) of the proposed project contains prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland. (When a site visit or land evaluation system design is needed, NRCS will respond within 30 working days.
- Step 4 - For sites where farmland covered by the FPPA will be converted by the proposed project, NRCS will complete Parts II, IV and V of the form.
- Step 5 - NRCS will return the original copy of the form to the Federal agency involved in the project, and retain a file copy for NRCS records.
- Step 6 - The Federal agency involved in the proposed project will complete Parts VI and VII of the form and return the form with the final selected site to the servicing NRCS office.
- Step 7 - The Federal agency providing financial or technical assistance to the proposed project will make a determination as to whether the proposed conversion is consistent with the FPPA.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM

(For Federal Agency)

Part I: When completing the "County and State" questions, list all the local governments that are responsible for local land use controls where site(s) are to be evaluated.

Part III: When completing item B (Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly), include the following:

1. Acres not being directly converted but that would no longer be capable of being farmed after the conversion, because the conversion would restrict access to them or other major change in the ability to use the land for agriculture.
2. Acres planned to receive services from an infrastructure project as indicated in the project justification (e.g. highways, utilities planned build out capacity) that will cause a direct conversion.

Part VI: Do not complete Part VI using the standard format if a State or Local site assessment is used. With local and NRCS assistance, use the local Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA).

1. Assign the maximum points for each site assessment criterion as shown in § 658.5(b) of CFR. In cases of corridor-type project such as transportation, power line and flood control, criteria #5 and #6 will not apply and will, be weighted zero, however, criterion #8 will be weighed a maximum of 25 points and criterion #11 a maximum of 25 points.
2. Federal agencies may assign relative weights among the 12 site assessment criteria other than those shown on the FPPA rule after submitting individual agency FPPA policy for review and comment to NRCS. In all cases where other weights are assigned, relative adjustments must be made to maintain the maximum total points at 160. For project sites where the total points equal or exceed 160, consider alternative actions, as appropriate, that could reduce adverse impacts (e.g. Alternative Sites, Modifications or Mitigation).

Part VII: In computing the "Total Site Assessment Points" where a State or local site assessment is used and the total maximum number of points is other than 160, convert the site assessment points to a base of 160.

Example: if the Site Assessment maximum is 200 points, and the alternative Site "A" is rated 180 points:

$\frac{\text{Total points assigned Site A}}{\text{Maximum points possible}} = \frac{180}{200} \times 160 = 144 \text{ points for Site A}$

For assistance in completing this form or FPPA process, contact the local NRCS Field Office or USDA Service Center.

NRCS employees, consult the FPPA Manual and/or policy for additional instructions to complete the AD-1006 form.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess
Commissioner

May 1, 2024

Carroll White REMC
c/o Melink Solar Development
302 North Sixth Street
Monticello, IN 47960

For Project Site Located At:

8596 W 700 S
Francesville, IN 47946

Dear Grant Administrator or Other Finance Approval Authority:

RE: Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed Project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project's design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is aware that many local government or not-for-profit entities are seeking grant monies, a bond issuance, or another public funding mechanism to cover some portion of the cost of a public works, infrastructure, or community development project. Additionally, eligibility for funding assistance, requires applicants to evaluate the potential impacts that their project may have on the environment. To assist applicants seeking such financial assistance and to ensure that such projects have no adverse impacts on the environment, IDEM has prepared the following list of environmental issues that each applicant must consider minimizing environmental impacts to ensure compliance with all relevant state laws.



visit on.IN.gov/survey or scan the QR code to provide feedback.

We appreciate your input!



IDEM recommends that each applicant consider the following issues when moving forward with their project. IDEM also requests that, in addition to submitting the information requested above, each applicant also sign the attached certification, attesting to the fact that they have read the letter in its entirety, agree to abide by the recommendations of the letter, and to apply for any permits required from IDEM for the completion of their project.

IDEM recommends that any person(s) intending to complete a public works, infrastructure, or community development project using any public funding consider each of the following applicable recommendations and requirements:

Water and Biotic Quality

1. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires that you obtain a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) before discharging dredged or fill materials into any wetlands or other waters, such as rivers, lakes, streams, and ditches. Other activities regulated include the relocation, channelization, widening, or other such alteration of a stream, and the mechanical clearing (use of heavy construction equipment) of wetlands. Thus, as a project owner or sponsor, it is your responsibility to ensure that no wetlands or other waters are disturbed without the proper permit. Although you may initially refer to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory maps as a means of identifying potential areas of concern, please be mindful that those maps do not depict jurisdictional wetlands regulated by the USACE or the Department of Environmental Management. A valid jurisdictional wetlands determination can only be made by the USACE, using the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual.

USACE recommends that you have a consultant check to determine whether your project will abut, or lie within, a wetland or other water. To view a list of consultants that have requested to be included on a list posted by the USACE on their Web site, click the following link:

<https://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Consultants.aspx> Please note that the USACE posts all consultants that request to appear on the list, and that inclusion of any particular consultant on the list does not represent an endorsement of that consultant by the USACE, or by IDEM.

Much of northern Indiana (Newton, Jasper, Starke, Marshal, Kosciusko, Whitley, Noble, Allen, southern LaPorte, St. Joseph, Elkhart, LaGrange, Steuben, and Dekalb counties) is served by the USACE Detroit District Michiana Branch in South Bend (574-232-1952). The counties of Lake, Porter, and the northern part of LaPorte are served by the USACE Chicago District in Chicago (312-846-5530). All other remaining counties in the central and southern part of the state are served by the USACE Louisville District Office (502-315-6733).

Additional information on contacting these U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) District Offices, government agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands, and other water quality issues, can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/wetlands/information-about/us-army-corps-of-engineers/>. IDEM recommends that impacts to wetlands and other water resources be avoided to the fullest extent.

2. In the event a Section 404 wetlands permit is required from the USACE, you also must obtain a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the IDEM Office of Water Quality. To learn more about the water quality certification program, visit: <https://www.in.gov/idem/wetlands/information-about/section-401-water-quality-certification/>.
3. If the USACE determines that a wetland or other body of water is isolated and not subject to Clean Water Act regulation, it may still be regulated by the state of Indiana. A state isolated wetland permit from IDEM's Office of Water Quality is required for any activity that results in the discharge of dredged or fill materials into isolated wetlands. To learn more about isolated wetlands, contact the Office of Water Quality at 317-233-8488 or visit: <https://www.in.gov/idem/wetlands/contact/>.
4. If your project will impact more than 0.5 acres of wetland, stream relocation, or other large-scale alterations to bodies of water such as the creation of a dam or a water diversion, you should seek additional input from the Office of Water Quality, Wetlands staff at 317-233-8488 or visit: <https://www.in.gov/idem/wetlands/contact/>.
5. Work within the one-hundred-year floodway of a given body of water is regulated by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water. Contact this agency at 317-232-4160 or toll free 1-877-928-3755 for further information.
6. The physical disturbance of the stream and riparian vegetation, especially large trees overhanging any affected water bodies should be limited to only that which is absolutely necessary to complete the project. The shade provided by the large overhanging trees helps maintain proper stream temperatures and dissolved oxygen for aquatic life.
7. For projects involving construction activity (which includes clearing, grading, excavation, and other land disturbing activities) that result in the disturbance of one (1), or more, acres of total land area, project will be required to obtain permit coverage.

For additional information on permitting procedures under the Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSGP) please contact the Office of Water Quality, Stormwater Program at Stormwat@idem.in.gov. Visit the following webpage for additional information: <https://www.in.gov/idem/stormwater/construction-land-disturbance-permitting/>

To obtain permit coverage an applicant will need to identify if the project is within a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). Information may be obtained at <https://www.in.gov/idem/stormwater/construction-land-disturbance-permitting/construction-plan-submittal-and-review/>.

If the project is within a MS4, the Construction Plan must be developed to meet the requirements of the local MS4 stormwater ordinance. For projects outside an MS4 or owned and operated by a MS4, construction plans may be submitted through the Regulatory ePortal at <https://stormwater.idem.in.gov/ncore/external/home>. When accessing the portal,

you will also be informed if your plans should be submitted to a local Soil and Water Conservation District that reviews construction plans on behalf of IDEM.

The construction plan must be reviewed prior to obtaining permit coverage under the CSGP. Upon receipt of the construction plan, the MS4 or personnel of the SWCD or the Indiana Department of Environmental Management will review the plan to determine if it meets the requirements of an applicable MS4 ordinance or the CSGP. Plans that are deemed deficient will require re-submittal. If the plan is sufficient, you will be notified and instructed to submit the verification to IDEM as part of the CSGP Notice of Intent (NOI) submittal. All NOI submittals must be submitted to IDEM electronically through the Regulatory ePortal at <https://stormwater.idem.in.gov/ncore/external/home>.

Regardless of the size of your project, or which agency you work with to meet stormwater requirements, IDEM recommends that appropriate structures and techniques be utilized both during the construction phase, and after completion of the project, to minimize the impacts associated with stormwater run-off. The use of appropriate planning and site development and appropriate stormwater quality measures are recommended to prevent sediment from leaving the construction site during active land disturbance and for post-construction water quality concerns.

8. For projects involving impacts to fish and botanical resources, contact the Department of Natural Resources - Division of Fish and Wildlife (317-232-4080) for additional project input.
9. For projects involving water main construction, water main extensions, and new public water supplies, contact the Office of Water Quality - Drinking Water Branch (317-234-7418) regarding the need for permits.
10. For projects involving effluent discharges to waters of the State of Indiana, contact the Office of Water Quality - Permits Branch (317-232-8704) regarding the need for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
11. For projects involving the construction of wastewater facilities and sewer lines, contact the Office of Water Quality - Permits Branch (317-232-5579) regarding the need for permit.

Air Quality

The above-noted project (see page 1) should be designed to minimize any impact on ambient air quality in, or near, the project area. The project must comply with all federal and state air pollution regulations. Consideration should be given to the following:

1. If your project involves the construction of a new source of air emissions or the modification of an existing source of air emissions or air pollution control equipment, it will need to be reviewed by the IDEM Office of Air Quality (OAQ). A registration or permit may be required under 326 IAC 2 (<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03260/A00020.PDF>). For more information on

air permits, visit <https://www.in.gov/idem/airpermit/>, or to initiate the IDEM air permitting process, please contact the Office of Air Quality Permits Branch at 317-233-3861 or to request a pre-application meeting / discuss application call 317-234-5132 or email mcline@idem.in.gov. You can also contact IDEM's Compliance and Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) for free, confidential compliance and technical assistance at 317-232-8172, toll free: 800-988-7901 (in-state only), or visit <https://www.in.gov/idem/ctap/about-compliance-and-technical-assistance/>.

If your project involves asphalt paving, ensure that asphalt paving plants are permitted and operate properly. The use of cutback asphalt, or asphalt emulsion containing more than seven percent (7%) oil distillate, is prohibited during the months of April through October (see the Asphalt Paving Rule, 326 IAC 8-5-2 <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03260/A00080.PDF>).

2. Sources that use or emit hazardous air pollutants may be subject to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) of the Clean Air Act and corresponding state air regulations governing hazardous air pollutants. Information on the NESHAP source categories and their corresponding requirements can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/national-emission-standards-hazardous-air-pollutants-neshap-8> and the corresponding State rules at 326 IAC 20 <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03260/A00200.PDF>. Contact the IDEM's Compliance and Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) for free, confidential compliance and technical assistance at 317-232-8172, toll free: 800-988-7901 (in-state only), or visit <https://www.in.gov/idem/ctap/about-compliance-and-technical-assistance/> for help determining if a NESHAP applies to your business.
3. Indiana's open burning laws and rules make it illegal to burn trash and generally prohibit open burning in Indiana, but allows for exemptions for some types of burning. Many of the types of open burning allowed under specific conditions require prior approval before burning <https://www.in.gov/idem/openburning/open-burning-that-requires-idems-prior-approval/>. You also can seek an open burning approval for land clearing for development or change in land use, live fire training, and prescribed burning for natural land management purposes. For more information on open burning, please contact the Air Compliance and Enforcement Branch at 317-233-2721 or burnapprovals@idem.IN.gov.
4. With respect to asbestos removal, all facilities slated for renovation or demolition (except residential buildings that have four (4) or fewer dwelling units and that will not be used for commercial purposes) must be inspected by an Indiana-licensed asbestos inspector prior to the commencement of any renovation or demolition activities. If regulated asbestos-containing material (RACM) that may become airborne is found, any subsequent demolition, renovation, or asbestos removal activities must be performed in accordance with the proper notification and emission control requirements. Indiana's Asbestos Rules can be found at <http://iac.iga.in.gov/iac/T03260/A00140.PDF>. For questions on asbestos demolition and renovation activities, please visit <https://www.in.gov/idem/asbestos/>, <https://www.in.gov/idem/asbestos/contact/>, or contact the Asbestos Program at AsbestosDemoReno@idem.in.gov or 317-232-4861.

If no asbestos is found where a renovation activity will occur, or if the renovation involves removal of less than 260 linear feet of RACM off pipes, less than 160 square feet of RACM off other facility components, or less than 35 cubic feet of RACM from all facility components, the owner or operator of the project does not need to notify IDEM before beginning the renovation activity.

In all cases where a demolition activity will occur (even if no asbestos is found), the owner or operator must still notify IDEM 10 working days prior to the demolition, using the form found at https://www.in.gov/idem/forms/idem-agency-forms/#oag_compliance_asbestos.

Anyone submitting a renovation/demolition notification form will be billed a notification fee based upon the amount of friable asbestos containing material to be removed or demolished. Projects that involve the removal of more than 2,600 linear feet of friable asbestos containing materials on pipes, or 1,600 square feet or 400 cubic feet of friable asbestos containing material on other facility components, will be billed a fee of \$150 per project; projects below these amounts will be billed a fee of \$50 per project. Billings will occur on a quarterly basis.

5. Reasonable precautions must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions from construction and demolition activities. For example, wetting the area with water, constructing wind barriers, or treating dusty areas with chemical stabilizers (such as calcium chloride or several other commercial products). Dirt tracked onto paved roads from unpaved areas should be minimized. A copy of the Fugitive Dust Rule, 326 IAC 6-4 can be found at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03260/A00060.PDF> and information on controlling fugitive dust can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/aircompliance/fugitive-dust/>

If construction or demolition is conducted in a wooded area where starlings and blackbirds have roosted or abandoned buildings or building sections in which pigeons or bats have roosted for 3 to 5 years, precautionary measures should be taken to avoid an outbreak of histoplasmosis. This disease is caused by the fungus *Histoplasma capsulatum*, which stems from bird or bat droppings that have accumulated in one area for 3 to 5 years. The spores from this fungus become airborne when the area is disturbed and can cause infections over an entire community downwind of the site. The area should be wetted down prior to cleanup or demolition of the project site. For more detailed information on histoplasmosis prevention and control see <https://www.in.gov/health/erc/infectious-disease-epidemiology/histoplasmosis-a-hoosier-concern/> or please contact the Epidemiology Resource Center of the Indiana Department of Health at 317-234-7125.

6. The U.S. EPA further recommends that all homes and apartments (within three stories of ground level) be tested for radon. If in-home radon levels are determined to be 4 pCi/L or higher, then U.S. EPA recommends a follow-up test. If the second test confirms that radon levels are 4 pCi/L or higher, then U.S. EPA recommends the installation of radon-reduction measures. For a list of qualified

radon testers and radon mitigation (or reduction) specialists, visit <https://www.in.gov/health/lead-and-healthy-homes-division/radon-information/information-for-homeowners/>. Also, it is recommended that radon reduction measures be built into all new homes, particularly in areas like Indiana that have moderate to high predicted radon levels.

To learn more about radon, radon risks, and ways to reduce exposure, visit <https://www.in.gov/idem/health/common-environmental-health-threats/radon/> or <https://www.epa.gov/radon>

7. With respect to lead-based paint removal, the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) encourages all efforts to minimize human exposure to lead-based paint chips and dust. IDOH is particularly concerned that young children exposed to lead can suffer from learning disabilities. Indiana law states that any companies or individuals who perform lead abatement on targeted housing (houses or child occupied facilities built before 1978) must:
 - be licensed by IDOH as an abatement contractor,
 - provide written notification to the IDOH of each abatement project,
 - conduct a pre-abatement lead inspection or lead hazard screen,
 - conduct abatement activities using appropriately licensed individuals,
 - conduct the abatement activities using lead safe work practices, and
 - pass a post-abatement clearance procedure.

For more information about lead-based paint removal, visit <https://www.in.gov/health/lead-and-healthy-homes-division/abatement-information/>

Land Quality

To maintain compliance with all applicable laws regarding contamination and proper waste disposal, IDEM recommends that:

1. If the site is found to contain any areas used to dispose of solid or hazardous waste, you need to contact the Office of Land Quality (OLQ) at 317-234-6923.
2. All solid wastes generated by the project, or removed from the project site, need to be taken to a properly permitted solid waste processing or disposal facility. For more information, visit https://www.in.gov/idem/waste/files/permits_issued_SW_facilities.pdf.
3. If any contaminated soils are discovered during this project, they may be subject to disposal as solid and/or hazardous waste. Please contact the OLQ at 317-234-6923 to obtain information on proper disposal procedures.
4. If Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) are found at any concentration at this site, please contact the Industrial Waste Section of OLQ at 317-234-6951 for information regarding management of any PCB wastes from this site.
5. If there are any asbestos disposal issues related to this site, please contact the Solid Waste Compliance of OLQ at 317-234-6923 for information regarding the

management of asbestos wastes. (Asbestos removal is addressed above, under Air Quality.

6. If the project involves the installation or removal of an underground storage tank, or involves contamination from an underground storage tank, you must contact the IDEM Underground Storage Tank program at 317-234-5745, or at <https://www.in.gov/idem/tanks/contact/>.

Final Remarks

Should the applicant need to obtain any environmental permits in association with this proposed project, please be mindful that IC 13-15-8 requires that they notify all adjoining property owners and occupants within ten days of your submittal of each permit application. Applicants seeking multiple permits, may still meet the notification requirement with a single notice if all required permit applications are submitted with the same ten-day period.

Please note that this letter does not constitute a permit, license, endorsement, or any other form of approval on the part of either the Indiana Department of Environmental Management or any other Indiana state agency.

Should you have any questions relating to the content or recommendations of this letter, or if you have additional questions about whether a more complete environmental review of your project should be conducted, please feel free to contact Patrick Colcord at (317) 234-7134, pcolcord@idem.in.gov.

Signature(s) of the Applicant

I acknowledge that I am seeking grant monies, a bond issuance, or other public funding mechanism to cover some portion of the cost of the public works, infrastructure, or community development project as described herein, which I am working (possibly with others) to complete.

Project Description

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The

Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed Project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project's design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers.

With my signature, I do hereby affirm that I have read the letter from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management that appears directly above. In addition, I understand that to complete the project in which I am interested, with a minimum impact to the environment, I must consider all the issues addressed in the letter, and further, that I must obtain any required permits.

Dated Signature of the Public Owner
Contact/Responsible Elected Official _____

{Name of Responsible Elected Official}

Dated Signature of the Project
Planner/Consultant Contact Person _____

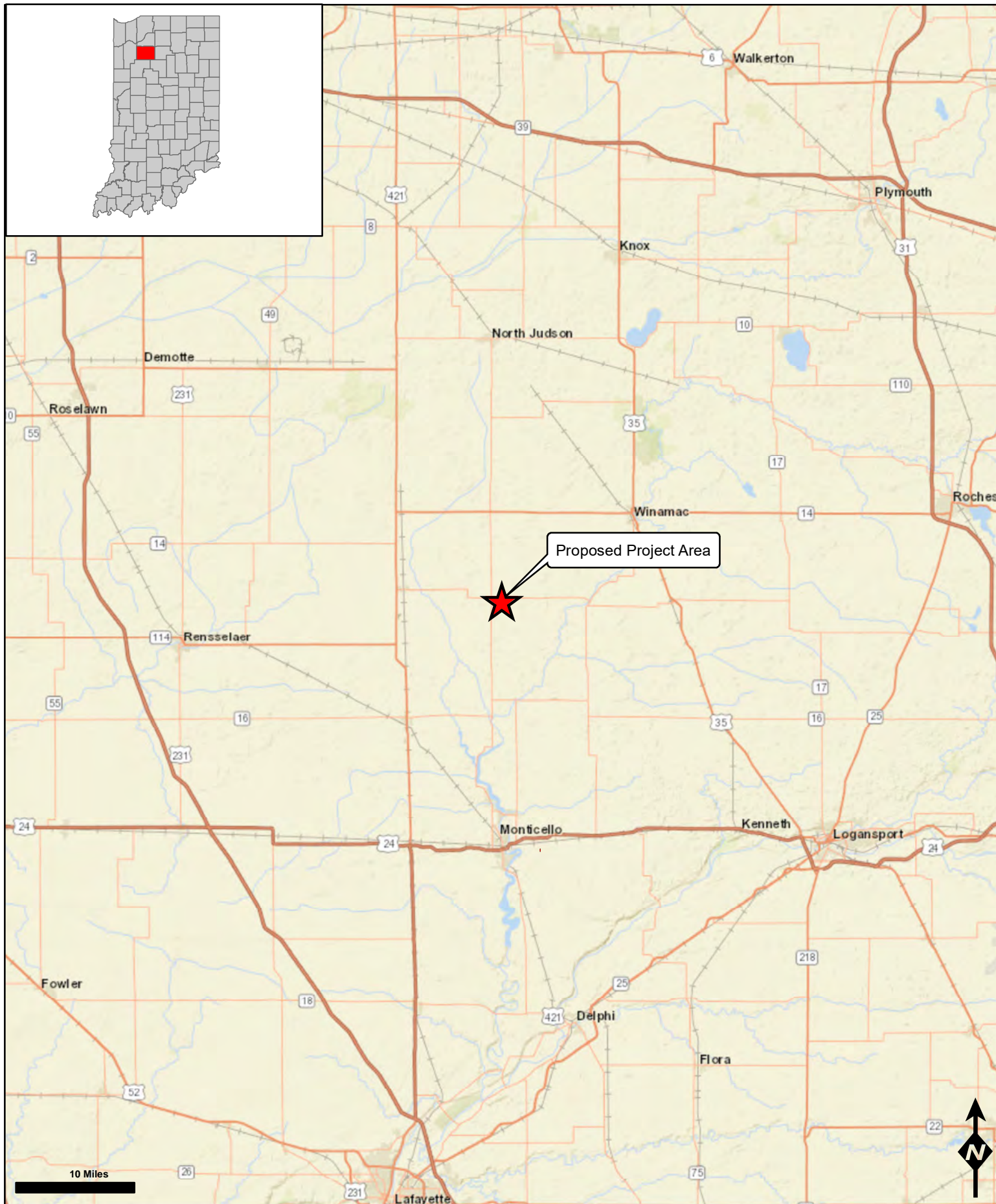


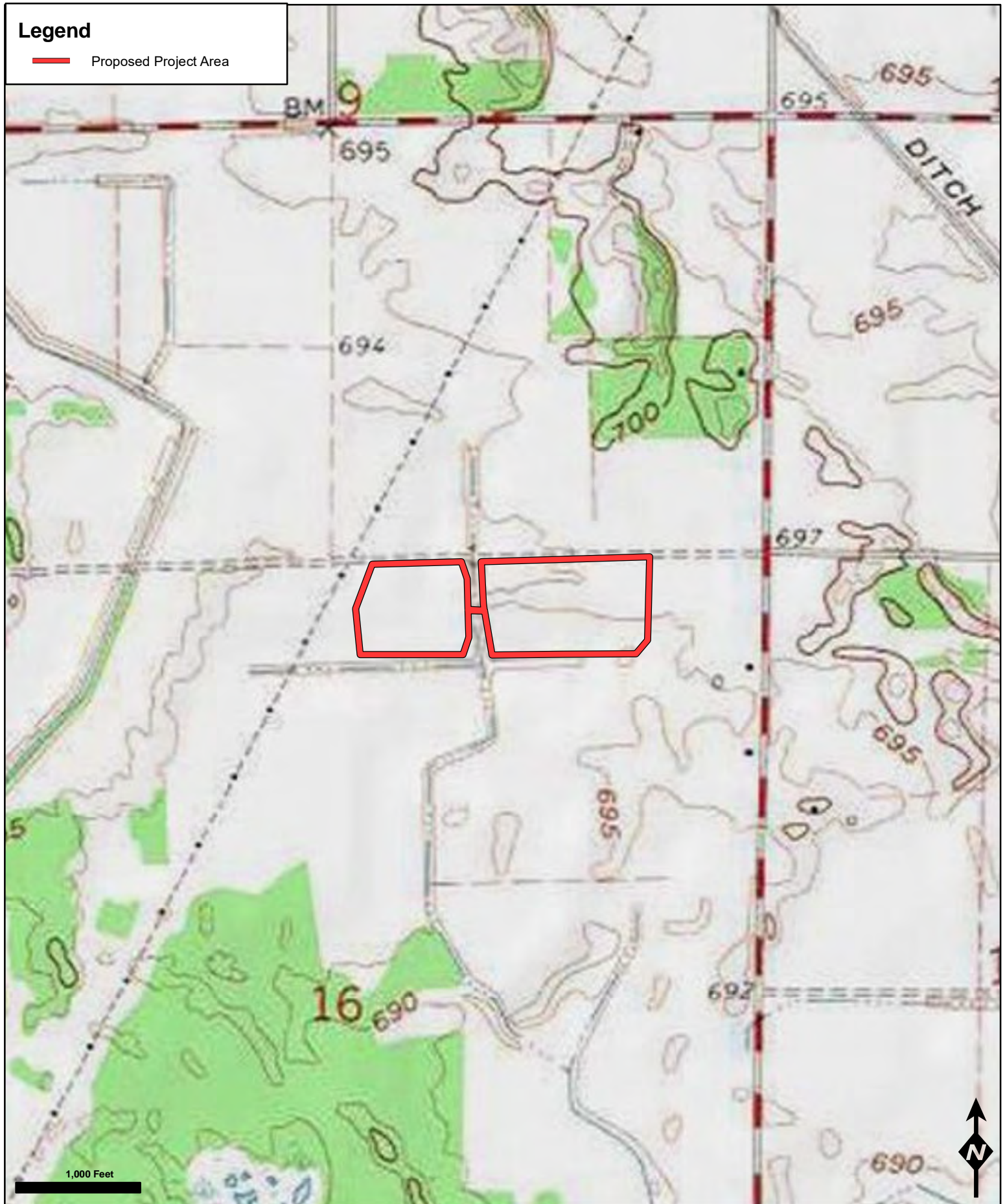
Melink Solar Development as Consultant for Carroll White REMC



Enclosure 1

Project Maps





Legend

Proposed Project Area

FIGURE 2

Topographic Map

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - Waste No Energy Anaerobic Digester Project
Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Legend


 Proposed Project Area



FIGURE 3
Area Map



Enclosure 2

Site Plans



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc





Enclosure 3

Early Coordination Recipients

The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Assistant Director for Environmental Review
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington Street, Room W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Electronic Coordination)

State Soil Scientist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana State Board of Health
2 N Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chief, North Section, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Business and Legislative Liaison
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
(Electronic Coordination – Online Review Process)

From: [INFO](#)
To: [Emmett Lodi](#); [INFO](#)
Cc: [Emily Zappia](#); [Cullen Cuchetto](#)
Subject: RE: Environmental Review Request - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm
Date: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:34:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

This letter has been designed so that all you have to do is fill out the date and the items contained within <brackets in the letter>.

The letter is signed by the responsible elected official and the applicant.

Review by IDEM is not necessary.

From: Emmett Lodi <elodi@consulttruenorth.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2024 1:20 PM
To: INFO <INFO@idem.IN.gov>
Cc: Emily Zappia <Ezappia@consulttruenorth.com>; Cullen Cuchetto <ccuchetto@consulttruenorth.com>
Subject: Environmental Review Request - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Good afternoon,

True North Consultants, Inc., on behalf of Carroll White REMC (Applicant), is working to complete an Environmental Report for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project at 8596 W 700 S in Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Applicant is seeking financial assistance through the USDA Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Services (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) program. Please see the attached materials for your reference and return the signed IDEM environmental review request letter, as well as any further recommendations, at your earliest convenience.

Please let me know if you require any additional information or have any questions.

Attached

- Project Planner/Consultant Signed IDEM environmental review request letter
- Enclosures
 - Project Maps
 - Site Plan
 - Early Coordination Recipients

Best,

|



Trusted Partner. Leading Environmental Solutions.

Emmett Lodi

Project Consultant

1000 East Warrenville Road | Suite 140 | Naperville, IL 60563
o 630.717.2880 x128 | m 224.532.8925 | f 630.689.5881

ConsultTrueNorth.com

LinkedIn

The information contained in this e-mail is intended only for the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and should not be opened, read or utilized by any other party. This message shall not be construed as official project information or as direction except as expressly provided in the contract document. Its contents (including any attachments) may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not an intended recipient you must not use, disclose, disseminate, copy or print its contents. If you receive this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete and destroy the message.

April 15, 2024

Ms. Christie Stanifer
Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 West Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641

**RE: Early Coordination Letter
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application –
RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
8596 W. 700 S., Francesville, Indiana**

To Ms. Stanifer:

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project, as shown on the enclosed maps. We are requesting comments regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and is located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed Project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project process design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. The design layout is included in the attachments.

Please submit your recommendations within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this request to Emmett Lodl. If no timely response is received, it will be assumed that your agency feels there will be no adverse effects incurred as a result of the Proposed Project. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (224) 532-8925 and elodl@consulttruenorth.com.



Regards,
True North Consultants, Inc.

Emmett Lodl

Emmett Lodl
Project Consultant

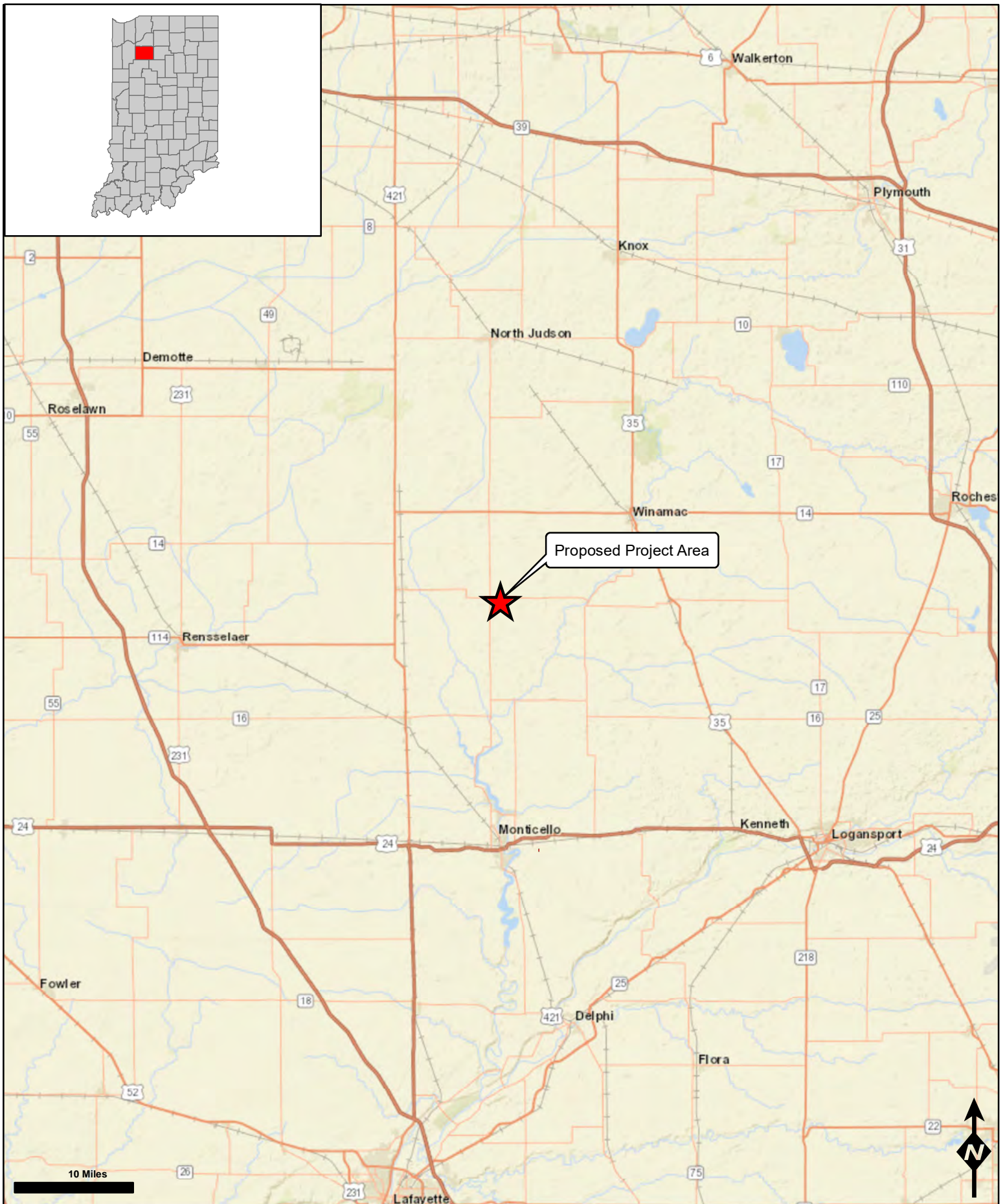
Enclosures:

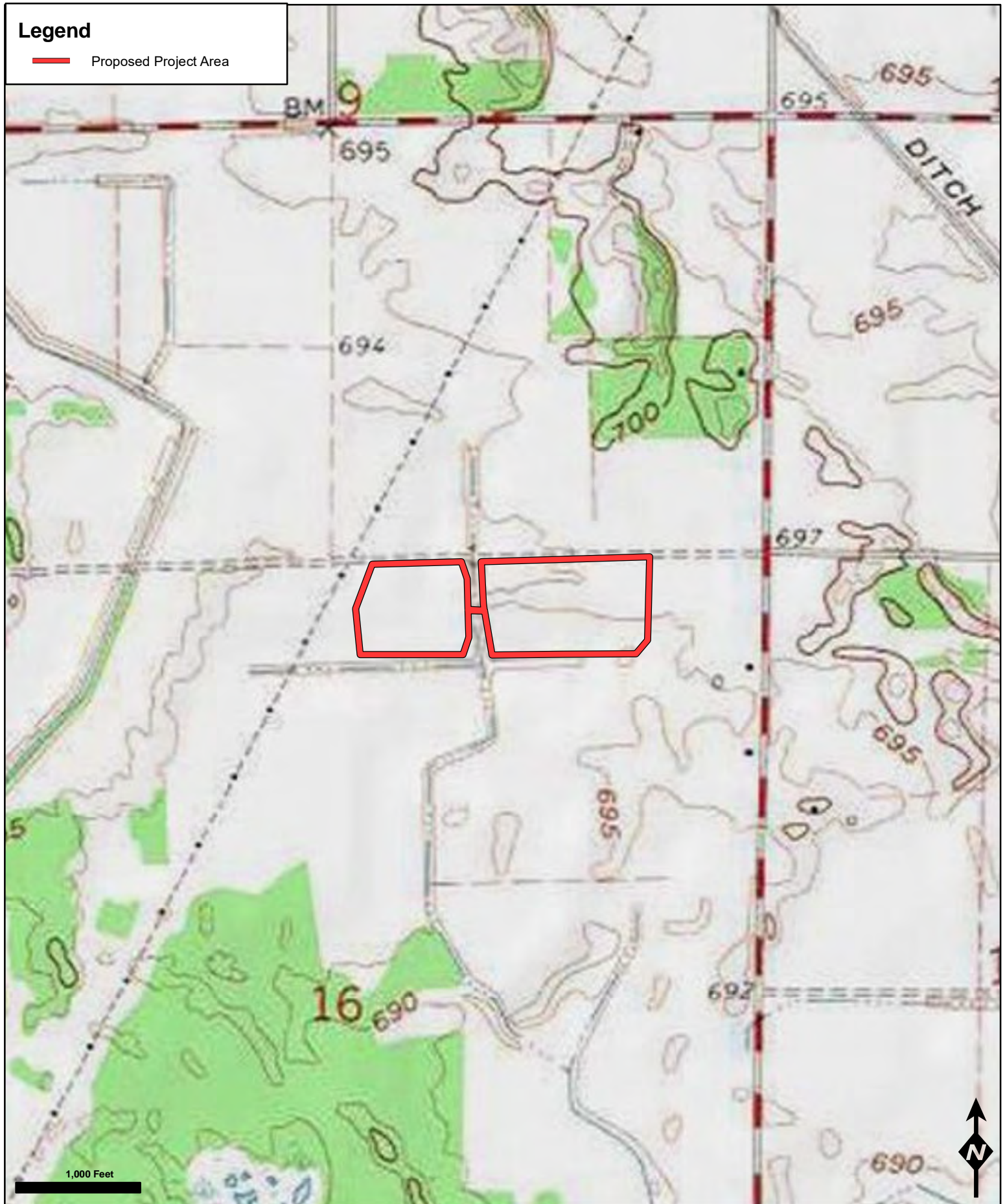
1. Project Maps
2. Site Plans
3. IPaC Documentation, dated April 15, 2024
4. Early Coordination Recipients



Enclosure 1

Project Maps






Legend

Proposed Project Area

Legend

 Proposed Project Area





Enclosure 2

Site Plans



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc





Enclosure 3

IPaC Documentation, dated April 15, 2024



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273



In Reply Refer To:

04/15/2024 16:22:19 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0077034

Project Name: Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/>

[s7process/index.html](https://www.fws.gov/s7process/index.html). This website contains step-by-step instructions which will help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and will help lead you through the Section 7 process. For all **wind energy projects and projects that include installing towers that use guy wires or are over 200 feet in height**, please contact this field office directly for assistance, even if no federally listed plants, animals or critical habitat are present within your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both

migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. **Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.**

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office

620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
(812) 334-4261

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2024-0077034

Project Name: Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Project Type: Power Gen - Solar

Project Description: This portion of the Project is a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility + BESS (3,840 kW; 4 hours; 15.36 MWh) that will be located on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of parcel ID # 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 at 8596 W.700 S., Francesville, IN 47946. The total area of disturbance, including access road and fence, is anticipated to be approximately 22 acres. The solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet (typically four to six feet, but will be determined based on geotech and final structural engineering). Construction is anticipated to take less than 15 months, excluding long lead time equipment orders. Once placed in service, this portion of the project is expected to have an operating life of up to 40 years. These Projects, including this site, will provide stabile, clean and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. Lease revenue and reduced power costs from the Projects recognized by the hosting agricultural producers will help to offset other production expenses, making their agricultural operations economically stronger. Additionally, the incorporation of micro-grids near agricultural facilities such as these will help to ensure uninterrupted food supply in the event of an extended outage. Furthermore, the Projects will displace current fossil fuel generation within the larger Carroll White/ WVPA service area and have been thoughtfully located to ensure that they compliment existing agricultural operations. From a community perspective, this portion of the Project is sited in an Energy Community (as determined using the DOE mapping tool). Therefore, construction of the Projects will also provide much needed economic development and job creation for the surrounding communities.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.9696713,-86.76102377614649,14z>



Counties: Pulaski County, Indiana

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 10 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 2 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This species only needs to be considered if the project includes wind turbine operations. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This species only needs to be considered if the project includes wind turbine operations. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Rayed Bean <i>Villosa fabalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5862	Endangered
Round Hickorynut <i>Obovaria subrotunda</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9879	Threatened
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered
Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903	Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are likely bald eagles present in your project area. For additional information on bald eagles, refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9439	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read ["Supplemental](#)

[Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

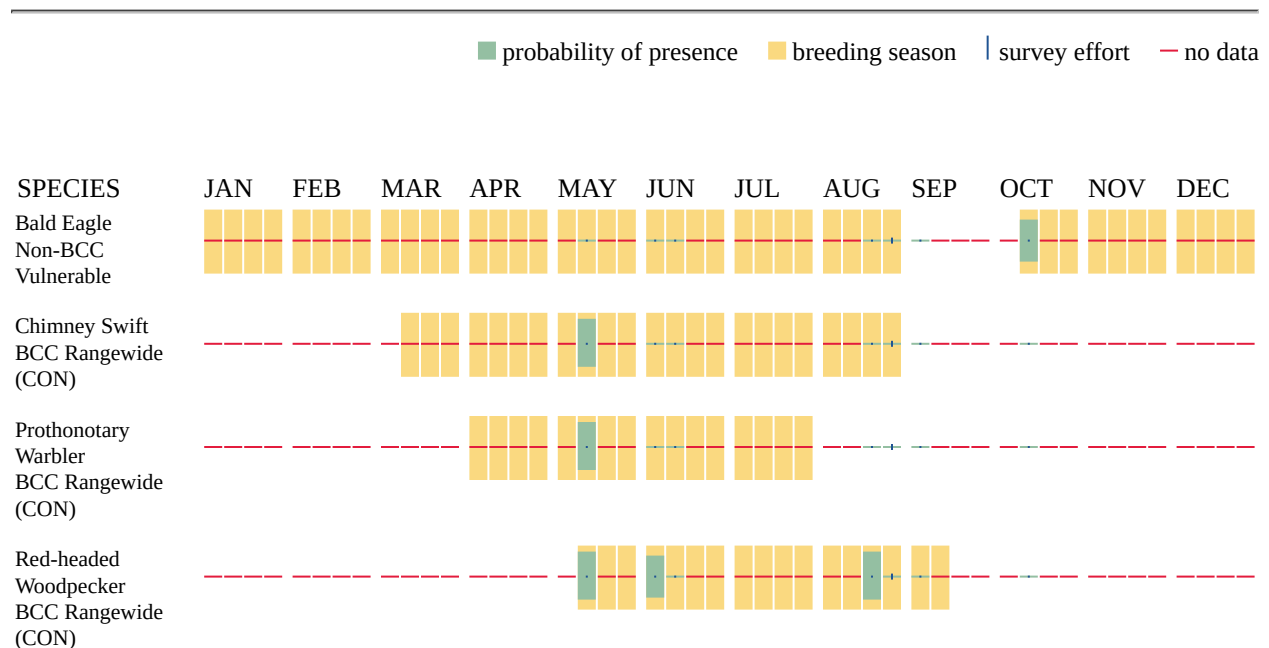
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

RIVERINE

- R5UBFx

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Department of Agriculture
Name: Emmett Lodl
Address: 1000 E Warrenville Rd STE 140
City: Naperville
State: IL
Zip: 60563
Email: elodl@consulttruenorth.com
Phone: 2245328925



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273



In Reply Refer To:

04/15/2024 16:31:16 UTC

Project code: 2024-0077034

Project Name: Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Department of Agriculture

Subject: Record of project representative's no effect determination for 'Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project'

Dear Emmett Lodl:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on April 15, 2024, for 'Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2024-0077034 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter.**

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project.

Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey), invalidates this letter. ***Answers to certain questions in the DKey commit the project proponent to implementation of conservation measures that must be followed for the ESA determination to remain valid.***

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat

Based upon your IPaC submission and a standing analysis, your project has reached the determination of "No Effect" on the northern long-eared bat. To make a no effect determination, the full scope of the proposed project implementation (action) should not have any effects (either

positive or negative), to a federally listed species or designated critical habitat. Effects of the action are all consequences to listed species or critical habitat that are caused by the proposed action, including the consequences of other activities that are caused by the proposed action. A consequence is caused by the proposed action if it would not occur but for the proposed action and it is reasonably certain to occur. Effects of the action may occur later in time and may include consequences occurring outside the immediate area involved in the action. (See § 402.17).

Under Section 7 of the ESA, if a federal action agency makes a no effect determination, no consultation with the Service is required (ESA §7). If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required except when the Service concurs, in writing, that a proposed action "is not likely to adversely affect" listed species or designated critical habitat [50 CFR §402.02, 50 CFR§402.13].

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination for the northern long-eared bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* Endangered
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate
- Rayed Bean *Villosa fabalis* Endangered
- Round Hickorynut *Obovaria subrotunda* Threatened
- Salamander Mussel *Simpsonia ambigua* Proposed Endangered
- Sheepnose Mussel *Plethobasus cyphus* Endangered
- Snuffbox Mussel *Epioblasma triquetra* Endangered
- Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* Proposed Endangered
- Whooping Crane *Grus americana* Experimental Population, Non-Essential

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may affect the animal species listed above and, if so, how they may be affected.

Next Steps

Based upon your IPaC submission, your project has reached the determination of "No Effect" on the northern long-eared bat. If there are no updates on listed species, no further consultation/coordination for this project is required with respect to the northern long-eared bat. However, the Service recommends that project proponents re-evaluate the Project in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the Project changes (includes any project changes or amendments); 2) new information reveals the Project may impact (positively or negatively) federally listed species or designated critical habitat; or 3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional coordination with the Service should take place to ensure compliance with the Act.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the Indiana Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code 2024-0077034 associated with this Project.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project':

This portion of the Project is a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility + BESS (3,840 kW; 4 hours; 15.36 MWh) that will be located on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of parcel ID # 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 at 8596 W.700 S., Francesville, IN 47946. The total area of disturbance, including access road and fence, is anticipated to be approximately 22 acres. The solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet (typically four to six feet, but will be determined based on geotech and final structural engineering). Construction is anticipated to take less than 15 months, excluding long lead time equipment orders. Once placed in service, this portion of the project is expected to have an operating life of up to 40 years. These Projects, including this site, will provide stabile, clean and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. Lease revenue and reduced power costs from the Projects recognized by the hosting agricultural producers will help to offset other production expenses, making their agricultural operations economically stronger. Additionally, the incorporation of micro-grids near agricultural facilities such as these will help to ensure uninterrupted food supply in the event of an extended outage. Furthermore, the Projects will displace current fossil fuel generation within the larger Carroll White/WVPA service area and have been thoughtfully located to ensure that they compliment existing agricultural operations. From a community perspective, this portion of the Project is sited in an Energy Community (as determined using the DOE mapping tool). Therefore, construction of the Projects will also provide much needed economic development and job creation for the surrounding communities.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.9696713,-86.76102377614649,14z>



DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the information you provided, you have determined that the Proposed Action will have no effect on the Endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Therefore, no consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) is required for those species.

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of the northern long-eared bat or any other listed species?

Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

2. The action area does not overlap with an area for which U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service currently has data to support the presumption that the northern long-eared bat is present. Are you aware of other data that indicates that northern long-eared bats (NLEB) are likely to be present in the action area?

Bat occurrence data may include identification of NLEBs in hibernacula, capture of NLEBs, tracking of NLEBs to roost trees, or confirmed NLEB acoustic detections. Data on captures, roost tree use, and acoustic detections should post-date the year when white-nose syndrome was detected in the relevant state. With this question, we are looking for data that, for some reason, may have not yet been made available to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

No

3. Does any component of the action involve construction or operation of wind turbines?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

4. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

5. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

6. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

No

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

No

9. Have you determined that your proposed action will have no effect on the northern long-eared bat? Remember to consider the [effects of any activities](#) that would not occur but for the proposed action.

If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer “No” below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project’s action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a “no effect” determination for the northern long-eared bat.

Note: Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives) must consult with USFWS on federal agency actions that may affect listed species [50 CFR 402.14(a)]. Consultation is not required for actions that will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, this determination key will not provide a consistency or verification letter for actions that will not affect listed species. If you believe that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, please answer “No” and continue through the key. Remember that this key addresses only effects to the northern long-eared bat. Consultation with USFWS would be required if your action may affect another listed species or critical habitat. The definition of [Effects of the Action](#) can be found here: <https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions>

Yes

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Will all project activities be completed by April 1, 2024?

No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Department of Agriculture
Name: Emmett Lodl
Address: 1000 E Warrenville Rd STE 140
City: Naperville
State: IL
Zip: 60563
Email: elodl@consulttruenorth.com
Phone: 2245328925



Enclosure 4

Early Coordination Recipients

The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Assistant Director for Environmental Review
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington Street, Room W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Electronic Coordination)

State Soil Scientist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana State Board of Health
2 N Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chief, North Section, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Business and Legislative Liaison
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
(Electronic Coordination – Online Review Process)

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

**State of Indiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Early Coordination/Environmental Assessment**

DNR#: ER-26443

Request Received: April 15, 2024

Requestor:

Emmett Lodi
True North Consultants, Inc.
1000 East Warrenville Road, Suite 140
Naperville, IL 60563

Project:

RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm: construction and installation of a 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) within a perimeter fence at 8596 CR 700 South, Francesville; PACE

County/Site Info: Pulaski County

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above referenced project per your request. Our agency offers the following comments for your information and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

If our agency has regulatory jurisdiction over the project, the recommendations contained in this letter may become requirements of any permit issued. If we do not have permitting authority, all recommendations are voluntary.

Regulatory Assessment:

Formal approval by the Department of Natural Resources under the regulatory programs administered by the Division of Water is not required for this project.

Natural Heritage Database:

The Natural Heritage Program's data have been checked. To date, no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity.

Fish and Wildlife Comments:

Avoid and minimize impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources to the greatest extent possible, and compensate for impacts. The following are recommendations that address potential impacts identified in the proposed project area:

A) Fencing

If fencing will be used, wildlife-friendly fence designs are recommended. Fencing flush with the ground and in riparian corridors can negatively impact wildlife's ability to move across landscapes. To minimize impact to wildlife movement, the following is recommended:

- Do not place fencing flush to the ground. Instead, leave a gap 12 or more inches off the ground to allow small and medium wildlife to pass through the finished project. Do not leave jagged wire or chain at the bottom of the fence to avoid injuring wildlife passing under.
- Fencing should consist of agricultural type fencing with a minimum 6" spacing of wires and the fencing should be raised roughly 12" above the ground to help small to medium sized wildlife move across the landscape.

- Use of barbed or razor wire is not recommended as it can harm or kill wildlife. Instead, consider a minimum of 10' fencing to exclude deer and/or use of fence rollers positioned outward at a 45-degree angle.

B) Pollinator Habitat

Studies have shown pollinator habitat planted between solar panels or on the edges of fencing is an effective method to reducing habitat and species loss from solar projects. To cultivate habitat for pollinators, raising solar panels above herbaceous vegetation height is recommended to reduce need for mowing. Mowing should be done sparingly and, if possible, in early spring and mid to late fall. To create effective habitat, native species should be used. For more information, please visit <https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/articles/buzzing-around-solar-pollinator-habitat-under-solar-arrays#:~:text=In%20order%20to%20thrive%2C%20pollinators,the%20pollinators%20and%20nearby%20agriculture.>

The additional measures listed below should be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources:

1. Revegetate all bare and disturbed areas that are not currently mowed and maintained with a mixture of grasses, sedges, and wildflowers native to Northern Indiana and specifically for stream bank/floodway stabilization purposes as soon as possible upon completion; turf-type grasses (including low-endophyte, friendly endophyte, and endophyte free tall fescue but excluding all other varieties of tall fescue) may be used in currently mowed areas only. A native herbaceous seed mixture must include at least 5 species of grasses and sedges and 5 species of wildflowers.
2. Minimize and contain within the project limits all tree and brush clearing.
3. Do not cut any trees suitable for Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat roosting (3 inches or greater diameter-at-breast height, living or dead, with loose hanging bark, or with cracks, crevices, or cavities) from April 1 through September 30.
4. All excavated material must be properly spread or completely removed from the project site such that erosion and off-site sedimentation of the material is prevented.
5. Do not deposit or allow construction/demolition materials or debris to fall or otherwise enter the waterway. Any incidental fallen material or debris in the waterway must be removed within 24 hours using best management practices, particularly lifting material out of the waterway and not dragging it across the streambed whenever possible.
6. Appropriately designed measures for controlling erosion and sediment must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the waterbody or leaving the construction site; maintain these measures until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.
7. Seed and protect all disturbed streambanks and slopes not protected by other methods that are 3:1 or steeper with erosion control blankets that are heavy-duty, biodegradable, and net free or that use loose-woven / Leno-woven netting to minimize the entrapment and snaring of small-bodied wildlife such as snakes and turtles (follow manufacturer's recommendations for selection and installation); seed and apply mulch on all other disturbed areas.
8. Do not excavate or place fill in any riparian wetland.

Contact Staff:

Our agency appreciates this opportunity to be of service. Please contact me at RVanVoorhis@dnr.IN.gov or (317) 232-8163 if we can be of further assistance.

Rachel Van Voorhis

Rachel Van Voorhis
Environmental Coordinator
Division of Fish and Wildlife

Date: May 15, 2024



Organization and Project Information

Project ID:

Des. ID:

Project Title: Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Name of Organization: True North Consultants

Requested by: Emmett Lodl

Environmental Assessment Report

1. Geological Hazards:

- High liquefaction potential

2. Mineral Resources:

- Bedrock Resource: High Potential
- Sand and Gravel Resource: Low Potential

3. Active or abandoned mineral resources extraction sites:

- None documented in the area

*All map layers from Indiana Map (maps.indiana.edu)

DISCLAIMER:

This document was compiled by Indiana University, Indiana Geological Survey, using data believed to be accurate; however, a degree of error is inherent in all data. This product is distributed "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability to a particular purpose or use. No attempt has been made in either the design or production of these data and document to define the limits or jurisdiction of any federal, state, or local government. The data used to assemble this document are intended for use only at the published scale of the source data or smaller (see the metadata links below) and are for reference purposes only. They are not to be construed as a legal document or survey instrument. A detailed on-the-ground survey and historical analysis of a single site may differ from these data and this document.

This information was furnished by Indiana Geological Survey

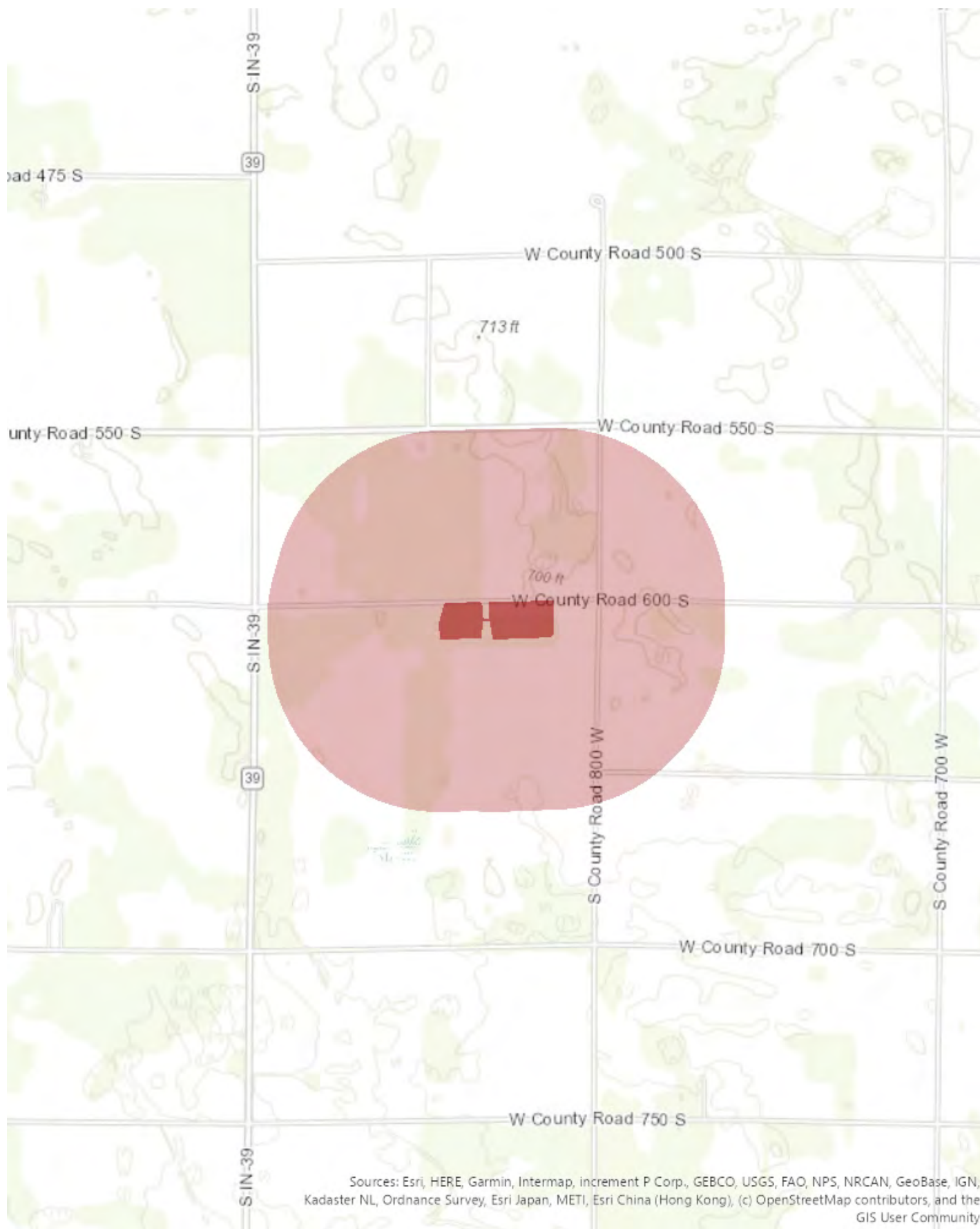
Address: 1001 E. 10th St., Bloomington, IN 47405

Email: IGSEnvir@indiana.edu

Phone: 812 855-7428

Date: April 16, 2024







Metadata:

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- https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Industrial_Minerals_SandAndGravel_Resources/MapServer/info/metadata/metadata.xml?format=default&output=html
- https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Bedrock_Geology//MapServer/info/metadata/metadata.xml?format=default&output=html





Organization and Project Information

Project ID:

Des. ID:

Project Title: Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Name of Organization: True North Consultants

Requested by: Emmett Lodl

Environmental Assessment Report

1. Geological Hazards:

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2. Mineral Resources:

- Bedrock Resource: High Potential
- Sand and Gravel Resource: Low Potential

3. Active or abandoned mineral resources extraction sites:

- None documented in the area

*Map layers from the [Indiana Geological and Water Survey](#) and [Indiana Map](#)

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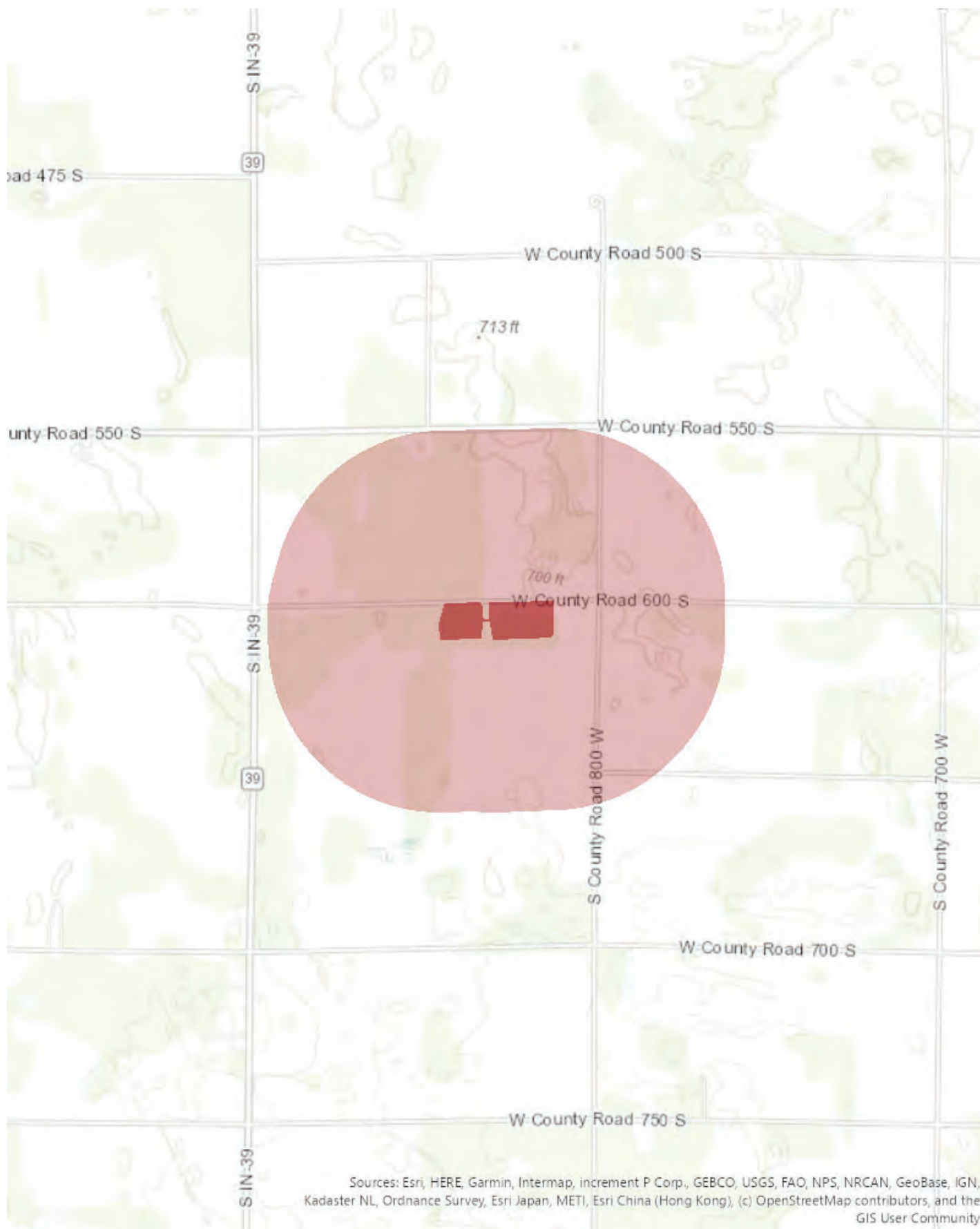
This information was furnished by Indiana Geological Survey

Address: 420 N. Walnut St., Bloomington, IN 47404

Email: IGSEnvir@indiana.edu

Phone: 812 855-7428

Date: April 16, 2024



Metadata:

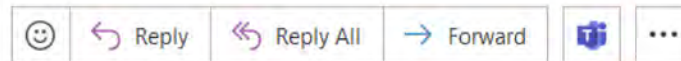
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- https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Industrial_Minerals_SandAndGravel_Resources/MapServer/info/metadata
- https://portal.igs.indiana.edu/arcgis/rest/services/Bedrock_Geology/MapServer/info/metadata

Your INDHC Data Request has been received



TDavis@dnr.in.gov

To  Emmett Lodi



Tue 4/16/2024 2:33 PM

This email serves as notification that your submitted data request has been received by the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center. Requests will be processed in order of receipt, and please allow for up to two weeks for return of the requested information. If you require immediate assistance or further information, I can be reached at the contact information below.

Best regards,

Taylor Davis Astle (she/her)

Data Manager, IN Natural Heritage Data Center

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

402 W. Washington Street, Room W-267

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

317-233-2558 (O)

TDavis@dnr.in.gov

April 16, 2024

Mr. Greg McKay
Chief, North Branch, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

**RE: Early Coordination Letter
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application –
RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
8596 W. 700 S., Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana**

To Mr. Greg McKay:

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project, as shown on the enclosed maps. We are requesting comments regarding any possible environmental effects associated with this project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as #66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project process design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers. The design layout is included in the attachments.

Please submit your recommendations within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this request to Emmett Lodl. If no timely response is received, it will be assumed that your agency feels there will be no adverse effects incurred as a result of the Proposed Project. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (224) 532-8925 and elodl@consulttruenorth.com.



Regards,
True North Consultants, Inc.

Emmett Lodl

Emmett Lodl
Project Consultant

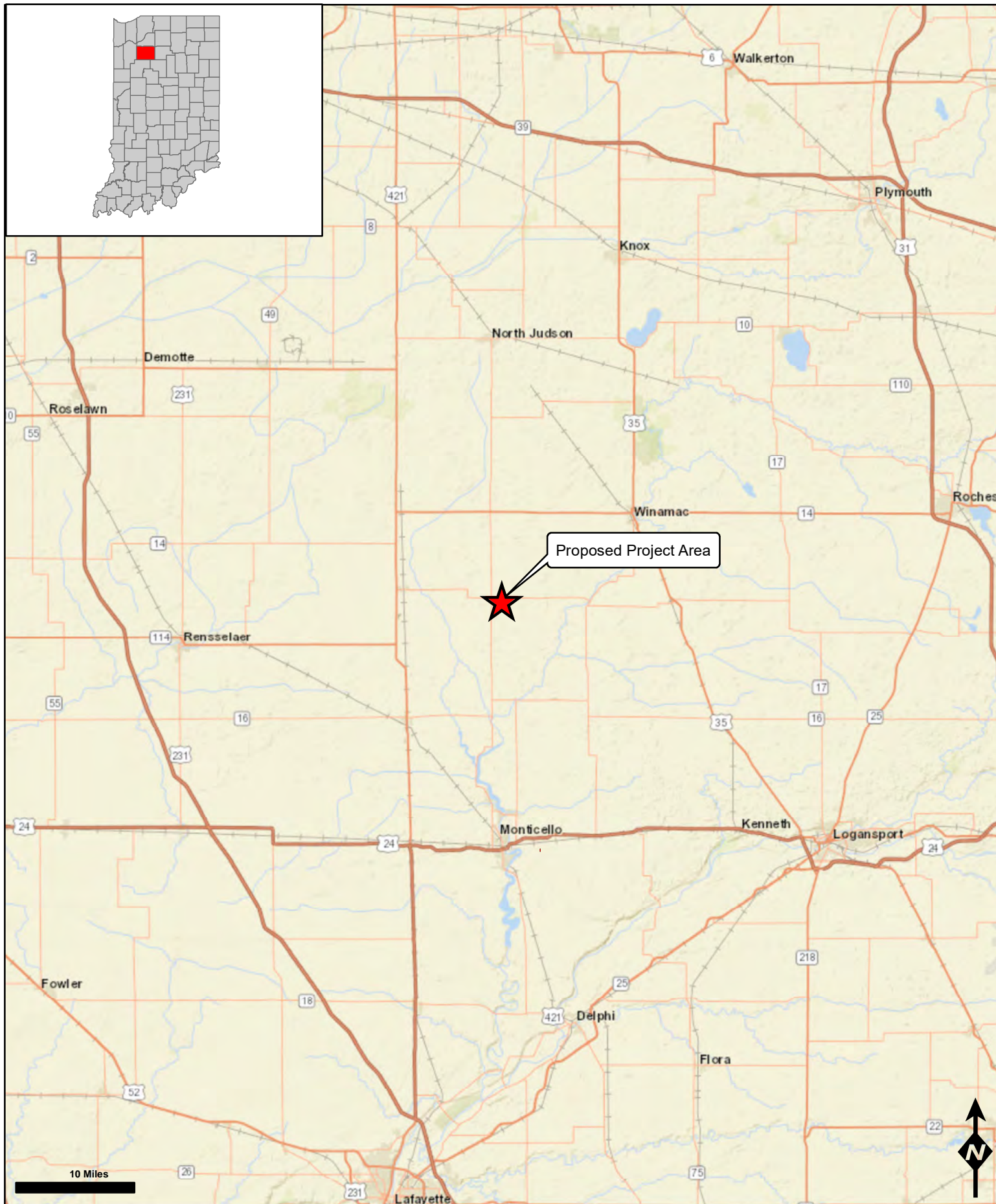
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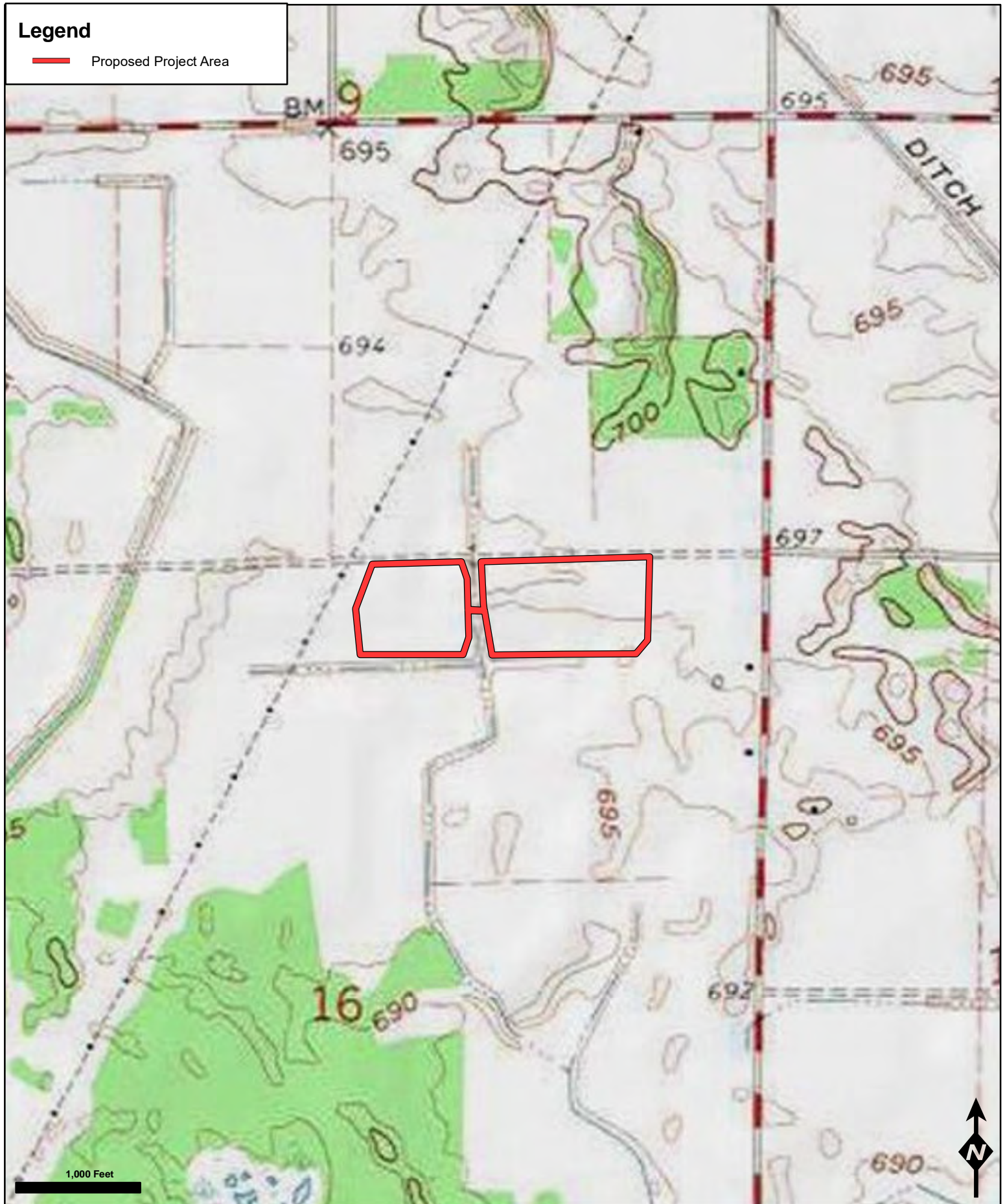
1. Project Maps
2. Site Plans
3. National Wetlands Inventory Map
4. Early Coordination Recipients




Enclosure 1

Project Maps





Legend

 Proposed Project Area





Enclosure 2

Site Plans



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc













Enclosure 3

National Wetlands Inventory Map



April 16, 2024

Wetlands

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
|  Estuarine and Marine Deepwater |  Freshwater Emergent Wetland |  Lake |
|  Estuarine and Marine Wetland |  Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland |  Other |
| |  Freshwater Pond |  Riverine |

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



Enclosure 4

Early Coordination Recipients

The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Assistant Director for Environmental Review
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington Street, Room W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Electronic Coordination)

State Soil Scientist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana State Board of Health
2 N Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chief, North Section, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Business and Legislative Liaison
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
(Electronic Coordination – Online Review Process)

From: [Emmett Lodi](#)
To: [Matthews, Scott A CIV USARMY CELRL \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed Carroll White REMC Pace Loan Application - Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 2:07:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you for the information regarding the NWI boundaries. We've communicated your input about the wetland delineation back to the client and will see how they want to proceed.

Best,

Emmett Lodi

Project Consultant

1000 East Warrenville Road | Suite 140 | Naperville, IL 60563
o 630.717.2880 x128 | m 224.532.8925 | f 630.689.5881

[ConsultTrueNorth.com](https://www.consulttruenorth.com)

From: Matthews, Scott A CIV USARMY CELRL (USA) <Scott.A.Matthews@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 9:53 AM
To: Emmett Lodi <elodi@consulttruenorth.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed Carroll White REMC Pace Loan Application - Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Thanks for the email. Please note, the NWI boundaries are not identified wetland boundaries. Those are reference only. A wetland delineation in accordance with the Corps 87 Manual and appropriate supplement would be needed to identified the presences of wetlands.

V/r

Scott Matthews
Chief, North Branch
Indianapolis Regulatory Office
Office: 317-543-9424
Mobile: 463-230-1022
Visit our website: www.lrd.usace.army.mil



From: Emmett Lodi <elodi@consulttruenorth.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 3:26 PM

To: Matthews, Scott A CIV USARMY CELRL (USA) <Scott.A.Matthews@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Proposed Carroll White REMC Pace Loan Application - Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Hi Scott,

Thank you for the response relating to the Proposed Carroll White REMC Pace Loan Application - Pulaski County Egg Farm Project. Pertaining to your comments about discharge of dredged or fill material, the client has specified that there will be no discharge of dredge or fill material within the NWI mapped wetland areas. Additionally, the utility that intersects the mapped NWI will be directionally bored so there will be no impacts to wetlands; therefore, we will not be submitting a DA permit application at this time.

Best,

Emmett Lodl

Project Consultant

1000 East Warrenville Road | Suite 140 | Naperville, IL 60563

o 630.717.2880 x128 | m 224.532.8925 | f 630.689.5881

ConsultTrueNorth.com

From: Matthews, Scott A CIV USARMY CELRL (USA) <Scott.A.Matthews@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 1:16 PM

To: Emmett Lodl <elodl@consulttruenorth.com>

Subject: Proposed Carroll White REMC Pace Loan Application - Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Mr. Lodl,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) exercises regulatory authority under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, 1972 (33 USC 1344) for certain activities in "waters of the United States (U.S.)." These waters include all waters that are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce. "Waters of the U.S." include hydrologically connected lakes, rivers, and stream channels exhibiting an Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM); wetlands; sloughs; and wet meadows and wetlands adjacent to "waters of the U.S."

The information you provided is insufficient to determine the potential presence of water of the U.S. and whether impacts would occur to them. If the project would necessitate the discharge of dredged or fill material below the Ordinary High Water Mark of any "waters of the U.S." including wetlands, then you should submit a DA permit application for review by this office. We will need a completed DA permit application along with additional details regarding the project's design, scope, construction methods, purpose and a delineation of all "waters of the U.S.," including the coordinates and locations of each "water" within the proposed project area and all impacts to

waters (linear feet, width and acreage).

To submit your DA Permit application electronically, save documents as a PDF (must not exceed 10 megabytes) and submit as an attachment to CELRL.Door.To.The.Corps@usace.army.mil or utilize our online permitting dashboard at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs>.

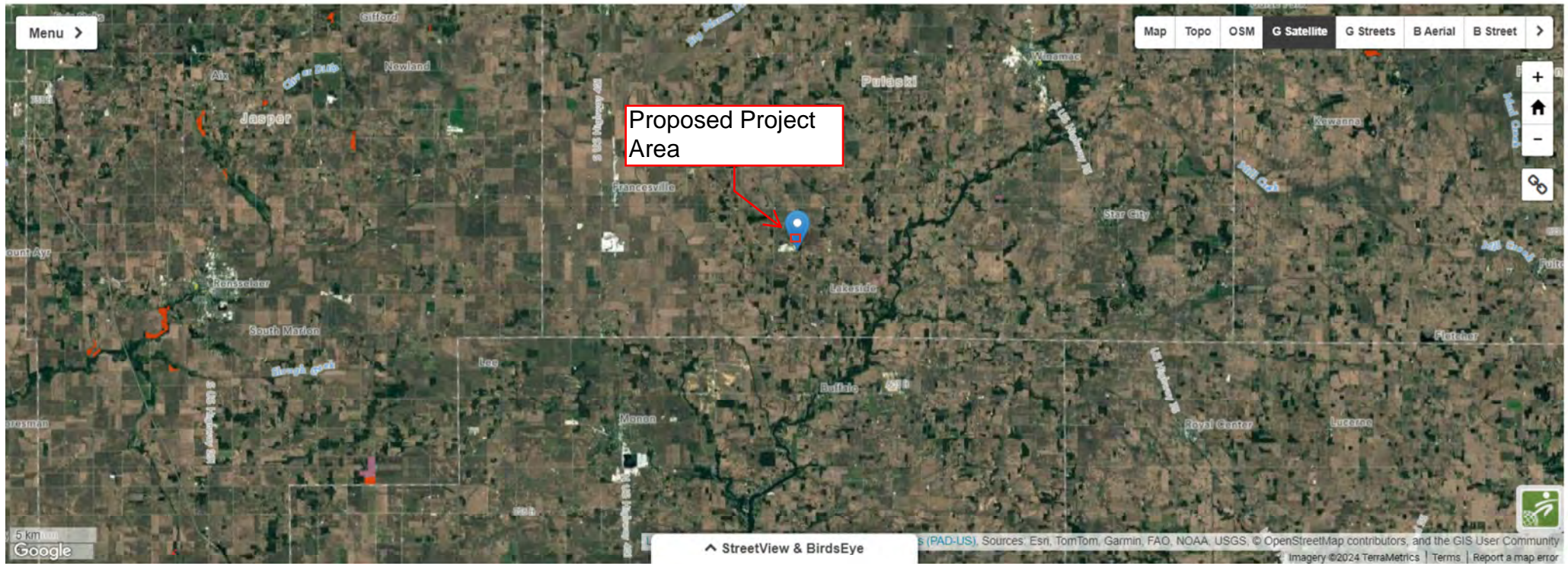
Our comments on this project are limited to only those effects which may fall within our area of jurisdiction and thus does not obviate the need to obtain other permits from State or local agencies.

Further information on the Regulatory Program, including the DA Permit application, can be obtained from our website at <https://www.lrd.usace.army.mil/Wetlands-Permits/>. Please allow sufficient time in your preconstruction schedule for the processing of a DA permit application.

Sincerely,

Scott Matthews
Chief, North Branch
Indianapolis Regulatory Office
Office: 317-543-9424
Mobile: 463-230-1022
Visit our website: www.lrd.usace.army.mil







Find a River

State

State

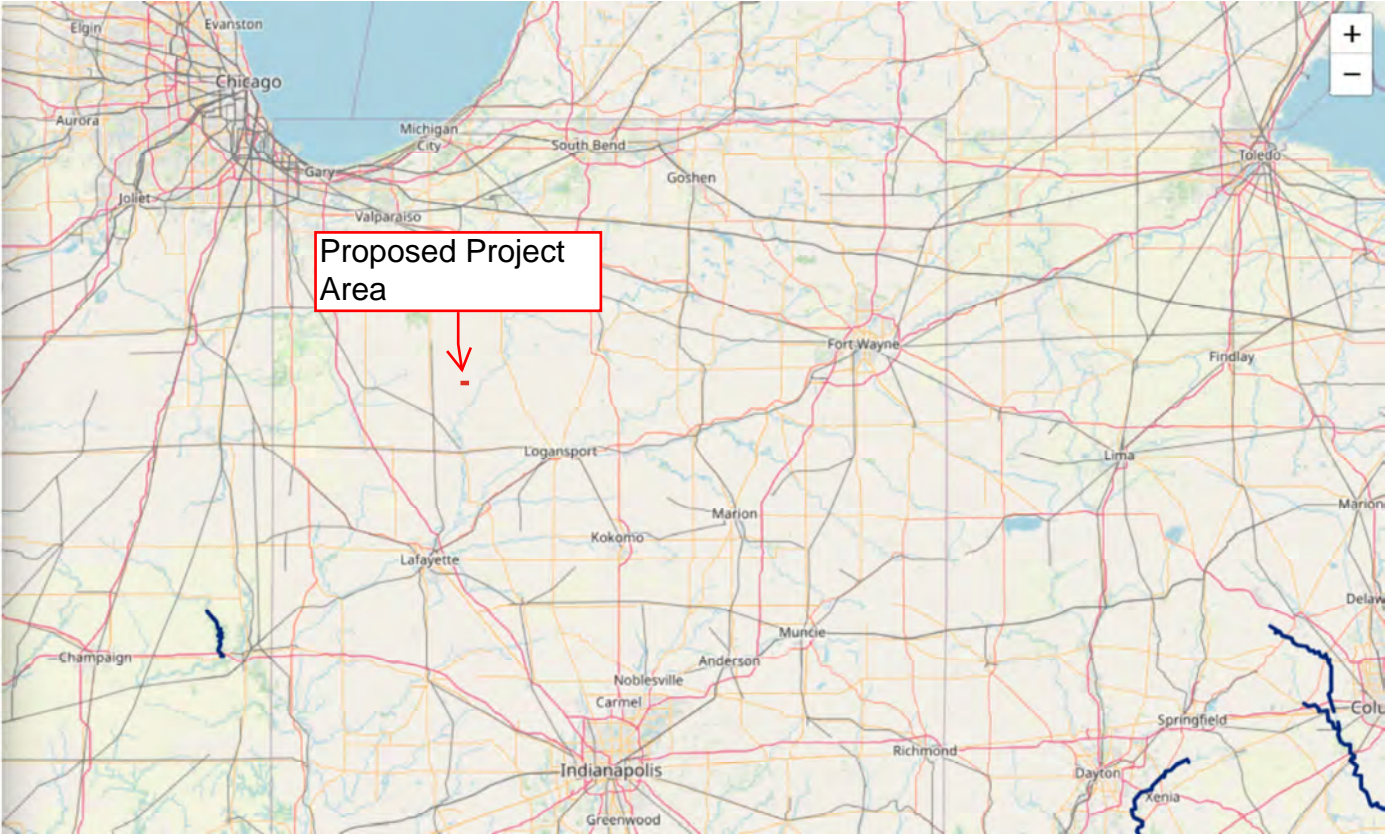
^

Classification

▼

Outstandingly Remarkable Values

▼



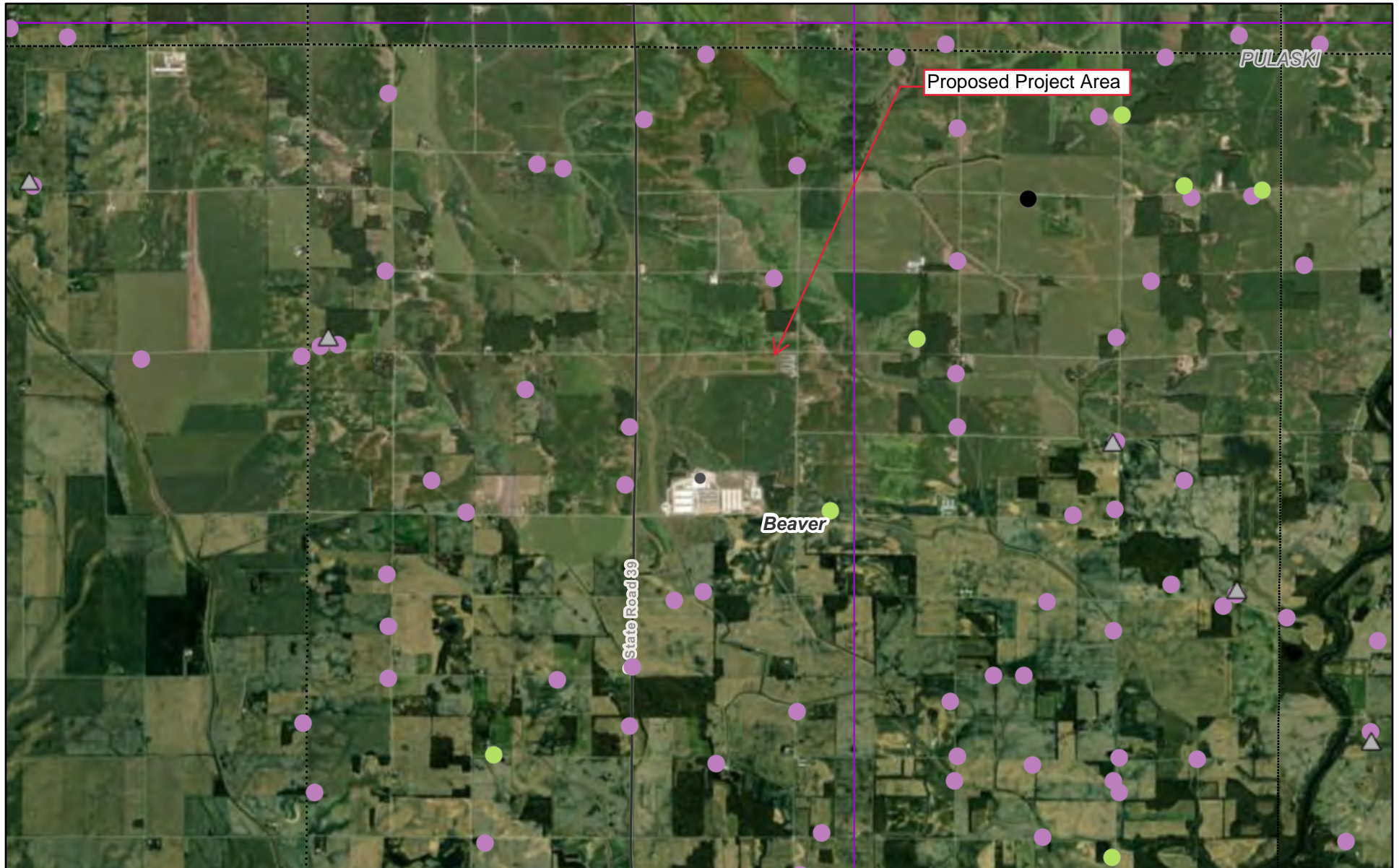
Nationwide Rivers Inventory

This is a listing of more than 3,200 free-flowing river segments in the U.S. that are believed to possess one or more "outstandingly remarkable" values.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

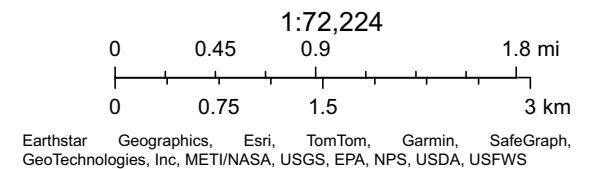


DHPA IHBBC Map



4/16/2024, 3:36:31 PM

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Counties | County Survey Sites | Demolished |
| Cemeteries | Notable | Civil Township Boundaries |
| | Contributing | USGS Topo Quads |





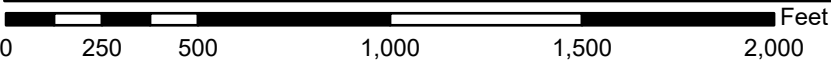
APPENDIX V

Floodplains

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMMette



86°46'7"W 40°58'24"N



1:6,000

86°45'30"W 40°57'57"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		17.5 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped



The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **10/1/2024 at 4:59 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.



FFRMS Freeboard Value Approach Report

Report generated by the Federal Flood Standard Support Tool on Tue Oct 08 2024. For more information on FFRMS and the data, visit <https://floodstandard.climate.gov>.

Summary

Based on the user-defined location and **non-critical** designation, the proposed action **is not** in the **coastal or riverine** FFRMS floodplain. However, there are additional resilience measures you might consider. Check on the resources below to learn more.

Projects located in the FFRMS floodplain should be designed consistent with the applicable policies and directives of the agency taking or approving the action.

Proposed Action Details

Location centroid (Latitude, Longitude): **Y: 40.969654 X: -86.762308**

Service criticality: **Non-critical** Service Life: **Through 2060**

Consult with the applicable agency to identify any agency-specific policies, guidance, protocols, or direction on the critical action determination. The services of a professional engineer, architect, or other licensed design professional are recommended for designing critical actions or assets with long intended service life, and for other situations where risk tolerance is low because of unique characteristics of the action.

Considerations of Freeboard approach at this location

No additional considerations at this location.

Next Steps

This is the Step 1 of the 8-step decision-making process required in section 2(a) of Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management (Determine if the proposed action within the FFRMS floodplain). Follow the remainder of the 8-step process outlined in the [Implementation Guidelines \(2015\)](#), page 4, including Step 5 which include minimizing harm and restoring and preserving natural and beneficial values. (Please refer to the Nature Based Solutions section). A licensed design professional should be contacted for the design or engineering of the action. If an action is in the FFRMS floodplain and its location is the only practicable alternative, then you may need the services of a professional engineer, architect, or other licensed design professional to determine how to minimize the impacts of flood and make the action resilient (e.g., elevation, flood-proofing and/or nature-based solutions), especially when dealing with critical actions.

Assistance

To contact the FEMA Regional Floodplain Management & Insurance FFRMS Point of Contact for assistance, e-mail FEMA at FEMA-FFRMS-SUPPORT-REQUEST@fema.dhs.gov.



Project Location



1:18,056

FFRMS Floodplain



Project Location



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency

STANDARD FLOOD HAZARD DETERMINATION FORM (SFHDF)

PAPERWORK BURDEN DISCLOSURE NOTICE

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and submitting the form. This collection of information is mandatory. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed in the upper right corner of this form. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Washington, DC, 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB Collection 1660-0040). **NOTE: DO NOT SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THIS ADDRESS.**

INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION 1

1. **LENDER/SERVICER NAME AND ADDRESS:** Enter lender name and address.

2. **COLLATERAL DESCRIPTION:** Preparer should coordinate with user to ensure the collateral is sufficiently identified. Suggested forms of collateral identification include, but are not limited to, property address, parcel or lot number and longitude/latitude. If needed, additional information may be attached to this form.

3. **LENDER/SERVICER ID NO:** Optional. Preparer should coordinate with user to ensure the lender is sufficiently identified on the form. The lender name and address (Box 1. above) may be sufficient.

4. **LOAN IDENTIFIER:** Optional. May be used by lenders to conform with their individual method of identifying loans.

5. **AMOUNT OF FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED:** Optional. The minimum federal requirement for this amount is the lesser of: the outstanding principal loan balance; the value of the improved property, mobile home and/or personal property used to secure the loan; or the maximum statutory limit of flood insurance coverage. A lender retains the prerogative to require flood insurance in excess of the minimum federal requirements not by the direction of FEMA. National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies do not provide coverage in excess of the insured value of the building/mobile home/personal property.

SECTION 2

A. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) COMMUNITY JURISDICTION

1. **NFIP Community Name.** Enter the complete name of the community (as indicated on the NFIP map) in which the building or mobile home is located. Under the NFIP, a community is the political unit that has authority to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations for the areas within its jurisdiction. A community may be any State or area or political subdivision thereof, or any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or authorized native organization. (Examples: Brewer, City of; Washington, Borough of; Worchester, Township of; Baldwin County; Jefferson Parish) For a building or mobile home that may have been annexed by one community but is shown on another community's NFIP map, enter the Community Name for the community with land-use jurisdiction over the building or mobile home.

2. **County(ies).** Enter the name of the county or counties in which the community is located. For unincorporated areas of a county, enter "unincorporated areas." For independent cities, enter "independent city."

3. **State.** Enter the two-digit state abbreviation. (Examples: VA, TX, CA)

4. **NFIP Community Number.** Enter the 6-digit NFIP community number. This number can be determined by consulting the NFIP Community Status Book or can be found on the NFIP map; copies of either can be obtained from FEMA's Website <http://msc/fema.gov> or by calling 1-800-358-9616. If no NFIP Community Number exists for the community, enter "none."

B. NFIP DATA AFFECTING BUILDING/MOBILE HOME

The information in this section (excluding the LOMA/LOMR information) is obtained by reviewing the NFIP map on which the building/mobile home is located. The current NFIP map may be obtained from FEMA by calling 1-800-358-9616. Scanned copies of the NFIP maps can be viewed on FEMA's website at <http://msc.fema.gov>. Note that even when an NFIP map panel is not printed, it may be reflected on a community's NFIP map index with its proper number, date, and flood zone indicated; enter these data accordingly.

1. **NFIP Map Number or Community-Panel Number.** Enter the 11-digit number shown on the NFIP map that covers the building or mobile home. (Examples: 480214 0022C; 58103C0075F). Some older maps will have a 9-digit number (Example: 12345601A). Note that the first six digits will not match the NFIP Community Number when the sixth digit is a "C" or when one community has annexed land from another but the NFIP map has not yet been updated to reflect this annexation. When the sixth digit is a "C", the NFIP map is in countywide format and shows the flood hazards for the geographic areas of the county on one map, including flood hazards for incorporated communities and for any unincorporated county contained within the county's geographic limits. Such countywide maps will list an NFIP Map Number. For maps not in such countywide format, the NFIP will list a Community-Panel Number on each panel. If no NFIP map is in effect for the location of the building or mobile home, enter "none."

2. NFIP Map Panel Effective/Revised Date. Enter the map effective date or the map revised date shown on the NFIP map. (Example: 6/15/93)
This will be the latest of all dates shown on the map.

3. Is there a Letter of Map Change (LOMC)? This field can remain blank if no Letter of Map Change (LOMC) (these include the Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA), Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or similar FEMA Map Letter(s)) applies to the subject property. If there is a LOMC, list the date and number. Information on the LOMC is available from the following sources:

* The community's official copy of its NFIP map(s) should have a copy of all subsequently-issued FEMA Letters attached.

* For a LOMC issued on or after October 1, 1994. Information is available on FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping/compendium-flood-map-changes>.

* The FEMA Map Service Center website is <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>.

4. Flood Zone. Enter the flood zone(s) in which the building or mobile home is located. (Examples: A, AE, A4, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/AO, V, VE, V12, AH, AO, B, C, X, D). If any part of the building or mobile home is within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), the entire building or mobile home is considered to be in the SFHA. All flood zones beginning with the letter "A" or "V" are considered to be in the SFHA. Each flood zone is defined in the legend of the NFIP map on which it appears. If there is no NFIP map for the subject area, enter "none."

5. No NFIP Map. If no NFIP map covers the area where the building or mobile home is located, check this box.

C. FEDERAL FLOOD INSURANCE AVAILABILITY. This is a review of community eligibility; it does not address individual building related eligibility, that is reviewed in the insurance process.

Check all boxes that apply; Note that boxes 1 (Federal Flood Insurance is available ...) and 2 (Federal Flood Insurance is not available ...) are mutually exclusive. In most instances, Federal flood insurance is available to all residents with eligible property in a community that participates in the NFIP. Community participation status can be determined by consulting the NFIP Community Status Book, which is available from FEMA and at <http://www.fema.gov/fema/csb.shtm>. The NFIP Community Status Book will indicate whether or not the community is participating in the NFIP and whether participation is in the Emergency or Regular Program. If the community participates in the NFIP, check either Regular Program or Emergency Program. To obtain Federal flood insurance, a copy of this completed form may be provided to an insurance agent.

Federal flood insurance is prohibited in areas designated by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to be in a Coastal Barrier Resources Area (CBRA) and Otherwise Protected Areas (OPA) for buildings or mobile homes built or substantially improved after the date of the CBRA or OPA designation. Information about the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) may be obtained by visiting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website at <http://www.fws.gov/CBRA/index.html>.

D. DETERMINATION. If any portion of the building/mobile home is in an identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), check yes (flood insurance is required). If no portion of the building/mobile home is in an identified SFHA, check no. If no NFIP map exists for the community, check no. If no NFIP map exists, Section B5 should also be checked.

E. COMMENTS. Optional Comment. Preparer may add additional comments/pages/data as needed.

F. PREPARER'S INFORMATION. If other than the lender, enter the name, address, and telephone number of the company or organization performing the flood hazard determination. An individual's name may be included, but is not required.

Date of Determination. Enter date on which flood zone determination was completed.

MULTIPLE BUILDINGS: For guidance regarding multiple buildings, please contact your regulator, servicer, lender or other entity as applicable.

GUARANTEES REGARDING INFORMATION: Determinations on this form made by persons other than the lender are acceptable only to the extent that the accuracy of the information is guaranteed.

FORM AVAILABILITY. The form is available online at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/frm_form.shtm.

Copies of this form are available from the FEMA fax-on-demand line by calling (202) 646-FEMA and requesting form #23103. Guidance on using the form in a printed, computerized, or electronic format is contained in form #23110. This information is also available on FEMA's website. See the resource record, for usability purposes. The URL is <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/225?id=1394>.

PURPOSE OF FORM: In accordance with P.L. 103-325, Sec. 1365, (b) (1), this form has been designated to facilitate compliance with the flood insurance purchase requirements of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994.

FOR LENDING RELATED GUIDANCE REGARDING THIS FORM: Implementation of the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 94, as amended, is the responsibility of the various Federal agencies that regulate lenders. Please contact your regulator or lender to determine their requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency

OMB Control No. 1660-0040
Expires: 09-30-2023

STANDARD FLOOD HAZARD DETERMINATION FORM (SFHDF)

SECTION I - LOAN INFORMATION			
1. LENDER/SERVICER NAME AND ADDRESS USDA/RD Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Electric Program Office of Loan Origination and Approval (OLOA) 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 1568 Washington, DC 20250-1560		2. COLLATERAL DESCRIPTION (Building/Mobile Home/Property) (See instructions for more information.) 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV + BESS (3,840 kW; 4 hours; 15.36 MWh) located on approx. 22 acres of parcel ID# 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 at 8596 W 700S, FRANCESVILLE, IN 47946	
3. LENDER/SERVICER ID #	4. LOAN IDENTIFIER Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application	5. AMOUNT OF FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIRED \$20,877,800	
SECTION II			
A. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) COMMUNITY JURISDICTION			
1. NFIP Community Name Pulaski County	2. County(ies) Pulaski	3. State IN	4. NFIP Community Number 180482
B. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) DATA AFFECTING BUILDING/MOBILE HOME			
1. NFIP Map Number or Community-Panel Number (Community name, if not the same as "A") 18131C0300C	2. NFIP Map Panel Effective / Revised Date 05/05/2014	3. Is there a Letter of Map Change (LOMC)? <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/> YES (if yes, and LOMC date/no. is available, enter date and case no. below.) Date Case No.	
4. Flood Zone Zone X	5. No NFIP Map		
C. FEDERAL FLOOD INSURANCE AVAILABILITY (Check all that apply.)			
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Flood Insurance is available (community participates in the NFIP). <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Program <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Program of NFIP 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Flood Insurance is not available (community does not participate in the NFIP). 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Building/Mobile Home is in a Coastal Barrier Resources Area (CBRA) or Otherwise Protected Area (OPA). Federal Flood Insurance may not be available. CBRA/OPA Designation Date: _____			
D. DETERMINATION			
IS BUILDING/MOBILE HOME IN SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA (ZONES CONTAINING THE LETTERS "A" OR "V")? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, flood insurance is required by the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. If no, flood insurance is not required by the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. Please note, the risk of flooding in this area is only reduced, not removed. This determination is based on examining the NFIP map, any Federal Emergency Management Agency revisions to it, and any other information needed to locate the building /mobile home on the NFIP map.			
E. COMMENTS (Optional)			
F. PREPARER'S INFORMATION			
NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER (If other than Lender) JCD Solar Consulting, LLC on behalf of Carroll White REMC PO Box 599 Monticello, IN 47960			DATE OF DETERMINATION



APPENDIX VI

Wetlands

Hydric Rating by Map Unit—Pulaski County, Indiana



Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Map Scale: 1:2,990 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 40 80 160 240 Meters

0 100 200 400 600 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 16N WGS84



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

10/1/2024
Page 1 of 5







MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)







 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils







Soil Rating Polygons

-  Hydric (100%)
-  Hydric (66 to 99%)
-  Hydric (33 to 65%)
-  Hydric (1 to 32%)
-  Not Hydric (0%)
-  Not rated or not available


Soil Rating Lines

-  Hydric (100%)
-  Hydric (66 to 99%)
-  Hydric (33 to 65%)
-  Hydric (1 to 32%)
-  Not Hydric (0%)
-  Not rated or not available






Soil Rating Points

-  Hydric (100%)
-  Hydric (66 to 99%)
-  Hydric (33 to 65%)
-  Hydric (1 to 32%)
-  Not Hydric (0%)
-  Not rated or not available


Water Features

 Streams and Canals

Transportation

-  Rails
-  Interstate Highways
-  US Routes
-  Major Roads
-  Local Roads

Background

 Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Pulaski County, Indiana
Survey Area Data: Version 26, Aug 25, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jun 16, 2022—Jun 27, 2022

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Hydric Rating by Map Unit

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BstB	Brems loamy fine sand, 1 to 4 percent slopes	0	5.3	24.9%
MhaA	Maumee loamy fine sand, 0 to 1 percent slopes	97	15.9	75.1%
Totals for Area of Interest			21.2	100.0%

Description

This rating indicates the percentage of map units that meets the criteria for hydric soils. Map units are composed of one or more map unit components or soil types, each of which is rated as hydric soil or not hydric. Map units that are made up dominantly of hydric soils may have small areas of minor nonhydric components in the higher positions on the landform, and map units that are made up dominantly of nonhydric soils may have small areas of minor hydric components in the lower positions on the landform. Each map unit is rated based on its respective components and the percentage of each component within the map unit.

The thematic map is color coded based on the composition of hydric components. The five color classes are separated as 100 percent hydric components, 66 to 99 percent hydric components, 33 to 65 percent hydric components, 1 to 32 percent hydric components, and less than one percent hydric components.

In Web Soil Survey, the Summary by Map Unit table that is displayed below the map pane contains a column named 'Rating'. In this column the percentage of each map unit that is classified as hydric is displayed.

Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register, 1994). Under natural conditions, these soils are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

The NTCHS definition identifies general soil properties that are associated with wetness. In order to determine whether a specific soil is a hydric soil or nonhydric soil, however, more specific information, such as information about the depth and duration of the water table, is needed. Thus, criteria that identify those estimated soil properties unique to hydric soils have been established (Federal Register, 2002). These criteria are used to identify map unit components that normally are associated with wetlands. The criteria used are selected estimated soil properties that are described in "Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 1999) and "Keys to Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 2006) and in the "Soil Survey Manual" (Soil Survey Division Staff, 1993).

If soils are wet enough for a long enough period of time to be considered hydric, they should exhibit certain properties that can be easily observed in the field. These visible properties are indicators of hydric soils. The indicators used to make onsite determinations of hydric soils are specified in "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States" (Hurt and Vasilas, 2006).

References:

Federal Register. July 13, 1994. Changes in hydric soils of the United States.

Federal Register. September 18, 2002. Hydric soils of the United States.

Hurt, G.W., and L.M. Vasilas, editors. Version 6.0, 2006. Field indicators of hydric soils in the United States.

Soil Survey Division Staff. 1993. Soil survey manual. Soil Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 18.

Soil Survey Staff. 1999. Soil taxonomy: A basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys. 2nd edition. Natural Resources Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 436.

Soil Survey Staff. 2006. Keys to soil taxonomy. 10th edition. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: Percent Present









Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified

Tie-break Rule: Lower



May 2, 2024

Wetlands

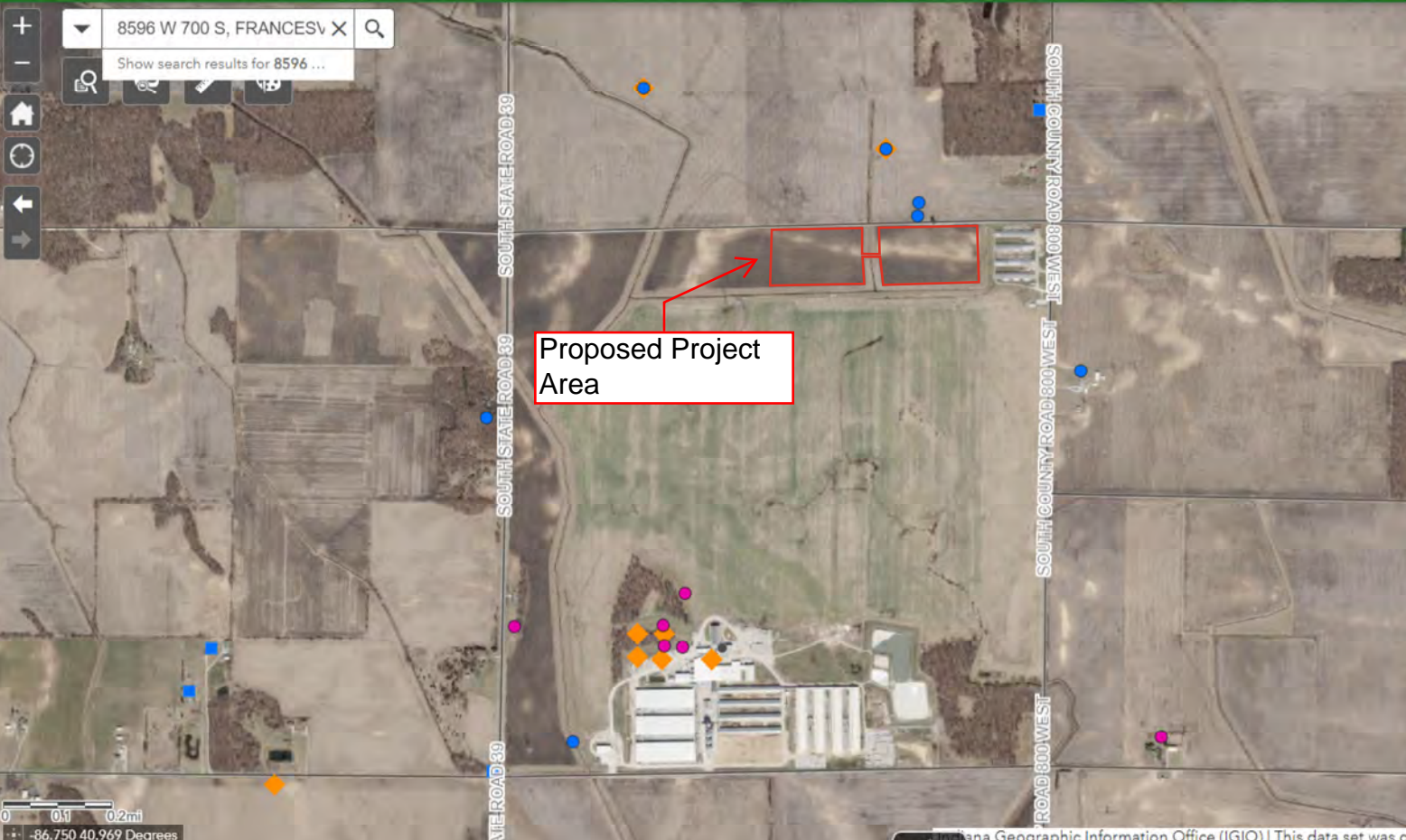
- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|----------|
|  | Estuarine and Marine Deepwater |  | Freshwater Emergent Wetland |  | Lake |
|  | Estuarine and Marine Wetland |  | Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland |  | Other |
| | |  | Freshwater Pond |  | Riverine |

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



APPENDIX VII

Water Resources



Legend and Information

Indiana DNR Water Well Viewer

Boreholes Drilled to Bedrock

- Field Located
- Other

Unconsolidated Wells

- Field Located
- Other

Unspecified Well Type

- Field Located
- Other

Significant Withdraw Wells



This application is provided for easy access to the [Water Well Record Database](#), which is maintained by the Water Rights and Use Section of the [Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water](#).

Select search option

1 2 3 4 5

The search bar can be used to find and zoom to an address (street number, city, state, zip), wells of each type (Well log ID or owner name), significant withdraw well (ID or owner name), county (county name), township/range/section (eg. T1N R2E 26), or USGS 24K Quadrangle (name).

Other tools:

1. Query All Wells - search for all wells based on a

Map of Indiana Regional Water and Sewer Districts

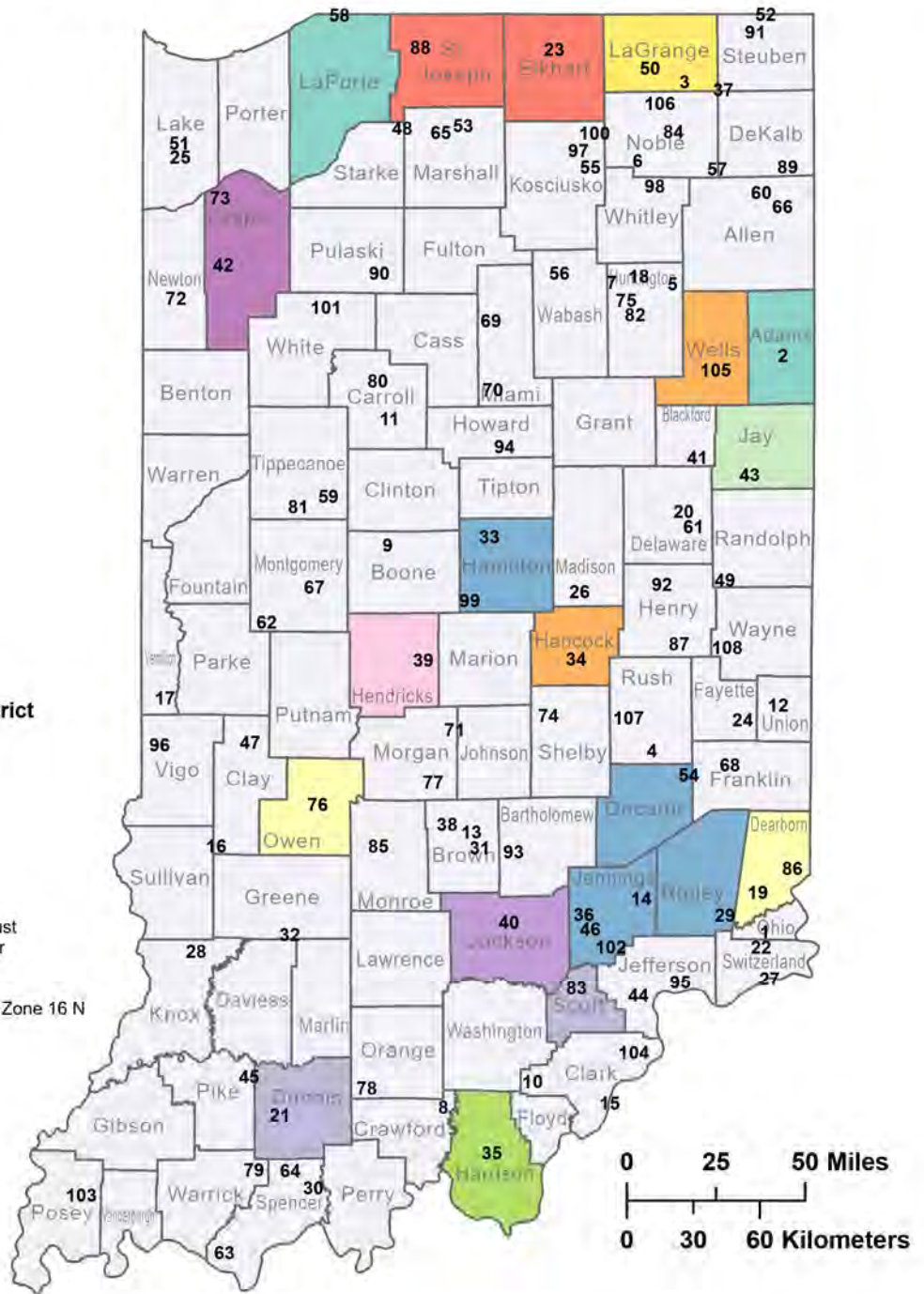
County-wide Districts

- Adams County RSD
- Dearborn County RSD
- Dubois County RSD
- Elkhart County RSD
- Hamilton County RUD
- Hancock County RWSD
- Harrison County RSD
- Hendricks County RSD
- Jackson County RSD
- Jasper County RWSD
- Jay County RSD
- LaGrange County RUD
- LaPorte County RSD
- Owen County RSD
- Scott County RSD
- St. Joseph County RWSD
- Vernon Fork Regional Water District
- Wells County RSD
- Indiana Counties



Date: 9/12/2024
 Mapped by: Emily Faust
 OWQ RSD Coordinator
 (317) 232 - 5727

Map Projection: UTM Zone 16 N
 Map Datum: NAD83




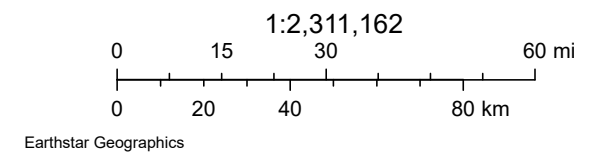
- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Aberdeen RSD | 22. East Enterprise RSD | 43. Jay County RSD | 64. Mariah Hill RSD | 86. South Dearborn RSD |
| 2. Adams County RSD | 23. Elkhart County RSD | 44. Jefferson County RSD | 65. Marshall County RSD | 87. South Henry RWD |
| 3. Adams Lake RSD | 24. Everton RSD | 45. Jefferson Township RSD | 66. Maysville RWSD | 88. St Joseph County RWSD |
| 4. Anderson Twp. RSD | 25. Fairways Regional Water District | 46. Jennings Northwest RSD | 67. Montgomery County RWSD | 89. St Joe-Spencerville RSD |
| 5. Arlington RSD | 26. Fall Creek RWD | 47. K&H RSD | 68. Metamora RSD | 90. Star City RSD |
| 6. Bear High Wolf Lake RSD | 27. Florence RSD | 48. Koontz Lake RSD | 69. Mexico County RSD | 91. Steuben Lakes RWD |
| 7. Bippus RSD | 28. Freelandville RSD | 49. L&M Regional Water District | 70. Miami Community RSD | 92. Summit Springs RWD |
| 8. Blue River Regional Water District | 29. Friendship RSD | 50. LaGrange County RUD | 71. Morgan County RSD | 93. Tamerix Lake RSD |
| 9. Boone County-Sugar Creek RSD | 30. Fulda RSD | 51. Lake Dalecarlia RWD | 72. Newton County RWSD | 94. Taylor Township RSD |
| 10. Borden Tri-County RWD | 31. Gnow Bone RSD | 52. Lake George RSD | 73. Northwest Jasper RWD | 95. Telegraph Hill-Rykens Ridge RSD |
| 11. Bringham RSD | 32. Greene County RSD | 53. Lake of the Woods RSD | 74. NW Shelby County RSD | 96. Thralls Station RSD |
| 12. Brookville Lake RWD | 33. Hamilton County RUD | 54. Lake Santee RWD | 75. Norwood RWSD | 97. Tippecanoe & Chapman Lake RSD |
| 13. Brown County RSD | 34. Hancock County RSD | 55. Lakeland RSD | 76. Owen County RSD | 98. Tri-Lakes RSD |
| 14. Campbell Twp RSD | 35. Harrison County RSD | 56. Laketon RSD | 77. Painted Hills RSD | 99. TriCounty RSU |
| 15. Clark County RWSD | 36. Hayden Wastewater Utility District | 57. LaOtto RSD | 78. Patoka Lake RWSD | 100. Turkey Creek RSD |
| 16. Clay County (Coalmont) RSD | 37. Helmer RSD | 58. LaPorte County RSD | 79. Pigeon Twp RSD | 101. Twin Lakes RSD |
| 17. Crown Hill RSD | 38. Helmsburg RSD | 59. Lauramie Township RSD | 80. Rockfield RSD | 102. Vernon Fork Regional Water District |
| 18. Dawn Lakes RSD | 39. Hendricks County RSD | 60. Leo-Cedarville RSD | 81. Romney RSD | 103. Wadesville-Blairsville RSD |
| 19. Dearborn County RSD | 40. Jackson County RSD | 61. Liberty RWD | 82. Rural Huntington RWSD | 104. Washington Twp RSD |
| 20. Delaware County RSD | 41. Jackson Township RSD | 62. Little Raccoon RWD | 83. Scott County RSD | 105. Wells County RSD |
| 21. Dubois County RSD | 42. Jasper County RWSD | 63. Luce Township RSD | 84. Skinner Lake RSD | 106. West Lakes RSD |
| | | | 85. South Central RSD | 107. Western Rush County RSD |
| | | | | 108. Western Wayne RSD |

ArcGIS Web AppBuilder



10/2/2024, 12:21:20 PM

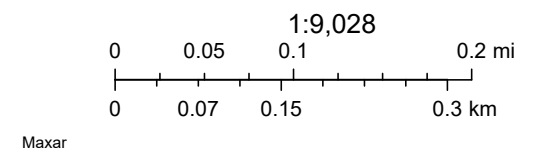
 Sole_Source_Aquifers



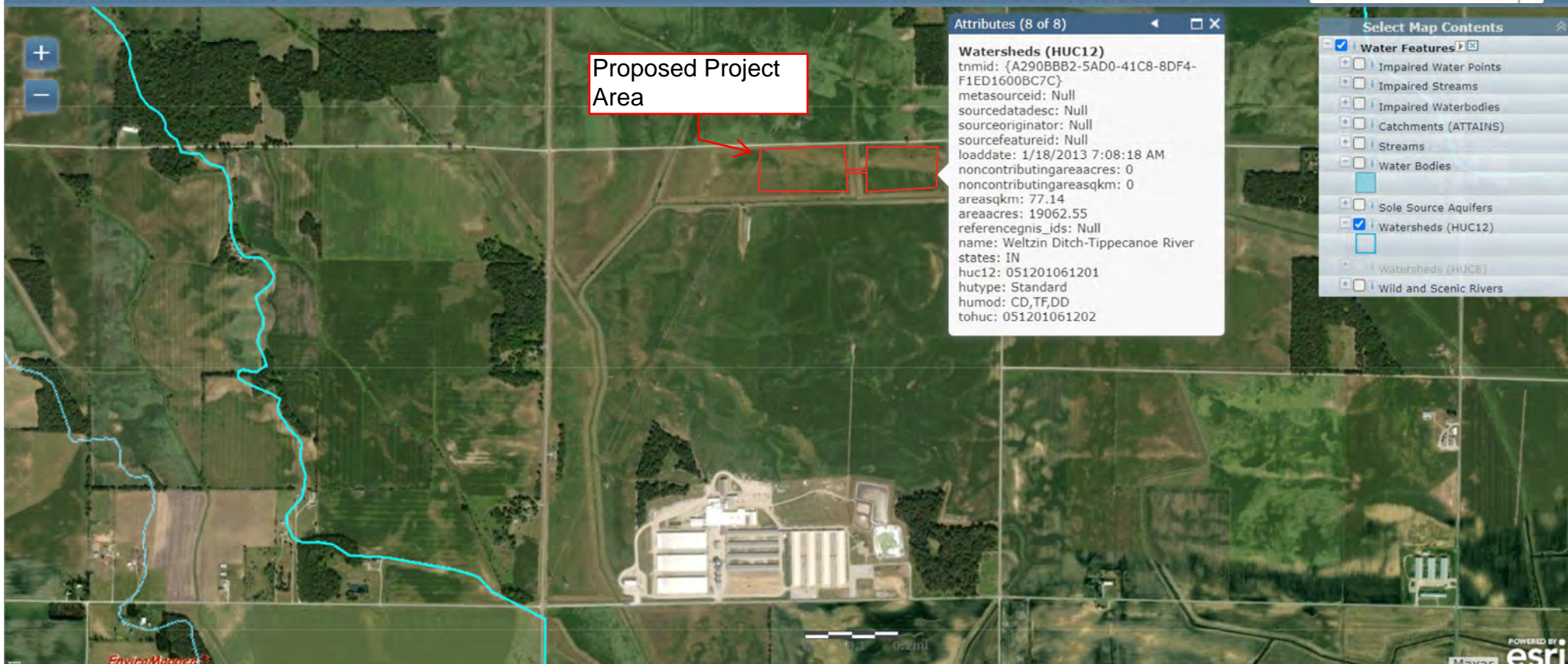
IDEM Source Water Proximity



October 2, 2024



Search Place: 8596 W 700 S, Francesville, Indiana, 47946

Basemap Tools More Data Search Envirofacts




APPENDIX VIII

Biological Resources



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273



In Reply Refer To:

10/04/2024 14:55:31 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0001895

Project Name: Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/>

[s7process/index.html](https://www.fws.gov/s7process/index.html). This website contains step-by-step instructions which will help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and will help lead you through the Section 7 process. For all **wind energy projects and projects that include installing towers that use guy wires or are over 200 feet in height**, please contact this field office directly for assistance, even if no federally listed plants, animals or critical habitat are present within your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both

migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. **Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.**

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office

620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
(812) 334-4261

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0001895

Project Name: Proposed Carrol White REMC PACE Loan Application - RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

Project Type: Power Gen - Solar

Project Description: Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is proposing the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 3,884-kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309-kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately 22 acres of land within the larger 634-acre parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002.

The Proposed Project Area is located in the northeast portion of the identified parcel and is currently being used for agricultural purposes. Infrastructure for the Proposed Project would include the solar PV facility, a BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking systems, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The energy produced from the solar facility would primarily be used by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.9696713,-86.76102377614649,14z>



Counties: Pulaski County, Indiana

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 11 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non-Essential

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Clubshell <i>Pleurobema clava</i> Population: Wherever found; Except where listed as Experimental Populations No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3789	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Rayed Bean <i>Villosa fabalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5862	Endangered
Round Hickorynut <i>Obovaria subrotunda</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9879	Threatened
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered
Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903	Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate
Western Regal Fritillary <i>Argynnis idalia occidentalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/12017	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act¹ and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats³, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

-
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are likely bald eagles present in your project area. For additional information on bald eagles, refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats³ should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)".

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9439	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9431	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read ["Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"](#), specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

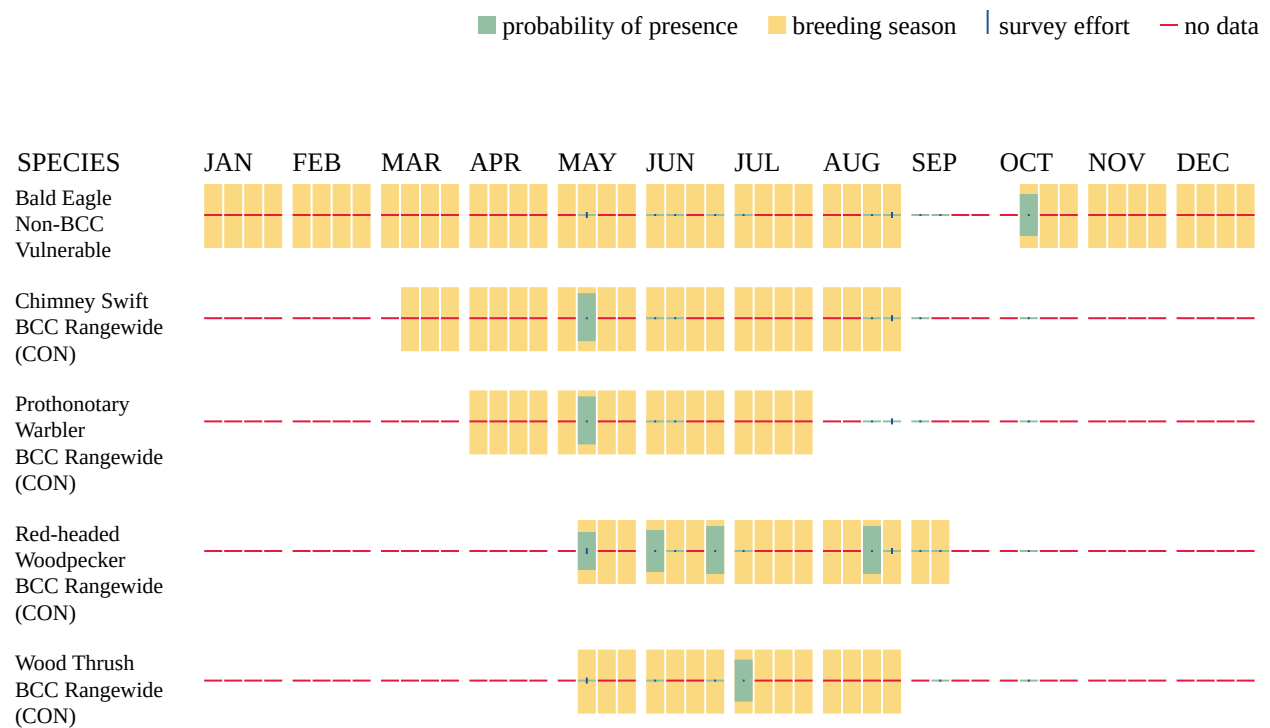
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

RIVERINE

- R5UBFx

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Department of Agriculture
Name: Emmett Lodl
Address: 1000 E Warrenville Rd STE 140
City: Naperville
State: IL
Zip: 60563
Email: elodl@consulttruenorth.com
Phone: 2245328925





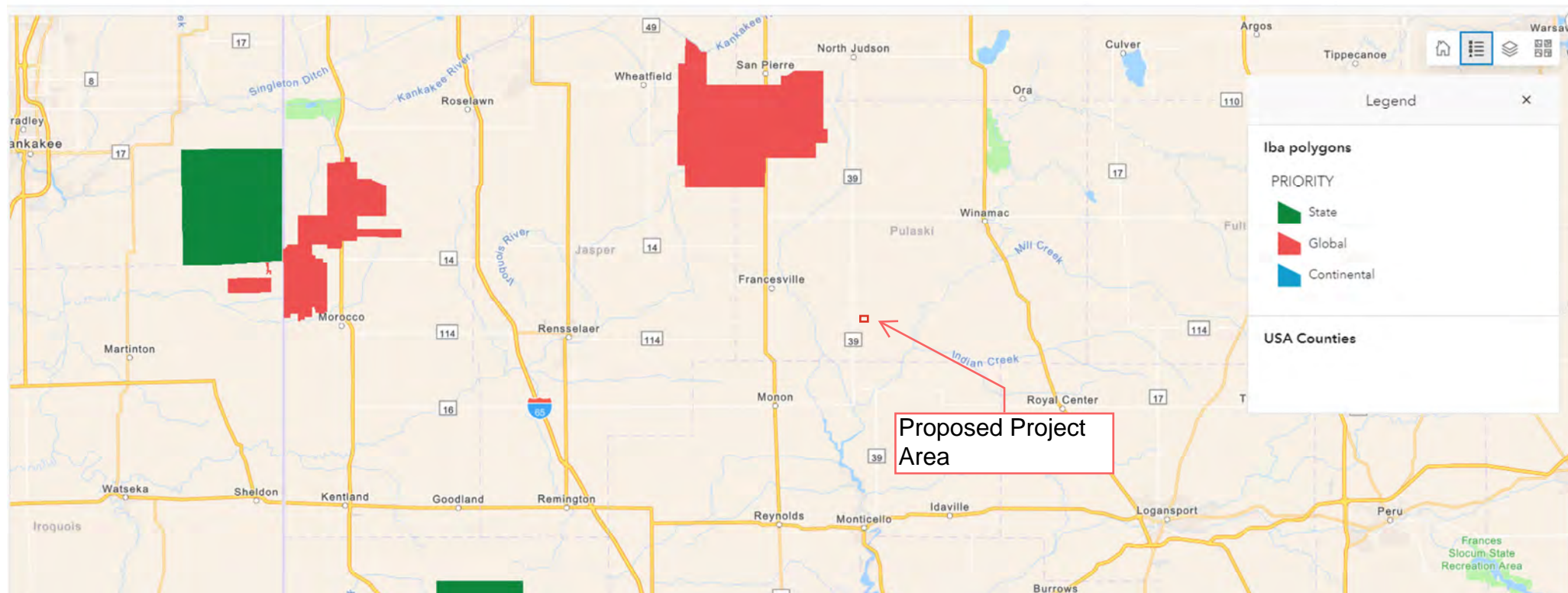
Sign

Computer will reboot in: 1 minutes 22 seconds



Important Bird Areas - National Audubon Society

[Home](#) [IBA Explorer](#) [IBA Overlays](#) [Public Reports](#)





Layers

Bald Eagle

[VA Eagle Nest Locator](#)[VA Eagle Nest Buffers](#)

Eagle Roosts

[Zoom to Extents](#)

Eagle roost polygon centroids. Note: Some roosts are restricted and only available at the "Eagle Roosts by Topoquad" level.

[More info](#)[Eagle Roost Polygons](#)[Eagle Roost Buffers](#)[Eagle Roosts by Topoquad](#)

Waterbirds

[Shorebird Roost Registry](#)[Colonial Waterbirds 2018](#)[Colonial Waterbirds 2013](#)[Chesapeake Bay Herons 2013](#)[Colonial Waterbirds 2008](#)[Colonial Waterbirds 2003](#)

Osprey

[OspreyWatch Nests](#)[Chesapeake Bay Osprey](#)[Toggle Draw Tools](#)[Generate Link](#)[Print Report](#)[Search](#)

LAT / LONG
(decimal degrees)
ADDRESS (street, county, park name, etc.)

[Clear](#)

Proposed Project
Area

● BALD EAGLE ROOST CENTROID

Indiana Invasive Plant List

Created by the Invasive Plant Advisory Committee of the Indiana Invasive Species Council
Established 9-26-2012; Language revised 11-21-2023

List is separated by aquatic/terrestrial, regulated vs unregulated then rank,
common name
For more information, go to: Indianainvasivespecies.org

FN= Federal Noxious

These species are listed as invasive in Indiana. The species listed below have been assessed to determine how invasive they are in the state of Indiana through a science-based, transparent approach that assigns points based on ecological impact, potential for expansion, and difficulty in management. The summed points are used to assign a ranking of high, medium, or low based on data at the time of the assessment.

High – These species are either regulated and prohibited from trade or will be evaluated for potential inclusion as a state regulated species in the future.

Medium – According to the current assessment the species did not accumulate enough points to warrant regulation in Indiana.

Low – The cumulative points for these species at the time of the assessment indicate less risk.

Caution – Indicates the assessment could not be completed due to lack of information, but there is potential for invasion and negative impacts in Indiana.

Note: Species are periodically reviewed utilizing updated research at which point rankings may shift. For further information about these rankings, contact the IISC.

Definitions (per Federal Executive Order 13751):

Invasive Species: with regard to a particular ecosystem, a non-native organism whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic, or environmental harm, or harm to human, animal or plant health.

Non-native Species or Alien Species: with regard to a particular ecosystem, an organism, including its eggs, seeds, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species that occurs outside of its natural range.

Native Species: with respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of an introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem.

Regulated Species				
Common Name	Latin Name (click Latin name for species assessment)	Growth Form	IISC Invasive Rank	Regulatory Status
Prohibited Aquatic Plant				
Anchored water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Asian marshweed	<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>	aquatic	High	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Brittle naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Caulerpa	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Chinese waterspinach	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	aquatic	High	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Curly-leaved pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Duck lettuce	<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>	aquatic	High	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
European frogbit	<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Exotic bur-reed	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia auriculata</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia biloba</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia herzogii</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23

Indiana Invasive Plant List

Common Name	Latin Name (click Latin name for species assessment)	Growth Form	IISC Invasive Rank	Regulatory Status
Heartshape	<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	aquatic	High	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Miramar weed	<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	aquatic	High	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Monochoria	<i>Monochoria hastata</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Mosquito fern	<i>Azolla pinnata</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Narrow-leaved cattail	<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Oxygen weed	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	aquatic	FN	Federal noxious weed, prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Parrotfeather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-2-23
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-13
Starry stonewort	<i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Water chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Water soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Yellow floating hearts	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23
Yellow iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	aquatic	High	Prohibited invasive aquatic plant 312 IAC 18-3-23

Indiana Invasive Plant List

Common Name	Latin Name (click Latin name for species assessment)	Growth Form	IISC Invasive Rank	Regulatory Status
Prohibited Terrestrial Plant				
Amur cork tree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	tree	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Amur honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera maacki</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Asian bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Autumn olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Bell's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera x bella</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Black alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	tree	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Black swallow-wort	<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Blunt leaved privet	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Bohemian knotweed	<i>Reynoutria x bohemica</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Bull thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	forb	High	Noxious weed per IC 15-3-4.6; detrimental plant per IC 15-3-4
Chinese yam	<i>Dioscorea polystachya</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Common buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	grass	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Common teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Crown vetch	<i>Coronilla varia</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Cut-leaved teasel	<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Dame's rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Giant knotweed	<i>Reynoutria sachalinensis</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Glossy buckthorn	<i>Franqua alnus</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese chaff flower	<i>Achyranthes japonica</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese stiltgrass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	grass	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Japanese knotweed	<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Johnson grass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	grass	High	Noxious weed per IC 15-3-4.6; detrimental plant per IC 15-3-4 and IC 15-3-5
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i>	vine	High	Pest species per 312 IAC 18-3-16
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Mile-a-minute vine	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Morrow's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited species per IC 14-24-12 and 312 IAC 18-3-13
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Pale swallow-wort	<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	grass	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Sericea lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Small carpgrass	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	grass	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Spiny plumeless thistle	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	forb	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Tatarian honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	shrub	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
White mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	tree	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	vine	High	Prohibited Invasive Terrestrial Plants [312 IAC 18-3-25]
Non-Regulated Species				
Ranked High				
Burning bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	shrub	High	None
Callery pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	tree	High	None
Chinese maiden grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	grass	High	None
Highbush cranberry	<i>Viburnum opulus v. opulus</i>	shrub	High	None
Japanese hedge parsley	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	forb	High	None
Lesser celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	forb	High	None
Moneywort	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	vine	High	None
Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	tree	High	None
Spreading hedge parsley	<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	forb	High	None
Sweet autumn clematis	<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	vine	High	None
Wild parsnip	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	forb	High	None

Indiana Invasive Plant List

Common Name	Latin Name (click Latin name for species assessment)	Growth Form	IISC Invasive Rank	Regulatory Status
Ranked Medium				
Beafsteak plant	<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	forb	Medium	None
Bicolor lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza bicolor</i>	shrub	Medium	None
Bouncing bet	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	forb	Medium	None
Creeping Charlie	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	vine	Medium	None
English ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	vine	Medium	None
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	forb	Medium	Federal noxious weed
Goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>	forb	Medium	Federal noxious weed
Japanese meadowsweet	<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	shrub	Medium	None
Jetbead	<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	shrub	Medium	None
Korean lespedeza	<i>Kummerowia stipulacea</i>	forb	Medium	None
Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissen</i>	tree	Medium	None
Narrowleaf bittercress	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	forb	Medium	None
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	vine	Medium	None
Queen Anne's lace	<i>Daucus carota</i>	forb	Medium	None
Princess tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	tree	Medium	None
Ravenna grass	<i>Saccharum ravennae</i>	grass	Medium	None
Russian olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	shrub	Medium	None
Siberian elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	tree	Medium	None
Striate lespedeza	<i>Kummerowia striata</i>	forb	Medium	None
Tall fescue	<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>	grass	Medium	None
Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	vine	Medium	None
White sweet clover	<i>Melilotus alba</i>	forb	Medium	None
Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	vine	Medium	None
Yellow sweet clover	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	forb	Medium	None
Ranked Low				
St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	forb	Low	None
Ranked Caution				
Amur privet	<i>Ligustrum amurense</i>	shrub	Caution	None
California privet	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	shrub	Caution	None
Chinese privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	shrub	Caution	None
Common barberry	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	shrub	Caution	None
Common privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	shrub	Caution	None
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	grass	Caution	None
Giant miscanthus	<i>Miscanthus x gigantea</i>	grass	Caution	None
Hybrid cattail	<i>Typha x glauca</i>	forb	Caution	None
Large-leaved periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	vine	Caution	None
Lyme grass	<i>Leymus arenarius</i>	grass	Caution	None
Porcelain berry	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	shrub	Caution	None
Sawtooth oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	tree	Caution	None
Wine raspberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	shrub	Caution	None

[IISC's Invasive Plant Advisory Committee \(IPAC\) is responsible for Official IISC Invasive Plant List species assessments.](#)

- Plants in trade are assessed using the *Plants in Trade Assessment Tool*
- Plants not in trade are assessed using the *Plants Not in Trade Tool*

Please visit the IISC webpage for links to assessments: <https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/>



APPENDIX IX

Historic and Cultural Resources

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology 402 W. Washington Street, W274 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 Fax 317-232-0693 dhpa@dnr.IN.gov

September 16, 2024

Kate Moore
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018, Washington, DC, 20250

Federal Agency: USDA, Rural Utilities Service

Re: Project information, archaeological report, and USDA, Rural Utilities Service's finding of "no historic properties affected" regarding the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S using PACE loan funds (DHPA #32761)

Dear Ms. Moore:

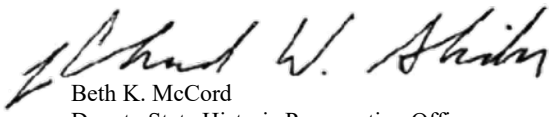
Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the staff of the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer ("Indiana SHPO") has conducted an analysis of the materials dated August 14, 2024 and received on August 21, 2024, for the above indicated project in Francesville, Beaver Township, Pulaski County, Indiana.

We concur with the USDA, Rural Utilities Service's August 14, 2024 finding that there are no historic buildings, structures, districts, objects, or archaeological resources within the area of potential effects that will be affected by the above indicated project.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. 800.

If you have questions about archaeological issues please contact Cathy Draeger-Williams at (317) 234-3791 or cdraeger-williams@dnr.IN.gov. If you have questions about buildings or structures please contact Kim Marie Padgett at (317) 234-6705 or kpadgett@dnr.IN.gov.

Very truly yours,



Beth K. McCord
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

BKM:KMP:CDW:cdw

emc: Kate Moore, USDA, Rural Utilities Service
Cullen Cuchetto, True North Consultants



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Ms. Beth McCord
State Historic Preservation Officer
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street, Rm W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF)
Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Ms. McCord:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3,884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection

¹ *Nationwide Programmatic Agreement among the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Programs, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, Tribal Signatories, and The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for Sequencing Section 106 (NPA).*

facilities would include four poles with pole-mounted protective equipment including surge arrester, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of

Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov

Sincerely,

KATE MOORE Digitally signed by KATE MOORE
Date: 2024.08.09 14:28:06 -05'00'

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

USDA RD Section 106 SHPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- Project Area Map
- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



REVIEW REQUEST SUBMITTAL

State Form 55031 (R2 / 3-23)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



Please complete this form and attach it to the front of all submittals, along with any reports or supplemental materials you are providing to the Indiana DHPA for review. Please note that archaeological forms and reports shall be submitted in SHAARD, separate from structural information since archaeological site locations are confidential and not for public disclosure.

Date (month, day, year): May 2, 2024

- ☒ This is a new submittal.
☐ This is revised/additional information relating to DHPA number _____.
☐ This project is being undertaken pursuant to the terms and conditions of a programmatic or other interagency agreement.
Title of Agreement: _____
☐ This project will also be applying for Federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit.
☐ This project includes work on a property that is under a preservation covenant held by DHPA.

THIS REVIEW REQUEST SUBMITTED BY:

Name: Emmett Lodi

Company/Organization: True North Consultants, Inc.

Address (number and street): 1000 E Warrenton Road

City: Naperville State: IL ZIP: 60563

Telephone number: (224) 532-8925 E-mail address: elodi@consulttruenorth.com

PROJECT NAME & LOCATION [Please attach a map with location(s) marked]

Project Name/Reference: Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project/Des Number: T243167

Project Address/Location: 8596 W 700 S

City: Francesville Township(s): Beaver

County/Countries: Pulaski

Section/Township/Range: Section 16 T29N R3W

Latitude/Longitude: 40.969514, -86.761319

STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Agency: USDA Program: RD-RUS

Type of funds, license, or permit to be obtained (if applicable): Powering Affordable Clean Energy Program

Name of Agency Contact: Christopher Gunn

Address (number and street): 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.

City: Washington State: DC ZIP: 20250

Telephone number: (202) 720-2657 E-mail address: Christopher.Gunn@usda.gov

APPLICANT (if different than Federal Agency) *If available, please attach copy of authorization letter from federal agency.*

Applicant: Carroll White REMC

Name of Contact: Donna Jones

Address (number and street): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone number: (937) 862-9830 E-mail address: djones@melinksolardevelopment.com

ADDITIONAL CONTACT (IF APPLICABLE)

Name of Contact: _____

Organization/Agency: _____

Address (number and street): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Project Description – This should include a detailed scope of work, including any actions to be taken in relation to the project, such as all aspects of new construction, replacement/repair, demolition, ground disturbance, and all ancillary work (temporary roads, etc.), as applicable. Attach report or additional pages if necessary. If a detailed scope of work is not available yet, please explain and include all preliminary information.

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

The Proposed Project process design consists of a 3,984 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a 3,840 kW (15.36 MWh) BESS connected to the grid via electrical line. The Proposed Project will provide stable, clean, and resilient generation sources for local agricultural producers.

Ground Disturbing Activity – This should include a detailed description of all proposed horizontal and vertical ground disturbance in relation to the project as well as any known previous and current land use, condition, and disturbances. Attach additional pages if necessary. Indicate if the project does not include any ground disturbing activities. Please note that agricultural tilling generally does not have a serious enough impact on archaeological sites to constitute a disturbance of the ground for this purpose.

The total area of disturbance for the Proposed Project is approximately twenty-two (22) acres. Disturbance will come as a result of the installation of the Solar PV facility, BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet (typically four to six feet, but will be determined based on geotechnical and final structural engineering).

The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

If an archaeological investigation has been conducted for this project, the resulting report and site forms (if applicable) must be submitted in the State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) by the qualified archaeologist. DO NOT attach the archaeology report here.

For an archaeological report submitted in SHAARD, please indicate the SHAARD report number (i.e. AR-xx-xxxxxx).

SHAARD report number _____

FINDINGS – Please note that a finding should only be submitted when the agency/delegatee believes it is appropriate or one has been requested by our office. Only those who represent the Federal Agency or an official delegatee of the federal agency are authorized to make findings of effect for an undertaking.

☒ **No Historic Properties Affected** – (i.e., none are present or there are historic properties present but the project will have no effect upon them). Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11.

☐ **No Adverse Effect** – The proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect on one or more historic properties located within the project APE under 36 CFR 800.5. Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11.

☐ **Adverse Effect** – The proposed undertaking will result in an adverse effect to one or more historic properties and the applicant, or other federally authorized representative, will consult with the SHPO and other consulting parties to resolve the adverse effect per 36 CFR 800.6. Attach necessary documentation, as described at 36 CFR 800.11, with a proposed plan to resolve adverse effect(s).

Please explain the basis for your determination.

True North consultants, Inc. (True North) reviewed the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and archaeology Public Map to determine if there were any historic properties and/or cultural resources survey or recorded within or near the Proposed Project Area. Review of the public Map found that the closest historical property is the County Survey Site 131-421-50015, currently identified as a House, located approximately 1 mile to the north of the Proposed Project Area. Additionally, review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Map indicated that the nearest NRHP listed property is the Mallon Building, located approximately 7.3 miles west of the Proposed Project Area.

On April 4, 2024, Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) completed an archaeological field reconnaissance survey of the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm. According to ACO, historic sources such as the General Land Office survey notes for the township did not indicate any cultural resources near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology as well as ACO records, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre project area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the site, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the site had been disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work is warranted.

Through ongoing correspondence between the Applicant and USDA-RD representatives, the archaeological field reconnaissance survey was exchanged for review. Based on the results and scope of the survey, the USDA granted the Applicant permission to proceed with a recommendation of no effect. Based on the USDA recommendation, the results of the ACO archaeological field reconnaissance survey for the Waste No Energy anaerobic digester, which encompasses the current Proposed Project Area, and the review of the various online resources, a finding of no effect on historic properties in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4 (d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced project.

Authorized Signature: _____ Date (month, day, year): April 16, 2024
Type or print name: Emmett Lodl
Organization/Agency: True North Consultants, Inc.

Please note that incomplete submissions may result in delays. To ensure an expeditious review, please be sure that the following has been provided:

- ☒ Completed Review Request Submittal Form
- ☐ Letter of authorization from Federal agency/agencies (if applicable)
- ☒ Consulting Parties – List of all consulting parties that have been invited to participate and copies of any responses received. Typical consulting parties would include the county historian, local historical society, the appropriate regional office of Indiana Landmarks, other local, state or national preservation organizations, tribes, local government and the general public.
- ☒ Map of project location with project area(s) and Area of Potential Effects (APE) clearly marked, streets labeled and a north arrow, aerial maps are preferable and areas of previous and proposed ground disturbance within the project area should be shown. Please indicate if any of the project area is located on state or federal property.
- ☒ Clear, current color photographs of project area and APE, including any buildings or structures fifty (50) years or older within the APE. (PDF format, no more than two (2) photographs per page). For large project areas/APEs, photo size may be reduced, or photos and photo log provided to DHPA approved file sharing or ftp site. Contact DHPA for current list of accepted sites.
- ☒ Architectural/Engineering Drawings (if applicable) – Must be labeled with north arrow, clearly indicate proposed changes to existing buildings and locations of any ground disturbance on site plans. Include both existing and proposed drawings/plans in PDF format. For large projects, plans may be provided by a DHPA approved file sharing or ftp site and/or hard copies no smaller than 11" x 17" with legible font.
- ☒ Identification of any known historic resources – All projects should consult the SHAARD database (access available on the DHPA home page) to locate known historic resources in the project area and APE. For any identified resources, the submission should include (in summary form) a list of the properties identified, including address, the site/reference number from SHAARD, the rating (IHSSI, Bridge Inventory) or status (National Register) of each property, and a current photograph. Please do not submit print outs of the individual SHAARD records.
- ☒ Archaeological report and site forms (if applicable) submitted in SHAARD for DHPA review. Do not attach to this form.
- ☐ Projects using State of Indiana funds to alter, demolish or remove a historic site or structure, include Application for a Certificate of Approval (SF 52889).

The thirty (30) day review period, as specified in 36 CFR part 800.3(c)(4), begins from the date that we receive the complete submission.

Return this Form and Attachments to:

**Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic>

May 2, 2024

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

**RE: Section 106 Finding of Effect
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application –
RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
8596 W. 700 S., Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana**

To Mr. Chad Slider Slider:

Carroll White REMC (Applicant) is seeking financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project, as shown on the enclosed maps.

The Proposed Project will consist of the installation and operation of 3,884 kWac (4,309 kWdc) solar PV facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Indiana. The Proposed Project's infrastructure would include the installation, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. Additionally, the solar PV portion of the facility will be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system. The estimated duration of the construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate up to 40 years.

The Proposed Project will be situated on approximately twenty-two (22) acres of the parcel identified as 66-11-16-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. The Proposed Project area is on agricultural land and located in the upper northeast portion of the identified parcel directly adjacent to County Road 600 S. The Proposed Project is bound by agricultural land to the north, east, and west, to the south is both more agricultural land and the Rose Acre Farm facility. Based on aerial imagery, the Proposed project Area appears to have been agricultural land from at least 1957 to the present. Between 1988 and 1999 buildings were constructed in the northeastern portion of the property. From 1999 to present day, the Proposed Project Area has remained relatively unchanged.

True North consultants, Inc. (True North) reviewed the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and archaeology Public Map to determine if there were any historic properties and/or cultural resources survey or recorded within or near the Proposed Project Area. Review of the public Map found that the closest historical property is the County Survey Site 131-421-50015, currently identified as a House, located approximately 1 mile to the north of the Proposed Project Area. Additionally, review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Map indicated that the nearest NRHP listed property is the Mallon Building, located approximately 7.3 miles west of the Proposed Project Area.

If RUS elects to fund the Proposed Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.



RBS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still easily foreseeable.

At the direction of RBS, the Applicant utilized the U.S. Department of housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Tribal Directory Assessment Tool on April 15, 2024, to determine that the following Indian tribes have interest in the Project Area: Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin, Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

On April 4, 2024, Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) completed an archaeological field reconnaissance survey of the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm. According to ACO, historic sources such as the General Land Office survey notes for the township did not indicate any cultural resources near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology as well as ACO records, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre project area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the site, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the site had been disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work is warranted.

Through ongoing correspondence between the Applicant and USDA-RD representatives, the archaeological field reconnaissance survey was exchanged for review. Based on the results and scope of the survey, the USDA granted the Applicant permission to proceed with a recommendation of **no effect**. Based on the USDA recommendation, the results of the ACO archaeological field reconnaissance survey for the Waste No Energy anaerobic digester, which encompasses the current Proposed Project Area, and the review of the various online resources, a finding of **no effect on historic properties** in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced project.

Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4), and 7 CFR § 1970.5(b)(2) of the regulations, “Environmental Policies and Procedures” (7 CFR Part 1970), RUS has issued a blanket delegation for its applicants to initiate and proceed through Section 106 review. In accordance with this blanket delegation, RUS may proceed to conclude review based on the SHPO concurrence in a finding of effect as recommended by the Applicant.

Accordingly, the Applicants are submitting a recommended finding of **no effect to historic properties** and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO. Please provide your concurrence or objection within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RBS will proceed to the next step in review if the Applicant does not receive a response from you within thirty (30) days. Please direct any questions you may have to Emmett Lodl at elodl@consulttruenorth.com.



Regards,
True North Consultants, Inc.

Emmett Lodi

Emmett Lodi
Project Consultant

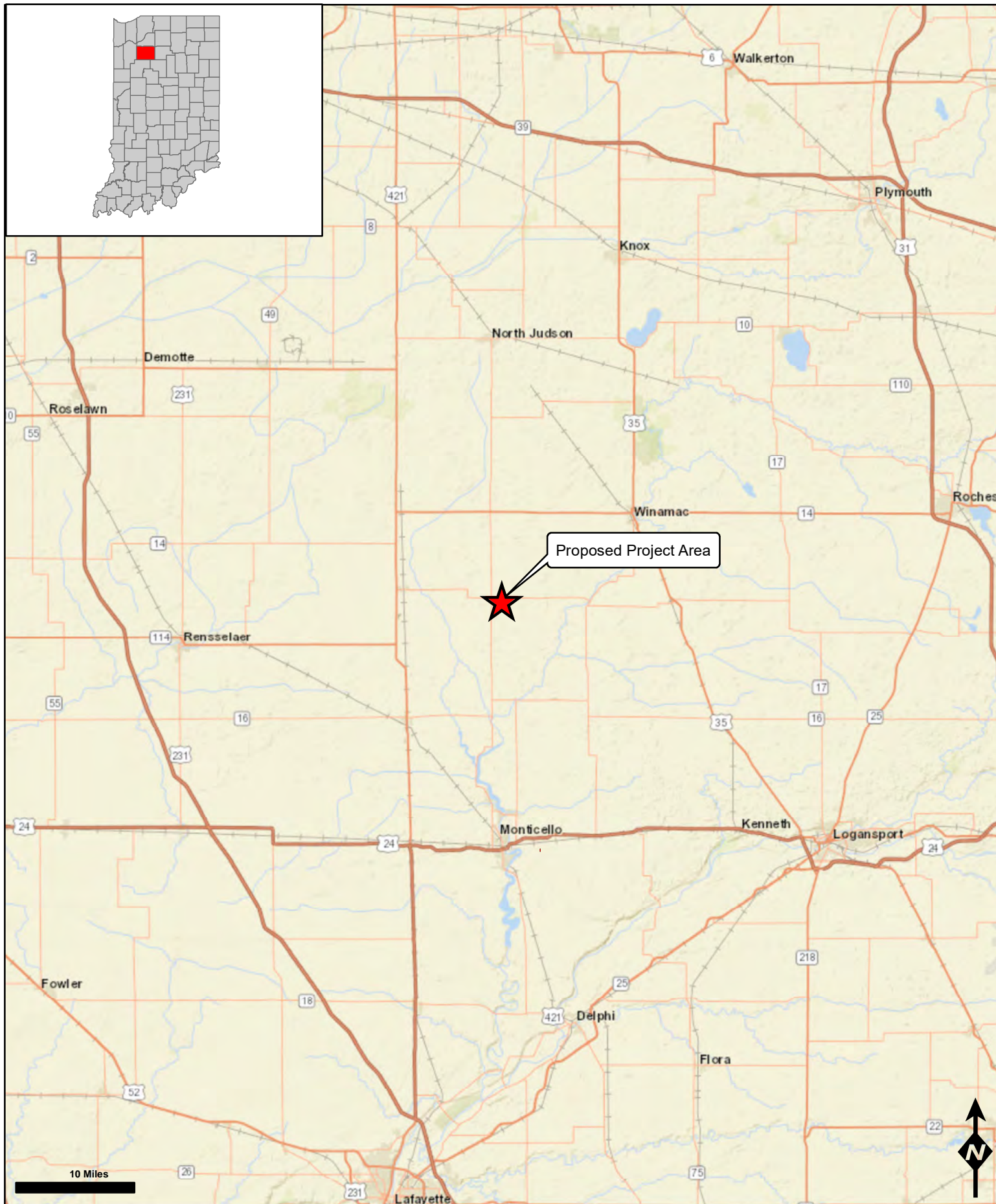
Enclosures:

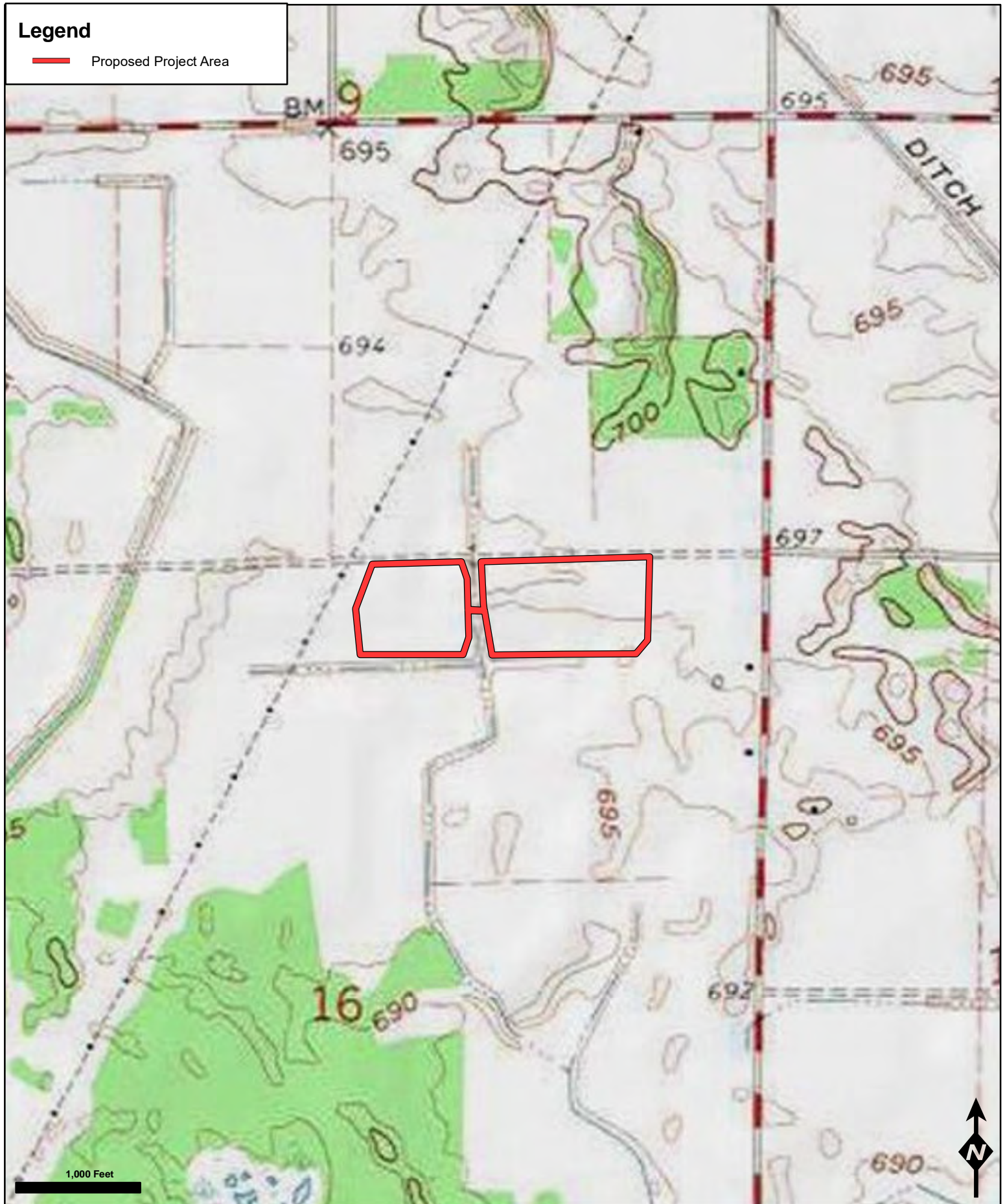
1. Project Maps
2. Site Plans
3. State Form 55031
4. Indiana DNR DHPA IHBBC Public Map
5. Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey, dated April 16, 2024
6. TDAT, dated April 15, 2024
7. Early Coordination Recipients



Enclosure 1

Project Maps






Legend

— Proposed Project Area

Legend

 Proposed Project Area





Enclosure 2

Site Plan



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc

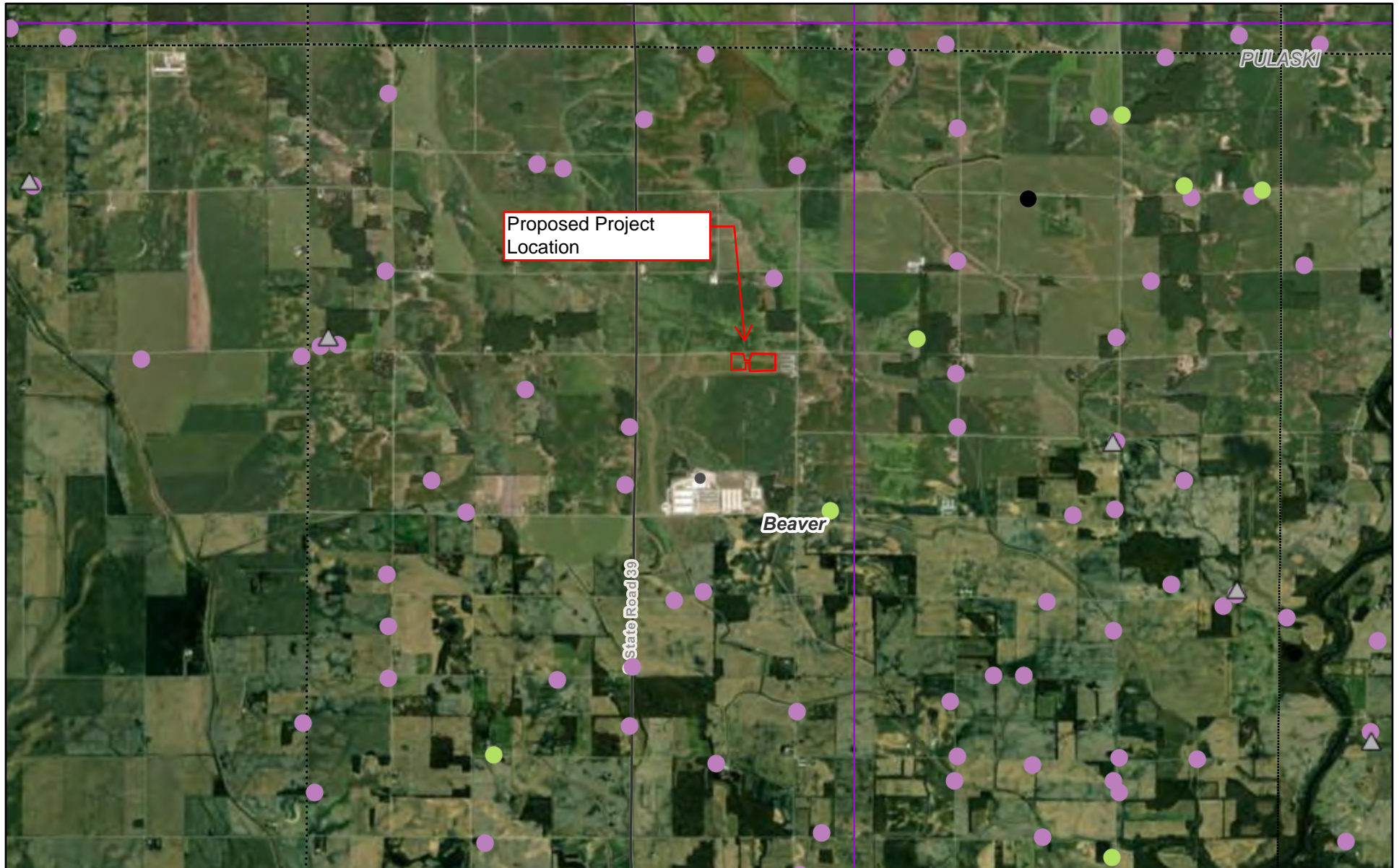




Enclosure 3

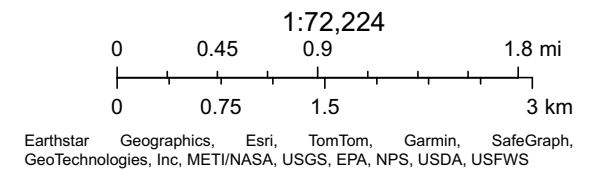
Indiana DNR DHPA IHBBC Public Map

DHPA IHBBC Map



4/16/2024, 3:36:31 PM

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Counties | County Survey Sites | Demolished |
| Cemeteries | Notable | Civil Township Boundaries |
| | Contributing | USGS Topo Quads |





Enclosure 5

TDAT, dated August 21, 2024



Tribal Directory Assessment Information



Contact Information for Tribes with Interests in Pulaski County, Indiana

Tribal Name				County Name		
— Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
John "Rocky" Barrett	Chairman	1601 South Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK - 74801	(405) 275-3121	(405) 275-0198	jbarrett@potawatomi.org	www.potawatomi.org
Tracy Wind	THPO (Acting)	1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK - 74801	(405) 878-5830	(405) 878-5840	tracy.wind@potawatomioi.org	www.potawatomi.org
— Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
James Crawford	Chairman	5416 Everybodys Road, Crandon, WI - 54520	(715) 478-7200	(715) 478-5280	james.crawford@fcpsnsn.gov	https://www.fcpotawatomi.com/
Ben Rhodd	THPO	P.O. Box 340, Crandon, WI - 54520	715-478-7354	715-478-7225	benjamin.rhodd@fcpsnsn.gov	https://www.fcpotawatomi.com/
— Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Kenneth Meshigaud	Chairperson	N14911 Hannahville B1 Road, Wilson, MI - 49896-9728	(906) 723-2602	(906) 466-2933	tyderyien@hannahville.org	www.hannahville.net
— Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan				Pulaski		

Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Regina Gasco-Bentley	Chairperson	7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI - 49740	(231) 242-1418	(231) 242-1411	tribalchair@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov	www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
Melissa Wiatroluk	THPO	7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI - 49740	231-242-1408	231-242-1416	mwiatroluk@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov	www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Douglas Lankford	Chief	3410 P St., Miami, OK - 74354	(918) 541-1300	(918) 542-7260	thpo@miamination.com	http://www.miamination.com
Logan York	THPO	P.O. Box 1326, Miami, OK - 74355	918-541-7885		thpo@miamination.com	http://www.miamination.com
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Craig Harper	Chief	118 South Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, OK - 74355	(918) 540-2535	(918) 540-2538	chiefharper@peoriatribe.com	http://www.peoriatribe.com
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Matthew Bussler	THPO	P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI - 49047	(269) 462-4316	(269) 783-9041	matthew.bussler@pokagonband-nsn.gov	http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov
Rebecca J. Richards	Chairperson	58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI - 49047	(269) 782-6323	(269) 782-9625	rebecca.richards@pokagonband-nsn.gov	http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Raphael Wahwassuck	THPO	16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS - 66509	(785) 966-4048	(785) 966 4009	raphaelwahwassuck@pbnation.org	http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/
Joseph Rupnick	Chairperson	16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS - 66509	(785) 966-4000	(785) 966-4009	josephrupnick@pbnation.org	http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/

1 - 8 of 8 results

« ‹ 1 › » 10 ▼



Enclosure 6

Early Coordination Recipients

The following agencies received Early Coordination Letters:

Assistant Director for Environmental Review
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, Room W274
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Environmental Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Fish & Wildlife
402 W. Washington Street, Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2641
(Electronic Coordination)

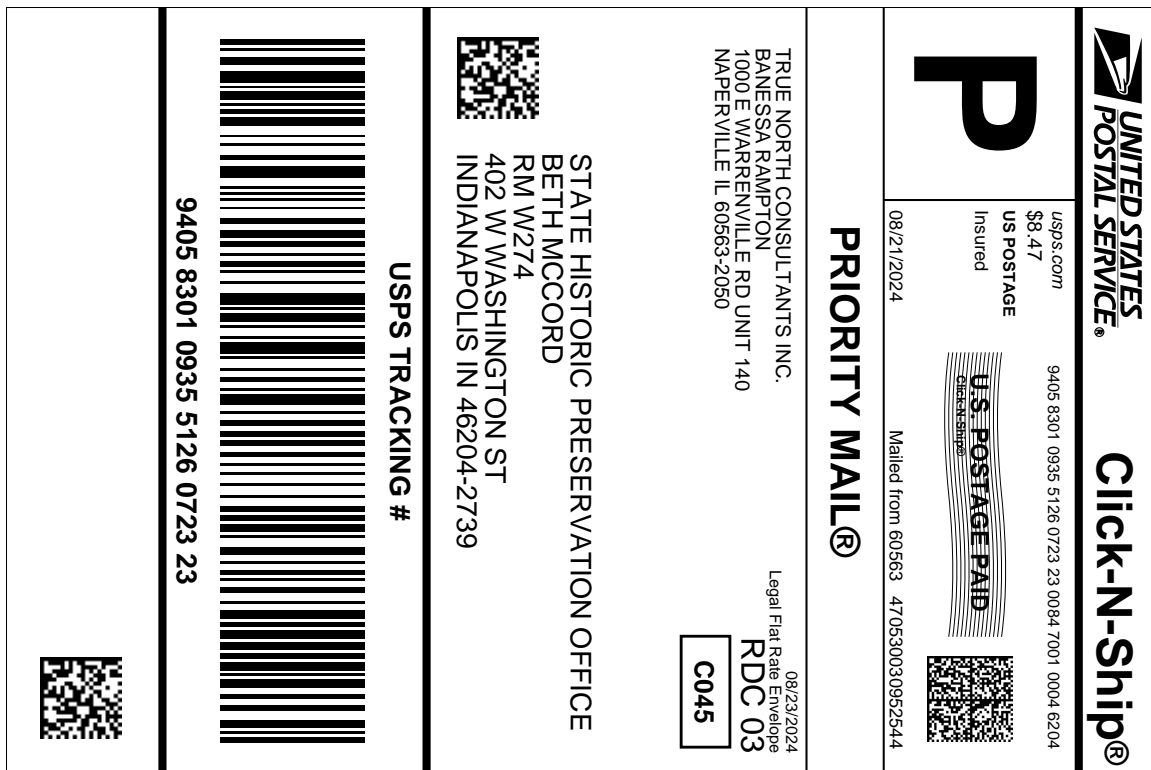
Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington Street, Room W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Electronic Coordination)

State Soil Scientist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989
(Electronic Coordination)

Indiana State Board of Health
2 N Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chief, North Section, Louisville District
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Business and Legislative Liaison
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
(Electronic Coordination – Online Review Process)



Cut on dotted line.



Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

3410 P St. NW, Miami, OK 74354 • P.O. Box 1326, Miami, OK 74355
Ph: (918) 541-1300 • Fax: (918) 542-7260
www.miamination.com



Via email: ccuchetto@consulttruenorth.com

August 21, 2024

Cullen Cuchetto
Associate Consultant
1000 East Warrenville Road
Suite 140
Naperville, IL 60563

RE: Proposed RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project – Comments of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Cuchetto,

Aya, kweehsitoolaanki – I show you respect. The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, a federally recognized Indian tribe with a Constitution ratified in 1939 under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of 1936, respectfully submits the following comments regarding the Proposed RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project.

The Miami Tribe offers no objection to the above-referenced project at this time, as we are not currently aware of existing documentation directly linking a specific Miami cultural or historic site to the project site. Given the Miami Tribe's deep and enduring relationship to its historic lands and cultural property within present day Indiana, if any human remains or Native American cultural items falling under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) or archaeological evidence is discovered during any phase of this project, the Miami Tribe requests consultation within 24 hours with the entity of jurisdiction for the location of discovery. In such a case please contact me at 918-541-7885 or by email at THPO@miamination.com to initiate consultation.

The Miami Tribe requests to serve as a consulting party to the proposed project. In my capacity as Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, I am the point of contact for all Section 106 consultation.

Respectfully,

Logan York

Logan York
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI
HISTORY & CULTURE CENTER

09/18/2024

Cullen Cuchetto
1000 East Warrenville Road, Suite 140
Naperville
ILLINOIS
60563
630-717-2880
ccuchetto@consulttruenorth.com

Solar PV Facility and Containerized BESS Construction – Pulaski County, IN

Dear Responsible Party:

Migwêthh for contacting me regarding these projects. As THPO, I am responsible for handling Section 106 Consultations on behalf of the tribe. I am writing to inform you that after reviewing the details for the project referenced above, I have made the determination that there will be **No Historic Properties in Area of Potential Effects (APE)** significant to the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. However, if any archaeological resources are uncovered during this undertaking, please stop work and contact me immediately. Should you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Matthew J.N. Bussler
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Office: (269) 462-4316
Cell: (269) 519-0838
Matthew.Bussler@Pokagonband-nsn.gov



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Mr. Tracy Wind
Acting Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Wind:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

¹ *Nationwide Programmatic Agreement among the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Programs, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, Tribal Signatories, and The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for Sequencing Section 106 (NPA).*

mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located

within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Ms. Olivia Nunway
Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Nunway:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3,884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

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mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located

within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

The Honorable Kenneth Meshigaud
Chairperson
Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan
N14911 Hannahville Road B1
Wilson, MI 49896-9728

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Honorable Meshigaud:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

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mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located

within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Ms. Melissa Wiatroluk
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan
7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Wiatroluk:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

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mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

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RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

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Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Mr. Logan York
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1326
Miami, OK 74355

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Mr. York:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

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mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located

within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Mr. Matthew Bussler
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Bussler:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3,884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

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mounted protective equipment including surge arrestor, recloser, meter, Potential Transformers/Current Transformers assembly, gang-operated-air-break (GOAB) disconnect, and low-voltage alternating current (LVAC) transformer. Additionally, pole-mounted reclosers would be deployed to provide strategic load flow control during microgrid operation. Both the BESS and solar PV equipment would be 10-feet in height or less above ground, and the poles would be consistent in height with the existing poles in the right-of-way along the street. The estimated duration of construction is less than 15 months, and the Proposed Project is expected to operate for up to 40 years.

If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

The enclosed report titled, *An Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, describes the results of the survey of the APE. Archaeological Consultants of Ossian (ACO) examined historic resources such as the General Land Office (GLO) survey notes for the township and no cultural resources were identified near the RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project Area. ACO also examined their internal records and site files and maps at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, through which it was determined the following historic structures were located

within a 1.0-mile radius of the project: 131-078-50017, 131-078-50020, 131-078-50029, 131-421-50015, 131-421-50030 through 131-421-50032, 131-421-50037, 131-421-50038, and 131-421-50050. On April 4, 2024, ACO personnel conducted a pedestrian walkover survey across the approximate 28.93-acre survey area. The survey included archaeologists walking abreast at 10-meter intervals, visually examining the ground for cultural debris and flagging any cultural materials found. If necessary, the survey team would re-walk at 2-meter intervals to determine the artifact density. Upon visiting the Project area, the survey team concluded that no archaeological sites were located, nor was any fire-cracked rock observed. Based on the results of the survey, ACO concluded that the Project area had been previously disturbed by agricultural activity and no further archaeological work was recommended.

The National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks database, and historic aerial imagery were also reviewed to assess for the presence of structures over 50 years in age or of historical significance. No such structures were identified within or adjacent to the Proposed Project Area. Based on the findings of the *Archaeological Field Reconnaissance of a Proposed Solar Panel Array near Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana*, dated April 16, 2024, and the further review for historically significant structures, a finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) is appropriate for the referenced Project.

Accordingly, RUS is submitting a recommended finding of no historic properties affected in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1) and supporting documentation for review and consideration by the SHPO.

Please provide your concurrence or objection, **electronically** within 30 days of your receipt of this recommended finding. In accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(c)(4), RUS would proceed to the next step in review if we do not receive a response from you within thirty days. Please direct any questions you may have to Kate Moore at RUSEHPD.IRA@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

Mr. Raphael Wahwassuck
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Mr. Wahwassuck:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

The Proposed Project would consist of the installation and operation of a 3, 884 kilowatt alternating current (kWac) (4,309 kilowatt direct current [kWdc]) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility and a containerized battery energy storage system (BESS) located at 8596 W 700 S Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana. The Proposed Project would include the construction, operation, and maintenance of the solar PV facility as well as the BESS, utility interconnect, a perimeter fence, and an access road. The energy produced from the solar facility would be primarily consumed by RAF at their Pulaski County Egg Farm. If the facility produces more power on an instantaneous basis than is required by RAF as the host agricultural producer and the energy is fully charged, then power would flow to the surrounding community. Similarly, when RAF as the host agricultural producer requires more power than is available or produced on an instantaneous basis, then RAF would import that from the grid.

The solar PV portion of the facility would be installed on a ground-mounted, single-axis tracker type racking system, secured with screw or driven piles to an approximate depth of not more than eight feet. The RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm is currently served by several different line taps off Carroll White's electric distribution system. During construction, a new 3-phase line would be run approximately 2.2 miles to interconnect with a single line tap. Interconnection facilities would include four poles with pole-

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If RUS elects to fund the Project, it will become an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

RUS defines the area of potential effect (APE), as an area that includes all Project construction and excavation activity required to construct, modify, improve, or maintain any facilities; any right-of-way or easement areas necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project; all areas used for excavation of borrow material and habitat creation; all construction staging areas, access routes, utilities, spoil areas, and stockpiling areas. Impacts that come from the undertaking at the same time and place with no intervening causes, are considered “direct” regardless of its specific type (e.g., whether it is visual, physical, auditory, etc.). “Indirect” effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

The APE for the referenced Project consists of approximately 22 acres of land within the parcel identified as 66-11-900-001.000-002 by Pulaski County. Ground disturbance would result from the construction of the solar facility, BESS, perimeter fence, and access road, as shown on the enclosed map. The APE additionally includes a 500-foot radius within which the Proposed Project may result in visual impacts to historic properties, if present. Additionally, the APE does not include any federal and/or tribal lands as defined pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.16(x).

RUS identified the following as consulting parties for the proposed Project: the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin, the Hannahville Indian Community of Michigan, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians of Michigan, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana, and the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

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Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report



Rural Development
Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence
Ave SW, Room 2230
Stop 4018,
Washington, DC,
20250

8/14/2024

The Honorable Craig Harper
Chief
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
118 South Eight Tribes Trail
Miami, OK 74355

Subject: USDA RD Rural Utilities Service Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – Rose Acre Farms (RAF) Pulaski
County Egg Farm Project Francesville, Pulaski County, Indiana

Dear Honorable Harper:

Carroll White Rural Electric Membership Corporation (REMC) is seeking financial assistance from the USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service (RUS) under its Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) Program for the Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project (Project). This Project will not be using the NPA.¹

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Sincerely,

Kate Moore
Supervisory Archaeologist
Policy and Program Support
Environmental & Historic Preservation Division
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture

Enclosure(s)

- Project Area Map

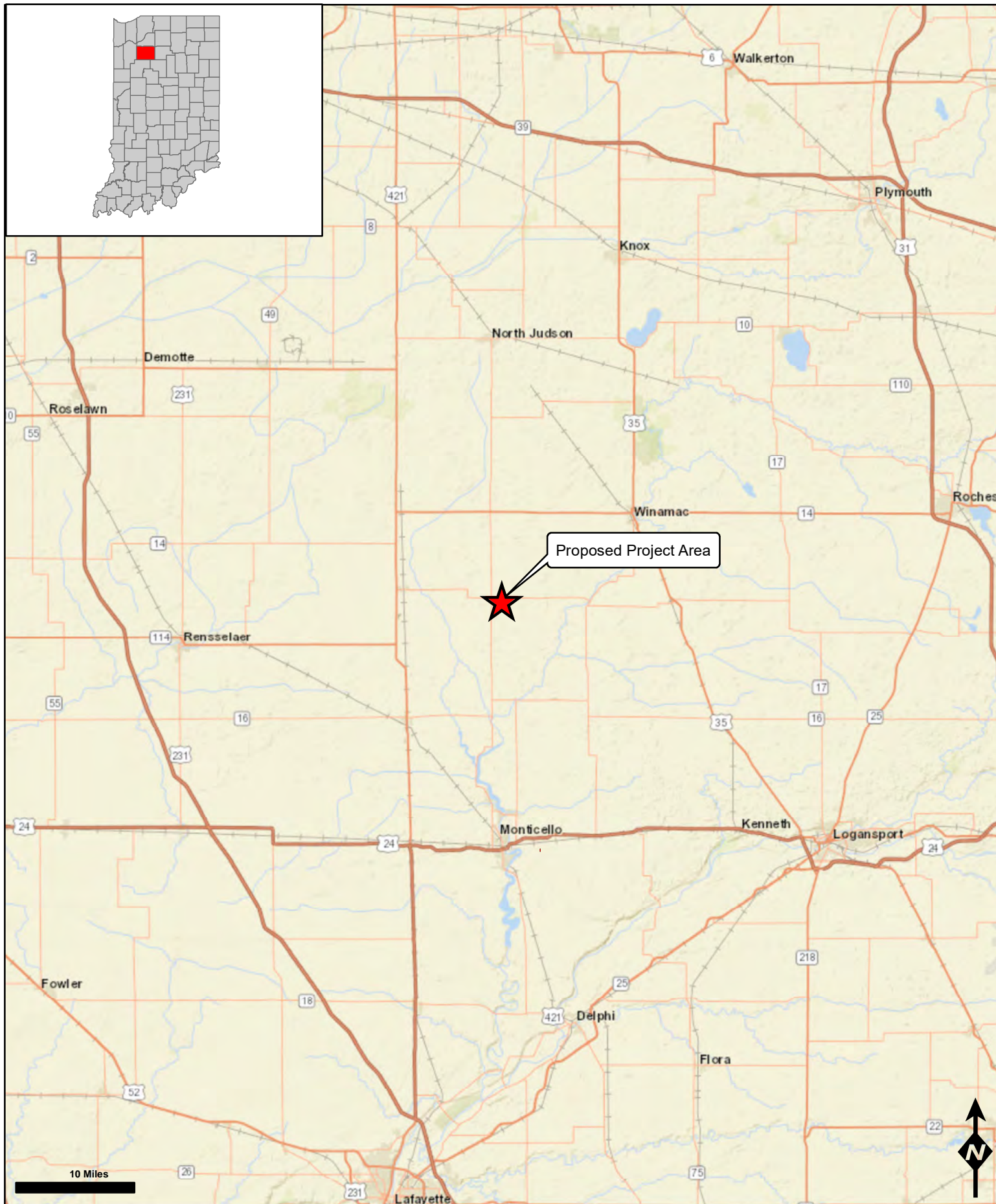
USDA RD Section 106 THPO Recommended Finding Letter 4

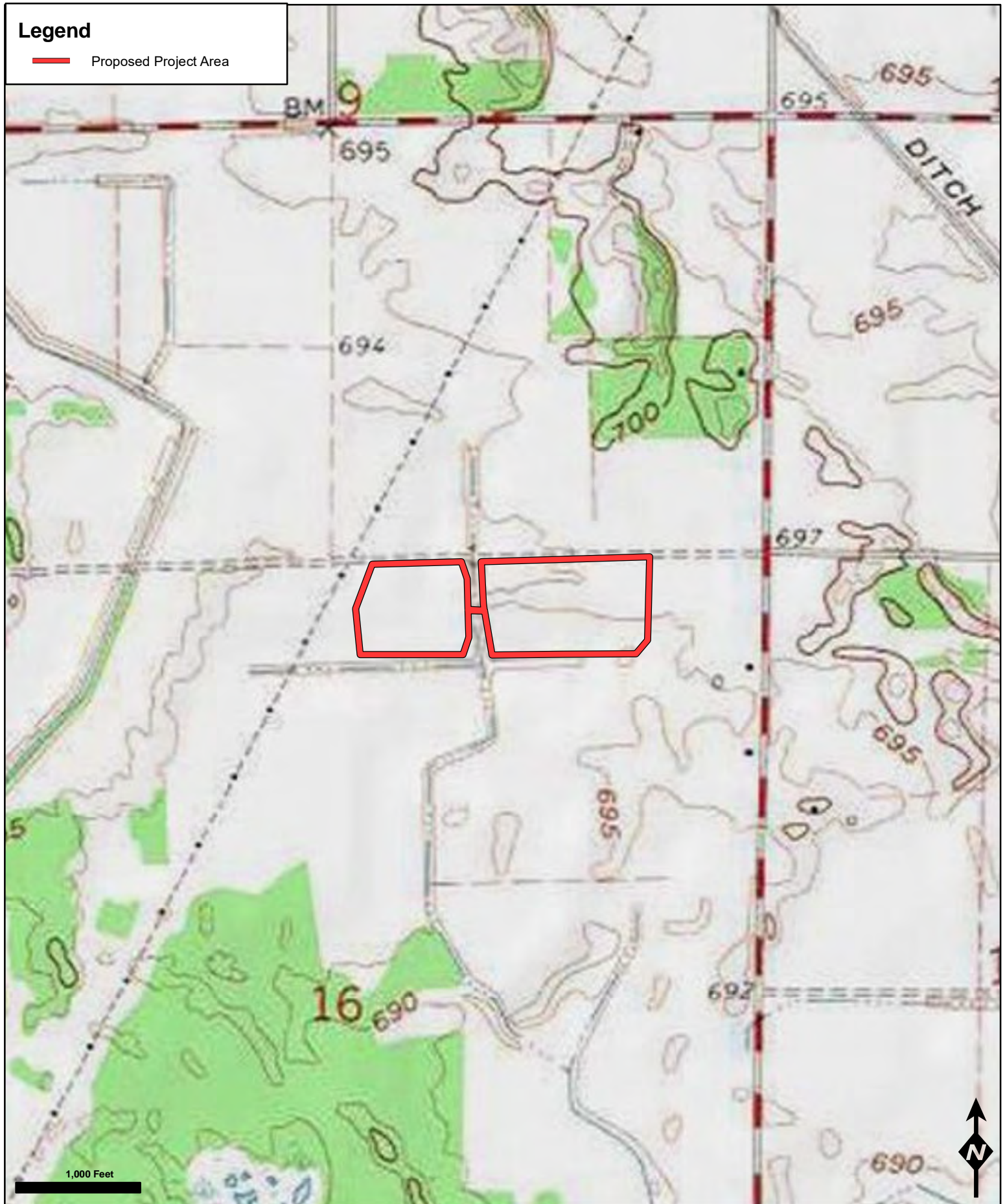
- SHPO database search results
- Archaeological Survey Report




Enclosure 1

Project Maps





Legend

 Proposed Project Area





Enclosure 2

Site Plan



RAF Pulaski County Site Layout

Francesville, IN
3.984 MW AC PV + 3.84 MW (15.36 MWh BESS)

22 Acres
228 Strings of 27 Modules
6,156 Modules (700W)
4,309 kWdc

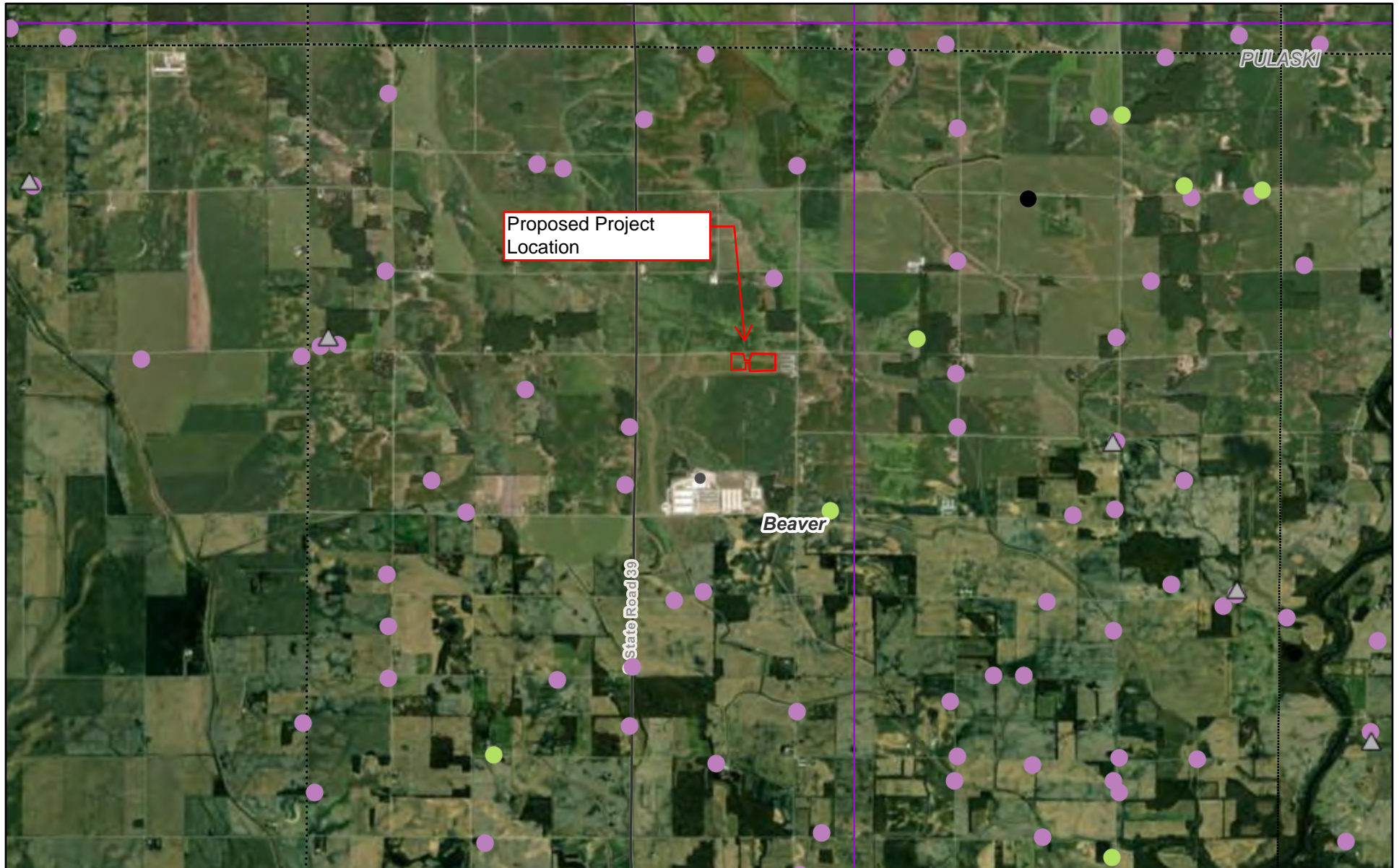




Enclosure 3

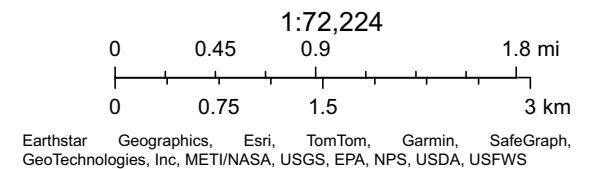
Indiana DNR DHPA IHBBC Public Map

DHPA IHBBC Map



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- | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Counties | County Survey Sites | Demolished |
| Cemeteries | Notable | Civil Township Boundaries |
| | Contributing | USGS Topo Quads |





Enclosure 5

TDAT, dated August 21, 2024



Tribal Directory Assessment Information



Contact Information for Tribes with Interests in Pulaski County, Indiana

Tribal Name				County Name		
— Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
John "Rocky" Barrett	Chairman	1601 South Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK - 74801	(405) 275-3121	(405) 275-0198	jbarrett@potawatomi.org	www.potawatomi.org
Tracy Wind	THPO (Acting)	1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK - 74801	(405) 878-5830	(405) 878-5840	tracy.wind@potawatom.org	www.potawatomi.org
— Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
James Crawford	Chairman	5416 Everybodys Road, Crandon, WI - 54520	(715) 478-7200	(715) 478-5280	james.crawford@fcpsn.gov	https://www.fcpotawatomi.com/
Ben Rhodd	THPO	P.O. Box 340, Crandon, WI - 54520	715-478-7354	715-478-7225	benjamin.rhodd@fcpsn.gov	https://www.fcpotawatomi.com/
— Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan				Pulaski		
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Kenneth Meshigaud	Chairperson	N14911 Hannahville B1 Road, Wilson, MI - 49896-9728	(906) 723-2602	(906) 466-2933	tyderyien@hannahville.org	www.hannahville.net
— Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan				Pulaski		

Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Regina Gasco-Bentley	Chairperson	7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI - 49740	(231) 242-1418	(231) 242-1411	tribalchair@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov	www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
Melissa Wiatroluk	THPO	7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs, MI - 49740	231-242-1408	231-242-1416	mwiatroluk@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov	www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Douglas Lankford	Chief	3410 P St., Miami, OK - 74354	(918) 541-1300	(918) 542-7260	thpo@miamination.com	http://www.miamination.com
Logan York	THPO	P.O. Box 1326, Miami, OK - 74355	918-541-7885		thpo@miamination.com	http://www.miamination.com
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Craig Harper	Chief	118 South Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, OK - 74355	(918) 540-2535	(918) 540-2538	chiefharper@peoriatribe.com	http://www.peoriatribe.com
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Michigan and Indiana			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Matthew Bussler	THPO	P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI - 49047	(269) 462-4316	(269) 783-9041	matthew.bussler@pokagonband-nsn.gov	http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov
Rebecca J. Richards	Chairperson	58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI - 49047	(269) 782-6323	(269) 782-9625	rebecca.richards@pokagonband-nsn.gov	http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation			Pulaski			
Contact Name	Title	Mailing Address	Work Phone	Fax Number	Email Address	URL
Raphael Wahwassuck	THPO	16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS - 66509	(785) 966-4048	(785) 966 4009	raphaelwahwassuck@pbnation.org	http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/
Joseph Rupnick	Chairperson	16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS - 66509	(785) 966-4000	(785) 966-4009	josephrupnick@pbnation.org	http://www.pbpindiantribe.com/

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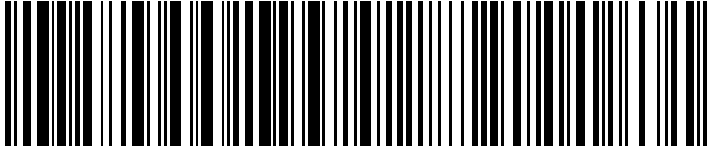
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R011



HANNAHVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY, MICHIGA
KENNETH MESHIGAUD
N14911 HANNAHVILLE ROAD B 1
WILSON MI 49896-9612

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KENNETH MESHIGAUD
N14911 HANNAHVILLE ROAD B 1
WILSON MI 49896-9612

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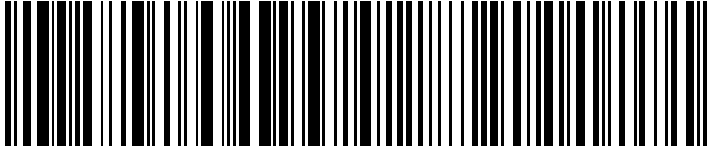
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R002



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA IN
MELISSA WIATROLIK
7500 ODAWA CIR
HARBOR SPRINGS MI 49740-9692

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To: LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS
MELISSA WIA TROLIK
7500 ODAWA CIR
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B002



POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
MATTHEW BUSSLER
PO BOX 180
DOWAGIAC MI 49047-0180

USPS TRACKING #



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BANESSA RAMPTON
1000 E WARRENVILLE RD UNIT 140
NAPERVILLE IL 60563-2050

To:

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS
MATTHEW BUSSLER
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DOWAGIAC MI 49047-0180

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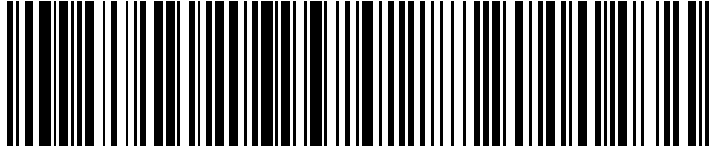
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B004



MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
LOGAN YORK
PO BOX 1326
MIAMI OK 74355-1326

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Ship Date: 2024-08-22

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BANESSA RAMPTON
1000 E WARRENVILLE RD UNIT 1400
NAPERVILLE IL 60563-2050

To: MIAMI TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
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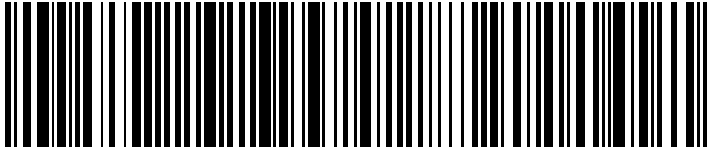
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RDC 03

R013



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION, OKLAHOMA
TRACY WIND
1601 GORDON COOPER DR
SHAWNEE OK 74801-9002

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Print Date: 2024-08-22

Ship Date: 2024-08-22

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Extra Services:

Fees:

Total:

From: TRUE NORTH CONSULTANTS INC.
BANESSA RAMPTON
1000 E WARRENVILLE RD UNIT 140
NAPERVILLE IL 60563-2050

To: CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION, OKLAHOMA
TRACY WIND
1601 GORDON COOPER DR
SHAWNEE OK 74801-9002

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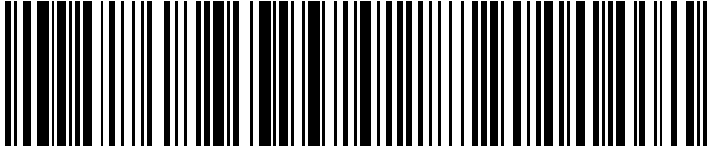
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R302



TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
RAPHAEL WAHWASSUCK
16281 Q RD
MAYETTA KS 66509-8970

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\$0.00

\$8.47

Total:

From: TRUE NORTH CONSULTANTS INC.
BANESSA RAMPTON
1000 E WARRENVILLE RD UNIT 140
NAPERVILLE IL 60563-2050

To: TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
RAPHAEL WAHWASSUCK
16281 Q RD
MAYETTA KS 66509-8970

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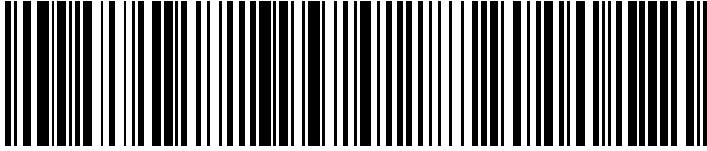
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PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
HONORABLE CRAIG HARPER, CHIEF
118 S EIGHT TRIBES TRL
MIAMI OK 74354-1002

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1000 E WARRENVILLE RD UNIT 1400
NAPERVILLE IL 60563-2050

To: PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
HONORABLE CRAIG HARPER, CHIEF
118 S EIGHT TRIBES TRL
MIAMI OK 74354-1002

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APPENDIX X

Air Quality



Indiana Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

Data is current as of September 30, 2024

Listed by County, NAAQS, Area. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 µg/m³) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)

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Important Notes

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County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
INDIANA								
Allen County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Fort Wayne, IN	040506	02/12/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	355,329	18/003
Boone County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	56,640	18/011
Clark County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	929394959697989900	11/23/2001	Moderate	Whole	110,232	18/019
Clark County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	040506	07/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	110,232	18/019
Clark County	8-Hour Ozone (2015)	Louisville, KY-IN	18192021	07/05/2022 [Split]	Marginal	Whole	110,232	18/019
Clark County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	0506070809101112131415	09/09/2016 *	Moderate	Whole	110,232	18/019
Daviess County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Southwest Indiana, IN	1314151617181920	04/30/2021		Part	1,095	18/027
Dearborn County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN	040506070809	05/11/2010	Former Subpart 1	Part	13,516	18/029
Dearborn County	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	1213141516	04/07/2017	Marginal	Part	13,600	18/029
Dearborn County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN	050607080910111213141516	09/01/2017 *	Former Subpart 1	Part	13,516	18/029
Delaware County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Muncie, IN	0405	01/03/2006	Former Subpart 1	Whole	117,671	18/035
Delaware County	Lead (2008)	Muncie, IN	10111213141516171819	05/15/2020		Part	854	18/035
Dubois County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	41,889	18/037
Elkhart County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	South Bend-Elkhart, IN	9293	11/30/1994	Marginal	Whole	197,559	18/039
Elkhart County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	South Bend-Elkhart, IN	040506	07/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	197,559	18/039
Floyd County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	929394959697989900	11/23/2001	Moderate	Whole	74,578	18/043

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/Part County	Population (2010)	State County FIPS Codes
Floyd County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	040506	07/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	74,578	18/043
Floyd County	8-Hour Ozone (2015)	Louisville, KY-IN	18192021	07/05/2022 [Split]	Marginal	Whole	74,578	18/043
Floyd County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	0506070809101112131415	09/09/2016 *	Moderate	Whole	74,578	18/043
Gibson County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Part	4,567	18/051
Greene County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Greene County, IN	04	12/29/2005	Former Subpart 1	Whole	33,165	18/055
Hamilton County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	274,569	18/057
Hamilton County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	0506070809101112	07/11/2013 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	274,569	18/057
Hancock County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	70,002	18/059
Hendricks County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	145,448	18/063
Hendricks County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	0506070809101112	07/11/2013 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	145,448	18/063
Huntington County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Huntington, IN	18192021222324	//		Part	20,838	18/069
Jackson County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Jackson County, IN	04	12/29/2005	Former Subpart 1	Whole	42,376	18/071
Jefferson County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Louisville, KY-IN	0506070809101112131415	09/09/2016 *	Moderate	Part	18,679	18/077
Johnson County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	139,654	18/081
Johnson County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	0506070809101112	07/11/2013 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	139,654	18/081
LaPorte County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	La Porte County, IN	040506	07/19/2007	Marginal	Whole	111,467	18/091
LaPorte County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	La Porte County, IN	9293949596	01/14/1997		Part	111,471	18/091
Lake County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	92939495969798990001020304	//	Severe-17	Whole	496,005	18/089
Lake County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	040506070809	05/11/2010	Moderate	Whole	496,005	18/089
Lake County	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI	12131415161718192021	05/20/2022	Serious	Whole	496,005	18/089
Lake County	8-Hour Ozone (2015)	Chicago, IL-IN-WI	18192021222324	//	Moderate	Part	421,162	18/089

County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
Lake County	Carbon Monoxide (1971)	East Chicago, IN	9293949596979899	03/20/2000	Not Classified	Part	5,208	18/089
Lake County	PM-10 (1987)	Lake County; Cities of East Chicago, Hammond, Whiting, and Gary, IN	9293949596979899000102	03/11/2003	Moderate	Part	214,867	18/089
Lake County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	05060708091011	02/06/2012 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	496,005	18/089
Lake County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Lake County, IN	92939495969798990001020304	10/26/2005		Part	496,000	18/089
Madison County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	131,636	18/095
Marion County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	9293	11/30/1994	Marginal	Whole	903,393	18/097
Marion County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	903,393	18/097
Marion County	Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Indianapolis, IN	9293949596979899	03/20/2000	Not Classified	Part	61,160	18/097
Marion County	Lead (1978)	Marion County; Franklin Township, IN	9293949596979899	07/10/2000		Part	18,158	18/097
Marion County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	0506070809101112	07/11/2013 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	903,393	18/097
Marion County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Marion County: Lawrence, Washington, and Warrant Townships, IN	9293949596	01/14/1997		Part	349,929	18/097
Marion County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Indianapolis, IN	13141516171819	05/21/2020		Part	388,587	18/097
Morgan County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	68,894	18/109
Morgan County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	0506070809101112	07/11/2013 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	68,894	18/109
Morgan County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Morgan County, IN	13141516171819	09/16/2020		Part	21,365	18/109
Pike County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Part	5,124	18/125
Pike County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Southwest Indiana, IN	1314151617181920	04/30/2021		Part	4,460	18/125
Porter County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	92939495969798990001020304	//	Severe-17	Whole	164,343	18/127
Porter County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	040506070809	05/11/2010	Moderate	Whole	164,343	18/127
Porter County	8-Hour Ozone (2008)	Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI	12131415161718192021	05/20/2022	Serious	Whole	164,343	18/127
Porter County	8-Hour Ozone (2015)	Chicago, IL-IN-WI	18192021222324	//	Moderate	Part	140,700	18/127

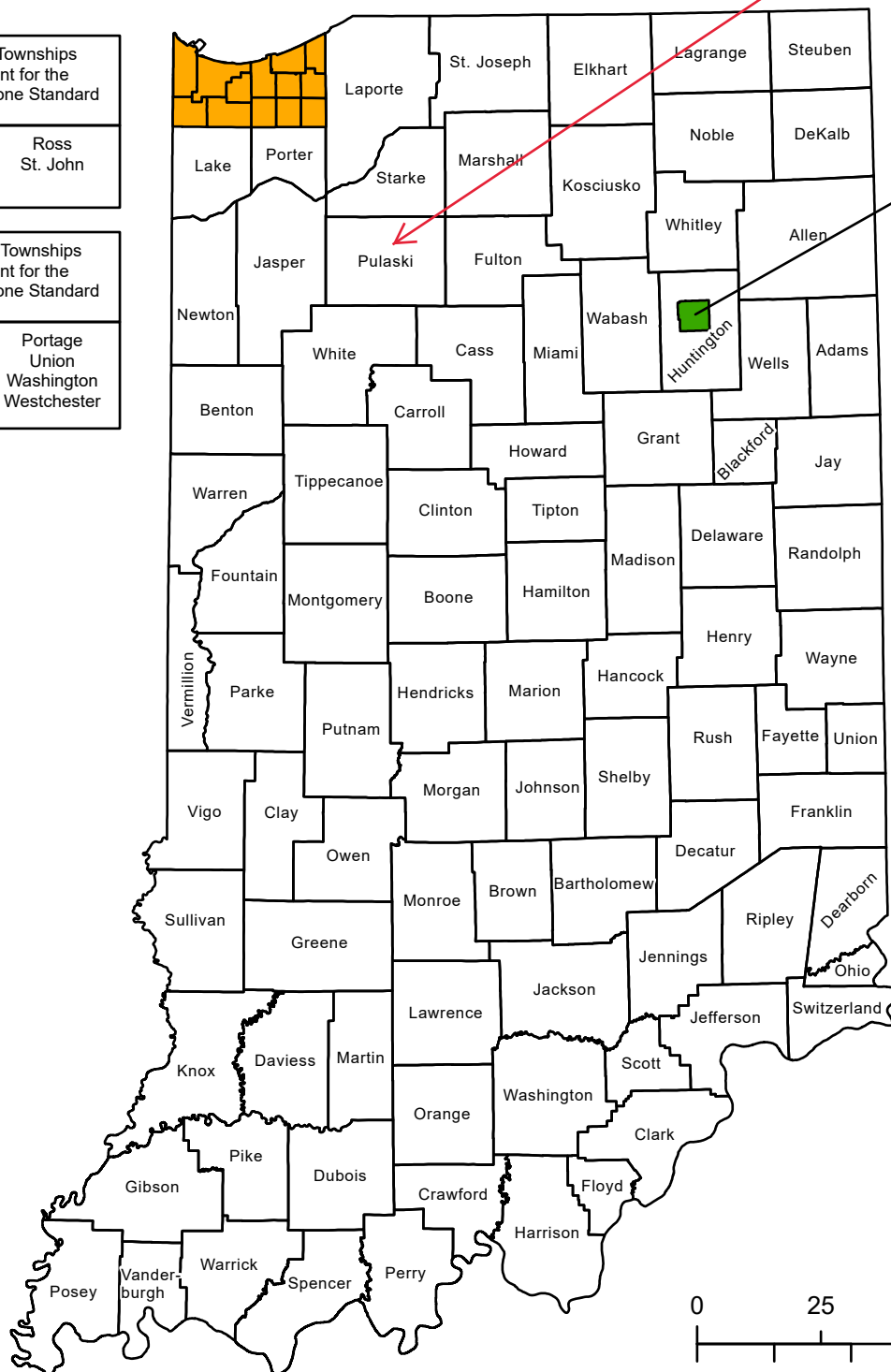
County	NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or Part County	Population (2010)	State/County FIPS Codes
Porter County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN	05060708091011	02/06/2012 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	164,343	18/127
Shelby County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Indianapolis, IN	040506	10/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	44,436	18/145
Spencer County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Part	6,023	18/147
St. Joseph County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	South Bend-Elkhart, IN	9293	11/30/1994	Marginal	Whole	266,931	18/141
St. Joseph County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	South Bend-Elkhart, IN	040506	07/19/2007	Former Subpart 1	Whole	266,931	18/141
Vanderburgh County	1-Hour Ozone (1979)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	9293949596	12/09/1997	Marginal	Whole	179,703	18/163
Vanderburgh County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	0405	01/30/2006	Former Subpart 1	Whole	179,703	18/163
Vanderburgh County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	179,703	18/163
Vermillion County	PM-10 (1987)	Vermillion County; Part of Clinton Township, IN	9293949596	10/27/1997	Moderate	Part	9,119	18/165
Vigo County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Terre Haute, IN	0405	02/06/2006	Former Subpart 1	Whole	107,848	18/167
Vigo County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Vigo County, IN	9293949596	01/14/1997		Whole	107,848	18/167
Vigo County	Sulfur Dioxide (2010)	Terre Haute, IN	131415161718	07/08/2019		Part	53,902	18/167
Warrick County	8-Hour Ozone (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	0405	01/30/2006	Former Subpart 1	Whole	59,689	18/173
Warrick County	PM-2.5 (1997)-NAAQS revoked	Evansville, IN	050607080910	10/27/2011 *	Former Subpart 1	Whole	59,689	18/173
Wayne County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Wayne County: Boston, Center, Franklin, Wayne & Webster Townships, IN	9293949596	01/14/1997		Part	52,325	18/177

Important Notes

Current Nonattainment Areas

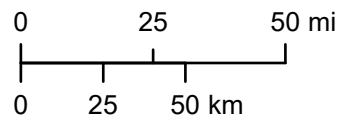
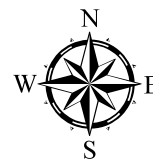
Lake County Townships Nonattainment for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard	
Calumet Hobart North	Ross St. John

Porter County Townships Nonattainment for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard	
Center Jackson Liberty Pine	Portage Union Washington Westchester



Pulaski County

Huntington
Township



This map is intended to serve as an aid in graphic representation only. This information is not warranted for accuracy or other purposes.

- "Moderate" Nonattainment for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard (0.070 ppm)
- Nonattainment for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ Standard



APPENDIX XI

Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice

EJScreen Community Report

This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

1 mile Ring around the Area
Population: 69
Area in square miles: 4.04

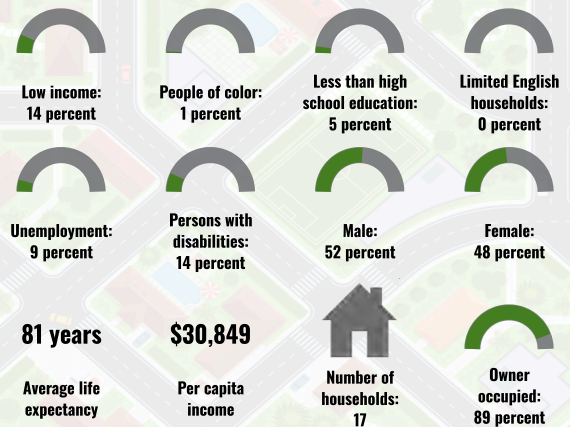


October 2, 2024
Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project
pulaski egg farm
0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi
0 0.13 0.25 0.5 km
Data: HERE, Garmin, FRC, Mapbox

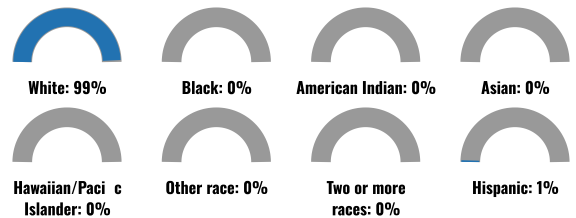
LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
No language data available.	

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

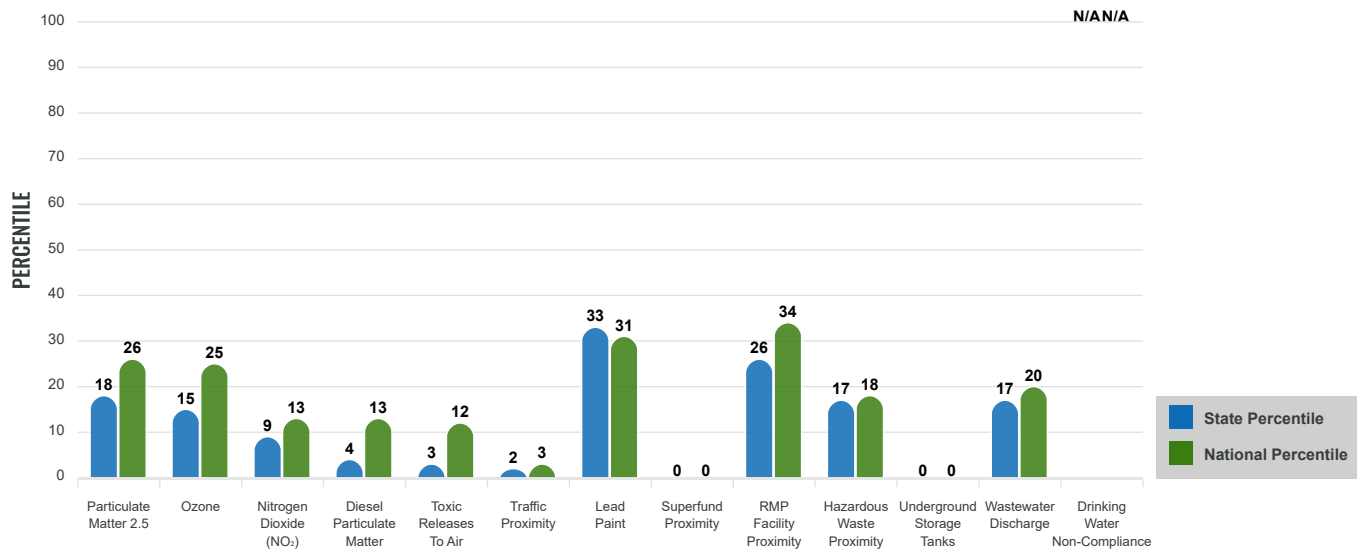
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

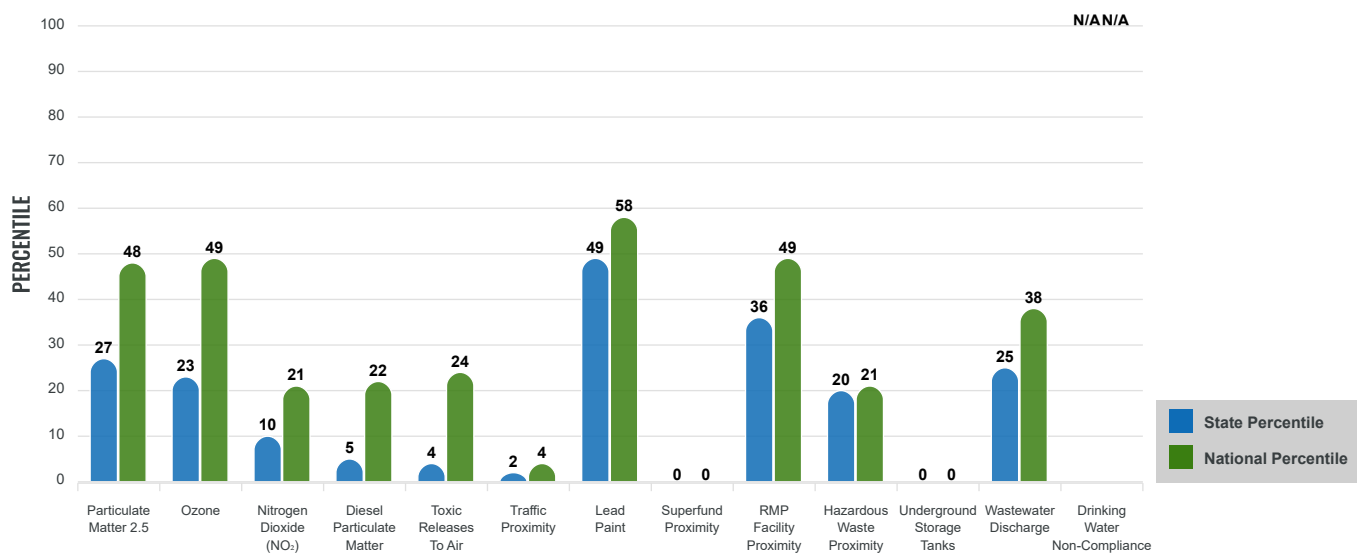
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low income, percent persons with disabilities, percent less than high school education, percent limited English speaking, and percent low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

Report produced October 2, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
ENVIRONMENTAL BURDEN INDICATORS					
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m ³)	8.34	8.7	35	8.45	56
Ozone (ppb)	61.7	63.2	30	61.8	56
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) (ppbv)	5	8	12	7.8	23
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m ³)	0.0942	0.177	6	0.191	26
Toxic Releases to Air (toxicity-weighted concentration)	140	16,000	5	4,600	27
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	13,000	670,000	3	1,700,000	5
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.49	0.37	67	0.3	73
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0	0.33	0	0.39	0
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.35	0.63	44	0.57	55
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.2	1.8	24	3.5	23
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	0	3.1	0	3.6	0
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	25	1600	32	700000	44
Drinking Water Non-Compliance (points)	N/A	0.59	N/A	2.2	N/A
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index USA	0.35	N/A	N/A	1.34	7
Supplemental Demographic Index USA	1.19	N/A	N/A	1.64	28
Demographic Index State	0.36	1.24	8	N/A	N/A
Supplemental Demographic Index State	1.07	1.64	18	N/A	N/A
People of Color	1%	23%	7	40%	3
Low Income	14%	32%	21	30%	26
Unemployment Rate	9%	5%	81	6%	78
Limited English Speaking Households	0%	2%	0	5%	0
Less Than High School Education	5%	11%	32	11%	36
Under Age 5	3%	6%	33	5%	38
Over Age 64	16%	17%	53	18%	51

*Diesel particulate matter index is from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	4
Air Pollution	1
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	0

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	0

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community	No
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	No

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area

Report produced October 2, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	17%	21%	15	20%	29
Heart Disease	7.4	6.2	80	5.8	82
Asthma	10.1	11	19	10.3	46
Cancer	8.6	6.8	96	6.4	91
Persons with Disabilities	14.2%	14.6%	50	13.7%	58

CLIMATE INDICATORS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	26%	9%	95	12%	89
Wildfire Risk	0%	2%	0	14%	0

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	14%	14%	56	13%	63
Lack of Health Insurance	9%	8%	68	9%	63
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access Burden	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Report for 1 mile Ring around the Area


Report produced October 2, 2024 using EJScreen Version 2.3

Low Income Map



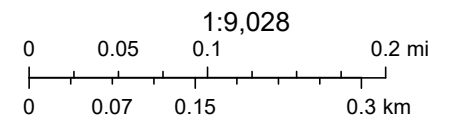
10/2/2024

Low Income
(National Percentiles)

 Less than 50 percentile

 Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

 pulaski egg farm



Esri, HERE, Garmin, iPC, Maxar

People of Color



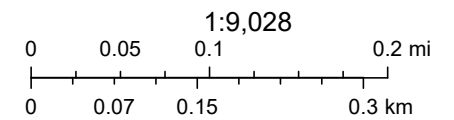
10/2/2024

People of Color
(National Percentiles)

Less than 50 percentile

Proposed Carroll White REMC PACE Loan Application – RAF Pulaski County Egg Farm Project

pulaski egg farm



Esri, HERE, Garmin, iPC, Maxar



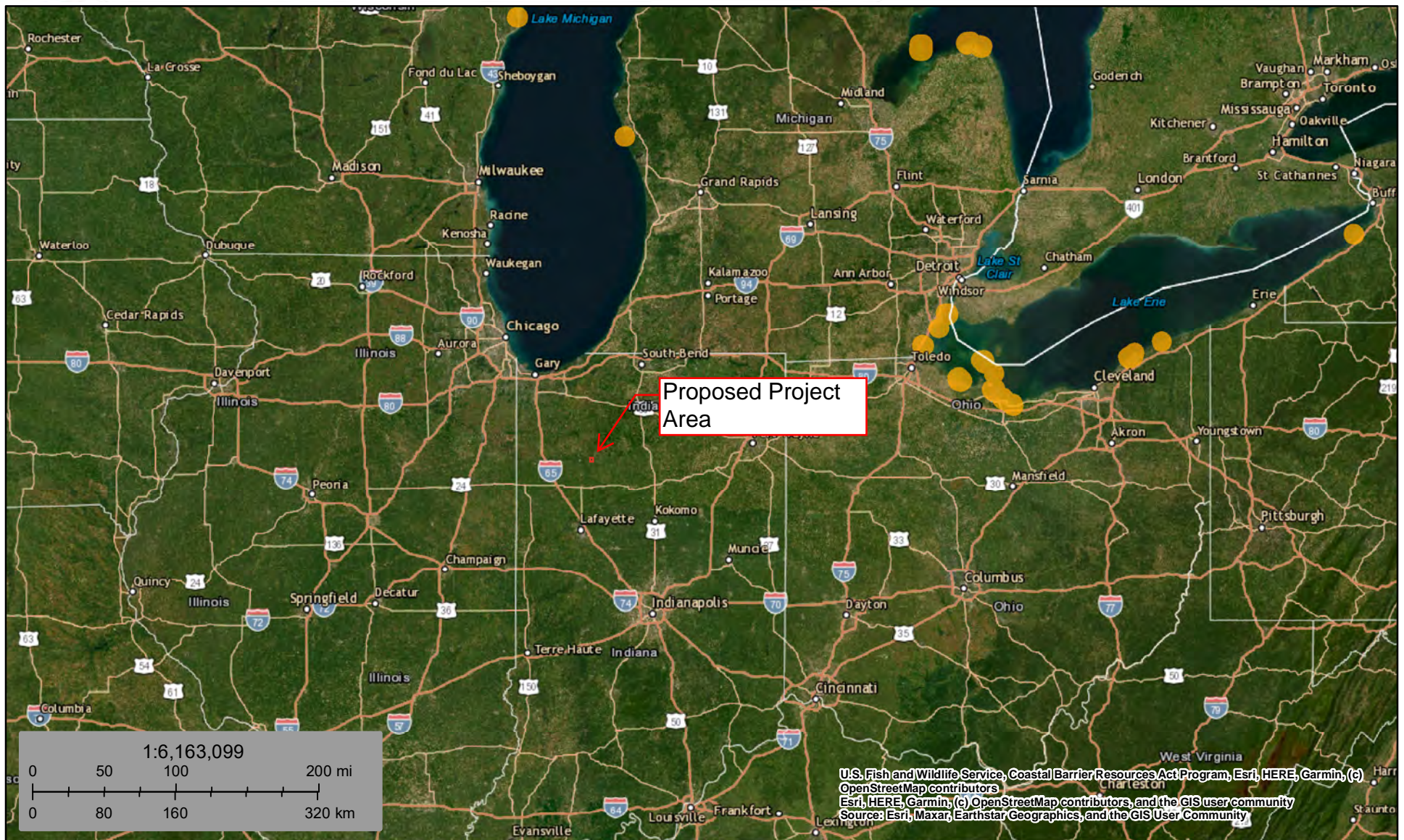
APPENDIX XII

Coastal Resources



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Barrier Resources System

Proposed Carroll White REMC PA



October 3, 2024

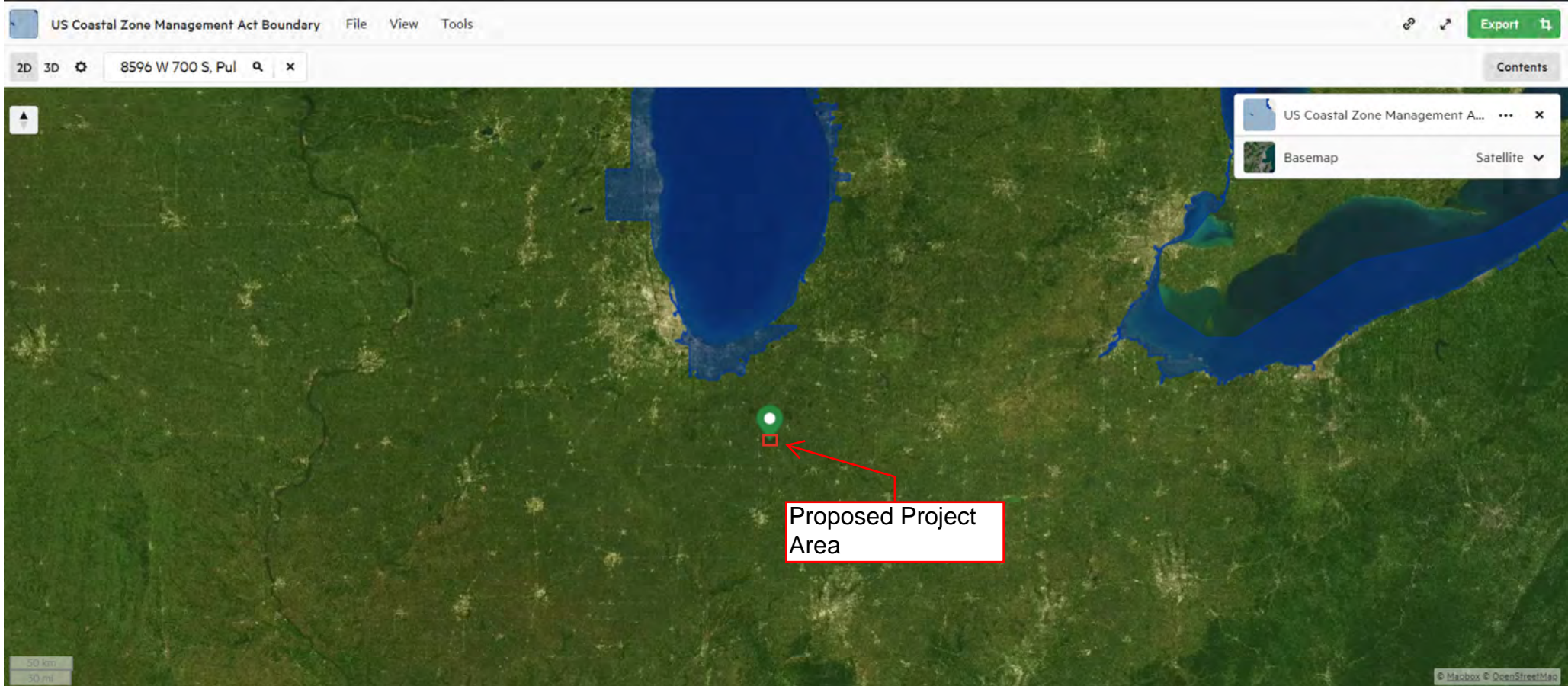
Generalized Units

This map is for general reference only. The Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) boundaries depicted on this map are representations of the controlling CBRS boundaries, which are shown on the official maps, accessible at <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/official-coastal-barrier-resources-system-maps>. All CBRS related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the CBRS Mapper website.

The CBRS Buffer Zone represents the area immediately adjacent to the CBRS boundary where users are advised to contact the Service for an official determination (<https://www.fws.gov/service/coastal-barrier-resources-system-property-documentation>) as to whether the property or project site is located "in" or "out" of the CBRS.

CBRS Units normally extend seaward out to the 20- or 30-foot bathymetric contour (depending on the location of the unit). The true seaward

This page was produced by the CBRS Mapper





APPENDIX XIII

Human Health and Safety



UST Finder

8596 W 700E Francesville



Show search results for 8596 W ...



Legend

Facilities

- Closed UST(s)
- Open UST(s)
- Unknown

Proposed Project Area

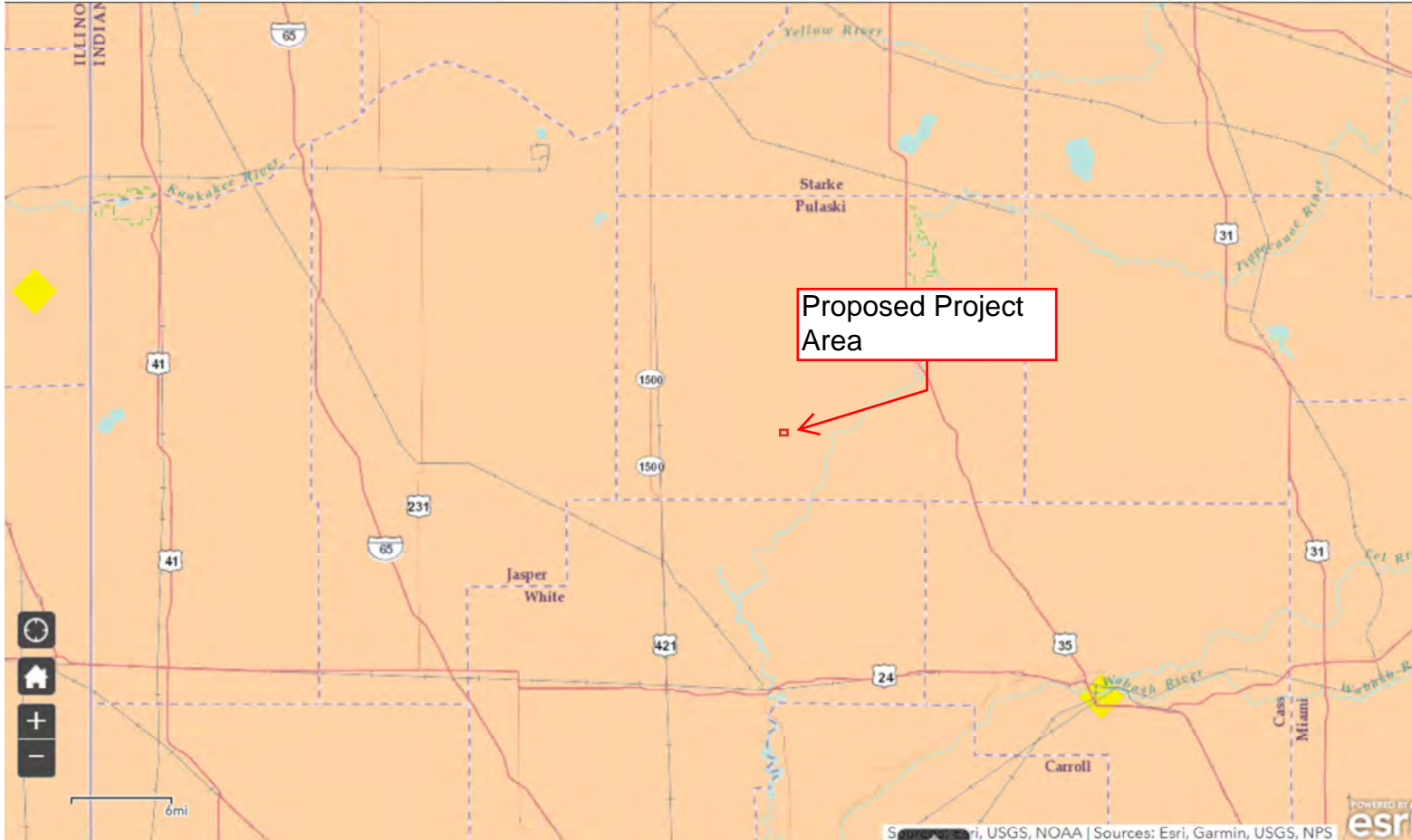


bing



Groundwater Branch, Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation's Pr...

POWERED BY
esri



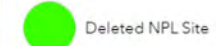
Legend

Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) Sites with Status Information

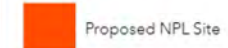
Status



NPL Site



Deleted NPL Site



Proposed NPL Site

Regions of the Environmental Protection Agency



Region 1



Region 2



Region 3



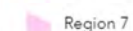
Region 4



Region 5



Region 6



Region 7



Region 8



Region 9



Region 10