

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

# City of Tallassee, AL Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Assessment NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-17

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 the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) 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.<sup>1</sup>

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-FY22-EA-2023-17 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	City of Tallassee
<b>Project Location</b>	Tallassee, AL

#### **Project Description/Proposed Action:**

The proposed action includes the replacement of a total of 17.7 miles of cast iron mains and all bare steel service lines that were installed in the 1940s and 1950s. The vulnerable pipeline to be replaced is located within the City of Tallassee's (City) existing right- of- ways (ROW) and would not require new ROW or easements. The existing ROW encompasses various roads, signage, sidewalks, and grassy areas throughout the City. See Appendix A, Project Maps.

The existing pipelines being replaced are between two to four inches in diameter and would be replaced with equivalent diameter pipes. At most locations, the new gas lines would be located approximately 2' to 5' parallel to the existing gas lines. The methods of construction would consist mostly of directional boring with some cut and cover (trenching) and is expected to take 12 to 15 months to complete. The replacement gas lines would be installed into the ground beside the old system at minimum depth of 36 inches below grade and a minimum of 12" of horizontal clearance from any other underground utilities, including the existing gas main. New mains would be installed and pressured tested. Then, new service connections with excess flow valves (EFVs) would be installed and new polyethylene service lines extended to each customer's meter with a new riser. Once all testing is completed, the new mains would be tied onto the existing system. There would be sections of pre-existing MDPE pipe to be tied into the new system. Once operational, the old mains would be abandoned in place. The new mains would be composed of 2" medium density polyethylene (MDPE) and 4" MDPE pipe. In addition, the city proposes the addition of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment to be installed on the system's two receipt points with

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

Southern Natural Gas' (SONAT) pipeline. 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 City would utilize open trench method for portions of the project, which generally involves greater soil disturbance and use of heavy equipment and related impacts than the insertion method.

The City would abandon the legacy pipe in place after utility services have been moved to the new pipeline. 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 CRF 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, the City 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, the City would continue to use legacy cast iron, bare steel, and other 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 the City with updated material would not be seen in the near term. The safety risks and methane leaks would persist. The replacement pipeline activities would either not be taken or they would be undertaken at a later, uncertain date. Even if pipe replacement were to happen at some point in the future, environmental mitigation measures 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 cast iron and bare steel 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 affected environment is located in the City of Tallassee in Elmore County. The project is expected to occur within previously disturbed existing public ROW. The areas on each side of the ROW consist primarily of developed residential and commercial areas as well as undeveloped land.

#### 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	No, based on a review of the EPA Greenbook <sup>2</sup> .
the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)?	
Will the construction activities produce emissions that exceed de minimis thresholds (tons per year)?	No
Will mitigation measures be used to capture blowdown <sup>2</sup> ?	Yes
	The City's intent would be to avoid venting by using cross compression technology (i.e., – gas from abandoned mains would be transferred to new mains.)
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?	N/A The City's intent would be to avoid venting by using cross compression technology (i.e., – gas from abandoned mains would be transferred to new mains.)
Will project proponent commit to reducing pressure on the 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 using calculation methods identified in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet.	N/A
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 estimated to be 81,374 kg/year. Replacement would result in a leak rate of approximately enter 510 kg/year or a reduction of approximately 1,617,284 kg over a 20-year timeframe. <sup>3</sup>

#### **Conclusion:**

The project area is located within the City of Tallassee in Elmore County, Alabama which is designated by the EPA as in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The existing pipelines within the project area consist of leak prone cast iron and bare steel that were installed in the 1940s and 50s.

#### 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 legacy cast iron and bare steel 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 81,374 kg of methane would be released each year from the existing pipelines within the project area. This amounts to 1,627,480 kg of methane over a 20-year time frame. See Appendix B, Air Quality, for estimated methane leak rate calculations.

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

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  Blowdown refers to the venting of natural gas in current facilities, in order to begin rehabilitation, repair, or replacement activities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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.

#### **Proposed Action:**

The Proposed Action alternative consists of replacing 17.7 miles of cast iron pipe and bare steel which would result in minor air quality impacts associated with construction activities. The City's intent would be to avoid venting by using cross compression technology which transfers gas from abandoned mains to the new mains.

As described in the Tier 1 EA, methane leaks from 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 80,864 kg in the first year and thereafter. This amounts to a total reduction of approximately 1,617,284 kg of methane emissions over a 20-year timeframe, post construction. See Appendix B for the methane reduction calculations. Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that the proposed project would provide a net benefit to air quality from the overall reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and that no indirect and cumulative impacts would result from the Proposed Action.

#### Mitigation Measures:

The City of Tallassee shall implement the following mitigation measures:

- Efficient use of on-road and non-road vehicles, by minimizing speeds and vehicles;
- Minimizing excavation to the greatest extent practical;
- Use of cleaner, newer, non-road equipment as practicable;
- Minimizing all vehicle idling and at minimum, conforming with local idling regulations;
- Ensuring that all vehicles and equipment are in proper operating condition;
- On-road and non-road engines must meet EPA exhaust emission standards (40 CFR Parts 85, 86, and 89);
- Covering open-bodied trucks while transporting materials;
- Watering, or use of other approved dust suppressants, at construction sites and on unpaved roadways, as necessary;
- Minimizing the area of soil disturbance to those necessary for construction;
- Minimizing 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	Yes, construction activities are anticipated to exceed soil disturbance thresholds and a 402 permit may be required

waters of the United States? Is a Stormwater Pollution	prior to construction.
Prevention Plan (SWPPP) required?	
Will work activities take place within a FEMA designated	Yes
floodplain? If so, describe any permanent or temporary	
impacts and the required coordination efforts with state or	
local floodplain regulatory agencies.	
Will the proposed project activities potentially occur within	No
a coastal zone <sup>4</sup> or affect any coastal use or natural resource	
of the coastal zone, requiring a Consistency Determination	
and Certification?	

#### Conclusion:

PHMSA reviewed NWI maps to assist in identifying aquatic features including wetlands, streams, and other water resources in or near the project area. Based on a review of the NWI maps, NRCS soils maps, topographic maps, and information provided by the City, there are wetlands and waters of the United States in the project area. A map of the wetlands and waters of the United States can be found in Appendix C, Water Resources.

PHMSA also reviewed FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer to identify any Special Flood Hazard Areas potentially impacted by the project. The FIRMette map indicates the project includes areas designated as Zone X, A and AE, etc. Areas designated as Zone X are outside of any designated special flood hazard areas. Areas designated as Zone AE correspond to the one percent annual chance of flooding (100-year floodplain). Special Flood Hazard Areas, Zone A or AE, includes the Noble Road and North Ann Avenue at Graveyard Creek segments of the project.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the existing pipeline would remain in the current location and normal maintenance activities would continue. Depending on the location of the activities, the work could be in close proximity to an aquatic resource where the City 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:**

The proposed Action Alternative includes replacing 17.7 miles of existing pipelines. At most locations, the new gas lines would be located next to the existing gas lines. The existing gas lines would remain in their current location and would be purged of natural gas and then sealed on each end. All new gas lines would be installed at a depth of 36 inches below grade and located within existing ROW.

As noted above, there are various aquatic resources identified in the project area, in close proximity to where the work would occur. However, because work is limited to the ROW, there would be no direct impact to wetlands or other waters.

The Noble Road and North Ann Avenue where the project area crosses Graveyard Creek, tributary of the Tallapoosa River, the pipeline would be installed by directional boring. Entry and exit pits would be excavated at least 100 feet from the tributary on either side to prevent direct impacts. Because the pipeline in these areas would be installed by

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directional boring methods, the aquatic resources identified in these areas would not be impacted by the project.

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 there would be no permanent impacts. To ensure compliance with local floodplain ordinances, City should coordinate with the City of Tallassee Floodplain Administrator to inquire and obtain all necessary permits, prior to beginning work.

Based on information provided by the City and a review of available information, PHMSA has determined that there would be no permanent impacts to water resources located within the project area. 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.

#### Mitigation Measures:

The City shall avoid staging in wetlands or floodplains and all preconstruction contours shall be restored with natural areas reseeded or repaved as soon as practical. Best Management Practices shall be used during construction to control sediment and erosion and prevent pollutants from entering adjacent waterways.

The City shall coordinate with the local floodplain administrator to obtain any necessary permits for conducting work in special flood hazard areas, prior to the commencement of work. The City shall ensure all work near Graveyard creek takes place at least 100 feet from the edge of the waterway.

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.	No N/A
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, see mitigation measures below.
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	No
disturb lead pipes or asbestos?	

#### **Conclusion:**

PHMSA reviewed EPA's NEPAssist website to identify any Brownfields properties, hazardous waste sites, and superfund sites. NEPAssist identified two Brownfield properties and six hazardous waste sites in the project area. (See Appendix D, Hazardous Materials).

PHMSA obtained a custom soil report for the project area from the USDA, NRCS's web soil survey which indicates that the project area is comprised of soils classified as sandy loam. The majority of these soils are well-drained soils where the depth to the water table is found somewhere greater than 80 inches.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the cast iron and steel pipes would remain in their 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 the leak prone pipes remain (EPA, PRO Fact Sheet No. 402<sup>5</sup>) and the risk of failure is higher among these types of pipes. Therefore, under the no action alternative, PHMSA anticipates an increased risk for the release of methane, both as leaks and during a pipeline failure, which could then result in ground disturbances from construction activities, potentially impacting groundwater.

#### **Proposed Action:**

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the City would replace 17.7 miles of existing pipelines within the existing ROW in the City of Tallassee. 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 disturbed areas would be re-seeded or paved (as appropriate) and restored to preexisting conditions.

With the inclusion of mitigative measures to assist in the prevention of potential impacts, PHMSA has determined that there would be no adverse impacts to groundwater associated with the project. Trenching and/or directional drilling work is not likely to intercept groundwater but if this occurs, the City would use appropriate dewatering methods. Additionally, there are no hazardous waste or brownfield, or superfund sites identified in the area where work would occur that could be potentially impacted by the Proposed Action Alternative. While there are identified sites that contain, store or dispose of hazardous materials, these are not within the construction areas as work is limited to existing ROW and no RCRA sites would be impacted by the proposed project. PHMSA has not identified any indirect or cumulative effects to groundwater or hazardous materials.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

In the event of a release of hazardous materials/waste into the environment during construction, the City shall notify the appropriate emergency response agencies, potentially impacted residents, and regulatory agencies of the release

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Insert Gas Main Flexible Liners at <a href="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.

or exposure.

The City shall utilize a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan which would identify appropriate construction and restoration activities to minimize the potential impacts to groundwater. All impacted areas would be restored to preconstruction conditions.

The City shall include the following construction specifications:

- The Contractor would monitor operations during HDD activities during drilling operations by visually inspecting for evidence of drilling fluid release.
- The contractor would observe and document drilling fluid pressures.
- The contractor would observe and document drilling fluid recirculation volumes. In addition, the contractor
  would have readily available containment equipment to contain inadvertent releases of drilling mud, which
  includes include earth-moving equipment, portable pumps, containment booms, hand tools, hay bales, silt
  fences and sandbags. The contractor would have a mobile vacuum truck available to pump drilling mud from
  containment areas to the return pit.

Soils	
Will all bare soils be stabilized using methods in Appendix 3? Will additional measures be required?	Yes, the contractor would utilize erosion and sediment control while trenching/ open cutting. If the bottom of the excavation is found to be unsuitable or unstable the material shall be removed at least 6 inches below the trench bottom and backfilled using suitable materials for stabilizations. All backfill and grading must ensure adequate drainage and prevent formation of depressions where water may collect.
Will the project require unique impacts related to soils?	No

#### Conclusion:

PHMSA obtained a custom soil report for the project area from the USDA, NRCS's web soil survey which indicates that the project area is comprised of sandy loam. The majority of these soils are well-drained soils where the depth to the water table is found somewhere greater than 80 inches. It is noted that the project area is an urban residential area where ground disturbance activities have already occurred and there are very few areas, if any, that remain in a natural state. Therefore, while the soils report provides valuable information, the soils have been disturbed and likely contain some degree of fill material brought in as a suitable base for construction.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the cast iron and bare steel pipes would remain in their current location and soils would remain in their current state and condition. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be

replaced under failed circumstances. Some soil disturbance would occur during emergency repairs and the affected areas would be restored upon completion. Under either scenario, no adverse impacts to soils would be anticipated under the No Action alternative.

#### **Proposed Action:**

The City would replace 17.7 miles (93,456 LF) of cast iron and steel pipelines within the existing ROW. The new gas lines would be installed at a depth of 32 inches below grade and would be installed by either directional drilling or cut and cover (trenching). All disturbed areas would be re-seeded or paved (as appropriate) and restored to pre-existing conditions. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that there would be no adverse impact to soils resulting from the Proposed Action alternative. Additionally, there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as the City would restore all areas to pre-construction conditions.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City shall utilize best management practices, as appropriate, to control sediment and erosion during construction which may include silt fencing, check dams, and promptly covering all bare areas. All impacted areas shall be restored to pre-construction conditions.

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 within the geographical range of the project area? If no, no further analysis is required.	Yes, based on review of the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) and NOAA Fisheries website. Additionally, Alabama 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, all work would occur existing ROW which is a mix previously disturbed urban and rural environments.	

#### **Conclusion:**

PHMSA requested an official species list through the USFWS's IPaC website. See Appendix F, Biological Resources for the list of federally threatened, endangered, proposed endangered and candidate species. No critical habitat occurs within the project area.

Additionally, the list of Alabama state protected species was reviewed to assist in identifying potential species protected by the State and under the jurisdiction of the Alabama Forestry Commission. A list of state protected species can be found in Appendix F, Biological Resources.

<sup>6</sup> https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/ and https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species-directory/threatened-endangered

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.auburn.edu/cosam/natural history museum/alnhp/data/index.htm

#### 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 both rural and urban environments 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 and does not contain suitable habitat for either federal or state listed species. As a result, it was determined that the project is unlikely to have any detrimental effects to federally- listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have no effect to the federally listed species. Federal proposed threatened, federal candidate species, and state listed species are not subject to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. In addition, PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have no adverse effects to state listed species or other biological resources. Additionally, there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as Additionally, there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action alternative.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City of Tallassee is responsible for abiding by all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

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 building or structures or new aboveground components are required.	
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.8	Yes, a portion of the project would take place within Tallassee Commercial Historic District.	
Does the project or any part of the project take place on tribal lands or land where a tribal cultural interest may exist? <sup>9</sup>	No	
Are there any nearby properties or resources that either appear to be or are documented to have been constructed	Yes, through a visual examination, it was determined that 19 buildings within the Tallassee Commercial Historic	

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more than 45 years ago? <sup>10</sup> 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.	District (District) appear to be at least 45 years of age.  Yes, through a visual examination, it was determined that some of the buildings appear to be designed and constructed in a similar manner and time.
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.	Yes, the project includes work within the existing disturbed ROW.
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

#### **Conclusion:**

PHMSA must consider the impact of projects for which they provide funding on historic and archeological properties 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, staging areas, and any resources that may be particularly susceptible to any potential vibration effects. (See Appendix G, Cultural Resources)

#### No Action:

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

#### **Proposed Action:**

PHMSA 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 Alabama Division of Historical Resources. PHMSA also conducted research to determine if there are any previously unidentified properties

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Many SHPOs have an <u>online system</u> at <a href="https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm">https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm</a> that can tell you previously identified historic properties in your project area. The <a href="https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm">National Register list</a> at <a href="https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm">https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm</a> can also be accessed online.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The SHPO may have information on areas of tribal interest, or a good source is the <u>HUD TDAT website at https://egis.hud.gov/TDAT/.</u>

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 11}\,{\rm Local}$  tax and property records or historic maps may indicate dates of construction.

within the APE that are 45 years of age or older and may be eligible for the NRHP.

PHMSA's assessment is that the Proposed Project would not alter any of the characteristics or contributing features of the District that qualify it for inclusion in the NRHP. Project work is limited to the replacement of existing pipelines. The Undertaking would not result in lasting physical, visual, or audible effects to the District. The Undertaking also does not include land acquisition, nor would it limit access to or change the use of the District. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.5, PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have No Adverse Effect on historic properties.

A letter was sent on January 10, 2023, to the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) 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 effects. PHMSA has requested comments on the Section 106 process, identification of historic properties, and proposed finding within 30 days of receipt of the letter. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources, for additional information.

PHMSA also invited the following federally recognized tribes to participate in consultation by separate letter January 10, 2023:

- Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
- Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City of Tallassee 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, a previously undiscovered archaeological or cultural resource that is or could reasonably be a historic property is encountered or a previously known historic property will be affected in an unanticipated manner, all project activities in the vicinity of the discovery will cease and the City will immediately notify PHMSA. This may include discovery of cultural features (e.g., foundations, water wells, trash pits, etc.) and/or artifacts (e.g., pottery, stone tools and flakes, animal bones, etc.) or damage to a historic property that was not anticipated. PHMSA will notify the State Historic Preservation Office and participating federally recognized tribes and conduct consultation as appropriate in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.13. Construction in the area of the discovery must not resume until PHMSA provides further direction.
- In the event that unmarked human remains are encountered during permitted activities, all work shall halt and the City shall immediately contact PHMSA as well as the proper authorities in accordance with applicable state statutes to determine if the discovery is subject to a criminal investigation, of Native American origin, or associated with a potential archaeological resource. At all times human remains must be treated with the utmost dignity and respect. Human remains and associated artifacts will be left in place and not disturbed. No skeletal remains or materials associated with the remains will be photographed, collected, or removed until PHMSA has conducted the appropriate consultation and developed a plan of action. Project activities shall not

resume until PHMSA provides further direction.

All work, material, equipment, and staging to remain within the road's existing right-of-way or utility easement
or other staging areas as identified in the environmental documentation. If the scope of work changes in any
way that may alter the effects to historic properties as described herein, the grant recipient must notify
PHMSA, and consultation may be reopened under Section 106.

Section 4(f)	
Question	Information and Justification
Are there Section 4(f) properties within or immediately adjacent to the project area?	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 coordination with PHMSA is required for all projects that might impact a Section 4(f) property.	No

#### **Conclusion:**

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:

- 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.

PHMSA conducted a review of properties that are located within the Project Area to identify potential properties that qualify as Section 4(f). No Section 4(f) properties were identified within the project area.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no change to existing pipeline infrastructure pursuant to federal funding provided by the Program. Therefore, there would be no use of Section 4(f) property under the No Action alternative.

#### **Proposed Action:**

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.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

There are no 4(f) resources identified in the project area and therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.

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			
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?	Yes, temporary traffic impacts may consist of traffic congestion and minor disruptions to street parking. The project would not result in a permanent change to existing 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, describe any coordination that will occur with emergency response providers?	No			

#### **Conclusion:**

The project is located in the City of Tallassee, an urbanized area consisting of commercial and residential areas.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the cast iron and steel pipes would remain in their current location and no changes to land use would occur. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances.

#### **Proposed Action:**

The City is proposing to replace pipeline infrastructure within the existing ROW and would not include adding pipeline to serve new areas. During construction, there may be short-term impacts to adjacent residences, businesses and normal traffic patterns. 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. Temporary traffic impacts may occur on the local road network and adjacent pedestrian routes. The project may result in detours. Consideration of emergency response vehicles, travel restrictions, and other impacts to local transportation are anticipated to be temporary and would only last for the duration of construction. Minor disruptions to on-street parking may occur, but access to existing residences would not be restricted. The City would coordinate with the appropriate local and state agencies regarding interruptions to traffic and detours and appropriate protocol would be used where traffic would be temporarily diverted to one-lane. Normal traffic flow would be maintained to the extent possible and traffic control measures would be utilized to assist traffic negotiating through construction areas, as needed. The City would notify emergency services of the scheduled work and traffic implications of the work that would be conducted and would use various methods of communication

to notify any potentially impacted residents, business owners, and the general public. 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 there would be no impact to land use.

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 City has various maintenance, drainage improvement, and other projects on going within or near the project area. All municipalities and businesses must abide by the same requirements and coordinate with state and local agencies on any disruptions to normal traffic patterns. Through this coordination, the overall cumulative effects of multiple projects occurring would be minimized by planning and scheduling efforts with responsible agency oversight. Land use changes are not anticipated as the projects are occurring in an urbanized area that is built out and therefore would not change the existing residential or commercial use.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City shall maintain traffic flows to the extent possible and use traffic control measures to assist traffic negotiating through construction areas, as needed.

The City shall coordinate with state and local agencies regarding detours and/or routing adjustments during construction and would notify any potentially impacted residents and/or business owners.

The City shall have a traffic control plan in place, prior to construction, and coordinate with the appropriate agency well in advance of any impacted emergency services or essential agency functions.

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?	Yes, there are several sensitive noise receptors (residences, schools, etc.) located adjacent to the streets where work would occur.			
Will the project require high-noise and vibration inducing construction methods? If so, please specify.	No			
Will the project comply with state and local ordinances? If so, identify applicable ordinances and limitations on noise/vibration times or sound levels.	Yes  The contractor would comply with The City of Tallassee's ordinance #90-259.			
Will construction activities require large bulldozers, hoe ram, or other vibratory equipment within 20 feet of a	No			

structure?	

#### **Conclusion:**

The project is located in the City of Tallassee. The ambient noise in the project area consists of a combination of environmental noise from road traffic, construction, industry, the built environment, population density and other sources. There are several sensitive noise receptors (residences, schools, etc.) located adjacent to the streets where work would occur.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action, the project would not move forward and the pipelines along the designated streets in the project area would not be replaced at this time, and likely would not be replaced all at once. It is likely that these pipelines would need to be repaired or replaced due to leaks or deteriorating conditions in the future. 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.

#### **Proposed Action:**

Excavators, dump trucks, skid steers, rollers, pavers, and other similar construction equipment would be used to excavate a trench, lay pipe, compact soils and re-pave the affected areas. Pipeline may be installed in some areas via directional bore methods where drill rigs, excavators, reamers, and similar equipment would be used to install pipeline by horizontal directional drilling.

Sensitive noise receptors are likely to experience temporary noise impacts while outdoors in the vicinity of the work; however, PHMSA's assessment is that the noise impacts would be minor and temporary and no adverse vibration impacts would result from the proposed work.

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 the City. Rural areas often have paving, drainage improvement, and other construction or maintenance projects on going which could occur within or near the project area which would contribute to increased noise. These construction and maintenance projects could occur at the same time as the Proposed Action alternative and would contribute to an increase in cumulative noise effects during construction. However, adhering to state and local noise ordinances would ensure the project does not cause cumulatively more than minor adverse noise or vibration impacts.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The contractor shall adhere to City of Tallassee noise ordinance #90-259.

Environmental Justice			
Question	Information and Justification		
Using the EPA EJScreen or census data <sup>11</sup> , is the project	Based on review of socioeconomic data using the EPAs		
located in an area of minority and/or low-income	EJScreen, the population residing within the general		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045222

individuals as defined by USDOT Order 5610.2(c)? If so,	project area contains 31% low income and 28% minority
provide demographic data for minority and/or low-income	populations.
individuals within ½ mile from the project area as a	
percentage of the total population.	
Will the project displace existing residents or workers from	No
their homes and communities? If so, what is the expected	
duration?	
Will the project require service disruptions to homes and	No, minor service disruptions may be required to connect
communities? If so, what is the expected communication	businesses and residences to the new pipeline. These
and outreach plan to the residents and the duration of the	disruptions would be of short duration lasting less than 1
outages?	hour
Are there populations with Limited English Proficiency	Yes, this area has 1% limited English-speaking households.
located in the project area? If so, what measures will be	The City would post communications in the languages of
taken to provide communications in other languages?	the area as well as in letter form once the language is
	identified.

#### Conclusion:

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 would continue until further guidance is provided regarding the implementation of the new E.O. 14096 on environmental justice.

PHMSA reviewed socioeconomic data using the EPAs EJScreen and found the population residing within the project area the City of Tallassee contains 31% low income and 28% minority populations. The percentage of these populations is above the Elmore County average of 26% low income and 27% minority populations. See Appendix H, Environmental Justice, for socioeconomic data.

#### No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing and planned pipeline activities, including construction and maintenance activities, would continue unchanged. The City 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 activities 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.

#### **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, including the intentional venting of existing distribution lines prior to replacement. Noise impacts associated with construction are anticipated to be minor. Traffic impacts would be temporary and only minor disruptions or delays 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. The project would have an overall beneficial effect on environmental justice populations and would not result in indirect or cumulative impacts.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City shall provide advanced notification of service disruptions and construction schedule 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			
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 would be implemented to protect health and minimize hazardous releases during construction. Safety would 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 historic, cast iron and bare steel pipes. Pipelines that are known to leak based on the material include cast iron, bare steel, wrought iron, and historic 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. This is reflected in the City of Tallassee DIMP plan. 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, the cast iron and bare steel pipes would remain in their current location, state, and

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 leak-prone pipes are replaced.

#### **Proposed Action:**

The proposed project is necessary to replace leak prone pipes. This replacement is in alignment with the City of Tallassee 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.

As removal is determined to be necessary, the abandonment of the existing pipeline would be conducted in accordance with PHMSA requirements found in 49 CRF 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 this replacement project would improve the overall safety of the City of Tallassee's infrastructure.

#### **Mitigation Measures:**

The City shall ensure their DIMP procedures are updated as necessary, the work is constructed in accordance with industry best practices and the project would comply with all local, state, and federal regulations, including those for safety.

The City 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.

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#### III. Public Involvement

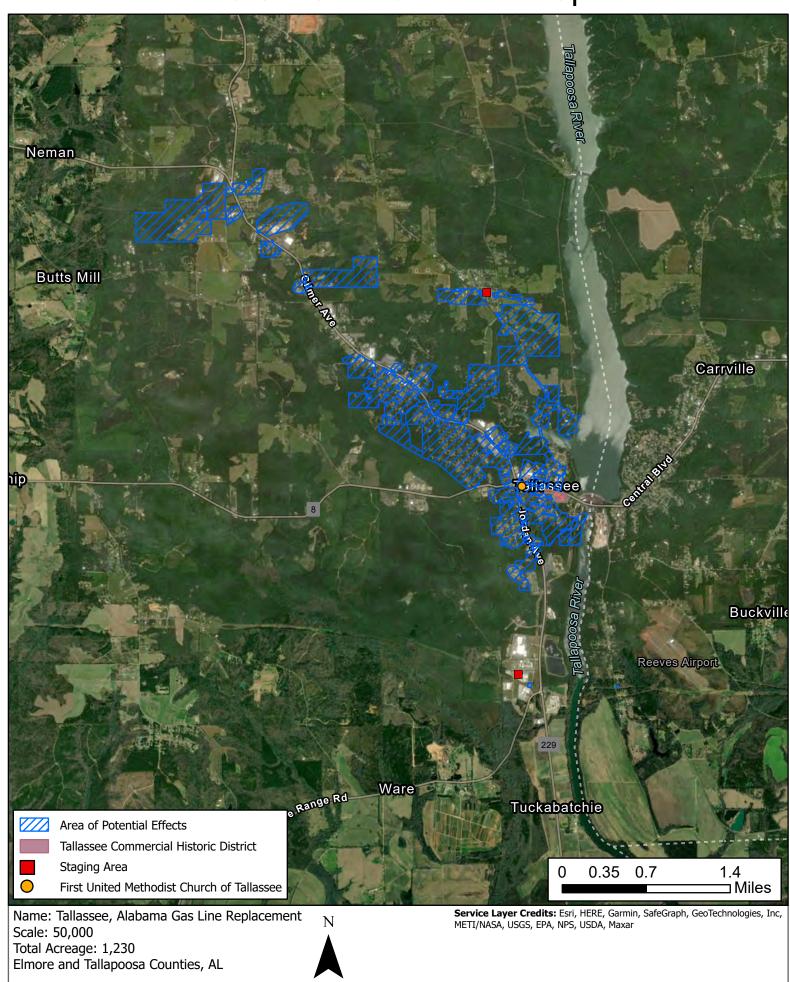
On November 9, 2022, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (87 FR 67748) with a 30-day comment period soliciting comments on the "Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program." During the 30-day comment period, PHMSA 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. 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 would require additional documentation from the project proponent, as reflected in this Tier 2.

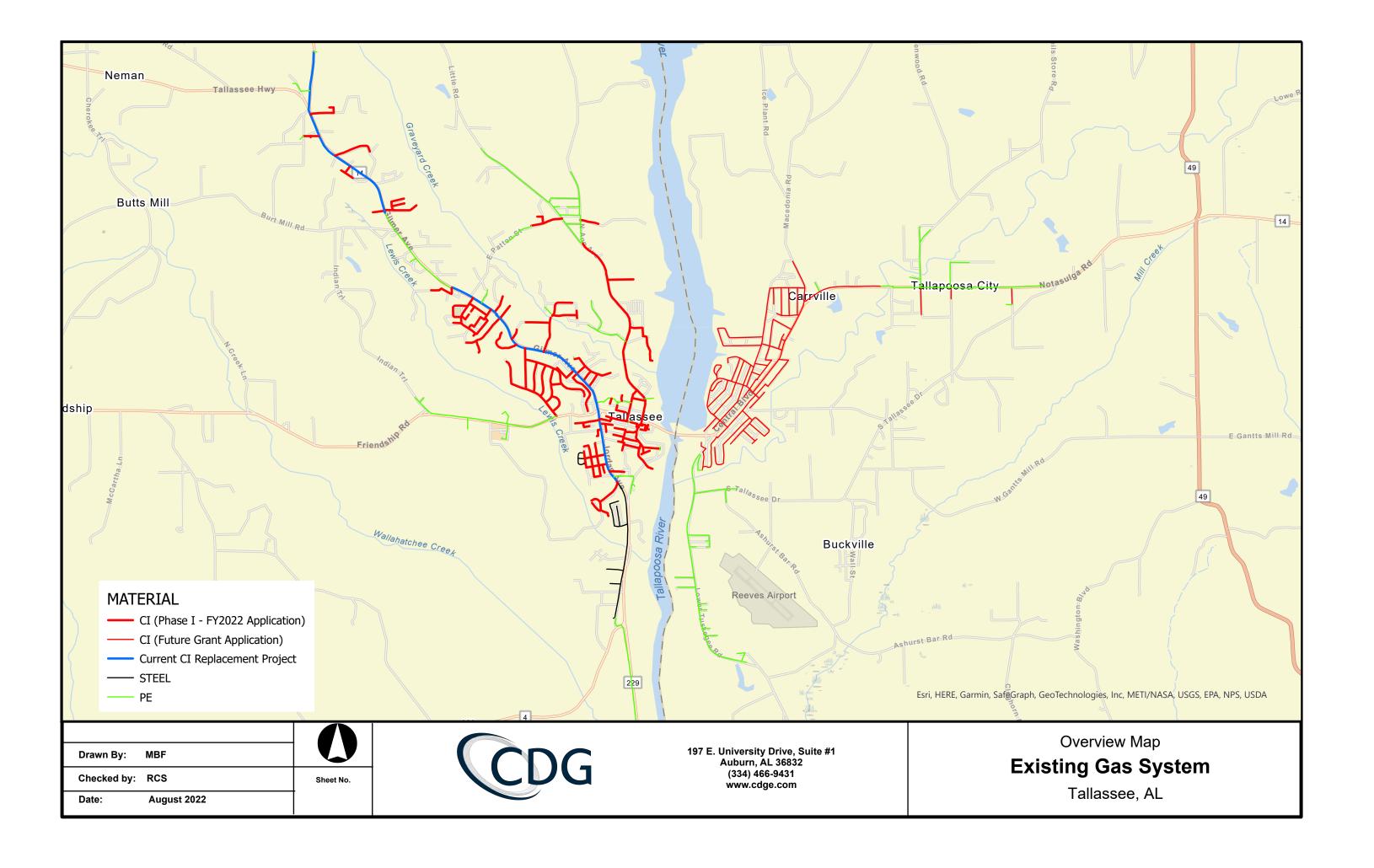
As part of this Tier 2, PHMSA is soliciting public comments through a public comment period. This Tier 2 is available on PHMSA's website where comments can be submitted to the contact noted below. PHMSA will accept public comments for 30 days on this Tier 2. PHMSA will consider comments received and incorporate them in the decision-making process. Consultation with appropriate agencies on related processes, regulations, and permits is ongoing. Please submit all comments to: <a href="mailto:PHMSABILGrantNEPAComments@dot.gov">PHMSABILGrantNEPAComments@dot.gov</a> and reference NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-17 in your response.

12 https://www.regulations.gov/document/PHMSA-2022-0123-0002/comment

# Appendix A Project Maps

## Area of Potential Effects Map





# Appendix B Methane Calculations

Use the following table to identify methane leak rate based on pipeline material that will be replaced by the program based an Average Methane Emission Factors (kg/mile activity) for Natural Gas Pipelines.

Table 1 EPA GHG Inventory - Annex 3.6, Table 3.6-2

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)
Cast Iron	2,877.35
Unprotected steel	1,491.80
Protected steel	77.90
Plastic	109.85

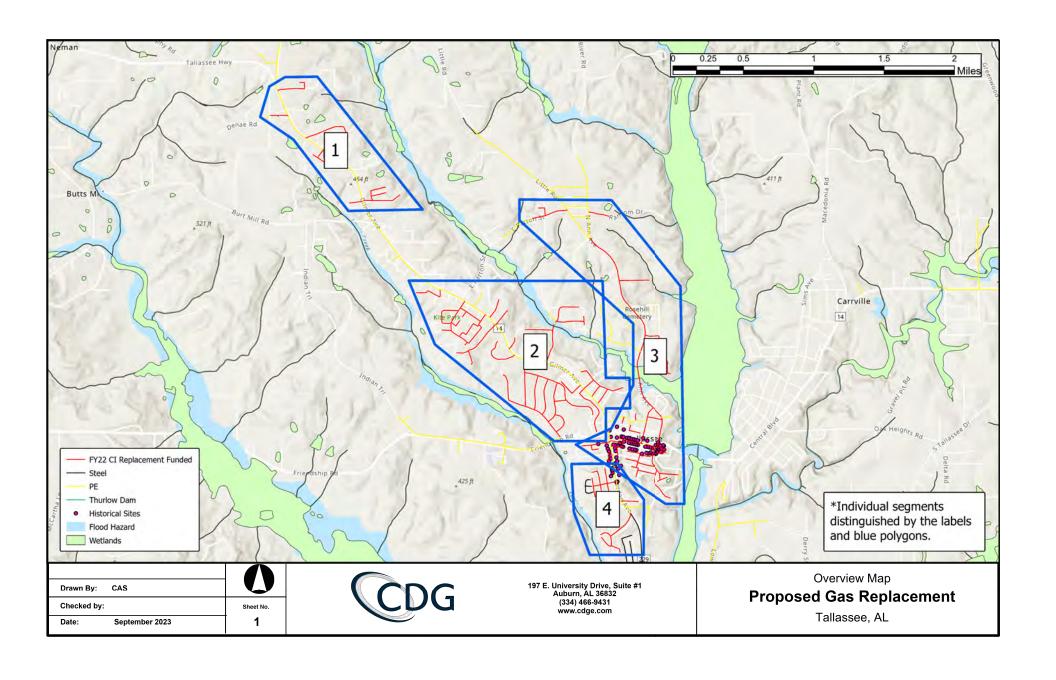
Table 1 No Action Leak Rate

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	Current Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Cast Iron	4,597.40	17.7	81,374
Unprotected steel	2,122.30	0	0
Protected steel	59.1	0	0
Plastic	0		
Total Annual Methane Leak R	81,374		
20-year Methane Emissions			1,627,480

Table 2 Proposed Action Leak Rate

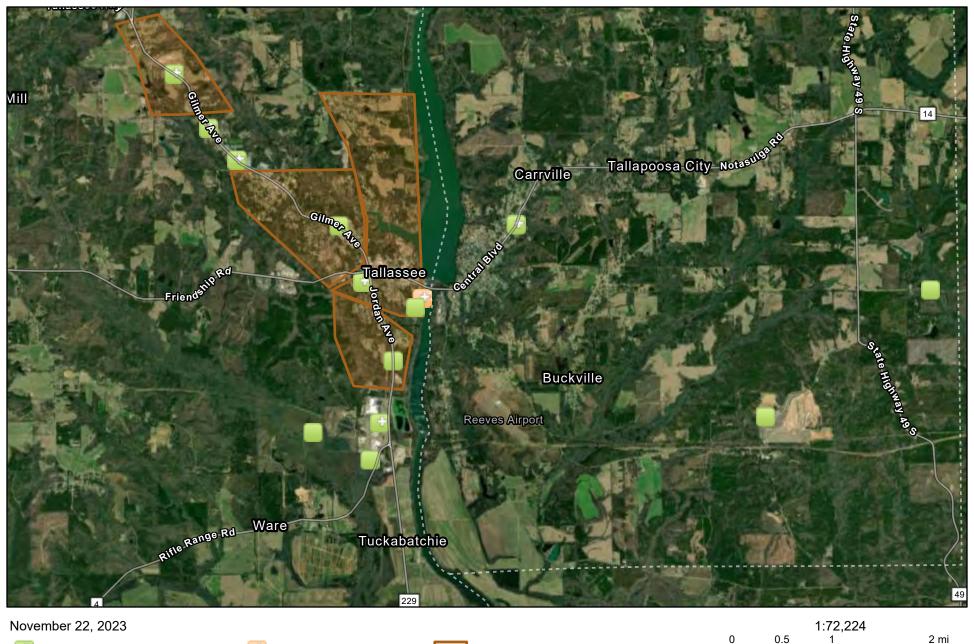
Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	New Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Plastic	28.8	17.7	510
Year 1 Methane Reduction	80,864		
Annual Methane Reduction			80,864
20-year Methane Reduction	1,617,284		

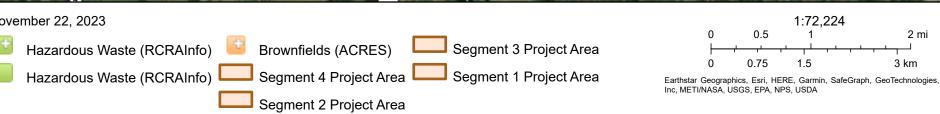
# Appendix C Water Resources



## Appendix D Hazardous Materials

### City of Tallassee Hazardous Material Sites



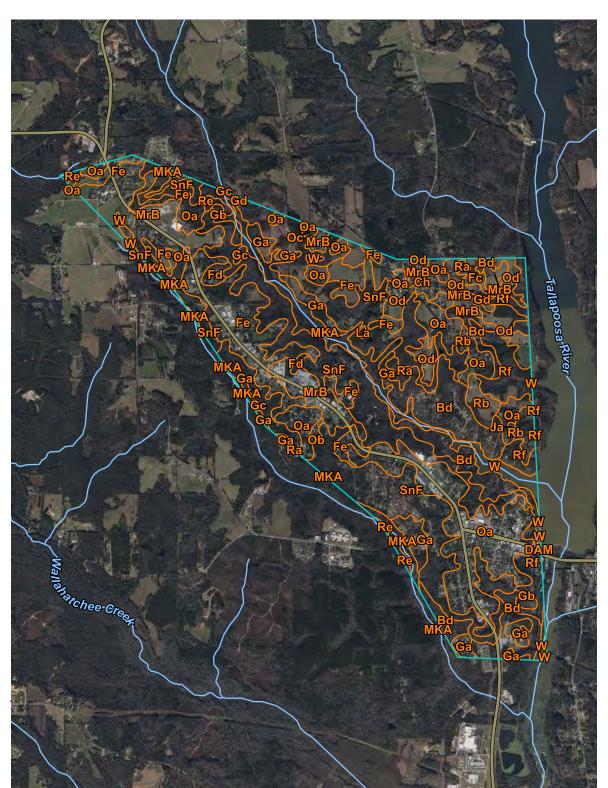


## Appendix E: Soil Map

85° 53' 1" W

32° 35′ 8″ N

32° 35′ 8″ N



32° 30′ 40″ N

32° 30' 40" N



Map Scale: 1:40,300 if printed on A portrait (8.5" x 11") sheet.				
0	500	1000	2000	Meters 3000
				Feet
0	1500	3000	6000	9000
Man projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84				

85° 57' 0" W

85° 53′ 1″ W

#### MAP LEGEND

#### Area of Interest (AOI)

Area of Interest (AOI)

#### Soils

Soil Map Unit Polygons



Soil Map Unit Points

#### **Special Point Features**

Blowout

Borrow Pit

Clay Spot

Closed Depression

Gravel Pit

Gravelly Spot

Candfill

Lava Flow

Marsh or swamp

Mine or Quarry

Miscellaneous Water

Perennial Water

Rock Outcrop

Saline SpotSandy Spot

Severely Eroded Spot

Sinkhole

Slide or Slip

Sodic Spot

Stony Spot

Very Stony Spot

Spoil Area

Wet Spot
 Other

Special Line Features

#### **Water Features**

Δ

Streams and Canals

#### Transportation

Rails

Interstate Highways

US Routes

Major Roads

Local Roads

#### Background

Aerial Photography

#### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at scales ranging from 1:20.000 to 1:24.000.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Elmore County, Alabama Survey Area Data: Version 20, Sep 13, 2023

Soil Survey Area: Tallapoosa County, Alabama Survey Area Data: Version 18, Sep 12, 2023

Your area of interest (AOI) includes more than one soil survey area. These survey areas may have been mapped at different scales, with a different land use in mind, at different times, or at different levels of detail. This may result in map unit symbols, soil properties, and interpretations that do not completely agree across soil survey area boundaries.

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Oct 26, 2021—Dec 22, 2021

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

### **Map Unit Legend**

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Bd	Bradley gravelly sandy loam, rolling phase	309.7	10.2%
Ch	Chesterfield sandy loam	2.7	0.1%
DAM	Dam	0.6	0.0%
Fc	Faceville gravelly sandy loam, thick surface phase	17.5	0.6%
Fd	Faceville sandy loam, sloping, thick surface phase	16.5	0.5%
Fe	Faceville sandy loam, thick surface phase	300.8	9.9%
Ga	Gilead sandy loam	114.1	3.8%
Gb	Gilead sandy loam, eroded phase	8.7	0.3%
Gc	Gilead sandy loam, eroded, sloping phase	98.7	3.2%
Gd	Gilead sandy loam, sloping phase	9.3	0.3%
Ja	Jamison fine sandy loam	1.5	0.0%
La	Lakeland loamy sand, shallow phase	2.0	0.1%
MKA	Mantachie, Kinston and luka soils, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	138.4	4.6%
MrB	Marvyn sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	316.0	10.4%
Oa	Orangeburg fine sandy loam, slightly eroded phase	475.5	15.6%
Ob	Orangeburg fine sandy loam, eroded phase	5.7	0.2%
Oc	Orangeburg fine sandy loam, eroded sloping phase	3.0	0.1%
Od	Orangeburg gravelly fine sandy loam	114.8	3.8%
Ra	Rains loamy sand	6.0	0.2%
Rb	Red Bay sandy loam	57.2	1.9%
Re	Rolling and Hilly land (coastal plain materials)	26.2	0.9%
Rf	Tallapoosa-Fruithurst complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes, moderately eroded	160.7	5.3%
SnF	Smithdale-Saffell-Luverne complex, gravelly, 8 to 40 percent slopes	801.1	26.4%

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
W	Water	51.6	1.7%
Subtotals for Soil Survey Area	1	3,038.3	100.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		3,039.4	100.0%

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
W	Water	1.0	0.0%
Subtotals for Soil Survey Area		1.0	0.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		3,039.4	100.0%

# Appendix F Biological Resources



# United States Department of the Interior



#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 1208 B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526-4419 Phone: (251) 441-5181 Fax: (251) 441-6222

Email Address: <u>alabama@fws.gov</u>

In Reply Refer To: November 24, 2023

Project Code: 2024-0019341

Project Name: City of Tallassee Alabama

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, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Project consultation requests may be submitted by mail or email (Alabama@fws.gov). **Ensure** that the <u>Project Code</u> in the header of this letter is clearly referenced in any request for consultation or correspondence submitted to our office.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to 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 ecosystems 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 threatened and endangered

species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered 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)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

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. Ensure that the <u>Project Code</u> in the header of this letter is clearly referenced with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

#### Attachment(s):

Official Species List

# **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:

Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 1208 B Main Street Daphne, AL 36526-4419 (251) 441-5181

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project Code: 2024-0019341

Project Name: City of Tallassee Alabama

Project Type: Distribution Line - Maintenance/Modification - Below Ground

Project Description: Natural Gas Pipeline Replacement

**Project Location:** 

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/@32.5425202,-85.90629769684313,14z">https://www.google.com/maps/@32.5425202,-85.90629769684313,14z</a>



Counties: Elmore County, Alabama

11/24/2023 5

### **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES**

There is a total of 8 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 Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, 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.

#### **MAMMALS**

NAME	STATUS
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515</a>	Proposed Endangered
BIRDS NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY)  No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758</a>	Experimental Population, Non-Essential
DEDTILES	

#### REPTILES

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

#### **CLAMS**

NAME STATUS

#### Finelined Pocketbook Hamiota altilis

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1393">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1393</a>

#### Ovate Clubshell Pleurobema perovatum

Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5430

#### Southern Clubshell *Pleurobema decisum*

Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6113

#### **INSECTS**

NAME STATUS

#### Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus

Candidate

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>

#### **FLOWERING PLANTS**

NAME STATUS

#### Georgia Rockcress *Arabis georgiana*

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4535">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4535</a>

#### **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.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Cambridge city
Name: Jason Holloman
Address: 220 Binney Street

City: Cambridge

State: MA Zip: 02142

Email jason.holloman@dot.gov

Phone: 6174943048

### LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

ALABA	MA STATE LISTED SPECIES		
GROUP	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COUNTY
Amphibians	Plethodon websteri	Webster's Salamander	Elmore (AL)
Birds	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	Elmore (AL)
Birds	Tyto alba	Barn Owl	Elmore (AL)
Birds	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	Elmore (AL)
Caddisflies	Brachycentrus nigrosoma	Caddisfly	Elmore (AL)
Caddisflies	Hydroptila decia	Knoxville Hydroptilan Micro Caddisfly	Elmore (AL)
Caddisflies	Hydroptila wetumpka	Caddisfly	Elmore (AL)
Caddisflies	Polycentropus chelatus	Caddisfly	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Amorpha nitens	Indigo Bush	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Arabis georgiana	Georgia Rockcress	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Callirhoe triangulata	Clustered Poppy-mallow	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Gentiana saponaria	Soapwort Gentian	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Hexastylis speciosa	Harper's Heartleaf	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Sarracenia oreophila	Green Pitcher Plant	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Sarracenia rubra ssp. alabamensis	Alabama Canebrake Pitcher-plant	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Sarracenia rubra ssp. alabamensis	Alabama Canebrake Pitcher-plant	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Phlox pulchra	Wherry's Phlox	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Agalinis heterophylla	Prairie False-foxglove	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Brickellia cordifolia	Flyr's Brickell-bush	Elmore (AL)
Dicots	Rhododendron minus	Carolina Rhododendron	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Carassius auratus	Goldfish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Fundulus bifax	Stippled Studfish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Fundulus bifax	Stippled Studfish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Fundulus bifax	Stippled Studfish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Crystallaria asprella	Crystal Darter	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Percina palmaris	Bronze Darter	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Scaphirhynchus suttkusi	Alabama Sturgeon	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Cycleptus meridionalis	Southeastern Blue Sucker	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Notropis candidus	Silverside Shiner	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Hybognathus nuchalis	Mississippi Silvery Minnow	Elmore (AL)
	Cycleptus meridionalis	Southeastern Blue Sucker	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Polyodon spathula	Paddlefish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Polyodon spathula	Paddlefish	Elmore (AL)
Fishes - Freshwater ar	Notropis candidus	Silverside Shiner	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Elimia modesta	Coldwater Elimia	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Elimia modesta	Coldwater Elimia	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Elimia modesta	Coldwater Elimia	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Tulotoma magnifica	Tulotoma Snail	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Tulotoma magnifica	Tulotoma Snail	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Tulotoma magnifica	Tulotoma Snail	Elmore (AL)
Freshwater Snails	Tulotoma magnifica	Tulotoma Snail	Elmore (AL)
Mammals	Sciurus niger	Eastern Fox Squirrel	Elmore (AL)
Monocots	Rhapidophyllum hystrix	Needle Palm	Elmore (AL)
Monocots	Erythronium albidum	White Trout Lily	Elmore (AL)
Reptiles	Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus	Northern Pinesnake	Elmore (AL)
Reptiles	Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus	Northern Pinesnake	Elmore (AL)
Reptiles	Plestiodon anthracinus	Coal Skink	Elmore (AL)

Reptiles	Plestiodon anthracinus	Coal Skink	Elmore (AL)
Tiger Beetles	Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle	Elmore (AL)
Tiger Beetles	Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle	Elmore (AL)
Tiger Beetles	Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle	Elmore (AL)
Tiger Beetles	Cicindela marginipennis	Cobblestone Tiger Beetle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys nigrinoda	Black-knobbed Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys nigrinoda	Black-knobbed Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys nigrinoda	Black-knobbed Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys pulchra	Alabama Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys pulchra	Alabama Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys pulchra	Alabama Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Macrochelys temminckii	Alligator Snapping Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Macrochelys temminckii	Alligator Snapping Turtle	Elmore (AL)
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Turtles	Graptemys nigrinoda	Black-knobbed Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
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Turtles	Graptemys nigrinoda	Black-knobbed Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys pulchra	Alabama Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Macrochelys temminckii	Alligator Snapping Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Macrochelys temminckii	Alligator Snapping Turtle	Elmore (AL)
Turtles	Graptemys pulchra	Alabama Map Turtle	Elmore (AL)

# Appendix G Cultural Resources



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

January 10, 2023

Lisa D. Jones Executive Director, State Historic Preservation Officer Alabama Historical Commission 468 South Perry Street PO Box 300900 Montgomery, AL 36130-0900

Section 106 Consultation: PHMSA Pipeline Replacement Project in Tallassee, Alabama

**Grant Recipient:** City of Tallassee

Project Location: City of Tallassee, Elmore County, Alabama

Dear Lisa D. Jones:

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 City of Tallassee (City) 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). The information provided below supplements the Alabama Historical Commission's (AHC) Section 106 Project Review Consultation Form, which is enclosed in **Attachment A**.

#### **Project Description/Background**

The City proposes to replace 93,700 linear feet (LF) (approximately 17.7 miles) of 2-inch (in.) and 4-in. cast iron pipeline in Tallassee, Alabama, which was originally installed in the 1940s and 1950s. The replacement pipeline will consist of 2-in. and 4-in. medium density polyethylene (MDPE) pipes. Construction of mains will take place within the existing road right-of-way (ROW). No new ROW or easements will be needed for the proposed work. They will be placed into the ground beside the old system adjacent to the roadway at a minimum depth of 3 feet (ft.) and a minimum of 12 in. of horizontal clearance from any other underground utilities, including the existing gas main.

The replacement mains will parallel the existing mains, approximately 2 ft. to 5 ft. from the existing mains. Replacement mains will be installed and pressure tested, and replacement service connections with excess flow valves (EFVs) will be installed. The existing service lines that extend from the pipeline to each customer's service riser and meter will be replaced with polyethylene service lines with a replacement riser. The service risers and meters are located outside and adjacent to the associated buildings. Once all testing is completed, the replacement mains will be tied onto the existing system. Sections of pre-existing MDPE pipe will be tied into the replacement system. The old mains will then be abandoned in place.

The methods of construction for the pipeline replacement will consist mostly of directional boring with some cut and cover (trenching). The maximum trench width is expected to be 2 ft. At tie-in and bore entry and exit locations, an area no larger than a 6 to 8 ft. square will be excavated to tie in the piping. The

maximum trench width for service line replacement is expected to be 6 in. to 12 in. Some replacement service lines may be drilled with very little disturbance.

In addition, the City proposes to install Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment on the system's two receipt points with Southern Natural Gas' (SONAT) pipeline. This project and the proposed SCADA equipment will allow the city to deliver natural gas more safely to its customers and to reduce gas emissions to the environment. The equipment will be installed on the receipt points along Lower Tuskegee Road and Industrial Parkway in Tallassee.

The staging area for the Undertaking will be a fenced property at 80 McArthur Street and the Tallassee Fire Department Training Facility at 144 Twin Creeks Drive. The maximum depth of disturbance for the various project work will be 4 ft. Project location maps are enclosed in **Attachment B**. Photographs showing the overall character of the project areas are included in **Attachment C**.

#### **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 where the pipeline replacements will take place, any adjacent parcels where the service line work will take place, including the parcels at 80 McArthur Street and 144 Twin Creeks Drive, which will be used for staging, and the two fenced-in receipt points where the City will install SCADA equipment. The ROW width varies throughout the project area and includes the roadway, some driveways to residences, sidewalks, mailboxes, trees and shrubs, and other utilities. The APE extends to the depth of proposed ground disturbance of up to 4 ft. The Undertaking does not have the potential to cause visual or audible effects after the completion of construction. The APE map is shown on the map in **Attachment B**.

#### **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, AHC's Historic Preservation GIS Map, Alabama Online Cultural Resources Database (ACROD), University of Alabama's Cemeteries Web Atlas, the National Park Service Cultural Resource GIS website, historic aerials, and the USDA Web Soil Survey. SOI-qualified individuals 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 listing in the NRHP.

#### Historic Architecture

There is one NRHP-listed above-ground resource within the APE: the Tallassee Commercial Historic District. Additionally, a search of the AHC's Historic Preservation GIS Map found one extant property that is listed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage and may be eligible for listing in the NRHP within the APE: the First United Methodist Church of Tallassee.

The Tallassee Commercial Historic District is comprised of 22 contributing buildings and 9 non-contributing buildings in the commercial center of the City along Barnette Boulevard, S. Ann Avenue, Sistrunk Street, and James Street. The district is listed in the NRHP under Criterion C in the area of architecture due to its embodiment of late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial architecture. It is also significant under Criterion C in the area of community planning and development as an example of city planning in response to land ownership patterns in a company-owned town. The period of significance for the district is c. 1890 to 1940.

The First United Methodist Church of Tallassee, located at 1 Jordan Avenue, is a 1929 Neo-Classic Greek Revival style church that is listed in the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in the areas of religion and architecture. For the purposes of this consultation, PHMSA is treating this property as eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C.

Due to the scale and nature of the Undertaking, which is limited to the replacement of pipelines within existing ROW, the replacement of service lines on existing utility easements, and the installation of SCADA equipment on two receipt points, the identification effort for additional above-ground resources focused on identifying properties that are susceptible to the effects of this work and could experience diminished integrity as a result of the Undertaking. While the service line replacements will take place leading up to buildings, no alterations to the buildings are anticipated. Furthermore, the work will not have any lasting visual effects. Although several other buildings within the APE have been previously surveyed, they have not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility, and work near these properties will be below-ground and will not have the potential to affect the buildings. Therefore, a review of the APE found no other potentially significant above-ground resources that have the potential to be affected by the Undertaking.

#### Archaeology

Alabama's archaeological site file database, ACROD, was examined to identify the presence of previously recorded archaeological sites and previously conducted archaeological surveys within a half-mile of the APE. As a result, 11 archaeological sites and 14 surveys were identified (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1. Archaeological Sites within a Half-Mile of the APE

Site Number	Туре	NRHP	Citation
1TP101	Historic artifact scatter	Not Eligible	Krause et al. 2002
1EE160	Unknown precontact site	Not Eligible	O'Hear 1974
1EE183	Precontact lithic scatter	Unknown	Hollis 1990
1EE428	Unknown precontact site	Unknown	Cottier 1990 (Report unknown)
1EE505	Multicomponent precontact village	Eligible	Krause et al. 2002
1EE734	Historic artifact scatter	Not Eligible	Panamerican 2007
1EE819	Historic structural remains	Not Eligible	TerraX 2019 (Report unknown)
1TP53	Historic artifact scatter	Not Eligible	Robblee et al. 2001
1TP54	Precontact and historic artifact scatter	Unknown	Robblee et al. 2001
1TP55	Precontact artifact scatter	Not Eligible	Robblee et al. 2001
1TP57	Precontact and historic artifact scatter	Not Eligible	Robblee et al. 2001

<sup>\*</sup>Italicized entries are within the APE.

Of the 11 sites, four sites include historic period material, five sites contain precontact period material, and two sites contain both precontact and historic material. Only one site, 1EE505, is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP, but it is outside the APE. None of the previously recorded sites are listed in the NRHP. Site 1TP101, the only site within the APE, is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Nearly half of the sites located within a half-mile were identified during pipeline surveys in the southernmost section of the search radius (Robbee et al. 2001; Krause et al. 2002). Of the surveys intersecting the APE, most are clustered at or near the Tallapoosa River in downtown Tallassee. Only very small portions of these surveys intersect with the APE; most of the APE has not been archaeologically surveyed.

Table 2. Archaeological Surveys within a Half-Mile of the APE

Report	Citation	Report Number
Preliminary Cultural Resources Overview of Thurlow Dam, Tallapoosa River, Alabama	Mistovich 1982	4052513
Archaeological Survey of Thurlow Dam Project Areas, Alabama Power Company, Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties, Alabama	Knight 1983	4052471
A Cultural Resource Survey and Evaluation of the Proposed Tallassee Garden Apartments, Ltd., Tallassee, Elmore County, Alabama	Cottier 1984	4053146
A Cultural Resource Survey for a Proposed Boat Landing in Elmore County	Hollis 1990	4050275
An Archaeological Survey of Two Proposed Spoil Disposal Areas in Elmore County and Two Proposed Borrow Pits in Macon County, Alabama	Hollis 1993	4052010
Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archaeological Inventory of the Proposed Southern Natural Gas Company South System Expansion II Pipeline, Sumter, Marengo, Hale, Perry, Autauga, Elmore, Tallapoosa, and Lee Counties, Alabama.	Krause et al. 2002	4063991
A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey of the Proposed Collocation of a Cellular Antenna on the Tallassee Water Tower in Elmore County, Alabama	Jackson 2006	4074124
A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Level Survey of Three Proposed Borrow Pits in Elmore County, Alabama	Oakley 1992	4051716
A Cultural Resource Survey and Evaluation of the Proposed Timberland Apartments, Ltd., Tallassee, Elmore County, Alabama	Cottier 1984	4053147
An Archaeological Pedestrian Survey of the Proposed Tallassee New Airport Project, Tallapoosa County, Alabama	Holstein and Hill 1990	4054224
Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archaeological Inventory of the Proposed Southern Natural Gas Company (SNG) South System Expansion Project, Sumter, Perry, Dallas, Autauga, Tallapoosa, Macon, and Lee Counties, Alabama	Robblee et al. 2001	4063989
Letter Report: Addendum: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archaeological Inventory of the Several Project Items Associated with the Proposed Southern Natural Gas Company South System Expansion II Pipeline Project	Krause 2002	4067554
Letter Report: Addendum: Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Archaeological Inventory of an Extra Workspace at the Tallapoosa River Associated with the Proposed Southern Natural Gas Company South System Expansion II Pipeline	Krause 2003	4065620
Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment of Road Improvements along Highway 229 in Front of AES Industries in the City of Tallassee, Alabama	Mann and Lowrey 2011	4074162

<sup>\*</sup>Italicized entries are within the APE.

An examination of Web Soil Survey data within the APE reveals 21 soil types within the APE. These types, along with their drainage class, slope, and APE percentage are detailed in Table 3. Well drained and moderately well drained soils can be indicative of human habitation during both the pre-contact and historic periods. Approximately 93 percent of soils within the APE are well draining or moderately well-draining soil types. Typically slopes greater than 15 percent are not suitable for human occupation, and soil types within the APE vary from 0 to 40 percent slope. Only three soil types within the APE (Rolling and Hilly land, Tallapoosa-Fruithurst, Smithdale-Saffell-Luverne) contain slopes greater than 15 percent, including the Tallapoosa-Fruithurst soils which exceed the 15 percent threshold entirely. Additionally, topographic maps reveal that much of the APE is surrounded by major waterways including the Tallapoosa River, Graveyard Creek, Lewis Creek, and Wallahatchee Creek. Proximity to major waterways generally indicates a suitable environment for both precontact and historic human activity.

Table 3. Soil Types within the APE

Soil Type	Drainage Class	Slope	Percent of APE
Amite fine sandy loam	Well drained	0 to 3 percent	<1
Bradley gravelly sandy loam, rolling phase	Well drained	7 to 12 percent	8.8
Chesterfield sandy loam	Well drained	2 to 7 percent	<1
Faceville sandy loam, sloping, thick surface phase	Well drained	6 to 12 percent	<1
Faceville sandy loam, thick surface phase	Well drained	0 to 5 percent	7.5
Gilead sandy loam	Moderately well drained	0 to 5 percent	3.0
Gilead sandy loam, eroded phase	Moderately well drained	2 to 7 percent	<1
Gilead sandy loam, eroded, sloping phase	Moderately well drained	6 to 12 percent	5.5
Gilead sandy loam, sloping phase	Moderately well drained	6 to 12 percent	<1
Greenville sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Well drained	2 to 5 percent	<1
Jamison fine sandy loam	Well drained	0 to 2 percent	<1
Mantachie, Kinston and Iuka soils, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Somewhat poorly drained	0 to 1 percent	3.6
Marvyn sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Well drained	2 to 5 percent	7.2
Orangeburg fine sandy loam, slightly eroded phase	Well drained	0 to 5 percent	26.2
Orangeburg fine sandy loam, eroded phase	Well drained	0 to 5 percent	<1
Orangeburg gravelly fine sandy loam	Well drained	1 to 5 percent	2.4
Rains loamy sand	Poorly drained	0 to 2 percent	<1
Red Bay sandy loam	Well drained	0 to 5 percent	1.4
Rolling and Hilly land (coastal plain materials)	Somewhat excessively drained	6 to 20 percent	3.1

Soil Type	Drainage Class	Slope	Percent of APE
Tallapoosa-Fruithurst complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Well drained	15 to 40 percent	4.6
Smithdale-Saffell-Luverne complex, gravelly, 8 to 40 percent slopes	Well drained	8 to 40 percent	24.3

The University of Alabama's Cemeteries Web Atlas was reviewed to identify the presence of historic-age cemeteries within the APE. The APE overlaps the edges of the Rosehill Cemetery along the west and east sides of North Ann Avenue north of Graveyard Creek. The cemetery contains more than 6,000 burials and is an active cemetery. The earliest known interment in the cemetery is from 1849; however, research did not uncover any evidence that the cemetery could be considered significant under any of the NRHP criteria. Modern aerial imagery indicates that burials are near, and may extend into, the existing ROW. Based on examination of historic topographic maps and online cemetery databases, no other cemeteries are noted within the APE. It is possible that smaller family plots, not always included in such databases, may exist within the APE.

Historic topographic maps and historic aerials were examined for archaeological resource sensitivity within the APE. The presence of structures on historic maps and aerial photography may indicate the likelihood of historic period archaeological deposits associated with the occupation of these structures. The APE is comprised of portions of the historic-age town of Tallassee along the west bank of the Tallapoosa River and spans the north and south sides of Graveyard Creek. The 1906 Dadeville topographic map shows a high concentration of structures in the downtown area of Tallapoosa along Gilmer Avenue and Friendship Road. Other developments, including roads and buildings, appear along the portion of the APE along North Ann Avenue and the historic-age community of Burlington in the northwestern end of the APE. The 1971 Tallassee topographic map shows heavy development along the same road corridors including residential areas, schools, churches, an armory, and a nursing home. Historic aerial photography from 1956 and 1969 shows the APE as heavily developed along the same road corridors and mostly concentrated in downtown Tallassee. Portions of the APE northwest and south of Tallassee appear more rural while still including moderate density residential areas and other buildings.

Background research revealed seven archaeological surveys and one archaeological site, which is not eligible for the NRHP, intersecting the APE. These surveys are clustered in downtown Tallassee and south of Tallassee along the Tallapoosa River. Only one archaeological site was identified within the APE during the seven surveys and an additional 10 sites are located within a half-mile. None of the sites with unknown eligibility status have the potential to extend into the APE. The presence of archaeological sites within a half-mile indicates a moderate potential for other archaeological deposits to exist within the APE, likely in areas near the river or along the floodplain of the Tallapoosa River. Soil types within the APE also indicate a suitable environment for precontact and historic habitation in most portions of the APE. Topographic maps and aerial imagery reveal considerable historical development within the APE.

The proposed project will include installing new pipeline and replacing 17.7 miles of pipeline within the existing ROW. All ground disturbing activities will occur adjacent to the original pipeline, which will be abandoned in place once the new pipeline is operational. New pipeline will be installed at a minimum depth of 3 ft. and a minimum of 12 in. horizontally from the other underground utilities. The Undertaking is expected to occur in previously disturbed existing ROW that contains numerous other underground utilities. Modern aerial imagery indicates the proposed pipeline installation will occur in areas nearest the roadway in moderate to heavily disturbed areas. While only a small portion of the APE has been archaeologically surveyed and there is moderate potential for archaeological deposits within the APE, the ground disturbance caused by previous utility installation and road and sidewalk construction has likely compromised the integrity and context of any previously intact archaeological deposits that may exist within the ROW.

Furthermore, project activities near Rosehill Cemetery will be limited to the replacement of pipeline between 2 and 5 ft. away from the existing pipeline within the existing ROW.

Therefore, due to the limited scope of work and previous disturbance of the APE, an archaeological survey of the APE is not recommended at this time. All cemeteries are subject to Alabama burial laws including Alabama Code §13A-7-23.1, as amended. If, during project implementation, a previously undiscovered archaeological or cultural resource that is or could reasonably be a historic property is encountered or a previously known historic property will be affected in an unanticipated manner, all project activities in the vicinity of the discovery will cease and the project sponsor will immediately notify PHMSA. This may include discovery of cultural features (e.g., foundations, water wells, trash pits, etc.) and/or artifacts (e.g., pottery, stone tools and flakes, animal bones, etc.) or damage to a historic property that was not anticipated. PHMSA will notify the SHPO and participating federally recognized tribes and conduct consultation as appropriate in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.13. Construction in the area of the discovery must not resume until PHMSA provides further direction.

#### **Determination of Effect**

Based on the aforementioned identification and evaluation, PHMSA has determined that there are two historic properties as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l) within the APE.

While the Tallassee Commercial Historic District and First United Methodist Church of Tallassee are located within the APE, the Undertaking is limited to the replacement of existing pipelines and service lines and will not alter any of the characteristics or contributing features of these properties that qualify them as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria A and/or C in a manner that would diminish their integrity. The Undertaking will not result in lasting physical, visual, or audible effects to the Tallassee Commercial Historic District or the First United Methodist Church of Tallassee. The Undertaking also does not include land acquisition, nor would it limit access to or change the use of either property. Furthermore, project work will take place within existing ROW and utility easements, which demonstrate a low probability for intact significant archaeological resources.

In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.5, PHMSA finds the Undertaking will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties.

#### **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 D**) 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:

- Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
- Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation

#### **Request for Section 106 Concurrence**

Based on the information presented above, PHMSA finds that the Undertaking will result in No Adverse Effect to properties that are either in, or eligible for inclusion in, the NRHP. 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 <a href="mailto:PHMSASection106@dot.gov">PHMSASection106@dot.gov</a> or 857-998-9981.

Sincerely,

Matt Fuller

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

MF/ah

cc: Jason Holloman, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDOT Volpe Center

Damond Smith, PHMSA Grant Coordinator Randy Spence, CDG Engineers & Associates

Robert Taunton, Talisi Historical Preservation Society, Inc. Calvin Chappelle, President, Elmore County Historical Society

**Enclosures:** 

Attachment A: Section 106 Project Review Consultation Form

Attachment B: Project Location and APE Maps

Attachment C: Project Area Photographs

Attachment D: Consulting Party Response Form

### ATTACHMENT A

**Section 106 Project Review Consultation Form** 



# ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

# **SECTION 106 PROJECT REVIEW CONSULTATION FORM**

Federal laws exist to ensure that federal agencies or their designated applicants carefully consider historic preservation in federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended directs this review. <a href="http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html">http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html</a>. At a minimum, submission of this completed form and attachments constitutes a request for review by the Alabama Historical Commission, which is the Alabama State Historica Preservation.

Office (SHPO). The responsibility for preparing documentation, including the identification of archaeological
and architectural properties and the assessment of potential effects resulting from the project, rests with the
federal or state agency, or its designated applicant. The role of the Alabama SHPO is to review, comment, and consult
with federal/state agencies or their designees. The Alabama SHPO's ability to complete a timely project review largely depends on the quality of the material submitted. Some applicants may find it advantageous to hire a professional consultant with
expertise in archaeology, history and/or architectural history.
PROJECT NAME
FEDERAL AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, LICENSE, OR PERMIT
FEDERAL PROJECT NUMBER
FEDERAL AGENCY CONTACT NAME AND E-MAIL/PHONE NUMBER
STATE AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, LICENSE, OR PERMIT (IF APPLICABLE)
STATE AGENCY CONTACT NAME AND E-MAIL ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, MAILING ADDRESS
AHC NUMBER (If project has been previously submitted)
APPLICANT NAME:
APPLICANT MAILING ADDRESS:
APPLICANT TELEPHONE:
APPLICANT EMAIL:
CONTACT NAME (if different than applicant):
CONTACT MAILING ADDRESS:
CONTACT TELEPHONE:
CONTACT EMAIL (Person to whom AHC should email response letter):
CONTRACTOR TYPE: ARCHAEOLOGIST; ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN; NONE; OTHER:
CONTRACTOR NAME:
CONTRACTOR MAILING ADDRESS:
CONTRACTOR TELEPHONE:
CONTRACTOR EMAIL:

PROJECT LOCATION	
STREET ADDRESS	CITY
COUNTY	ZIP CODE
LATITUDE / LONGITUDE: USE DECIMAL DEGREES EXAMPLE: 32.3722N, -86.3083W	
LATTIONE / EGINGITONE. OSE DEGITAE DEGICES EXACTICE. 32.3722IN, -00.3003VV	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
Will the project involve any of the following? Check all that apply.	
exterior rehabiliation work;	
interior rehabilitation work;	
cellular equipment located on buildings;	
streetscapes/sidewalks/lighting;	
new construction; and/or	
demolition	
Describe the overall project in DETAIL. Be sure to describe any items checked above	re. Use additional pages if necessary.

#### **AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE)**

The APE varies with project types and can be direct or indirect (physical, visual, auditory, etc.). The APE is defined as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character of use of historic properties, if any such properties exist." Factors to consider when determining the APE include; topography, vegetation, existing development, orientation of an existing resource to the project, physical siting of a resource, and existing and planned future development. For example:

- I) Rehabilitation, renovation, and/or demolition of a historic building or structure, or new construction: the APE might include the building itself and the adjacent setting.
- 2) Streetscapes: the APE might include the viewshed from the street.
- 3) Pedestrian/bicycle facilities: the APE might extend the length of the corridor and for some distance on both sides of the corridor.
- 4) Underground utilities: the APE would usually be limited to the area of ground disturbance.

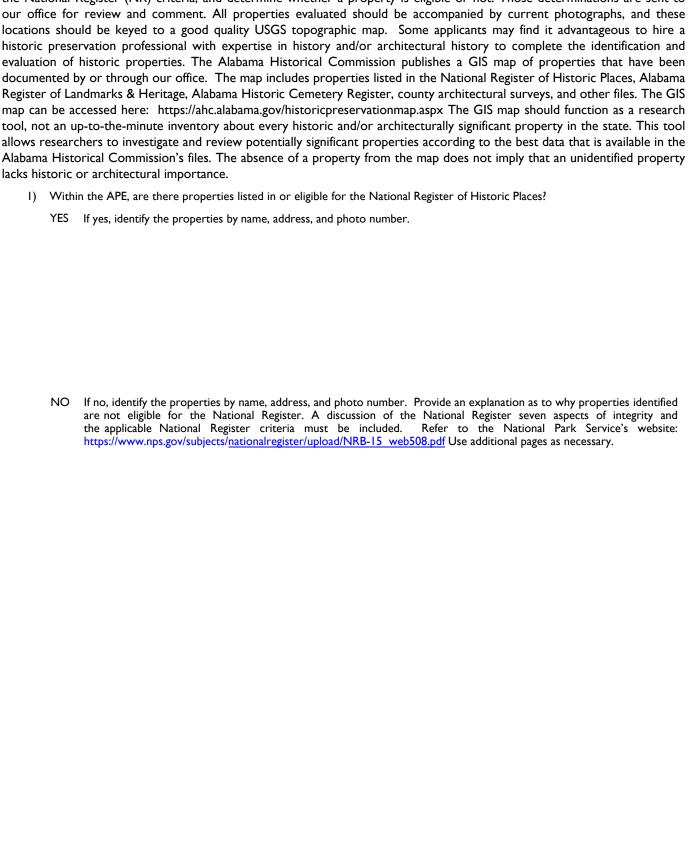
Attach a map indicating the precise location of the project and the boundaries of the APE, preferably a clear color copy of a USGS topographic quadrangle map (7.5 minute). For projects in urban areas, also include a city map that shows more detail. USGS topographic maps can be printed from this website: <a href="https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/">https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/</a>. City maps can be printed using <a href="https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/">www.google.com/maps</a>.

Provide current, high resolution color photographs that illustrate the project area and the entire APE as defined above.

ARCHAEOLOGY (Ground Disturbing Activities)
Has the ground in the project area been disturbed other than by agriculture (i.e. grading, grubbing, clear cutting, filling, etc.)?  Yes No Don't know N/A
If yes, describe in detail. Use additional pages as necessary. Photographs are helpful.
Describe the present use and condition of the property. Use additional pages as necessary.
To your knowledge, has a Cultural Resource Assessment (CRA) been conducted in the proposed project area?  [Yes [No [Don't know ]N/A]
If yes, attach a copy of the cultural resources assessment report.

#### ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Above-ground properties within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) should be evaluated for the eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. It is the federal agency's (or their designee) responsibility to identify properties in the APE, apply the National Register (NR) criteria, and determine whether a property is eligible or not. Those determinations are sent to



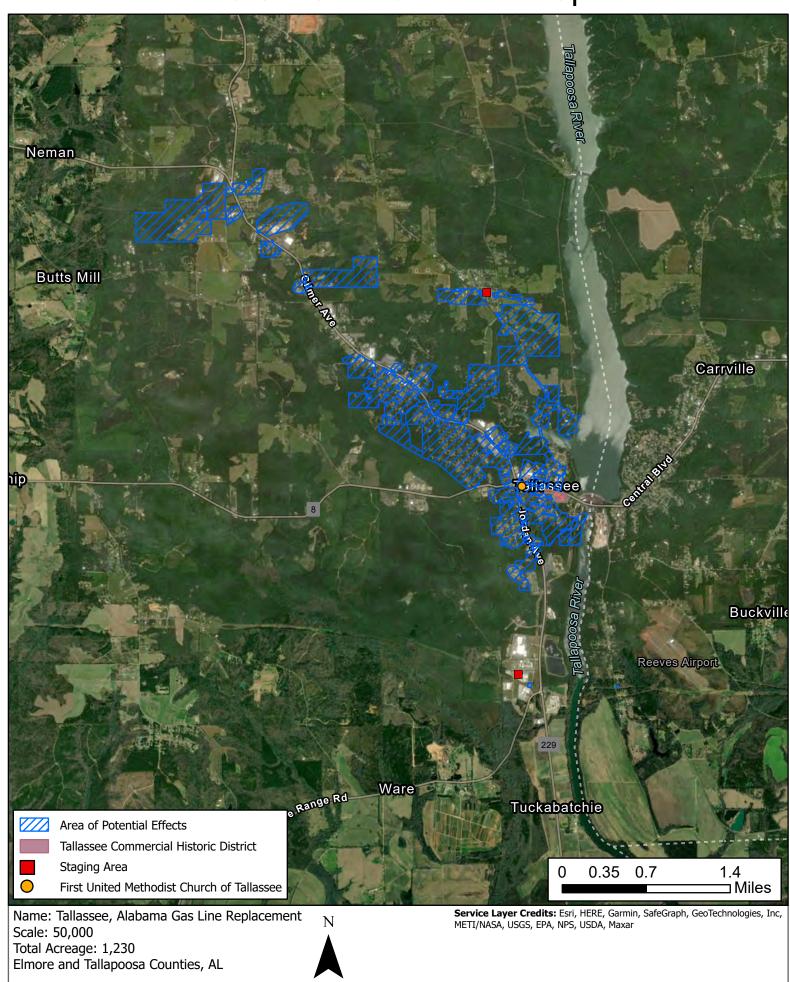
EFFECTS DETERMINATION
An effect occurs when an action alters the characteristics of a property that may qualify it for the National Register of Historic Places. How will this project affect any of the properties identified in the previous section? Will the project take away or change anything within the boundaries of a historic property? Will the project change the view from or the view to any historic properties? Will the project introduce any audible or atmospheric elements? Will the project result in the transfer, lease, or sale of any of the identified properties? Use additional sheets as necessary.

CHECKLIST: Did you provide the following information	17
Completed form.	Photographs* of current site conditions and all
	identified historic properties keyed to a site map.
Maps with project area, APE, and any historic properties	For new construction, rehabilitations, etc., attach work
marked and identified.	plans, drawings, etc.
Other supporting documents (if necessary to explain the	Description of present use and condition of the project
project).	area.
*A note about photographs: Digital photos must be current, high resolution, a and the exterior of each building on the property, including outbuildings. surrounding showing the relationship of the building to neighboring buildings, walls, formal gardens, etc.). Exterior views of the building should include full Key all photographs to a site map.	Include views of the overall setting, views of the building in its immediate and views of significant landscape features (i.e. tree lined approaches, stone
If the project involves rehabilitation, include photographs of the building(s) invo exterior view to a site map and label all interior views. If the project involves from the project site. Include photographs of any buildings that are located on	new construction, include photographs of the surrounding area looking out
NOTE: Section 106 regulations provide for a 30-day rereceipt. Project activities may not begin until our office	has reviewed this information and issued comments.
Upon receipt, applications and attachments be	come the property of the State of Alabama.
For questions regarding this form or the Section Section 106 Coordinator, at 334.230.2692	
All projects must be	submitted digitally
E-mail this form and supporting documents to <a href="Section.106@alproject submission">Section.106@alproject submission</a> . Projects sent to any other e-mail address with MB. Alternatively, you may submit projects with larger attack AHC	will not be accepted. The attachment size cannot exceed 19 hments through an online system to be determined by the
Please limit your submission to cult	tural resources information only.
Contact Amanda McBride for any	questions on digital submissions

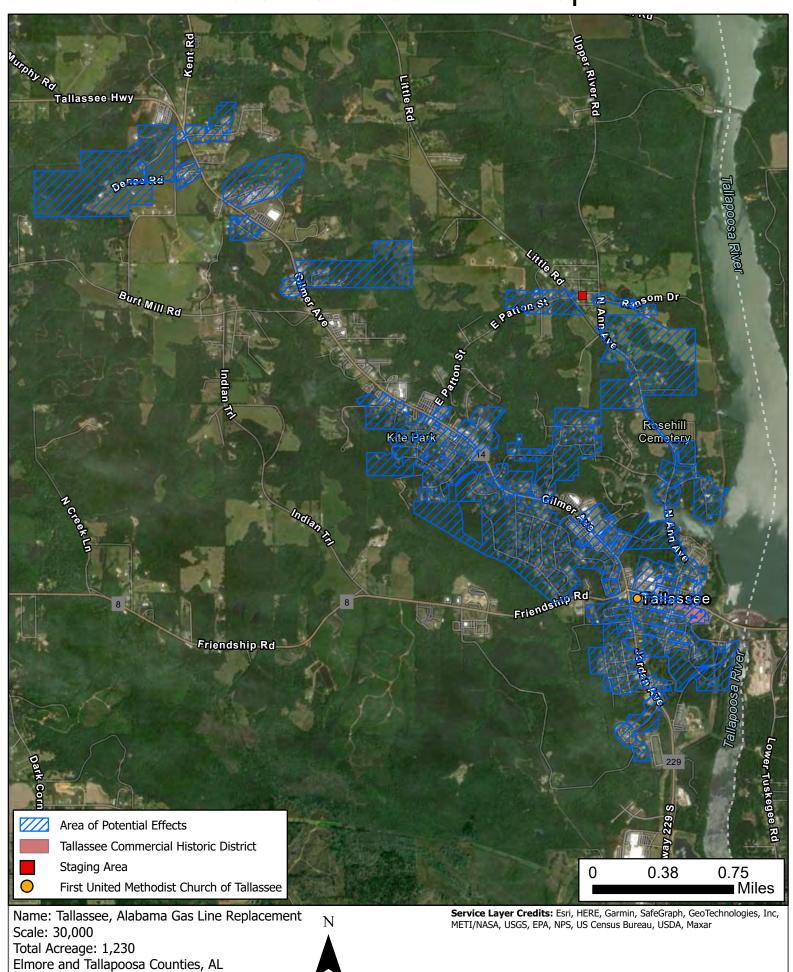
### ATTACHMENT B

**Project Location and APE Maps** 

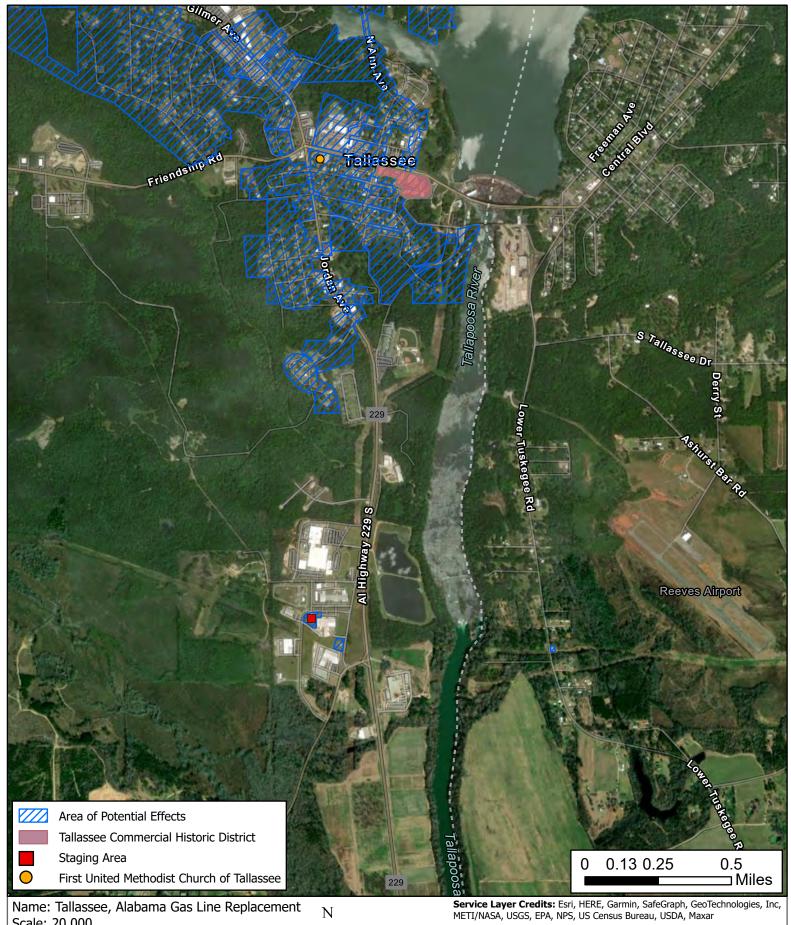
# Area of Potential Effects Map



# Area of Potential Effects Map



# Area of Potential Effects Map



Scale: 20,000

Total Acreage: 1,230

Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties, AL



### ATTACHMENT C

## **Project Area Photographs**



Photo 1. Primary staging area at 144 Twin Creeks Drive in Tallassee (the Tallassee Fire Department Training Facility), view looking northwest.



Photo 2. Secondary staging area at 80 McArthur Street (city lay-down yard), view looking southeast.



Photo 3. View looking west down Wood Street.

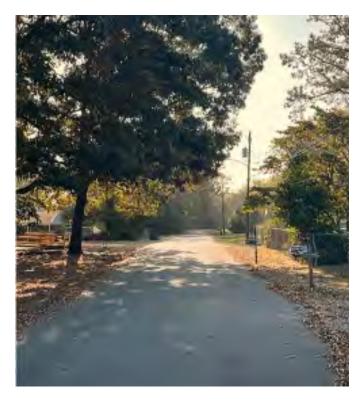


Photo 4. View looking southeast down Laurel Street.



Photo 5. View looking west down Pecan Street.



Photo 6. View looking east down Burnt Spring Trail Court.



Photo 7. View looking west down Hudson Place.

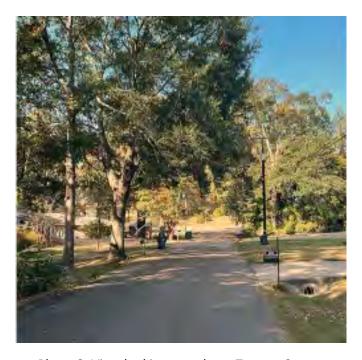


Photo 8. View looking east down Truman Street.



Photo 9. View looking east down S. McKenzie Street.



Photo 10. View looking southwest down Log Circle.



Photo 11. View of Tallahassee Commercial Historic District looking northwest down S. Ann Avenue.



Photo 12. View of Tallassee Commercial Historic District looking northeast down S. Ann Avenue.

### ATTACHMENT D

**Consulting Party Response Form** 

# **Section 106 Consulting Party Response Form**

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

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

Project Name/Location:	
Date:	Organization:
Name:	Affiliation:
Address:	Phone Number:
	E-mail:
properties. I, or my organization, has a leg concern with the project's effects on histo	rticipate in consultation on the project's potential effects to historic gal or economic relation to the project or affected properties or have a oric properties.  to participate as a consulting party for the project.
Do you know of any other potential consulting other contact information below.	parties that should be contacted? If so, please list the name, email, or
Comments:	

Please return by:

Please return to: Kathering Giraldo

**USDOT Volpe Center** 

220 Binney Street, Cambridge, MA E-mail: PHMSASection106@dot.gov

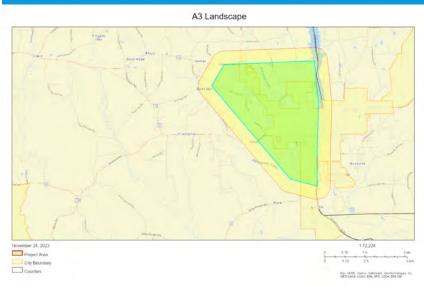
# Appendix H: Environmental Justice

# **\$EPA**

# **EJScreen Community Report**

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

# Tallassee, AL

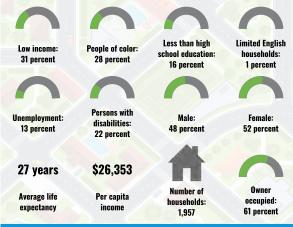


#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

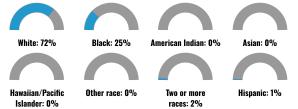
LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	93%
Spanish	3%
Other Asian and Pacific Island	4%
Total Non-English	7%

.5 miles Ring around the Area Population: 4,720 Area in square miles: 20.15

#### 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.

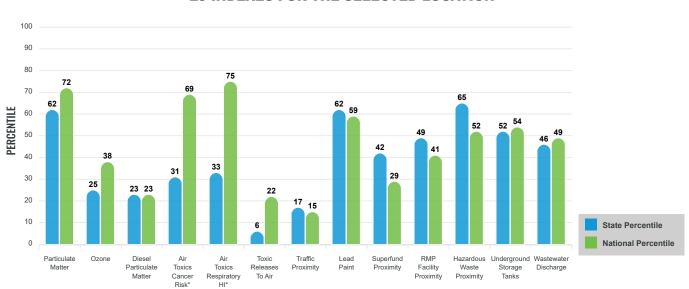
# **Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes**

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the EJScreen website.

#### **EJ INDEXES**

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of colo populations with a single environmental indicator.

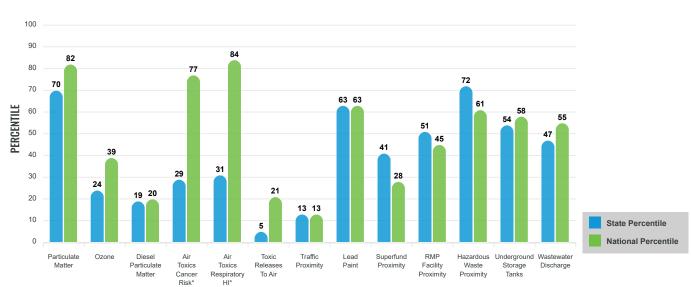
#### **EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION**



#### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



 $These \ percentiles \ provide \ perspective \ on \ how \ the \ selected \ block \ group \ or \ buffer \ area \ compares \ to \ the \ entire \ state \ or \ nation.$ 

Report for .5 miles Ring around the Area

 $\equiv$ 

# **EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data**

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA		
POLLUTION AND SOURCES							
Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	9.44	9.17	67	8.08	82		
Ozone (ppb)	58.4	60.8	21	61.6	27		
Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³)	0.092	0.189	18	0.261	14		
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	30	34	2	25	52		
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.4	0.44	9	0.31	70		
Toxic Releases to Air	33	21,000	4	4,600	14		
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	2.8	79	12	210	8		
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.26	0.19	73	0.3	54		
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.021	0.051	33	0.13	19		
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.099	0.31	42	0.43	29		
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.48	0.43	76	1.9	49		
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	1.4	1.9	64	3.9	52		
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)		0.3	66	22	60		
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS							
Demographic Index	30%	38%	44	35%	50		
Supplemental Demographic Index	15%	16%	48	14%	63		
People of Color	28%	38%	50	39%	48		
Low Income	31%	38%	40	31%	56		
Unemployment Rate	13%	6%	85	6%	88		
Limited English Speaking Households	1%	1%	83	5%	60		
Less Than High School Education	16%	14%	65	12%	75		
Under Age 5	5%	6%	56	6%	55		
Over Age 64	19%	18%	58	17%	62		
Low Life Expectancy	3%	23%	0	20%	0		

\*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory has air dinds are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of a trian toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update found at: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update">https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update</a>.

#### Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	1
Water Dischargers	32
Air Pollution	3
Brownfields	5
Toxic Release Inventory	2

#### Other community features within defined area:

Schools 4	
Hospitals	
Places of Worship	

#### Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Vac

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community	Yes
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	Yes

Report for .5 miles Ring around the Area

# **EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data**

HEALTH INDICATORS							
INDICATOR HEALTH VALUE STATE AVERAGE STATE PERCENTILE US AVERAGE US PERCENTILE							
Low Life Expectancy	3%	23%	0	20%	0		
Heart Disease	7.3	7.4	43	6.1	74		
Asthma	9.8	10.2	39	10	46		
Cancer	6.7	6.4	53	6.1	59		
Persons with Disabilities	21.8%	17%	78	13.4%	90		

CLIMATE INDICATORS					
INDICATOR HEALTH VALUE STATE AVERAGE STATE PERCENTILE US AVERAGE US PERCENTILE					
Flood Risk	6%	13%	17	12%	46
Wildfire Risk	33%	12%	85	14%	84

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS							
INDICATOR HEALTH VALUE STATE AVERAGE STATE PERCENTILE US AVERAGE US PERCENTILE							
Broadband Internet	21%	20%	59	14%	76		
Lack of Health Insurance	8%	10%	39	9%	58		
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Transportation Access	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Footnotes

Report for .5 miles Ring around the Area