



**U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

**Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant
Program**

Village of Montpelier, LA

Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Assessment

NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-07

PHMSA Approval:

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Overview:

The purpose of this Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Assessment (Tier 2) is to (1) document the proposed action (the Project) and the need for the action (2) identify existing conditions; (3) assess the social, economic, and environmental effects using appropriate tools and agency coordination to comply with local, state, and federal environmental laws, regulations, and ordinances; to (4) document applicable mitigation commitments that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential effects; and (5) seek comments from the public. This Tier 2 analysis informs PHMSA's assessment as to whether the Project is consistent with the impacts described in the Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program.¹

As part of this Tier 2, PHMSA is soliciting public comments through a public comment period. This Tier 2 is available on PHMSA's website where comments can be submitted to the contact noted below. PHMSA will accept public comments for 30 days on this Tier 2. PHMSA will consider comments received and incorporate them in the decision-making process. Consultation with appropriate agencies on related processes, regulations, and permits is ongoing. Please submit all comments to: PHMSABILGrantNEPAComments@dot.gov and reference NGDISM-EA-FY22-2023-07 in your response.

At the conclusion of the EA process, PHMSA will either issue a "Finding of No Significant Impact," further supplement this EA with additional analysis, mitigation measures, or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

I. Project Description/Proposed Action

Project Title	Village of Montpelier
Project Location	Montpelier, St Helena Parish, Louisiana
Project Description/Proposed Action:	
<p>The proposed action would replace 20,805 linear feet (LF) of 1970s vintage 2-inch (in) polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe with 2-inch polyethylene pipe (PE) mains and service lines in Montpelier, Louisiana located in St. Helena Parish. The new PE would be installed at a depth of 3 to 5 feet which is the same as the existing line. The work will include installation of 4,655 LF of 2-inch PE along Morgan Rd and 16,150 LF of 2-inch PE along Hwy 1041 to Johnston Rd. The construction methods would include trenching and directional boring at stream crossings at a minimum depth of 3 feet to the top of the pipe. The Tier 1 EA described that the majority of site-specific projects would utilize the insertion method of pipe replacement. As described in this document, the Village of Montpelier would utilize an open trench method, which generally involves greater soil disturbance and use of heavy equipment and related impacts than the insertion method.</p> <p>Abandonment of the existing pipeline (versus excavation and removal) would minimize ground disturbance and facilitate the replacement process in a more efficient manner. PHMSA has specific requirements for gas and hazardous liquid pipeline abandonment, found in 49 CFR 192.727 and 195.402(c)(10). These requirements include disconnecting pipelines from all sources and supplies of gas, purging all combustibles and sealing the facilities left in place. By complying with PHMSA requirements for purging and sealing abandoned pipelines,</p>	

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/09/2022-24378/pipeline-safety-notice-of-availability-of-the-tier-1-nationwide-environmental-assessment-for-the>

Montpelier would ensure that the abandoned pipelines pose no risk to safety in their abandoned state.

No Action:

The No Action alternative, as required under NEPA, serves as a baseline, and is used to compare impacts resulting from the Proposed Action. Under the No Action alternative, PHMSA would not fund this pipeline replacement project. Additionally, PHMSA would not be able to reduce the inventory of methane leaks and reduce safety risks by replacing pipe prone to leakage. Under this alternative, Montpelier would continue to use leak prone pipeline material, and conduct repairs or replacements in the future using non-federal sources of funding, and potentially on an emergency basis, when a pipeline fails. Impacts and benefits associated with replacing the leak prone pipeline within Montpelier with updated material would not be undertaken or would be undertaken at a later, uncertain date. The safety risks and methane leaks would persist. Impacts and benefits associated with replacement of leak prone pipe would not be seen in the near term. Even if pipe replacement were to happen at some point in the future, environmental mitigation actions during such a replacement would be unknown. Furthermore, existing economic losses, and increased risk associated with prolonged gas leaks would continue.

Need for the Project:

The project is needed to ensure the safe, reliable operation and delivery of energy to the community, replacing leak prone PVC pipe and reduce the likelihood of future leaks. The overall needs addressed by this project would include (1) improving upon the safe delivery of energy by reducing the likelihood of incidents, as well as methane leaks; (2) avoiding economic losses caused by pipeline failures; and (3) protecting our environment and reducing climate impacts by remediating aged and failing pipelines and pipe prone to leakage.

Description of the Environmental Setting of the Project Area:

The proposed project takes place within a rural community comprised mostly of residential housing and maintained grassy areas addition to the roadway. The existing pipeline infrastructure and location of the new mains would be located within the existing right-of-way (ROW). All natural gas service lines would be located on private property of the building or structure being served, with coordination, permission, and approval from the property owner. The environmental setting of these properties vary but mostly consist of mowed lawn through the project area.

II. Resource Review

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases (GHG)	
Question	Information and Justification
Is the project located in an area designated by the EPA as non-attainment or maintenance status for one or more of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)?	No, based on review of the EPA Greenbook. ²
Will the construction activities produce emissions that exceed de minimis thresholds (tons per year) described in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet?	N/A
Will mitigation measures be used to capture blowdown? ³	No

² <https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-national-area-and-county-level-multi-pollutant-information>

³ Blowdown refers to the venting of natural gas in current facilities, to begin rehabilitation, repair, or replacement activities.

Does the system have the capability to reduce pressure on the segments to be replaced? If yes, what is the lowest psi your system can reach prior to venting?	Yes, 10 pounds per square inch (PSI).
Will [project proponent] commit to reducing pressure on your line to this psi prior to venting? Please calculate venting emissions based on this commitment and also provide comparison figure of venting emissions volume without pressure reduction/drawdown based on the calculation methods provide in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet.	Yes, based on the size of the existing pipe, at 10 PSI, 0.8 thousand cubic ft (MCF) or 33 kg of methane would be vented during construction. Without reducing pressure, at 20 PSI, 1.1 MCF would be vented during construction.
Estimate the current leak rate per mile based on the type of pipeline material. Based on mileage of replacement and new pipeline material, estimate the total reduction of methane.	The existing leak rate is 752 kg/year. Replacement would result in a leak rate of 113 kg/year. ⁴

Conclusion:

The project area is in St. Helena Parish Louisiana which is designated by the EPA as in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing and planned pipeline activities, including construction and maintenance activities, would continue unchanged. The project proponent would continue to use leak prone pipe material. The total methane emissions for the pipelines within the project area were extrapolated over 20 years to represent the continuation of methane release under the No Action alternative. Under the No Action alternative, PHMSA estimates that 752 kg of methane would be released each year from the existing pipelines within the project area. This amounts to 15,043 kg of methane over a 20-year time frame. See Appendix B, Methane Emissions, for the methane leak rate calculations.

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action alternative would result in minor air quality impacts associated with construction activities, including the intentional venting of methane contained in the existing pipelines prior to replacement. Venting methane is required when service is switched from the existing line to the newly constructed line, but the volume of vented gas can depend on ability to reduce pressure on the pipe segment or other mitigation actions. Therefore, some methane would be vented into the atmosphere during construction. Based on a reduced pressure of 10 PSI, PHMSA estimates 0.8 MCF of methane (or 33 kg) would be vented into the atmosphere during construction. See Appendix B, Methane Emissions, for the methane blowdown calculations.

As described in the Tier 1 EA, methane leaks from 1970s vintage PVC natural gas distribution pipelines increase with age and are considerably higher for cast iron and steel pipelines, as compared with plastic. Replacing leak prone pipe with newer, more durable materials would reduce leaks and methane emissions. Based on the current leak rate of the existing pipe within the project area, this project would reduce overall emissions by 606 kg of methane in the first year (when considering the methane that would be released from blowdown that would occur during construction) and would reduce 639 kg of methane per year thereafter). This amounts to a

⁴ Leak rates are based on Pre-1990 Installation emission factors found in *Table 1 Average methane emission factors for natural gas pipelines (adopted from EPA GHG Inventory, Annex 3.6, Table 3.62)* in the November 9, 2022, PHMSA: Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program Programmatic Environmental Assessment, Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Analysis.

reduction of 12,773 kg of methane over a 20-year time frame. See Appendix B, Methane Calculations, for the methane reduction calculations. Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that the proposed project would have a net positive impact to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions and that no indirect or cumulative impacts would result from the Proposed Action.

Mitigation Measures:

The Village of Montpelier shall implement the following mitigation measures:

- Efficient use of on-road and non-road vehicles, by minimizing speeds and vehicles.
- Minimize excavation to the greatest extent practical.
- Use cleaner, newer, non-road equipment as practicable.
- Minimize all vehicle idling and at minimum, conform with local idling regulations.
- Ensure all vehicles and equipment are in proper operating condition.
- Ensure on-road and non-road engines meet EPA exhaust emission standards (40 CFR Parts 85, 86, and 89).
- Cover open-bodied trucks while transporting materials.
- Conduct watering, or use of other approved dust suppressants, at construction sites and on unpaved roadways, as necessary.
- Minimize the area of soil disturbance to those necessary for construction.
- Minimize construction site traffic by the use of offsite parking and shuttle buses, as necessary.

Water Resources	
Question	Information and Justification
Are there water resources within the project area, such as wetlands, streams, rivers, or floodplains? If so, would the project temporarily or permanently impact wetlands or waterways?	Yes, according to USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette maps.
Under the Clean Water Act, is a Section 401 State certification potentially required? If yes, describe anticipated permit and how project proponent will ensure permit compliance.	No
Under the Clean Water Act, is a USACE Section 404 Permit required for the discharge of dredge and fill material? If yes, describe anticipated permit and how project proponent will ensure permit compliance.	No
Under the Clean Water Act, is an EPA or State Section 402 permit required for the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States? Is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) required?	No, construction activities are not anticipated to exceed soil disturbance thresholds.
Will work activities take place within a FEMA designated floodplain? If so, describe any permanent or temporary impacts and the required coordination efforts with state or local floodplain regulatory agencies.	No
Will the proposed project activities potentially occur	No, the project is not located within a coastal zone.

within a coastal zone ⁵ or affect any coastal use or natural resource of the coastal zone, requiring a Consistency Determination and Certification?	
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Conclusion:

PHMSA reviewed NWI maps, as well as the FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette map to assist in identifying aquatic features and other water resources in or near the project area. Based on aerial photographs and NWI maps, the headwaters of Bear Creek flows under Morgan Street in Segment 1. The project area also includes seven unnamed tributaries to West Spring Branch along segment 2 along Highway 1041. The NWI maps do not identify any wetlands areas associated with these tributaries or in any other wetland areas within the project limits. FEMA's National Flood Hazard maps indicate the presence of special flood hazard areas designated as FEMA Zone A. Zone A corresponds to the one percent annual chance of flood (100-year flood). These areas designated as Zone A have no base flood elevations determined. See Appendix C, Water Resources.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the existing pipeline would remain in the current location and normal maintenance activities would continue without any impact anticipated to water resources. Depending on the location of the activities, the work could be in close proximity to an aquatic resource where the Village of Montpelier would need to take precautions to avoid adverse impacts to these sensitive areas. Additionally, if work was to occur in an area identified as a special flood hazard area, prior coordination with the local Floodplain Manager may be required.

Proposed Action:

As noted above, there are several water resources identified in the project area, near where the work would occur. Work is limited to the ROW and all stream crossings would be conducted via directional boring, therefore there would be no direct impact to streams or wetland habitat. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requires a permit before new construction or development begins within any Special Flood Hazard Area to ensure that project development projects meet the requirements of the NFIP program and the local community's floodplain management ordinances. The proposed pipeline replacement is not considered new construction or development as pipes would be installed in existing, previously impacted ROW and all areas would be restored to their existing contours and condition. These activities would not affect the flood-holding capacity of the 100-year floodplain or cause any adverse impacts to the Special Flood Hazard Areas. There would be temporary impacts from trenching; however, all areas would be restored to pre-construction contours and conditions and PHMSA's assessment is that there would be no permanent impacts. To ensure compliance with local floodplain ordinances, the Utility District shall coordinate with the local Floodplain Administrator to inquire and obtain all necessary permits, prior to beginning work.

The pipeline placement and abandonment of the existing pipeline is not anticipated to cause any reasonably foreseeable indirect effects or cumulative effects to water resources. Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that there would be no adverse impacts to water resources.

⁵ The term "coastal zone" means the coastal waters (including the lands therein and thereunder) and the adjacent shorelands (including the waters therein and thereunder), strongly influenced by each other and in proximity to the shorelines of the several coastal states, and includes islands, transitional and intertidal areas, salt marshes, wetlands, and beaches.)

Mitigation Measures:

The Village of Montpelier shall avoid staging in areas in or near streams or floodplains. All stream and special flood hazard areas crossings will be conducted using directional boring at least 100 feet from the water resources identified in Appendix C, Water Resources.

The Village of Montpelier shall ensure all preconstruction contours shall be restored, natural areas shall be reseeded, BMPs shall be used during construction to control sediment and erosion and prevent pollutants from entering waterways.

Groundwater and Hazardous Materials/Waste

Question	Information and Justification
Does the project have potential to encounter and impact groundwater? If yes, describe potential impacts from construction activities.	Yes, groundwater is located within 36 inches throughout the project area.
Will the project require boring or directional drilling that may require pits containing mud and inadvertent return fluids? If yes, describe measures that will be taken during construction activities to prevent impacts to groundwater resources.	Yes, all return fluids from boring will be contained in pits and disposed of properly.
Will the project potentially involve a site(s) contaminated by hazardous waste? Is there any indication that the pipeline was ever used to convey coal gas? If yes, PHMSA will work with the project proponent for required studies.	No
Does the project have the potential to encounter or disturb lead pipes or asbestos?	No

Conclusion:

PHMSA reviewed EPA's NEPAassist website to identify any brownfield properties, hazardous waste sites, and superfund sites. No sites were identified within or near the project area.⁶ PHMSA used the USDA NRCS's web soil survey which indicates the majority of these soils within the project area are poorly drained hydric soils where the depth to the water table is found less than 36 inches.⁷ See Appendix C, Water Resources.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, legacy plastic pipe would remain in the current location and ongoing and routine maintenance activities would occur. Pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances. While there are no adverse impacts to groundwater anticipated by the No Action alternative, increased methane emissions are likely to occur if PVC pipes remain (EPA, PRO Fact Sheet No. 402⁸) and risks of failure is higher among these type pipes. Therefore, PHMSA anticipates an increased risk for the release of methane, both as leaks and

⁶ <https://nepassisttool.epa.gov/nepassist/nepamap.aspx?wherestr=Norwich+Ct>

⁷ <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

⁸ [Insert Gas Main Flexible Liners at https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-06/documents/insertgasmainflexibleliners.pdf#:~:text=Methane%20emissions%20reductions%20come%20from%20lower%20leakage%20rates,pipe%20and%20external%20corrosion%20in%20unprotected%20steel%20piping.](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-06/documents/insertgasmainflexibleliners.pdf#:~:text=Methane%20emissions%20reductions%20come%20from%20lower%20leakage%20rates,pipe%20and%20external%20corrosion%20in%20unprotected%20steel%20piping.)

during a pipeline failure, which could result in greater impacts to soils and ground water, under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

The majority of the new gas lines would be located next to the existing gas lines. If utilities or other logistical issues arise with replacing pipeline immediately adjacent to the existing facilities, pipeline may be placed on the opposite side of the road, but entirely contained within the current ROW. The existing gas line would be abandoned, in accordance with PHMSA requirements, and would be purged of natural gas and sealed on each end. The new gas lines would be installed at a depth of 36 inches below grade and would be installed by either directional drilling or cut and cover (trenching). All excavated trench materials would be stored on site and used to back fill, unless otherwise deemed unsuitable. In these cases, unsuitable soils would be hauled offsite, and the trench would be backfilled with clean soils. All disturbed areas would be re-seeded or paved (as appropriate) and restored to preexisting conditions.

Containment of boring fluids in pits would be properly disposed of to ensure there would be no adverse impacts to groundwater associated with the project. Additionally, there are no hazardous waste, brownfields, or superfund sites identified in the area where work would occur that could be potentially impacted by the Proposed Action alternative. PHMSA has not identified any indirect or cumulative effects to groundwater or hazardous materials.

Mitigation Measures:

Montpelier will ensure no boring/drilling, staging, and laydown areas will be established within known EPA superfund sites or areas containing known waste.

Montpelier will ensure all trenches will be backfilled and temporarily paved each day.

Montpelier will implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan and an inadvertent return plan to control and minimize impacts where boring/drilling is required.

Soils

Will all bare soils be stabilized using methods using methods identified in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet?	Yes, erosion and sediment control will be utilized during the project. All impacted areas will be restored to pre-construction contours.
Will additional measures be required?	
Will the project require unique impacts related to soils?	No

Conclusion:

PHMSA used the USDA NRCS's web soil survey which indicates the majority of these soils within the project area are poorly drained hydric soils where the depth to the water table is found less than 36 inches.⁹ (See Appendix C, Water Resources, for a soils map).¹⁰

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the legacy plastic pipe would remain in the current location and soils would remain in their current state and condition. Normal maintenance activities would occur. Some soil disturbance would occur during maintenance activities. The impacted areas would be backfilled with sand, clean soils, and

⁹ <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

¹⁰ <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

gravel and paved daily. Under either scenario, no adverse impacts to soils would be anticipated under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

The pipeline would be installed approximately 36 inches deep and in a 12-inch-wide trench, where trenching is required. The trench would be backfilled daily. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that there would be no adverse impacts associated with soils resulting from the Proposed Action alternative and that there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as the Village of Montpelier would restore all areas to pre-construction conditions.

Mitigation Measures:

The Village of Montpelier shall ensure erosion and sedimentation controls (silt fence and/or haybales) will be utilized; all impacted areas will be restored to pre-construction contours; and permanent soil stabilization will be implemented immediately upon completion of work.

Biological Resources

Question	Information and Justification
Based on review of IPaC and NOAA Fisheries database, are there any federally threatened or endangered species and/or critical habitat potentially occurring within the geographic range of the project area? ¹¹ If no, no further analysis is required.	Yes, based on review of the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Additionally, Louisiana state resources were inventoried to identify potential state listed species.
Will the project impact any areas in or adjacent to habitat for Federally, listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat? If no, provide justification and avoidance measures. If yes, PHMSA will work with the project proponent to conduct necessary consultation with resource agencies.	No

Conclusion:

The project area is in a rural area consisting of mostly residential areas along roadways. All areas within the project area are maintained through regular mowing. PHMSA requested an official species list through the USFWS's IPaC website. See Appendix D, Biological Resources, for the IPaC species list. The proposed threatened alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) and the candidate monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) were identified as federally listed species within the geographical range of the project. The federal and state endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) is within the geographical range of the project. There is no designated critical habitat within the project area.

Alligator snapping turtles are associated with deeper water (usually large rivers, major tributaries, bayous, canals, swamps, lakes, ponds, and oxbows), with shallower water occupied in early summer and deeper depths in late summer and mid-winter, representing a thermoregulatory shift. Hatchlings and juveniles tend to occupy shallower water, in comparison. Alligator snapping turtles are also associated with structure (e.g., tree root masses, stumps, submerged trees, etc.), and may occupy areas with a high percentage of canopy cover or

¹¹ <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/> and <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species-directory/threatened-endangered>

undercut stream banks.¹² No habitat for this species is located within the project area.

Monarch butterflies are found wherever suitable feeding, breeding, and overwintering habitat exists. As caterpillars, monarchs feed exclusively on the leaves of milkweed. As adults, monarchs feed on nectar from a wide range of blooming native plants, including milkweed.¹³ No habitat for this species is located within the project area because of the disturbed nature of the road ROW.

Red-cockaded woodpecker inhabit forests with a preference for older longleaf pine.¹⁴ This species is not within the project area based on review of IPaC. The state of Louisiana database of endangered species does list this species as occurring within St. Helena Parish. No habitat for this species is located within the project area because of the lack of mature pine trees within the road ROW.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing conditions would remain, and normal maintenance activities would occur. The project area is in an urbanized environment and therefore has very limited biological resources present. Additionally, the project area does not contain suitable habitat for listed species, therefore no impacts to biological resources would occur under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

The project area is in a rural environment where the areas of disturbance would be mainly within existing transportation corridors, along roadsides. Because these areas are within ROW that has been previously impacted (pipeline laid in the ground in close proximity to the location where new pipes would be laid and subsequently paved), the immediate project area has very limited biological resources present. Where the pipeline crosses waterways, directional boring would be utilized with entry and exit pits located at least 100 feet from water resources. Additionally, the project area does not contain suitable habitat for both federal and state listed species potentially occurring within the project area. All pipeline replacement work would be contained within the existing disturbed ROW. Under Section 7(a)(4) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Federal agencies must confer with the USFWS if their action will jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species. As a candidate species, the monarch butterfly receives no statutory protection under the ESA. The alligator snapping turtle is proposed for listing and the project is unlikely to jeopardize this species existence. PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have no adverse impacts to state listed species or other biological resources and that there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as no impacts to habitat or species would occur.

Mitigation Measures:

No mitigation measures are required.

Cultural Resources

Question	Information and Justification
Does the project include any ground disturbing activities, modifications to buildings or structures, or construction or installation of any new aboveground components?	Yes, the project includes ground disturbing activities. No modifications to buildings or structures or new aboveground components are required.

¹² U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2021. Species status assessment report for the alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), Version 1.2. March 2021. Atlanta, GA.

¹³ <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743>

¹⁴ <https://www.fws.gov/species/red-cockaded-woodpecker-dryobates-borealis>

Is the project located within a previously identified local, state, or National Register historic district or adjacent to any locally or nationally recognized historic properties? This information can be gathered from the local government and/or State Historic Preservation Office. ¹⁵	No
Does the project or any part of the project take place on tribal lands or land where a tribal cultural interest may exist? ¹⁶	No
Are there any nearby properties or resources that either appear to be or are documented to have been constructed more than 45 years ago? ¹⁷ Does there appear to be a group of properties of similar age, design, or method of construction? Any designed landscapes such as a park or cemetery? Please provide photographs to show the context of the project area and adjacent properties.	No, most structures within the project area are less than 45 years old.
Has the entire area and depth of construction for the project been previously disturbed by the original installation or other activities? If so, provide any documentation of prior ground disturbances.	No
Will project implementation require removal or disturbance of any stone or brick sidewalk, roadway, or landscape materials or other old or unique features? Please provide photos of the project area that include the roadway and sidewalk materials in the project and staging areas.	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>PHMSA must consider the impact of projects for which they provide funding on historic and archeological properties¹⁸ in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the geographic area(s) within which the Undertaking may directly or indirectly affect historic resources. Based on the proposed scope of work, PHMSA has delineated the APE for this project to encompass the existing ROW, which includes the limits of disturbance and any staging or access areas. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources, for the APE.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, existing conditions would remain, and normal maintenance activities would occur. These activities could result in ground disturbance that might affect historic resources. However, no</p>	

¹⁵ Many SHPOs have an [online system](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm) at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm> that can tell you previously identified historic properties in your project area. The [National Register list](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm) at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm> can also be accessed online.

¹⁶ The SHPO may have information on areas of tribal interest, or a good source is the [HUD TDAT website](https://egis.hud.gov/TDAT/) at <https://egis.hud.gov/TDAT/>.

¹⁷ Local tax and property records or historic maps may indicate dates of construction.

¹⁸ Historic property means any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria.

federal funding would be applied and therefore Section 106 would not be required.

Proposed Action:

U.S. DOT staff identified properties based on available information on previously identified historic properties in the APE, including the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database and data received from the Louisiana Division of Historical Resources. U.S. DOT staff also conducted research to determine if there are any previously unidentified properties within the APE that are 45 years of age or older and may be eligible for the NRHP. No NRHP-listed historic properties are within the APE. There are no known archaeological sites in the APE and based on the evaluation, there is low potential for intact significant resources in the APE and no additional survey is needed. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources for additional information about the APE and the properties identified.

PHMSA has determined that there are no historic properties as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l) within the APE. Therefore, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1), PHMSA has determined the Undertaking would result in No Historic Properties Affected.

A letter was sent on October 2, 2023, to the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized tribes with a potential interest in the project area, and all consulting parties outlining the Section 106 process, including a description of the undertaking, delineation and justification of the APE, identification of historic properties and an evaluation and proposed finding of no historic properties affected. PHMSA requested comments on the Section 106 process, identification of historic properties, and proposed finding within 30 days of receipt of the letter. SHPO concurred with this finding in writing on November 2, 2023. No responses were received from any of the federally recognized tribes. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources, for additional information.

Mitigation Measures:

Montpelier shall confine all staging to paved areas or use geotextile fabric or other similar protective measures (such as pressure distributing mats) in any affected unpaved area to minimize ground disturbance, prevent soil compaction, and protect archaeological features and artifacts.

Montpelier shall notify PHMSA immediately of any changes to the scope of work that may change the impacts to historic properties or the areas that may be impacted, including location of work, depth of construction, or change in construction methods.

If, during project implementation, and features or human remains are discovered or effects to historic properties occur that were not anticipated during the Section 106 process, PHMSA must be immediately notified and all construction in the area of the discovery must halt until further direction is provided.

Section 4(f)

Question	Information and Justification
Are there Section 4(f) properties within or immediately adjacent to the project area? If yes, provide a list of properties or as an attachment.	No
Will any construction activities occur within the property boundaries of a Section 4(f) property? If so, please detail these activities and indicate if these are temporary or permanent uses of the Section 4(f) property. Further	No

coordination with PHMSA is required for all projects that might impact a Section 4(f) property.	
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Act of 1966 as amended (Section 4(f)) (49 U.S.C. § 303(c)); is a federal law that applies to transportation projects that require funding or other approvals by the USDOT. Section 4(f) prohibits the Secretary of Transportation from approving any program or project which requires the use of any publicly owned land from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state, or local significance, or any land from an historic site of national, state, or local significance unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the land; • The program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to such park, recreational area, wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or historic site, resulting from such use. <p>PHMSA conducted a review of properties that are located within the Project Area to identify properties that qualify as Section 4(f). No Section 4(f) properties are located within or immediately adjacent to the project area.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, there would be no change to existing pipeline infrastructure pursuant to federal funding or approval authorized by the Program. Therefore, there would be no use of Section 4(f) property under the No Action alternative.</p> <p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>Under the Proposed Action alternative, construction activities would not occur within or adjacent to 4(f) properties. Therefore, there would be no use of Section 4(f) resources.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>There are no 4(f) resources identified in the project area and therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.</p>	

Land Use and Transportation	
Question	Information and Justification
Will the full extent of the project boundaries remain within the existing right-of-way or easements? If no, please describe any right-of-way acquisitions or additional easements needed.	Yes, all work on mains will take place within the existing ROW. All natural gas services will be installed from the main to the private property building/structure being served, with coordination, permission, and approval from the property owner.
Will the project result in detours, transportation restrictions, or other impacts to normal traffic flow or to existing transportation facilities during construction? Will there be any permanent change to existing transportation facilities? If so, what are the changes, and how would changes affect the public?	No, the project would not require detours or result in permanent changes to transportation facilities.
Will the project interrupt or impede emergency response services from fire, police, ambulance or any other emergency or safety response providers? If so,	No, the project would not interrupt or impede emergency response services.

describe any coordination that will occur with emergency response providers?	
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>The project is located in a rural area comprised of mostly residential areas.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, leak prone pipes would remain in their current location. No changes to land use would occur. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances.</p> <p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>The pipeline would be installed within the existing infrastructure ROW with all work occurring along the edge of streets within previously disturbed soils. The area would be restored to pre-existing condition and contours. Therefore, PHMSA has determined that there would be no permanent change to land use. The project is replacing/upgrading the existing pipe and would not include new pipeline to serve any additional areas. Additionally, PHMSA's assessment is that there are no indirect impacts anticipated as land use remains the same.</p> <p>During construction potential impacts include an increase in noise, dust, and transportation accessibility, as a result of construction and construction staging. Local and state regulations guide the transport of machinery, equipment, and automobiles around the construction areas. The project would not result in detours and the regular flow of traffic would be maintained. Therefore, because the work consists of the replacement of existing pipeline, would not convert any new areas into a different use and impacts would only occur during construction, PHMSA's assessment is that impacts related to land use are considered minor and temporary.</p> <p>PHMSA considered the cumulative effects of this action with ongoing and planned transportation related construction projects that could cumulatively impact land use and transportation. The Village of Montpelier does not have other on-going projects within or near the project area.</p>	
<p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>The Village of Montpelier shall establish traffic control plans that minimize disruption to the community and will coordinate construction schedules with property owners, emergency services, and schools.</p>	

Noise and Vibration	
Question	Information and Justification
Will the project construction occur for longer than a month at a single project location?	No
Will the project location be in proximity (less than 50-ft.) to noise sensitive receivers (residences, schools, houses of worship, etc.)? If so, what measures will be taken to reduce noise and vibration impacts to sensitive receptors?	No

Will the project require high-noise and vibration inducing construction methods? If so, please specify.	No, high-noise and vibration inducing construction methods are not required.
Will the project comply with state and local ordinances? If so, identify applicable ordinances and limitations on noise/vibration times or sound levels.	The village of Montpelier does not have a sound ordinance. According to the St. Helena Parish Code of Ordinances, noise is not to exceed 90 dBa. Between 9:00pm - 6:00 am, noise is not to exceed 65 dBa.
Will construction activities require large bulldozers, hoe ram, or other vibratory equipment within 20 feet of a structure?	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>The ambient noise within the project area consists of a combination of environmental noise from road traffic, construction, industry, the built environment, population density and other sources.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action, the project would not move forward and the pipelines identified for replacement would not be replaced at this time. It is likely that these pipelines would be repaired or replaced due to a leak under emergency conditions and only in the immediately affected areas. If replacement or repairs occur under emergency conditions, noise from construction equipment would add to that of the current ambient noise and would be of a shorter duration.</p> <p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>The pipeline replacement project would result in temporary construction noise impacts; however, no vibration impact should occur. Excavators, dump trucks, skid steers, and other similar construction equipment would be used to excavate a trench, lay pipe, compact soils and restore the area to pre-existing conditions and contours. The use of construction equipment would result in temporary noise impacts. Construction for the project is not anticipated to last any longer than one month at any single project location. Construction activities would not occur in close proximity (less than 50-ft.) to noise sensitive receivers (residences, schools, houses of worship, etc.). While there would be a temporary increase in noise due to construction equipment, PHMSA's assessment is that these impacts would be minor and temporary. PHMSA considered the cumulative effects of this action with ongoing and planned transportation related construction projects that could cumulatively have an impact on the noise and vibration impacts within Village of Montpelier. No other planned construction projects are occurring within the project area. Adhering to state and local noise ordinances would ensure the project does not cause cumulatively more than minor adverse noise or vibration impacts.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>The Village of Montpelier will adhere to the St. Helena Parish Code of Ordinances.</p>	

Environmental Justice	
Question	Information and Justification
Using the EPA EJScreen or census data ¹⁹ , is the project located in an area of minority and/or low-income individuals as defined by USDOT Order 5610.2(c)? If so, provide demographic data for minority and/or low-income individuals within ½ mile from the project area as a percentage of the total population.	Yes, based on review of socioeconomic data using the EPAs EJScreen, the population residing within the general project area contains 29% low income and 48% minority populations.
Will the project displace existing residents or workers from their homes and communities? If so, what is the expected duration?	No
Will the project require service disruptions to homes and communities? If so, what is the expected communication and outreach plan to the residents and the duration of the outages?	Yes, outages are only expected on the day a natural gas service is tied over to a new natural gas main. The disruption to each resident will last between 30 minutes to an hour. Montpelier will run an ad in the local newspaper and send flyers to each home describing the duration of the project and when to expect disruptions to service.
Are there populations with Limited English Proficiency located in the project area? If so, what measures will be taken to provide communications in other languages?	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>Executive Order (E.O.) 14096—"Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All" was enacted on April 21, 2023. E.O. 14096 on environmental justice does not rescind E.O. 12898 – "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," which has been in effect since February 11, 1994 and is currently implemented through DOT Order 5610.2C. This implementation will continue until further guidance is provided regarding the implementation of the new E.O. 14096 on environmental justice.</p> <p>PHMSA reviewed socioeconomic data using the EPAs EJScreen and found the population residing within the project area contains 29% low income and 48% minority populations. The percentage of these populations is below the St. Helena Parish average. See Appendix F, Environmental Justice, for socioeconomic data.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, existing and planned pipeline activities, including construction and maintenance activities, would continue unchanged. The project proponent would continue to use leak prone pipe material that could lead to safety incidents and service disruptions. Additionally, if a pipeline segment is not repaired or replaced prior to failure, it is likely to be associated with even more emissions under the No Action alternative. Thus, emissions benefits to the community associated with repairing or replacing existing pipelines with updated material would not be achieved and the incident risks and leaks would remain. There may be some degree of air pollution associated with construction activity for maintenance and repairs of existing pipelines under the No Action alternative, either through planned repair or replacement efforts or unplanned, emergency repairs or replacements.</p>	

¹⁹ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045222>

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action alternative would result in an overall reduction in GHG emissions. Construction activities would result in minor temporary air quality impacts. Noise impacts associated with construction are anticipated to be minor. Traffic impacts would be temporary and only minor disruptions would occur. However, removal of leak prone pipe would reduce leaks and the potential for incidents, resulting in an increase in pipeline safety across the system while also improving operation and reliability. Therefore, consistent with Executive Order 12898 and DOT Order 5610.2(c), PHMSA's assessment is that the project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations, or other underserved and disadvantaged communities. PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have an overall beneficial effect on environmental justice populations and would not result in indirect or cumulative impacts.

Mitigation Measures:

The Village of Montpelier shall provide advanced public notifications of service disruptions and construction schedules to all affected parties including residents and businesses adjacent to the project area.

Safety	
Question	Information and Justification
Has a risk profile been developed to describe the condition of the current infrastructure and potential safety concerns?	Yes, as described in the Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP).
Has a public awareness program been developed and implemented that follows the guidance provided by the American Petroleum Institute (API) Recommended Practice (RP) 1162?	Yes, A public awareness program will be implemented according to the API recommended practice 1162.
Does the project area include pipes prone to leakage?	Yes.
Will construction safety methods and procedures to protect human health and prevent/minimize hazardous materials releases during construction, including personal protection, workplace monitoring and site-specific health and safety plans, be utilized? If yes, document measures and reference appropriate safety plans.	Yes, construction safety measures will be implemented to protect health and minimize hazardous releases during construction. Safety will include personal protection, site monitoring, and site-specific safety plans.
Has an assessment of the project been performed to analyze the risk and benefits of implementation?	Yes, an assessment has been performed to analyze the risk and benefit of implementation.

Conclusion:

The proposed project would replace 1970s vintage PVC plastic pipes. Pipelines that are known to leak based on the material include cast iron, bare steel, wrought iron, and early vintage PVC plastics with known issues (PIPES Act of 2020). PHMSA establishes safety regulations for all pipelines (49 CFR Parts 190-199). In 2011, following major natural gas pipeline incidents, DOT and PHMSA issued a Call to Action to accelerate the repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of the highest-risk pipeline infrastructure. Among other factors, pipeline age and material are significant risk indicators. Pipelines constructed of cast and wrought iron, as well as bare steel, are among the pipelines that pose the highest risk. PHMSA continues to encourage legacy pipeline repair or replacement to increase the safety of these segments of the gas distribution systems. Pipeline incidents can result in death, injury, property damage, and environmental damage.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing leak prone pipes would remain in their current condition. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances. Safety risks resulting from existing leak prone pipes remaining in place would persist until the existing pipes are replaced.

Proposed Action:

The proposed project is necessary to replace leak prone pipes. This replacement is in alignment with the Village of Montpelier's DIMP plan, increasing the overall safety of the community.

The project would reduce the risk profile of existing pipeline systems prone to methane leakage and would also benefit disadvantaged rural and urban communities with the safe provision of natural gas. The project responds to the need to address the potentially unsafe condition of the natural gas distribution system of pipelines. The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of pipelines would be constructed in accordance with industry best practices and would comply with all local, state, and federal regulations, including those for safety.

The abandonment of the existing pipeline would be conducted in accordance with PHMSA requirements found in 49 CFR 192.727 and 195.402(c)(10). These requirements include disconnecting pipelines from all sources and supplies of gas, purging all combustibles and sealing the facilities left in place. These requirements for purging and sealing abandoned pipelines would ensure that the abandoned pipelines are properly purged and cleaned and pose no risk to safety in their abandoned state. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that this replacement project would improve the overall safety of Montpelier's infrastructure.

Mitigation Measures:

The Village of Montpelier shall use standard construction safety methods and procedures; and conduct regular safety audits of crews performing work in the field and subsequent follow-up reporting and/or training, as required.

The Village of Montpelier shall ensure their DIMP procedures are updated as necessary, the work is constructed in accordance with industry best practices and the project will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations, including those for safety and any required inspections.

III. Public Involvement

On November 9, 2022, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (87 FR 67748) with a 30-day comment period soliciting comments on the "Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program." During the 30-day comment period, PHMSA received one comment letter from the APGA on various aspects of the program and air quality related analysis in the EA on December 9, 2022. This APGA letter is available for public review at the Docket No: PHMSA-2022-0123.²⁰ PHMSA reviewed the comment letter and determined the comments were not substantial and did not warrant further analysis. One comment provided by the APGA indicated that the majority of construction methods used for pipe replacements would be replacement by open trenching and that some may want to abandon the existing pipe rather than removing it for replacement. Any departures from methods described in the Tier 1 EA will require additional documentation from the project proponent, as reflected in this Tier 2.

²⁰ <https://www.regulations.gov/document/PHMSA-2022-0123-0002/comment>

As part of this Tier 2 EA, PHMSA is soliciting public comments through a public comment period. This Tier 2 EA is available on PHMSA's website where comments can be submitted to the contact noted below. PHMSA will accept public comments for 30 days on this Tier 2 EA. PHMSA will consider comments received and incorporate them in the decision-making process. Consultation with appropriate agencies on related processes, regulations, and permits is ongoing. Please submit all comments to: PHMSABILgrantNEPAcomments@dot.gov and reference NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-07 in your response.

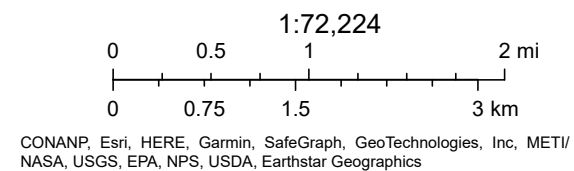
Appendix A

Project Map



September 27, 2023

 Project Area



Appendix B

Methane Calculations

Table 1 Average methane emission factors for natural gas pipelines (adapted from EPA GHG Inventory, Annex 3.6, Table 3.6-2)

Pipeline Material	Pre-1990 Installation (kg/mile)	1990-2020 Installation (kg/mile)	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)
Cast Iron	4,597.40	1,157.30	2,877.35
Unprotected steel	2,122.30	861.3	1,491.80
Protected steel	59.1	96.7	77.90
Plastic	190.9	28.8	109.85

Table 2 No Action Leak Rate

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	Current Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Cast Iron	4,597.40	0	0
Unprotected steel	2,122.30	0	0
Protected steel	59.1	0	0
Plastic	190.9	3.94	752
Total Annual Methane Leak Rate			752
20-year Methane Emissions			15043

Table 3 Proposed Action Leak Rate

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	New Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Plastic	28.8	3.94	113
Year 1 Methane Reduction			606
Annual Methane Reduction			639
20-year Methane Reduction			12773

Equation 1 was used to estimate blowdown emissions in MCF, assuming a pipeline diameter (d) and pressure (P) described in Table 3.

$$E_{blowdown} = V \times \frac{P_{pipe} + P_{atm}}{P_{atm}} \quad (1)$$

Where the pipeline volume (V) is calculated by multiplying the cross-sectional area of the pipe by the length of pipeline (L):

$$V = \pi \times \frac{d^2}{4} \times L \quad (2)$$

Table 4 Proposed Action - Methane Blowdown

Inputs	Pipe Section
Diameter (inches)	2
Blowdown Pressure	20
Length of Blowdown (feet)	20805
Blowdown (MCF)	1.07
Blowdown (kg)	33




Appendix C





Water Resources

This aerial map illustrates the Williams River watershed, a green-shaded area in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. The watershed is bounded by the Middle River to the north and the South River to the south. Major roads shown include Highway 16, Highway 1041, Highway 1036, and Morgan Rd. Land use is categorized with codes: R4SBC (Residential Single-Family), R5UBH (Residential Single-Family, Urban), PFO1A (Forest, Open), PUBH (Public, Urban), PFOC (Forest, Open, Commercial), and PEM1A (Public, Urban, Medium Density). The map also shows the Williams River and its tributaries, including the Middle River and the South River. The map is titled 'Williams River Watershed' and includes a scale bar and a north arrow.

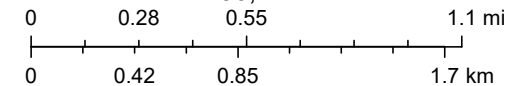
Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland

 Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
 Freshwater Pond
 Lake

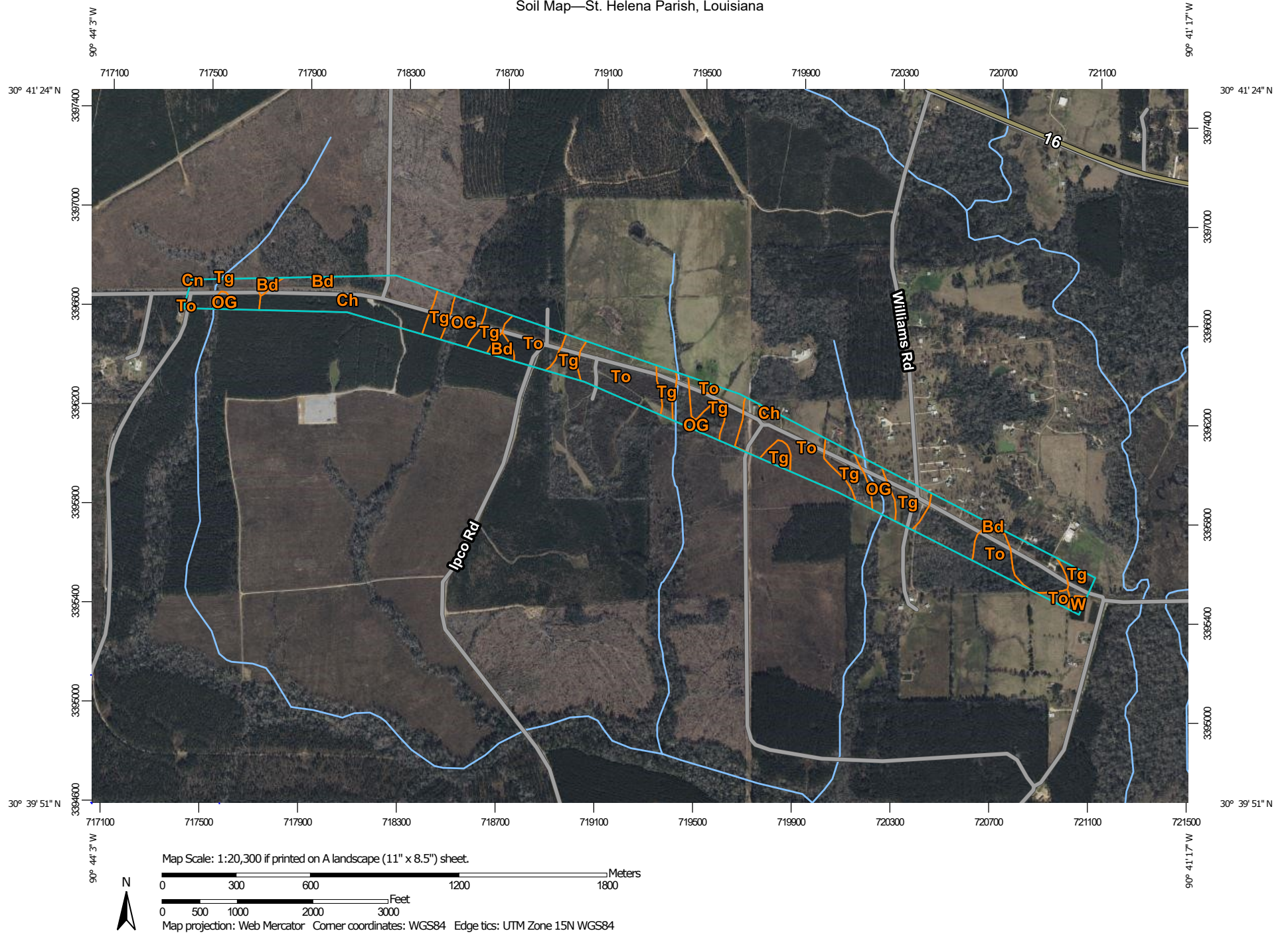
 Other
 Riverine
 Project Area
 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard

1:36,112



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Standards and Support Team,
wetlands_team@fws.gov, CONANP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph,

Soil Map—St. Helena Parish, Louisiana



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

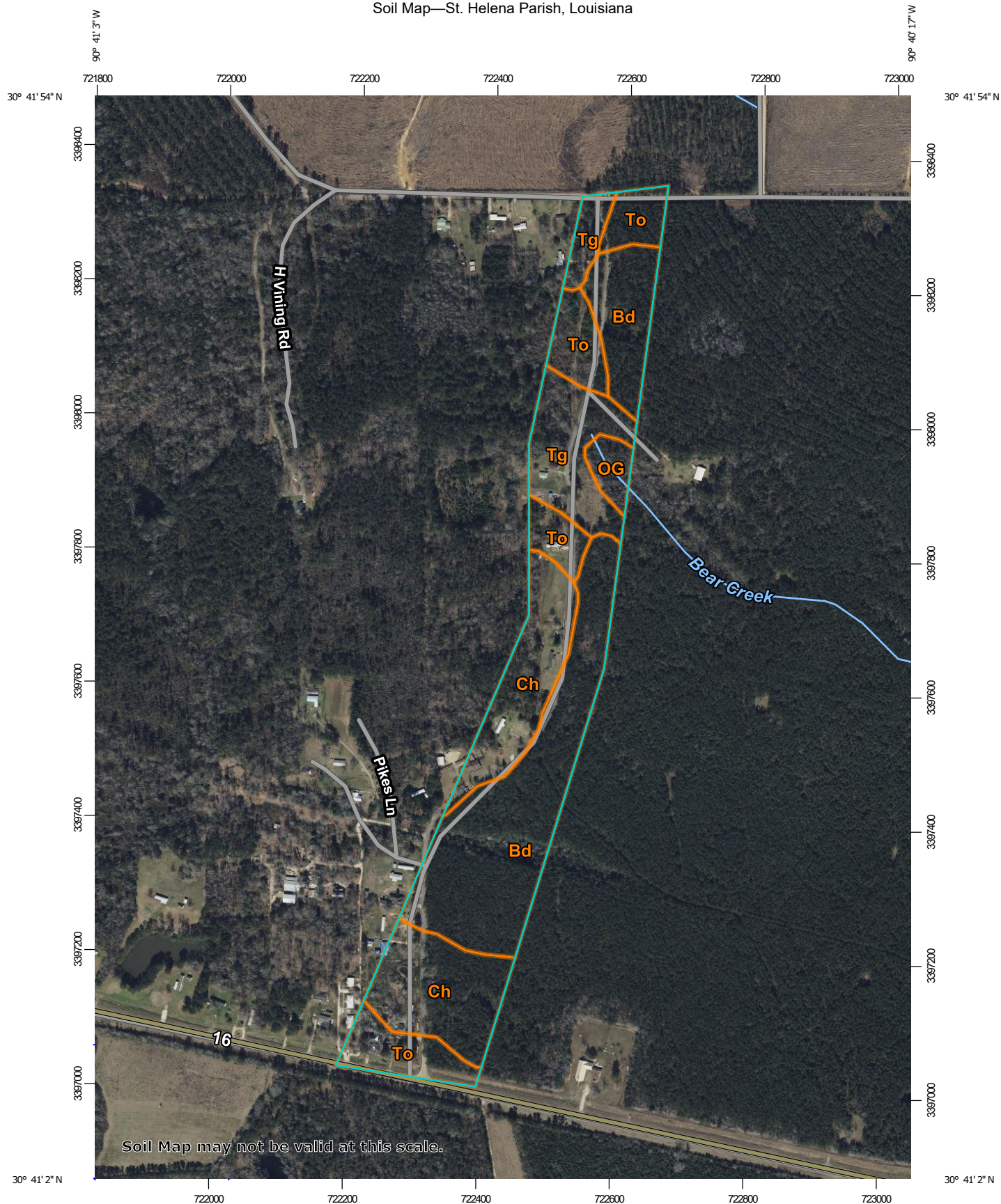
Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/27/2023
Page 1 of 3

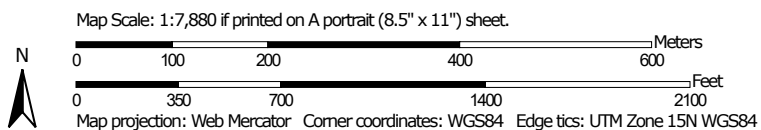
Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Bd	Bude silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	22.4	13.8%
Ch	Calhoun silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	26.5	16.3%
Cn	Calhoun silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	0.0	0.0%
OG	Ouachita, Ochlockonee and Guyton soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	18.2	11.2%
Tg	Tangi silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	46.3	28.5%
To	Toula silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	48.3	29.7%
W	Water	0.7	0.4%
Totals for Area of Interest		162.3	100.0%

Soil Map—St. Helena Parish, Louisiana



Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.



Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/27/2023
Page 1 of 3

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Bd	Bude silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	21.0	40.0%
Ch	Calhoun silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	13.8	26.2%
OG	Ouachita, Ochlockonee and Guyton soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	1.4	2.6%
Tg	Tangi silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	7.4	14.0%
To	Toula silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	9.0	17.1%
Totals for Area of Interest		52.5	100.0%

Appendix D

Biological Resources



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
Phone: (337) 291-3100 Fax: (337) 291-3139



In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2023-0133640
Project Name: Montpelier Pipeline Replacement

September 27, 2023

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, and candidate species, as well as designated and proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing this list under section 7 (c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Changes in this species list may occur due to new information from updated surveys, changes in species habitat, new listed species and other factors. Because of these possible changes, feel free to contact our office (337-291-3109) for more information or assistance regarding impacts to federally listed species. The Service recommends visiting the IPaC site or the Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office website (<https://www.fws.gov/southeast/lafayette>) at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updated 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 habitats 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 Federal trust resources and to determine whether projects may affect Federally listed species and/or designated critical habitat.

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)).

Bald eagles have recovered and were removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Species as of August 8, 2007. Although no longer listed, please be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.).

The Service developed the National Bald Eagle Management (NBEM) Guidelines to provide landowners, land managers, and others with information and recommendations to minimize potential project impacts to bald eagles, particularly where such impacts may constitute “disturbance”, which is prohibited by the BGEPA. A copy of the NBEM Guidelines is available at: <https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationalbaldeaglenanagementguidelines.pdf>

Those guidelines recommend: (1) maintaining a specified distance between the activity and the nest (buffer area); (2) maintaining natural areas (preferably forested) between the activity and nest trees (landscape buffers); and (3) avoiding certain activities during the breeding season. Onsite personnel should be informed of the possible presence of nesting bald eagles within the project boundary, and should identify, avoid, and immediately report any such nests to this office. If a bald eagle nest occurs or is discovered within or adjacent to the proposed project area, then an evaluation must be performed to determine whether the project is likely to disturb nesting bald eagles. That evaluation may be conducted on-line at: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/our-services/eagle-technical-assistance/>. Following completion of the evaluation, that website will provide a determination of whether additional consultation is necessary. The Division of Migratory Birds for the Southeast Region of the Service (phone: 404/679-7051, e-mail: SEmigratorybirds@fws.gov) has the lead role in conducting any necessary consultation.

Activities that involve State-designated scenic streams and/or wetlands are regulated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, respectively. We, therefore, recommend that you contact those agencies to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Activities that would be located within a National Wildlife Refuge are regulated by the refuge staff. We, therefore, recommend that you contact them to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Additional information on Federal trust species in Louisiana can be obtained from the Louisiana Ecological Services website at: <https://www.fws.gov/southeast/lafayette>

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 Tracking Number 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
 - USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
 - Bald & Golden Eagles
 - Migratory Birds
-

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:

Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office

200 Dulles Drive

Lafayette, LA 70506

(337) 291-3100

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0133640
Project Name: Montpelier Pipeline Replacement
Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - Maintenance / Modification - Below Ground
Project Description: The proposed action would replace 20,805 linear feet (LF) of old legacy 2-inch (in) PVC pipe installed in the 1970's with 2-inch Polyethylene (PE) mains and service lines in Montpelier, Louisiana located in St. Helena Parish. The new PE will be installed at a depth of 3 to 5 feet which is the same as the existing line. The work will include 4,655 LF of 2-inch pipeline along Morgan Rd and 16,150 LF of 2-inch pipeline along Hwy 1041 to Johnston Rd. The project will include open cut and directional boring at stream crossings at a minimum depth of 3 feet to the top of the pipe.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@30.69438385,-90.67007937397999,14z>



Counties: St. Helena County, Louisiana

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 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.

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Alligator Snapping Turtle <i>Macrochelys temminckii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658	Proposed Threatened

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.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

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 below.

-
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 NO BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES WITHIN THE VICINITY OF YOUR PROJECT AREA.

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 below.

-
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, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius paulus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9587	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 31
Brown-headed Nuthatch <i>Sitta pusilla</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Painted Bunting <i>Passerina ciris</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 25 to Aug 15
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	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.	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	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 the supplemental information and specifically the FAQ "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 (■)

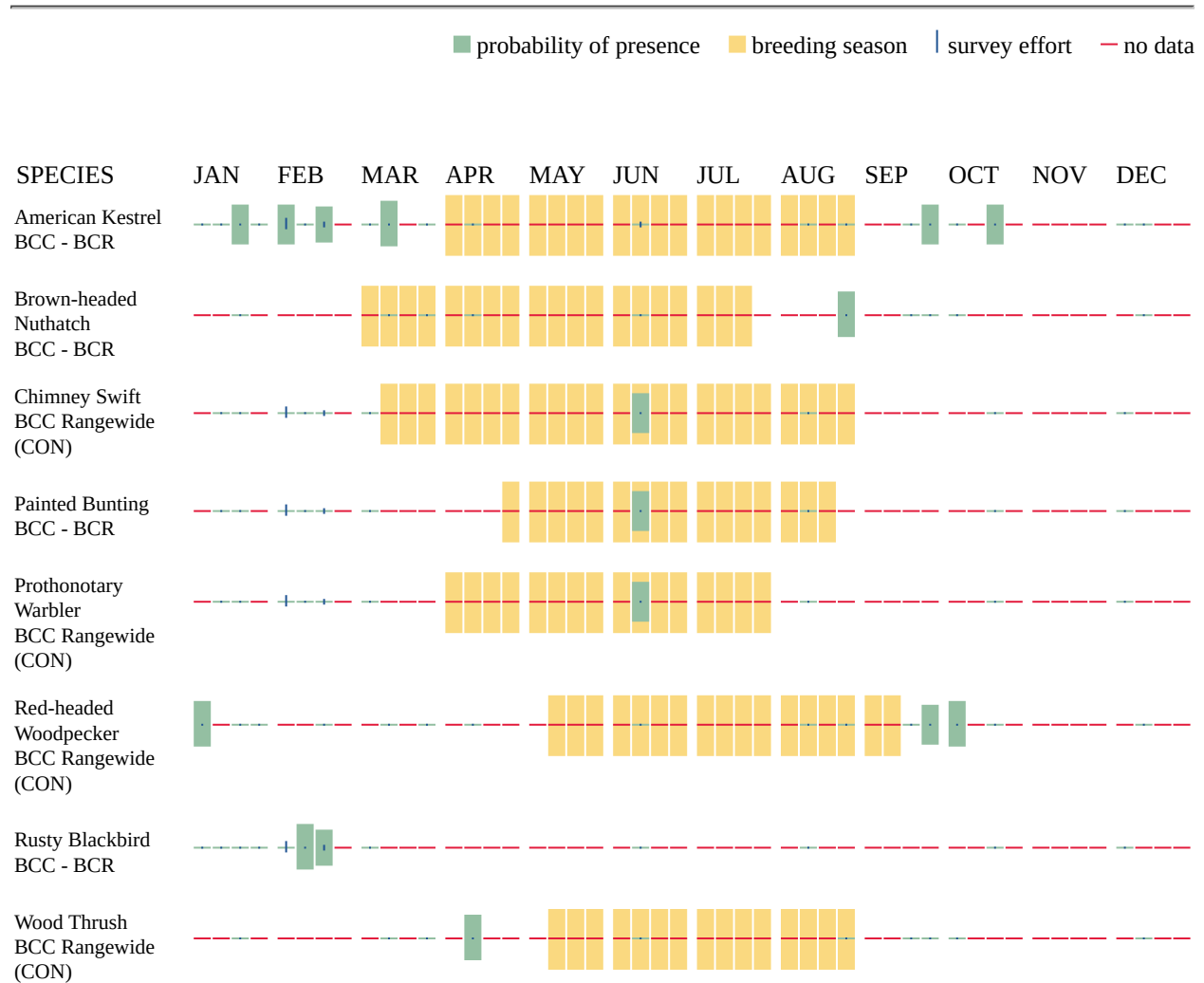
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

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>

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Department of Transportation

Name: Travis Mast

Address: 55 Broadway

City: Cambridge

State: MA

Zip: 01452

Email: travis.mast@dot.gov

Phone: 6174943782

Appendix E

Cultural Resources



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. Therefore, our office has no objection to the implementation of this project. This effect determination could change should new information come to our attention.

Kristin P. Sanders

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 11/2/2023

October 1

Kristin Sanders
State Historic Preservation Officer
Louisiana Office of Cultural Development
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4241

Section 106 Consultation: PHMSA Pipeline Replacement Project in Montpelier, Louisiana

Grant Recipient: Village of Montpelier

Project Location: Village of Montpelier, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana

Dear Kristin Sanders:

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) provides funds authorized under the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program. PHMSA proposes to provide funds to the Village of Montpelier for the replacement of pipelines (Undertaking). PHMSA is initiating consultation for the above referenced Undertaking in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (Section 106).

Project Description/Background

The Undertaking will replace 20,805 linear feet (LF) of old legacy 2-inch (in.) polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe, which was installed in the 1970s, with 2-in. Polyethylene (PE) mains and service lines in Montpelier, St. Helena Parish, Louisiana. This work will serve 40 customers and will help reduce or eliminate leaking gas into the environment. The Undertaking will include the installation of 4,655 LF of 2-in. pipeline along Morgan Road and 16,150 LF of 2-in. pipeline along Highway 1041. Project location maps are enclosed in **Attachment A**.

The replacement pipeline will be installed adjacent to the roadway at a depth of up to 5 feet (ft.), which is the same as the existing line. The trench will be 12 in. wide. The replacement pipe will be installed at least 2 ft. from the existing pipeline, which will be abandoned in place. Project work will include open cut and directional boring at stream crossings at a minimum depth of 3 ft. to the top of the pipe. All work will take place within the existing road right-of-way (ROW). Photographs showing the overall character of the project areas are included in **Attachment B**.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the geographic area(s) within which the Undertaking may directly or indirectly affect historic resources. Based on the proposed scope of work, PHMSA has delineated the APE for this Undertaking to encompass the existing ROW, which is 90 ft. wide and includes the paved roadway. The APE encompasses the limits of disturbance and any resources that may be particularly susceptible to any potential vibration effects. The Undertaking does not have the potential to cause visual or audible effects after the completion of construction. The APE

extends to the depth of proposed ground disturbance of up to 5 ft. The APE is shown on the map in **Attachment A**.

Identification and Evaluation

To identify historic properties in the APE, individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualification Standards reviewed available information on previously identified historic properties in the APE, including the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database and data received from the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation. Individuals who meet the SOI Professional Qualification Standards also conducted research to determine if there are any previously unidentified properties within the APE that are 45 years of age or older and may be eligible for the NRHP.

Historic Architecture

There are no NRHP-listed above-ground resources within the APE. Additionally, a search in the Louisiana Historic Resource Inventory (LHRI) and Louisiana Office of Cultural Development's Cultural Resources database found no known potentially significant above-ground resources within the APE. Due to the scale and nature of the Undertaking, which is limited to the replacement of pipelines within existing ROW, the identification effort for above-ground resources focused on identifying properties that are susceptible to the vibration effects of pipeline replacement and could experience diminished integrity as a result of the Undertaking. A review of the APE found no potentially significant above-ground resources that have the potential to be affected by the Undertaking.

Archaeology

The Louisiana Office of Cultural Development's Cultural Resources database was reviewed for the presence of previously recorded archeological sites and previously conducted archeological surveys within the APE. As a result, one previous survey was identified as intersecting the APE, and no previously recorded archeological sites were identified within the APE. Per Louisiana state standards and guidelines, a one-mile search radius was also examined for previously recorded archeological sites and surveys. Within one mile of the APE, three previously recorded archeological sites were identified: 16SH24, 16SH62, and 16SH77 (see Table 1). Site 16SH24 is a pre-contact lithic and ceramic scatter that is ineligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 16SH62 is a pre-contact lithic scatter and its NRHP eligibility is undetermined. Site 16SH77 is comprised of historic railroad earthworks, pilings, and associated artifacts, and its NHRP eligibility is undetermined.

Table 1. Archeological Sites within One Mile of APE

Archeological Site	Site Type	NRHP Eligibility	Distance from APE
16SH24	Pre-contact lithic and ceramic scatter	Not Eligible	4,830 ft/1,470 m
16SH62	Pre-contact lithic scatter	Undetermined	1,845 ft/560 m
16SH77	Historic railroad earthworks and associated features	Undetermined	5,290 ft/1,610 m

Within one mile of the APE, two archeological surveys have been conducted. The first survey (22-0797) was conducted in 1982 by Kisatchie Regional Environmental Group, Inc. for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and overlaps with the APE where Morgan Road intersects with Highway 16. The survey identified 62 archeological sites including sites 16SH24 and 16SH77 noted above. The second survey (22-0774) was also conducted in 1982 by Coastal Environments, Inc. for the State of Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. The survey identified or revisited 102 sites including 16SH62 noted above. None of the three archeological sites intersect the APE.

An examination of Web Soil Survey data within the APE reveals five soil classes including Bude, Calhoun, Ouachita/Ochlockonee/Guyton, Tangi, and Toula soils (see Table 2). Well drained and moderately well drained soils can be indicative of human habitation during both the pre-contact and historic periods. Ouachita, Ochlockonee and Guyton soils are classified as well drained, Tangi and Toula soils are moderately well drained, Bude soil is somewhat poorly drained, and Calhoun soil is poorly drained. All soil types in the APE vary from 0 to 8 percent slope. Typically, slopes greater than 15 percent are not suitable for human occupation. The presence of moderately well drained and well drained soils making up 60 percent of the APE indicates those areas may have been suitable for human habitation.

Table 2. Soil Types within the APE

Soil Type	Drainage Class	Slope	Percent of APE
Bude silt loam	Somewhat poorly drained	0-2 percent	22.4
Calhoun silt loam	Poorly drained	0-1 percent	17.2
Ouachita, Ochlockonee and Guyton silt loam	Well drained	0-3 percent	7.8
Tangi silt loam	Moderately well drained	3-8 percent	27.8
Toula silt loam	Moderately well drained	1-3 percent	24.8

Historic topographic maps from 1942, 1959, and 1974 were examined for archeological resource potential within the APE. The presence of structures on historic maps may indicate the likelihood of historic period archeological deposits associated with the occupation of these structures. Several structures were shown on the maps within and adjacent to the APE. A review of the locations of the historic structures in Google Streetview indicates that most historic structures have since been demolished or removed. However, while the structures may no longer be extant, it is possible that subsurface archeological deposits associated with them are present.

No NRHP-eligible or listed archeological sites are located in or within one mile of the APE. Historic topographic maps and aerials indicate that associated archeological deposits may be present at locations of structures shown on the maps. Examination of soils within the APE indicates suitable conditions for human habitation. However, while these factors may suggest a potential for archeological deposits, the Undertaking will occur in close proximity to or within previous road construction and utility installation corridors. Due to the previous disturbance from construction and utility installation within the APE, it is unlikely that any archeological deposits identified within the APE would meet the criteria for significance or integrity for listing in the NRHP. A Phase I archeological survey is not recommended.

Determination of Effect

Based on the aforementioned identification and evaluation, PHMSA has determined that there are no historic properties as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l) within the APE.

While staging areas for the Undertaking are currently unknown, staging should be confined to paved areas; if staging cannot be confined to paved areas, geotextile fabric or other similar protective measures (such as pressure distributing mats) must be laid in any affected unpaved area to minimize ground disturbance, prevent soil compaction, and protect archaeological features and artifacts.

Therefore, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1), PHMSA has determined the Undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected.

Consulting Party Outreach

PHMSA identified parties that may be interested in the Project and its effects on historic properties. PHMSA invites the individuals/organizations copied on this letter to participate as Section 106 consulting parties. Invited

parties should indicate their willingness to participate as a consulting party and provide comments on the enclosed form (**Attachment C**) within 30 calendar days from the date on this letter. Note that a non-response is considered to be a declination to participate; however, interested parties can request to join consultation at any time in the process. If any invited party expresses concerns about the Project's potential effects to historic properties, PHMSA will consult with the party to resolve those concerns prior to project implementation.

PHMSA will also invite the following federally recognized tribes to participate in consultation by separate letter:

- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Request for Section 106 Concurrence

Based on the information presented above, PHMSA has determined that the Undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected. PHMSA is submitting this Undertaking to your office for your review and comment. PHMSA requests your concurrence with this determination of effect within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter. Should you need additional information, please contact Amy Hootman, Section 106 specialist, at PHMSASection106@dot.gov or 857-998-9981.

Sincerely,



Matt Fuller
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

MF/ah

cc: Travis Mast, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDOT Volpe Center
Dana White, PHMSA Grant Specialist
Kelly Hoover, Village of Montpelier

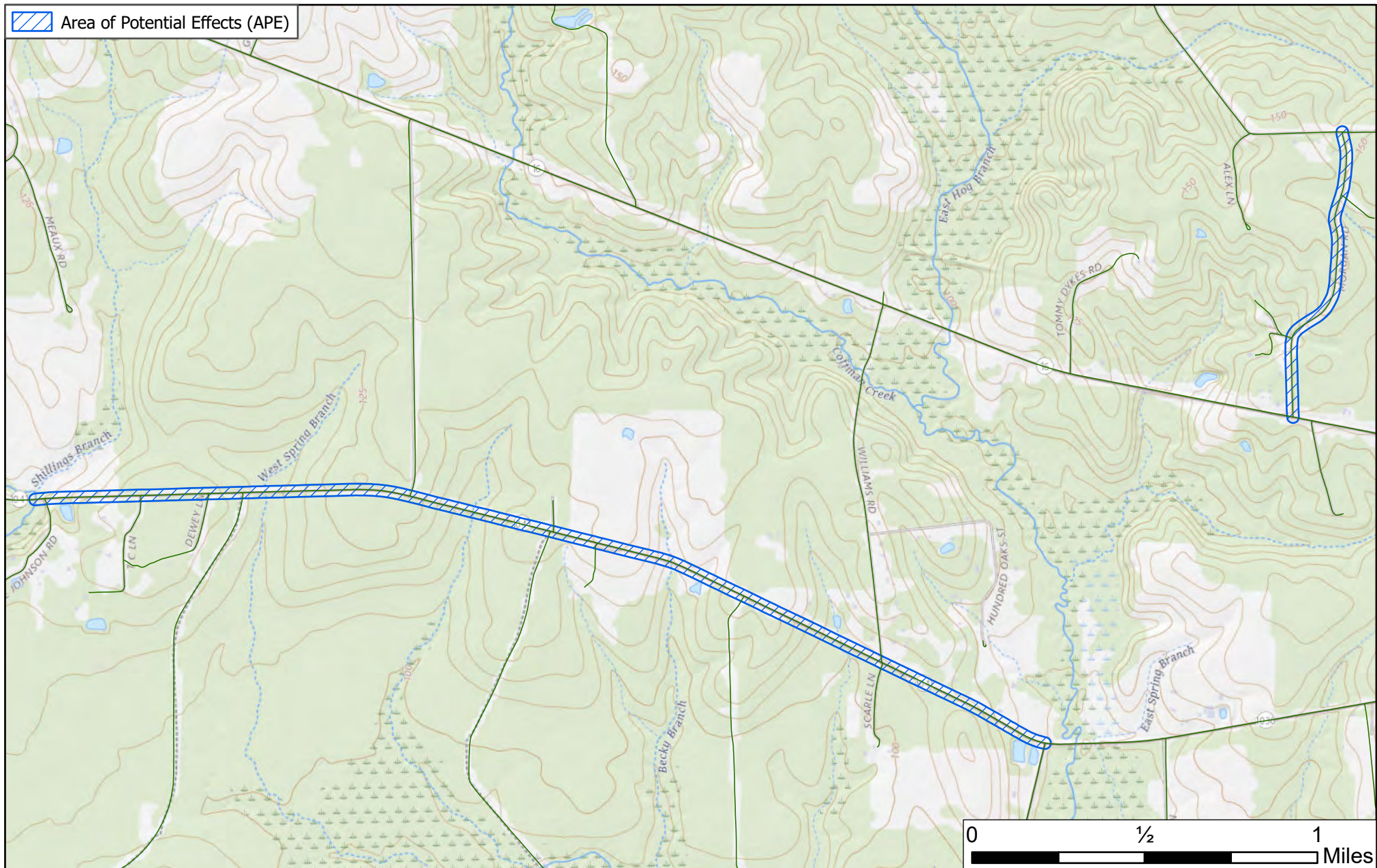
Enclosures:

Attachment A: Project Location and APE Maps
Attachment B: Project Area Photographs
Attachment C: Consulting Party Response Form

ATTACHMENT A

Project Location and APE Maps

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Montpelier Louisiana Gas Line Replacement

Scale: 24,000

Acreage: 87.477

USGS Basemap: Montpelier

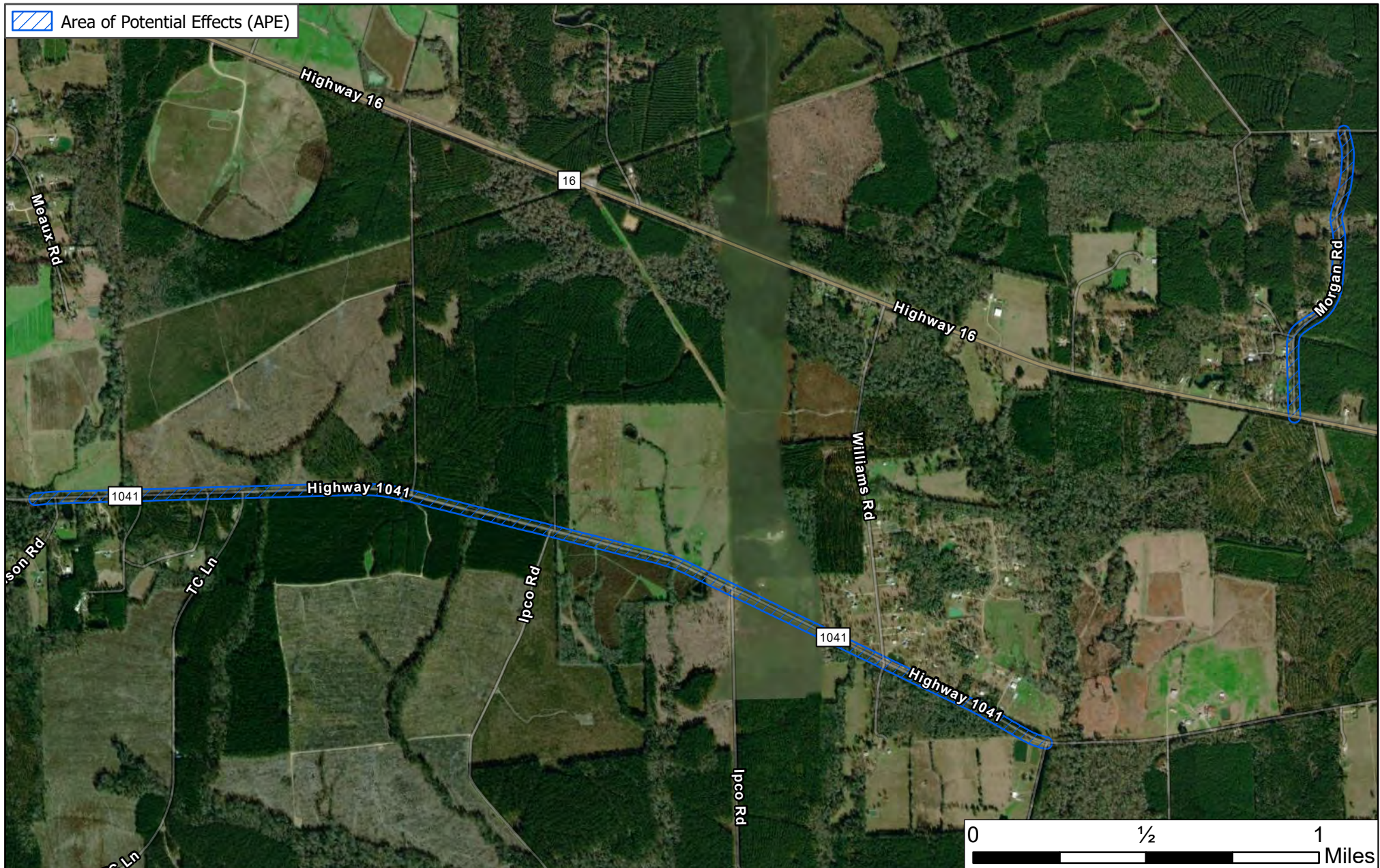
Montpelier, LA, Helena Parish

N



Service Layer Credits: USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road Data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State Humanitarian Information Unit; and NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, U.S. Coastal Relief Model. Data refreshed April, 2023.

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Montpelier Louisiana Gas Line Replacement

Scale: 24,000

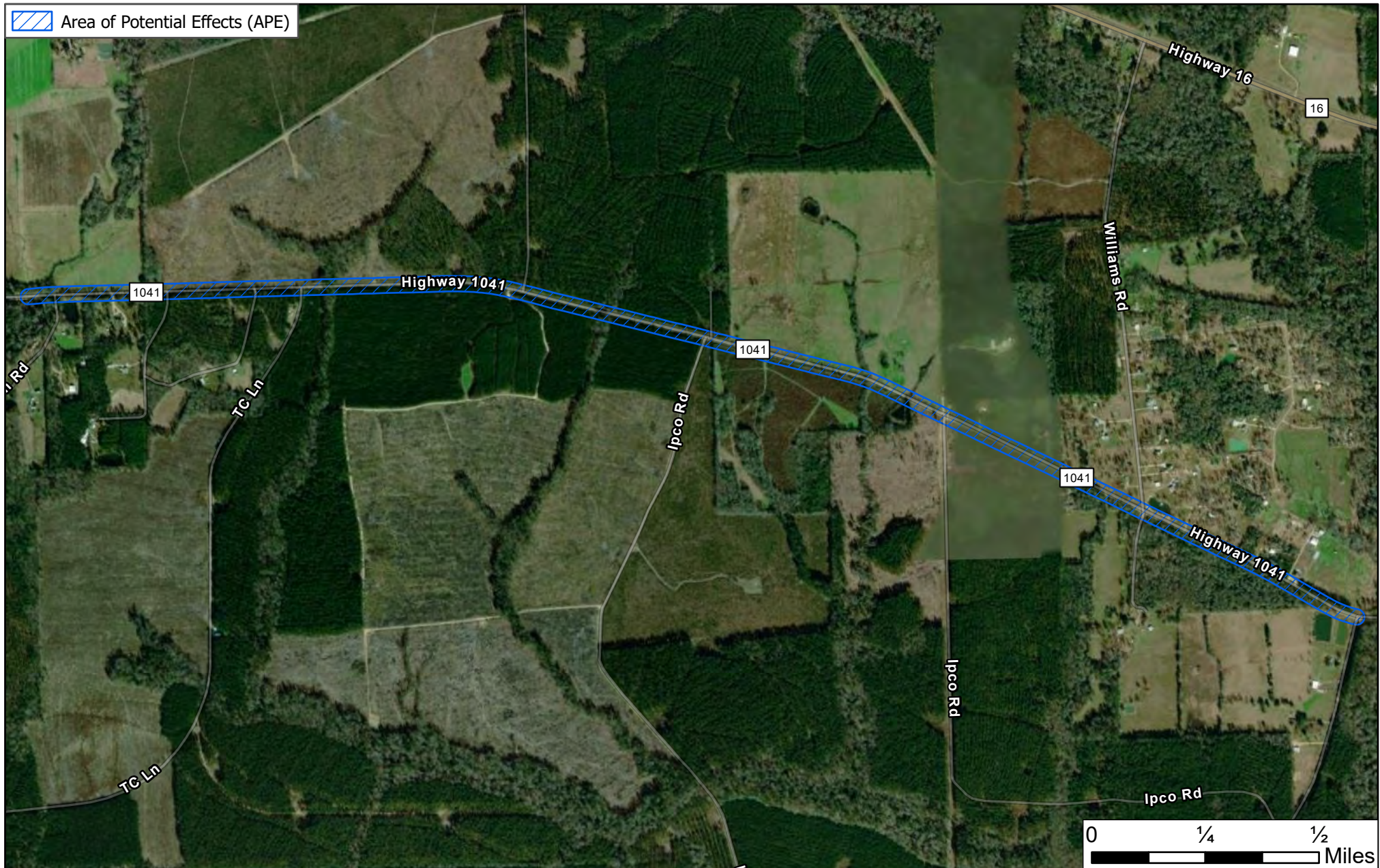
Acreage: 87.477

Montpelier, LA, Helena Parish



Service Layer Credits: CONANP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Maxar

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Montpelier Louisiana Gas Line Replacement

Scale: 18,268

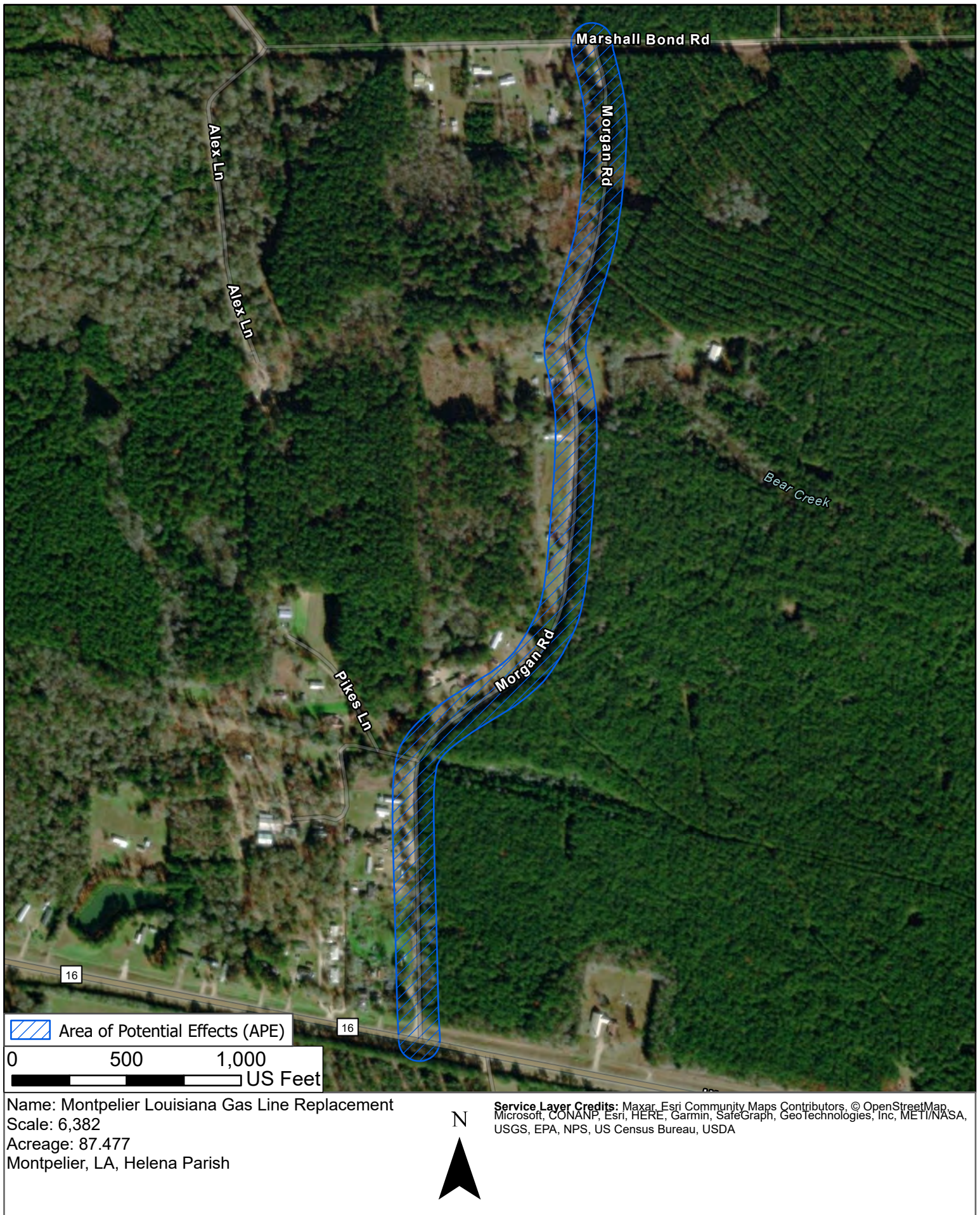
Acreage: 87.477

Montpelier, LA, Helena Parish



Service Layer Credits: CONANP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Maxar

Area of Potential Effects Map



ATTACHMENT B

Project Area Photographs



Photo 1. View looking down APE along Highway 1041.



Photo 2. View looking down APE along Highway 1041.



Photo 3. View looking down APE along Highway 1041.



Photo 4. View looking down APE along Morgan Road.



Photo 5. View looking down APE along Morgan Road.



Photo 6. View looking down APE along Morgan Road.



Photo 7. View looking down APE along Morgan Road.

Appendix F

Environmental Justice



EJScreen Community Report

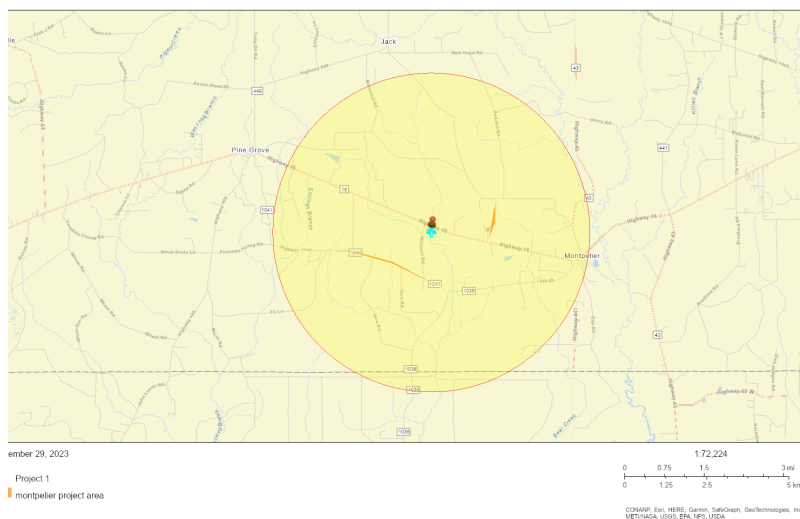
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

St. Helena Parish, LA

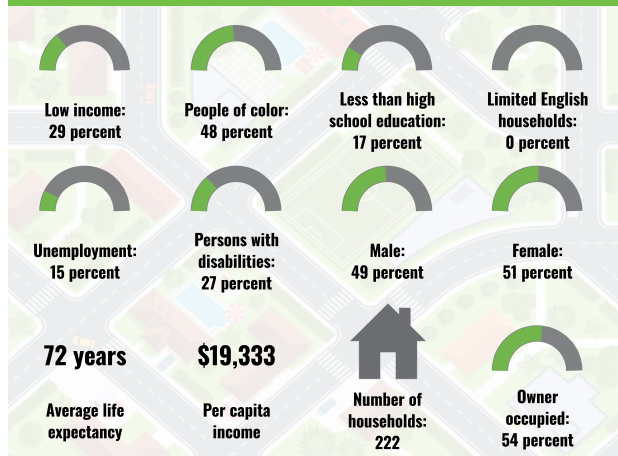
3 miles Ring Centered at 30.687795, 90.696957

Population: 621

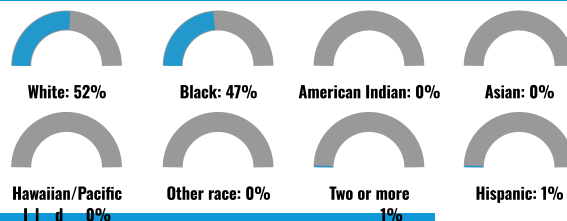
Area in square miles: 28.27



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



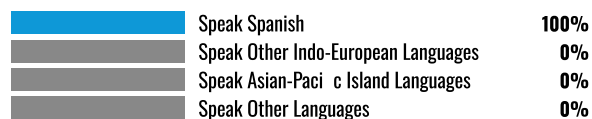
BREAKDOWN BY RACE



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) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	96%
Total Non-English	4%

Appendix F

Environmental Justice



EJScreen Community Report

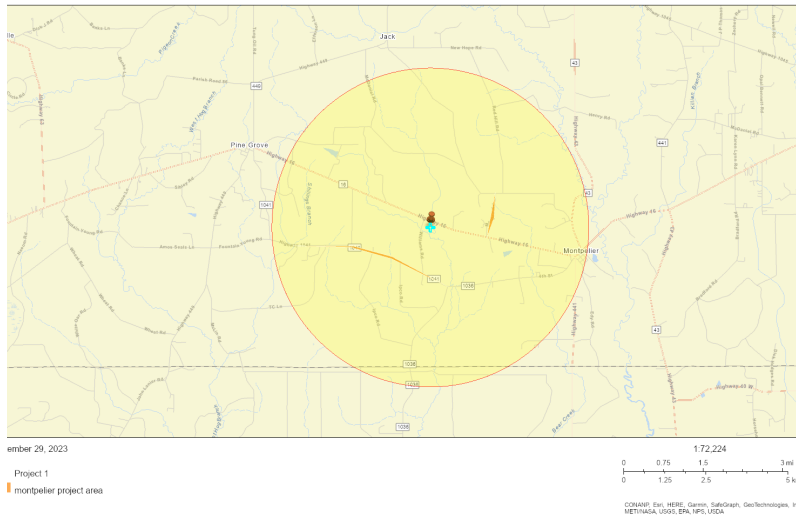
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

St. Helena Parish, LA

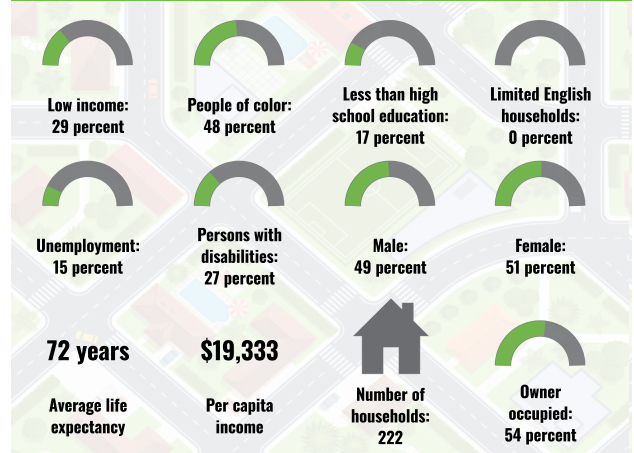
3 miles Ring Centered at 30.687795, 90.696957

Population: 621

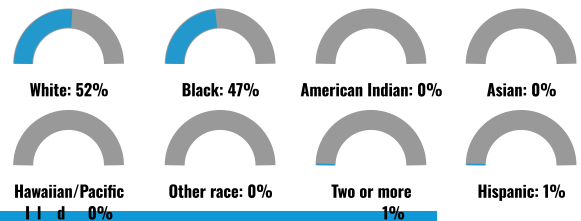
Area in square miles: 28.27



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) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	96%
Total Non-English	4%

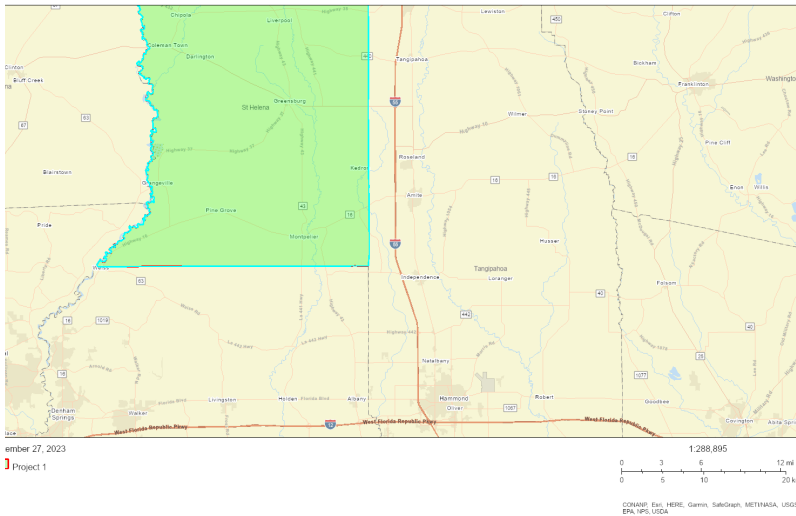


EJScreen Community Report

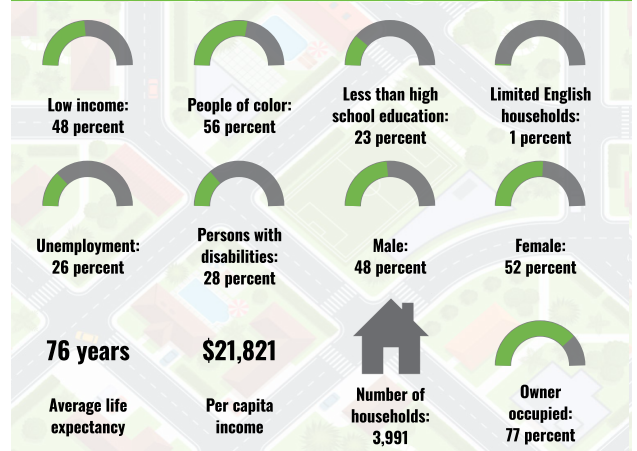
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

St. Helena Parish, LA

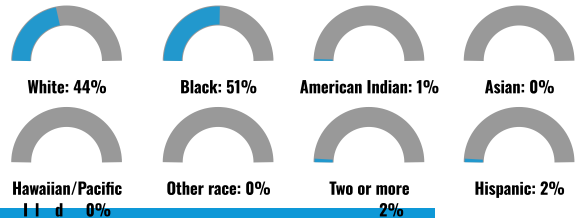
County: St. Helena Parish
Population: 10,881
Area in square miles: 409.60



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) 2017-2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Centers for Disease Control.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	97%
Total Non-English	3%