



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

January 6, 2016

Jeffrey Mengler
Hey and Associates, Inc.
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
111 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

RE: Lockport Tar Pit Clean-up
Project Number(s): 1604466 [15-0331]
County: Will

Dear Mr. Mengler:

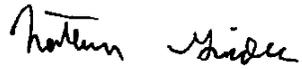
The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project involving oil clean-up activities at Lockport Tar Pit owned by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of Greater Chicago. Pursuant to the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act, the Department provides the following comments:

Records of the state-endangered Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), golden corydalis (*Corydalis aurea*), state and federally-endangered Hine's emerald dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*), state-threatened banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*), and least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) occur in the project vicinity. The Lockport Prairie Nature Preserve is also located downstream on the opposite bank of the Des Plaines River.

The Department recently reviewed the proposed Ducere Pipeline & Barge Terminal Project (1505611, USACE LRC-2014-356) in the same area which resulted in the discovery of the oil in the wetland on MWRD property. Based on the biological survey information collected for the Ducere project, degraded condition of the wetland, and the proposed clean-up activities, the Department has determined adverse impacts to protected resources are unlikely. However, there is some potential for the adult form of the Hine's emerald dragonfly to occur in the area during clean-up activities. The Department recommends you consult with Kristopher Lah of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this concern and copy the Department on correspondences.

Please note that this review is separate and distinct from any other action or regulatory authority of the Department. This review does not satisfy consultation requirements under Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. 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 style with a large initial 'N'.

Nathan Grider
Impact Assessment Section
217-785-5500

cc: Ron Abrant, USACE
Kristopher Lah, USFWS