



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor

Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

March 24, 2015

Stephen Chu, PWS
CH2M HILL, INC.
135 South 84th Street
Suite 400
Milwaukee, WI 53214

RE: 2014 Anomaly Dig Project: Site 2014.EXT.23
Project Number(s): 1510262 [1507687]
County: McHenry

Dear Applicant:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above mentioned project proposing to expose and remediate (re-coating or similar) one identified anomalous area on an existing natural gas pipeline. The project is located at Parcel PIN: 12-35-400-003, SE of Pleasant Valley Road in near Woodstock, IL.

Records of the state-endangered Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) exist in the project vicinity. To avoid impact to this species, the Department recommends the following measures be implemented:

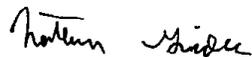
- Educate personnel working on site about the Blanding's turtle and include photos of juvenile and adult's in project documents kept onsite.
- Install exclusionary fencing to prevent turtles from entering the construction area and conduct daily inspections during construction to ensure that exclusionary fencing is properly installed (dug into the ground) and to check if turtles are present.
- Trenches or similar excavations should be covered at the end of each work day. Before starting each work day, trenches and excavations should be routinely inspected to ensure no turtles (or other amphibians and reptiles) have become trapped within them.
- If a Blanding's turtle is encountered, please contact our District Heritage Biologist, Brad Semel at (815)675-2386 (ext. 216). Do not attempt to handle or capture the turtle without the appropriate permits as this would be a violation of the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11].

Also, records of the state-threatened slippershell mussel (*Alasmidonta viridis*) exist in the Kishwaukee River in close proximity. Strict adherence to sediment and erosion control BMP's should be followed to prevent impacts to this species.

Given these recommendations are adopted, the Department has no objections to the issuance of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit. Please notify the Department if you plan to accommodate these recommendations or proceed as planned.

Please note that this review does not preclude permit decisions made by the IDNR Office of Water Resources under the Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this review.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nathan Grider
Impact Assessment Section
217-785-5500

cc: John Peters – MCCD
Julie Rimbault – USACE, Chicago District

