



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

August 27, 2010

Colby C. Zemaitis, City Engineer
City of Wilmington
1165 S. Water Street
Wilmington, IL 60481

RE: Ridgeport Logistics Center Sewer and Water Extension
IDNR Project #1101657 [07717]

Dear Mr. Zemaitis:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the Ridgeport Logistics Center Sewer and Water Extension located in Will County. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075*.

This project will extend an existing 15" sanitary sewer from Lind Lane and 16" water main from Water Plant along Widow's Road, north on East Frontage Road. It will include directional boring under I-55. The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action could have an adverse impact on Blanding's Turtles (*Emydoidea blandingii*) which are known to occur in the area.

To minimize impact, the Department recommends that the city of Wilmington incorporate the following measures in its project authorization. Also enclosed is a separate Blanding's fact sheet which has photos and a description of the species.

- All on-site personnel should be educated about this species before construction begins.
- If possible, no construction should occur between early April and late October when the turtles are active.
- If work must be done during their active period, install and maintain exclusionary fencing around the work site from mid-March to late October. Trained personnel should check the exclusionary fence daily for the first two weeks and weekly thereafter.
- Securely cover trenches and excavations at the end of every work day. Before work begins each morning, inspect these sites and remove any non-listed reptiles or amphibians.

- If a Blanding's turtle is encountered on site:
 - Stop work immediately.
 - Do not move or touch the turtle; it is a criminal act to handle a threatened or endangered species without the appropriate permit.
 - Call IDNR Region 2 immediately at 847-608-3100.
 - Monitor the turtle until the contacted personnel arrive.

Consultation on the part of the Department is terminated. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the city must notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

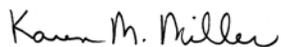
- Allow the action to proceed as originally proposed;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures if not all will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,



Karen Miller
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
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