



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

November 13, 2015

Courtney Abshire  
ARCADIS  
1717 W. 6th Street  
Suite 210  
Austin, TX 78703

**RE: Marathon, Embarras HDD Crossing & Pipe Removal**  
**Project Number(s): 1604181 [03256295.0000, 1604062]**  
**County: Lawrence**

Dear Mr. Abshire:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project involving removal of a 4-inch and 6-inch pipeline from the Embarras River and horizontal directional drilling (HDD) of a new pipeline. Grout bags on the existing pipeline(s) will be removed by hand and the existing pipelines will be pulled out from the bank with no excavation, cofferdams, or pumping proposed in the river.

Records for the state-threatened eastern sand darter (*Ammocrypta pellucidum*) exist in the project vicinity. Given the above avoidance measures are followed, the Department agrees that adverse impacts are unlikely to this species. The Department also recommends strict implementation of BMP's to manage sediment and erosion, restoration of the disturbance area with seeding of suitable native, warm season grasses, and strict monitoring during the HDD process to avoid frac-out occurrences in the river. If any additional disturbances of the stream bed are required outside of the current proposal, the Department should be contacted for further consultation and a mussel and fish survey may be necessary.

The Department has no objection to issuance of a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit. Please note that this review is separate and distinct from any other action or regulatory authority of the Department.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this review.

Nathan Grider  
Impact Assessment Section  
217-524-0501